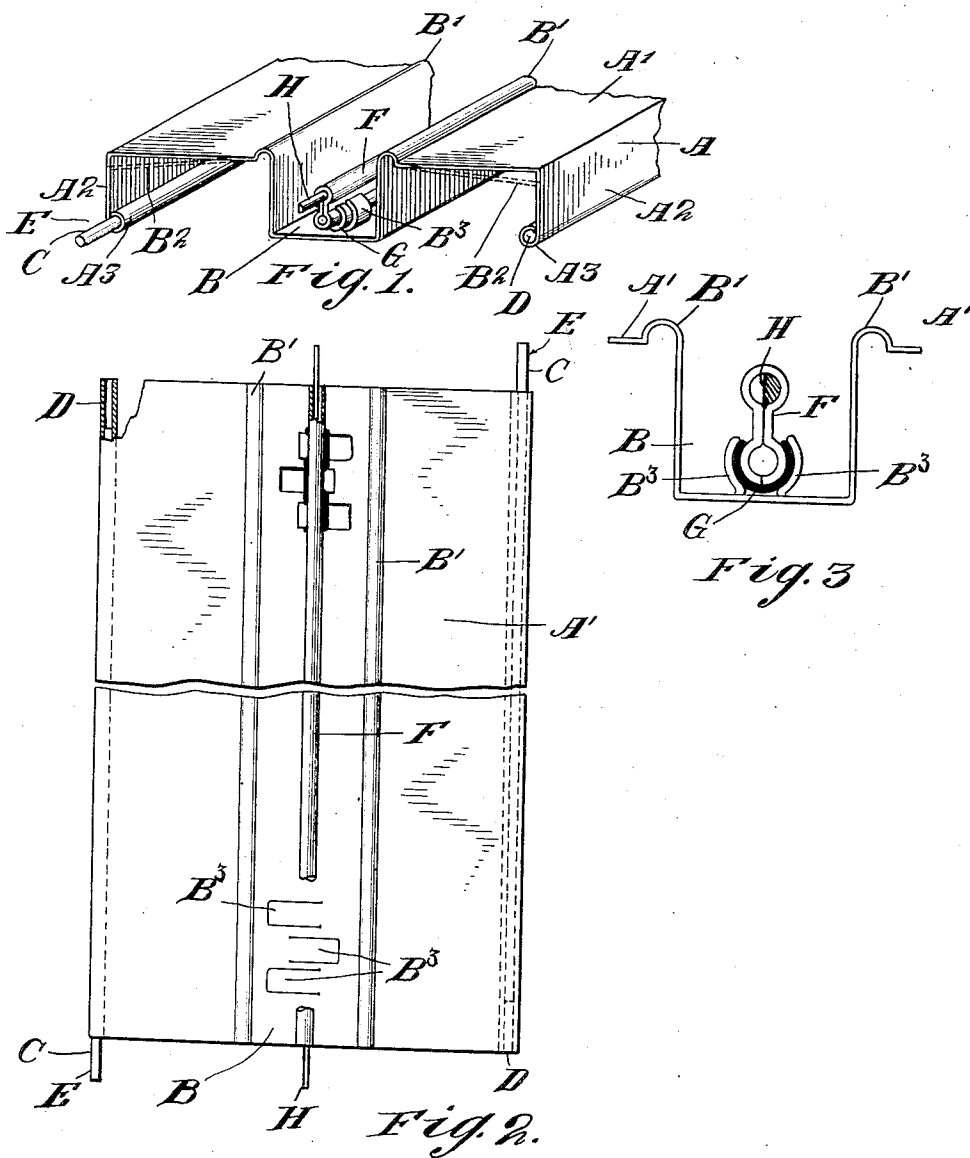


J. L. COWEN.
TOY CONSTRUCTION.
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1,109,968.

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TOY CONSTRUCTION.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSHUA L. COWEN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Constructions, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to toy constructions and particularly to a toy railway in which a rail conductor is used to carry an electric current to a motor mounted upon a car.

The object of my invention is to provide a track construction comprising a roadway having electric conductors embodied therein and presenting a roadway on which the wheels of a car may be supported.

A further object of my invention is to provide a rail construction for carrying an electric current which rail also serves as a guide to hold the car in its proper course.

The features of novelty will be pointed out in the claims forming a part of this specification.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a toy roadway disclosing a view of one end thereof and of the rail construction carried thereby. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the construction shown in Fig. 1 shown partly in section. Fig. 3 is an end view of the conduit portion of the roadway with the rail pin shown in cross section.

A, indicates the roadway which is preferably formed of sheet metal and is made in sections and bent to provide a conduit B which extends the entire length of the roadway. At the upper edges of the conduit are ribs B'-B' which project slightly above the surface of the track portion of the roadway A'. The track portion may be inclined if desired on each side of the median line of the conduit as indicated in dotted lines B²-B². The metal is bent to provide outer sides A²-A² which extend about at right angles to the plane surface A' and the edges are bent to form beads A³-A³ in such a manner as to provide longitudinally extending openings in each of which a wire C is located and extends nearly the entire length thereof and projects beyond one end as illustrated at E, so as to provide sockets D-D at each end of the section and at opposite sides thereof and match pins E-E at each end of the section on opposite sides thereof, so that when the sections are joined together

end to end, the pins E will enter the sockets D and thus aline the surfaces A' of the roadway and at the same time serve to hold the sections together. The bottom of the conduit B is slitted in such a manner as to provide clip portions B³ which are bent upward to support a rail F which extends the length of the section and located between the base of the rail F and the clips E' is a strip of insulating material G.

The rail F is preferably formed of sheet metal as indicated and is provided at each end with a half pin H and semi-circular shaped socket at one side thereof, so that when the sections are placed together the half pin H in the end of one section of rail will fit into the socket formed in the end of the adjacent rail and vice versa, thereby providing sections which are interchangeable, as will be readily understood. The height of the rail F in the conduit is preferably less than the depth of the conduit.

While the sections of track or roadway here shown are illustrated as straight sections, it will be understood that curved sections may also be provided by means of which a continuous, elliptical shaped roadway can be built upon which a car can travel the circuit continuously. By connecting the rail F with one pole of an electric battery and the metal roadway with the other pole thereof, a car placed on the roadway having a contact shoe in contact with the rail would be furnished with a current of electricity which after flowing through the motor would pass through a second contact shoe which rested on the rib portions B', thus completing the circuit through the motor to drive the car, as will be readily understood.

The construction of the car and its contacts for use with this roadway is disclosed in a co-pending application herewith and therefore needs no further description in this application. The construction herein shown may be modified to a considerable degree without departing from the invention disclosed.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new:—

1. A roadway for toy electric railways formed of integral sheet metal sections each section having substantially flat track portions upon which the wheels of the vehicle are adapted to roll, and a conduit between said track portions, a rail attached to the

bottom of said conduit adapted to serve as a current conveying means and also as a guiding means for the toy vehicle, said track portions and rail being provided with attaching means for mechanically and electrically connecting the sections together.

2. A roadway for toy electric railways formed of integral sheet metal sections each section having substantially flat track portions upon which the wheels of the vehicle are adapted to roll, side walls depending from the track portions upon which the roadway is adapted to rest and a conduit between said track portions, a rail within said conduit below the surface of the track portions and insulated therefrom adapted to serve as a current conveying means and also as a guiding means for the toy vehicle, said track portions and rail being provided with attaching means for mechanically and electrically connecting the sections together.

3. A toy construction comprising a sheet metal roadway formed as a separate interchangeable section having a track portion, a conduit formed integrally therewith, the upper portions of which extend above the surface of the roadway, said roadway being adapted to serve as a contact member from which the current is conducted to the vehicle, a rail supported in said conduit, and attaching means at the end of the section for connecting with an adjacent section.

4. A toy construction comprising a sheet metal roadway formed as a separate interchangeable section having a track portion, a conduit formed integrally therewith, the upper portions of which extend above the surface of the roadway, said roadway being adapted to serve as a contact member from which the current is conducted to the vehicle, a rail supported in said conduit, and insulating material located between said rail and the surface of said conduit.

5. A toy construction embodying a sheet metal roadway and a conduit formed therein

below the surface thereof, a rail supported in the conduit, said rail having a socket at each end, an extended member fastened in each socket disposed mainly at one side of the median line of the rail, and insulating material located between the conduit and said rail.

6. A toy construction formed of sheet metal comprising a roadway having substantially flat track portions upon which the wheels of a toy vehicle are adapted to roll and a conduit formed below the surface of the track portions and integral therewith, a rail supported in said conduit, insulating material located between the rail and said conduit, and means located at each side of the roadway comprising pins and sockets for the purpose set forth.

7. A toy construction comprising a section of a sheet metal roadway and a conduit, the upper edges of the walls of which extend above the surface of the roadway, a rail supported in said conduit, side members, the lower edges of which are beaded, and means carried by said side members to connect the ends to an adjacent section.

8. A toy construction comprising a section of a sheet metal roadway and a conduit, the upper edges of the walls of which extend above the surface of the roadway, a rail supported in said conduit, side members, the lower edges of which are beaded, and means carried by said side members to connect the ends to an adjacent section, said rail being provided with an extended member adapted to carry a current of electricity to a rail of an adjacent section.

Signed at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York this 11th day of April A. D. 1912.

JOSHUA L. COWEN.

Witnesses:

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