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T. GIBBONS

2,440,172

HOBBY HORSE

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Fig. 1

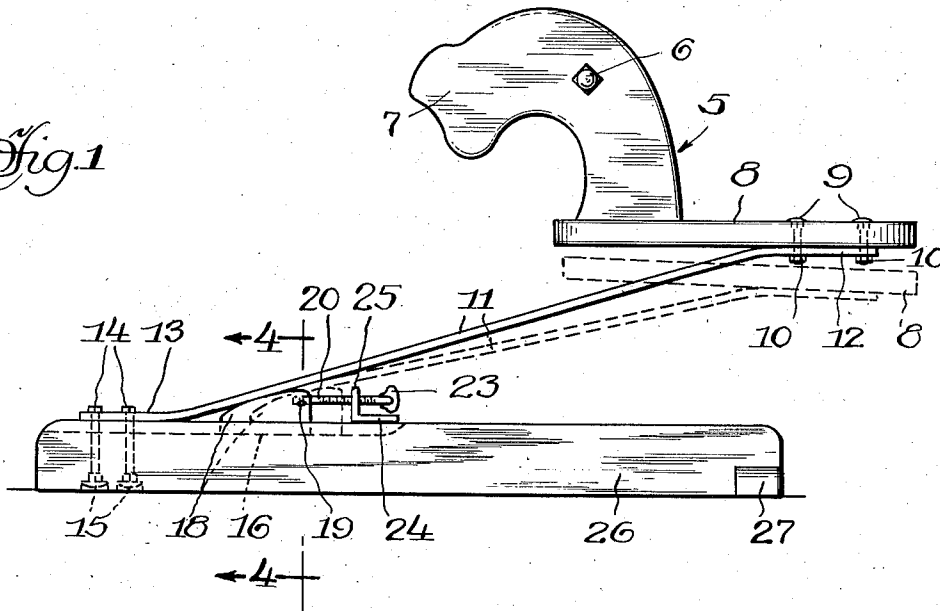


Fig. 2

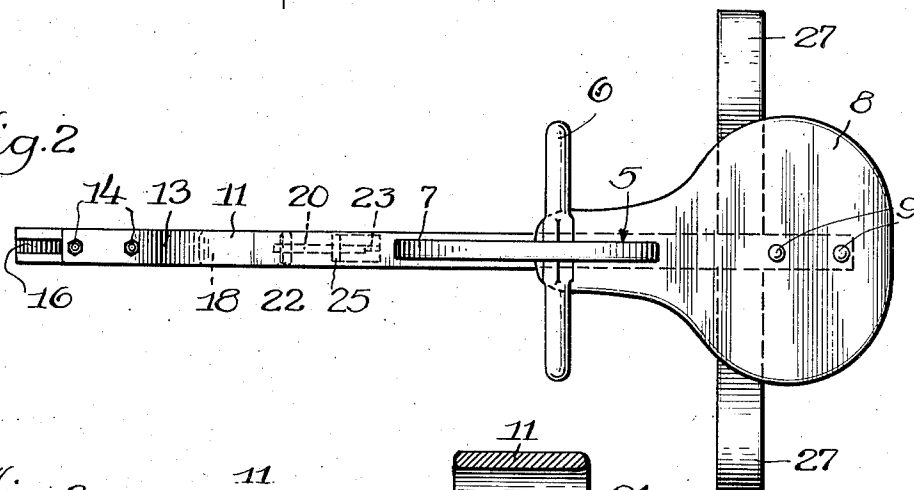


Fig. 3

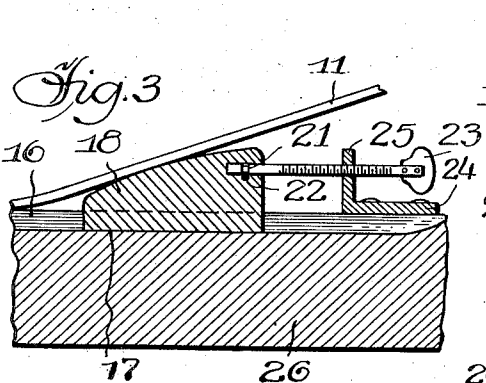
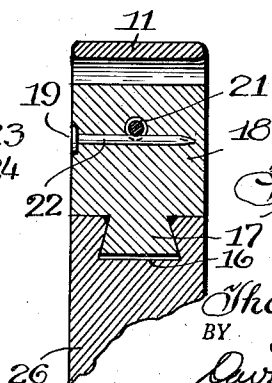


Fig. 4



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5 Claims. (Cl. 272-52)

1

My invention relates to toys for amusement purposes, generally, characterized as hobby horses primarily because they have a horse head in the structure thereof, even though the head structure simulating any other animal may be utilized with the general elemental structure embracing my invention.

An important object of my invention is to provide a figure head of an animal which is provided with a seat portion mounted on a resilient element, in turn mounted on a base so as to permit a child to be seated on the seat portion and motivate himself or herself in an arcuate movement relative to the point of anchorage of the said resilient element with respect to the said base element.

Another object of my invention is to provide in a toy of the aforementioned character adjustable slide means which will vary the point from which the resilient element is caused to flex or to afford articulate or radial movement by either lengthening the flexure portion of the resilient element or shortening the same, and correlatively resulting in the increased or decreased resiliency which is directly proportional to the length of the exposed surface of the resilient element.

A further object of my invention is to provide a toy of the aforementioned character which will furnish amusement, which is practical in its construction, simple in its organization of elemental units to the extent that it will be rendered economical to manufacture in quantity production.

Other features and objects of my invention may be inferred from the accompanying drawings, having further reference to the elucidation thereof in the ensuing description, wherein like symbols are used to designate like parts; and, in which,

Fig. 1 is a front view of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a top view thereof.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary, cross-sectional view showing the adjustable features as applied to the tensioning means, an important feature of my invention.

Fig. 4 is a transversal cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on the line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the various views, my invention is, generally, designated 5, and it consists of the configuration of the head of an animal, generally, designated 7, provided with a handle portion 6 transversally secured at a convenient portion with respect to the seat portion 8, which is also secured to the head 7.

2

On this seat the child is usually resting and in straddled relationship thereto. The seat 8 is connected by a bolt 9 and nut 10 to the resilient element 11, at a bent portion 12 thereof. The resilient element 11, which is a flat spring of suitable strength and cross-section, has its other terminus 13 bent in substantially parallel relationship to the bent portion 12, and outwardly with respect thereto, the said end 13 being moored to a base, generally, designated 26, and having a rear foot element 27 to insure stability thereof.

The element 26 has secured thereto a bracket 24 having an upright portion 25 suitably threaded to receive the threaded portion of the adjusting screw 20, the head 23 of which is manipulated clockwise or counter-clockwise depending on whether it is desired to move the block 18 to the left of Fig. 1, or to the right, as shown by the dotted lines. The block 18 is provided with a dovetailed slide portion 17, which operates slidably in the dovetail slot 16 in the base, the end of the screw 20 being filleted as at 21 in order to receive the cylindrical body portion 22 of the nail 19, and permit rotation of the screw 20 with respect to the block 18. Thus a rotation of the head 23 will be translated to impart a forward or a retarding movement to the block 18. The spring element 11 has its portion 13 secured firmly to the base by virtue of nuts 14 and screws 15.

A child seated on the reclining portion 8 may use the toes of the feet pressed against the ground to urge himself upwardly, and the spring 11 will thus be subjected to a flexure action which will result in a series of movements of the reclining portion 8, thus affording an arcuate movement about the mooring portion 13 of the spring 11 and affording amusement to a child seated astraddle on the reclining portion 8. The base 26 of the device may rest or be permanently secured to any support, such as the ground surface, or may be mobile and moved about to different locations, or the foot portion 27 may be firmly fastened and secured to a supporting surface. The operation of my invention is readily obvious and self evident and is believed to require no further elucidation.

Although I have herein described rather succinctly the nature of the construction of my invention and the operation thereof, and inasmuch as it is susceptible of modifications and improvements, I hereby reserve the right to all modifications and improvements coming within the scope and spirit of my invention, also such

3

improvements as are impliedly embraced in the accompanying drawings, as well as those that fall within the purview of the foregoing description.

Having thus described and revealed my invention, what I claim as novel and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A hobby horse comprising, a seat, a base, resilient means interconnecting the said seat to the said base, and resiliency adjusting means slidably secured to the said base adjacent the mooring point of the said resilient means to the said base for varying the flexure of the said resilient means, the said resiliency adjusting means including an angular support secured to the said base having a threaded portion in its upright portion, an adjusting screw threadably connected to the said threaded portion, the said screw being provided with a filleted portion at its end, a dovetailed slide element slidably secured to said base and provided with an inclined plane surface in intimate contact with the lower surface of the said resilient means, and a pin element secured to the said slide element and engaging the said filleted portion.

2. In a hobby horse toy, resiliency adjusting means comprising, an angular support secured to the said base having a threaded portion in its upright portion, an adjusting screw threadably connected to the said threaded portion, the said screw being provided with a filleted portion at its end, a dovetailed slide element slidably secured to said base and provided with an inclined plane surface in intimate contact with the lower surface of the said resilient means, and a pin element secured to the said slide element and engaging the said filleted portion.

3. A hobby horse comprising, a seat, a base, resilient means interconnecting the said seat to the said base, and resiliency adjusting means slidably secured to the said base adjacent the mooring point of the said resilient means to the said base for varying the flexure of the said resilient means, the said resiliency adjusting means including, a support secured to the said base, a dovetailed wedge element slidably secured to the said base and having its inclined plane surface in intimate contact with the lower surface of the said resilient means, an adjusting screw threadably engaging the said support and revolvably engaging the said wedge element, and a pin

4

element secured to the said wedge element engaging removably the tip of the said adjusting screw permitting rotation and preventing withdrawal thereof.

4. In a hobby horse toy of the character described, resiliency adjusting means comprising, a support secured to the said base, a dovetailed wedge element slidably secured to the said base and having its inclined plane surface in intimate contact with the lower surface of the said resilient means, an adjusting screw threadably engaging the said support and revolvably engaging the said wedge element, and a pin element secured to the said wedge element engaging removably the tip of the said adjusting screw permitting rotation and preventing removal thereof.

5. A hobby horse comprising, a seat, a base, resilient means interconnecting the said seat to the said base, and resiliency adjusting means slidably secured to the said base adjacent the mooring point of the said resilient means to the said base for varying the flexure of the said resilient means, the said resiliency adjusting means including, an angular support secured to the said base having a threaded portion in its upright portion, an adjusting screw threadably connected to the said threaded portion, the said screw being provided with a filleted portion at its end, a dovetailed slide element slidably secured to the said base and provided with an inclined plane surface in intimate contact with the lower surface of the said resilient means, and a pin element secured to the said slide element and engaging the said filleted portion, the said resilient means comprising, a flat spring element having a body portion and two mounting end portions bent angularly transversally and outwardly with respect thereto, the said end portions being in parallel relationship.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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