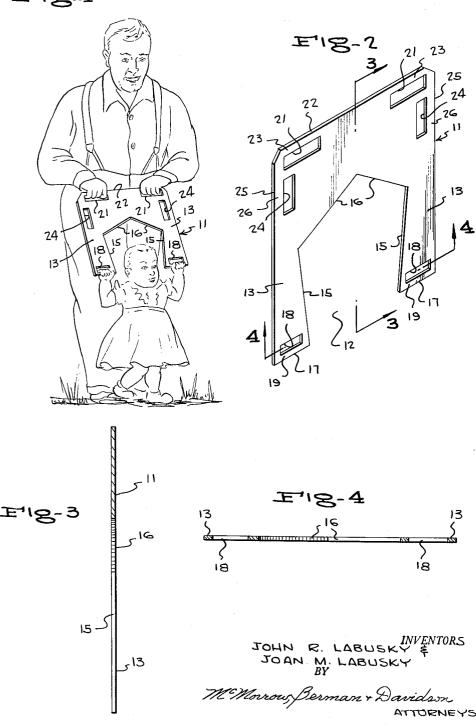
BABY WALKER

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2,956,616 BABY WALKER

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This invention relates to exercising devices, and more particularly to a device to assist a baby learning to walk 15 and to enable an adult to stand erect when exercising a baby in walking.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved baby walking and balancing device for teaching a baby to walk and for providing a means for 20 assisting a baby in walking, the device being simple in construction, being compact in size, and enabling an adult to walk erect while using the device to assist a baby in walking.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved exercising device for use in assisting a baby in learning to walk, the device being relatively inexpensive to fabricate, being durable in construction, being light in weight, and providing a means whereby an adult assisting a baby to walk may stand upright rather than stooping over, thus easing the strain on the adult and encouraging and assisting the baby in walking by providing a reliable means located at the proper height which the baby may grasp during this period and which enables the baby to maintain proper balance while exercising in this manner.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing an exercising device according to the present invention being used in assisting a baby to walk.

Figure 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the exercising device illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged vertical cross sectional view 45 taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a horizontal cross sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings, the baby walking device is designated generally at 11 and comprises a generally rectangular flat rigid body of any suitable material, such as plywood, or the like, said body being formed with a relatively large notch 12 opening at its bottom edge and thus defining the respective depending arms 13, 13 at its opposite sides. The notch 12 may be of any suitable shape, for example, may be of the shape illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, whereby the side edges of the notch, shown at 15, 15 are downwardly convergent, whereby the arms 13, 13 flare downwardly in width. The top portion of the notch may be of any suitable shape, for example, may comprise the upwardly and inwardly inclined straight edge portions 16, 16. The notch is suitably dimensioned so that it is of ample size to receive the upper portion of the baby's body.

The side arms 13, 13 are formed adjacent and parallel to their bottom edges 17 with horizontal slots 18, said slots being located adjacent to and parallel to said bottom edges 17, as is clearly shown in Figure 2, whereby to define gripping handles 19, 19 at the bottom ends of the arms 13, 13. The device 11 is further formed adjacent its top corners with the additional horizontal slots 21, 21, said slots being located adjacent and parallel to the top

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edge 22 of the device, thus defining gripping handles 23, 23 adjacent the top corners of the device. The device is further formed adjacent its top corners with vertical slots 24, 24, said slots being located parallel to and adjacent the side edges 25, 25 of the device, thus defining vertical gripping handles 26, 26 at the top portions of the respective sides of the device.

In using the device an adult may grasp either the upper gripping handles 23, 23 or the vertical gripping handles 10 26, 26, holding the device over the child's body in the manner illustrated in Figure 1, whereby the child may grip the respective gripping handles 19, 19, the upper portion of the child's body being received in the notch Thus, the adult may accompany the child while the child is learning to walk and support the child, while at the same time being able to walk erect and not being required to stoop. This minimizes the physical strain on the adult, enabling the adult to walk in a comfortable manner and at the same time, encourages and assists the baby in walking by providing a means whereby the baby may balance itself and walk in a natural position. Also, since the device acts as a spacing means, separating the baby from the adult, it gives the baby a feeling of independence in that the baby is not directly supported by an adult while exercising.

While a specific embodiment of an improved baby walking device has been disclosed in the foregoing description, it will be understood that various modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore, it is intended that no limitations be placed on the invention except as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A baby walking device comprising a flat body formed of a single piece of rigid sheet material and formed with a relatively large notch opening at the bottom end of said body to accommodate a baby's head and the upper portion of the baby's body and defining depending arms at opposite sides of said notch, said arms being formed with respective slots adjacent and parallel to their bottom ends to define gripping handles, and handle means at the top margin of said body.

2. A baby walking device comprising a flat body formed of a single piece of rigid sheet material and formed with a relatively large notch opening at the bottom end of said body to accommodate a baby's head and the upper portion of the baby's body, and defining depending arms at opposite sides of said notch, said arms being formed with respective slots adjacent and parallel to their bottom ends to define gripping handles and with additional spaced slots adjacent and parallel to the top edge of the body to define additional gripping handles.

3. A baby walking device comprising a generally rectangular flat body formed of a single piece of rigid sheet material and formed with a relatively large notch opening at its bottom edge to accommodate a baby's head and the upper portion of the baby's body, and defining depending arms at the opposite sides of said notch, said arms being formed with respective slots adjacent and parallel to their bottom ends to define gripping handles and with additional spaced slots adjacent and parallel to the top edge of the body and adjacent and parallel to the upper portions of the side edges of said body to define respective additional gripping handles at the top margin of the body and at the side margins of the body.

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