

Oct. 7, 1930.

J. VAN EERDE

1,777,948

TOY

Filed June 7, 1929

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

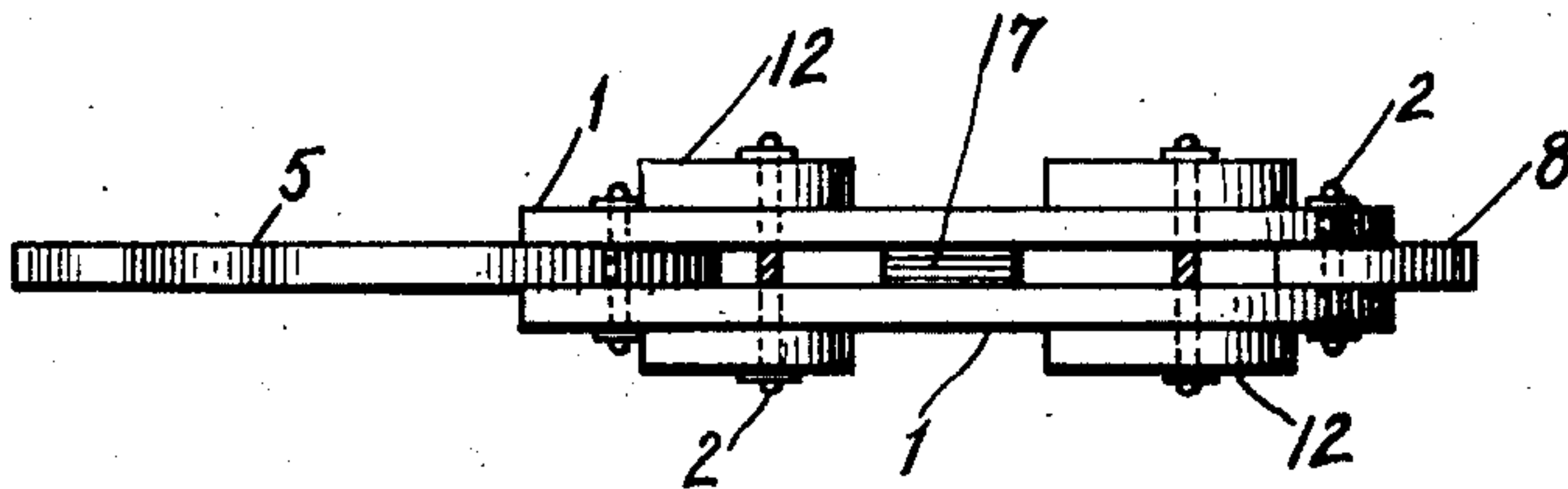


Fig. 2.

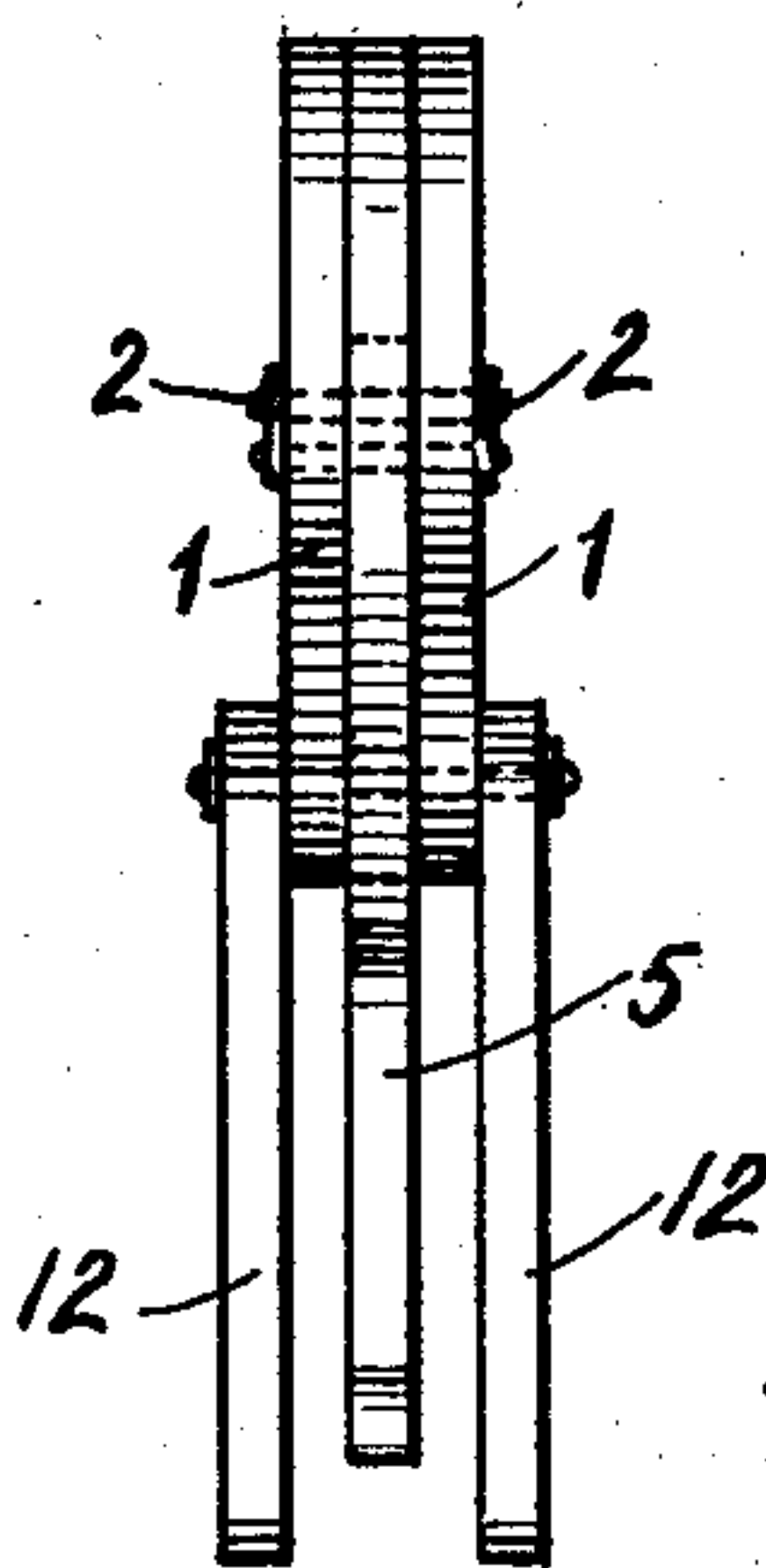
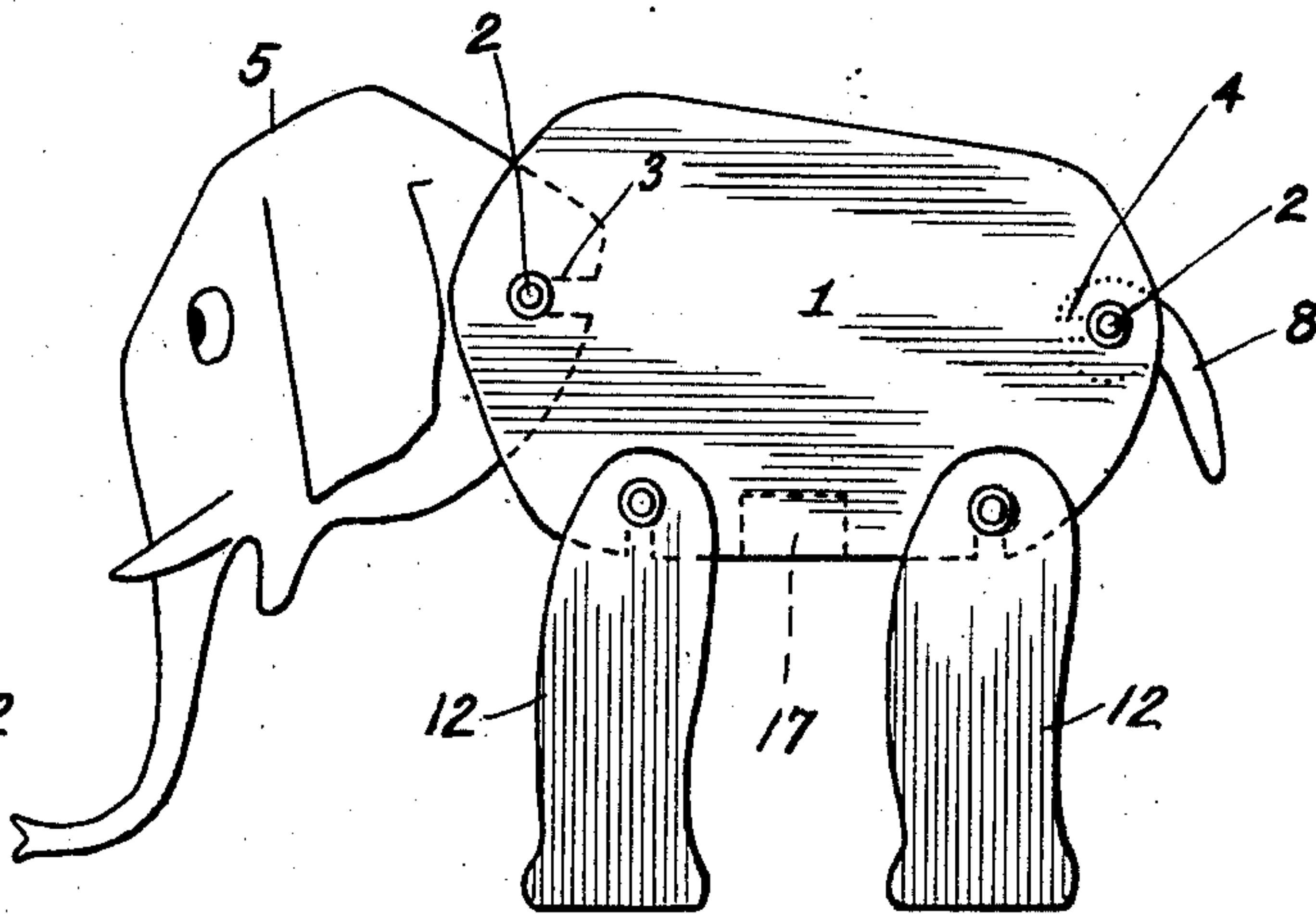


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.

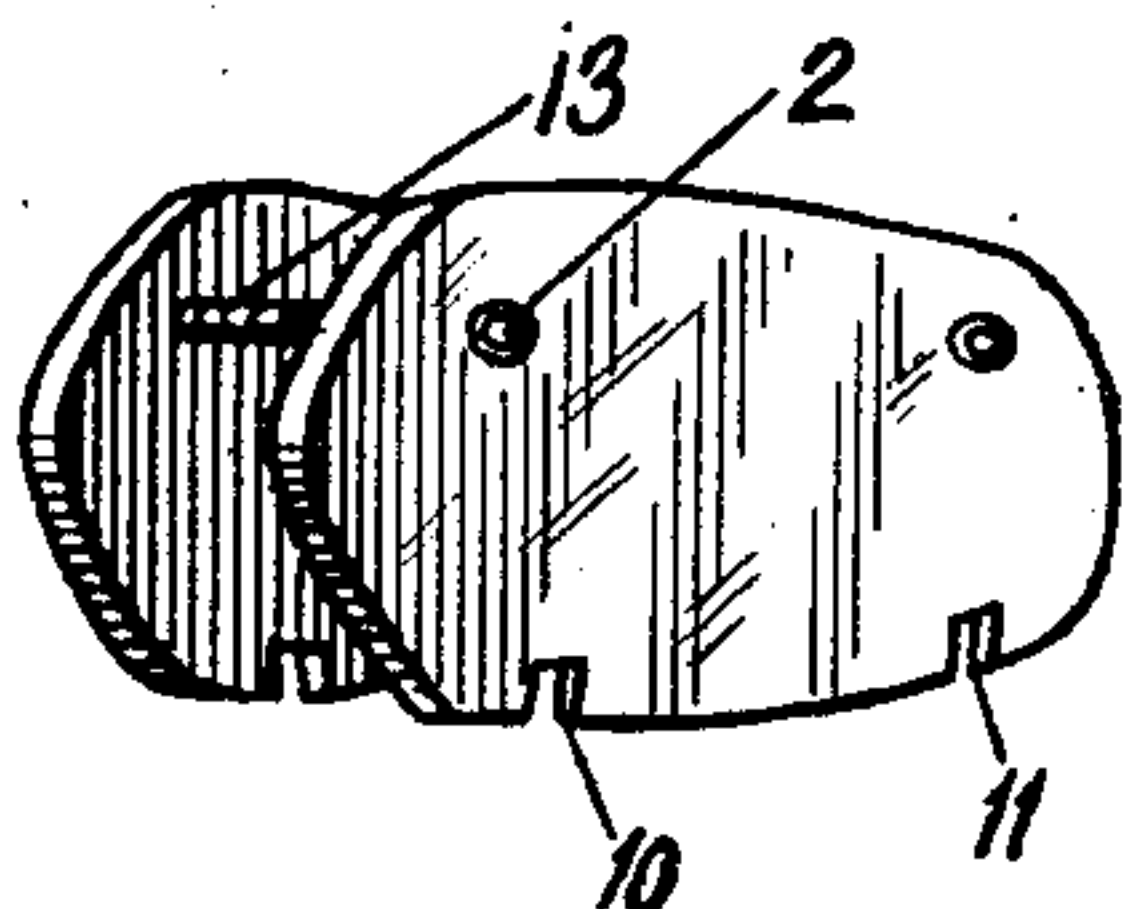


Fig. 5.

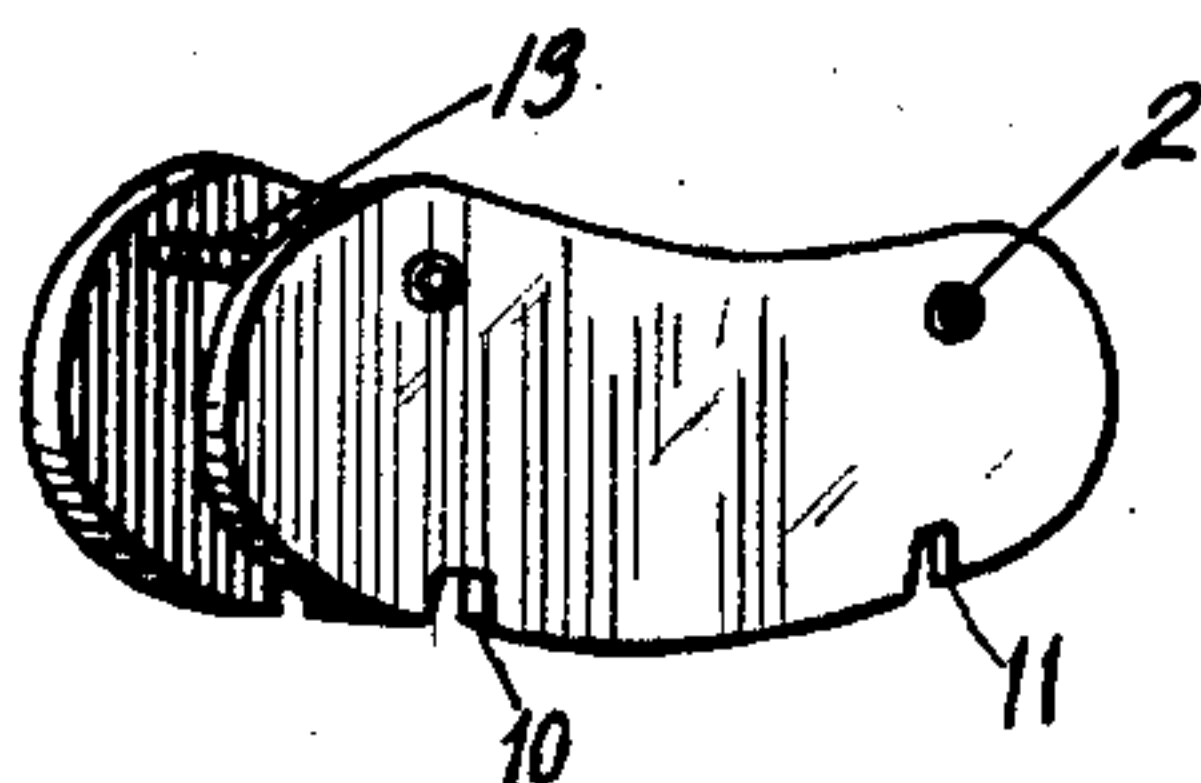


Fig. 6.

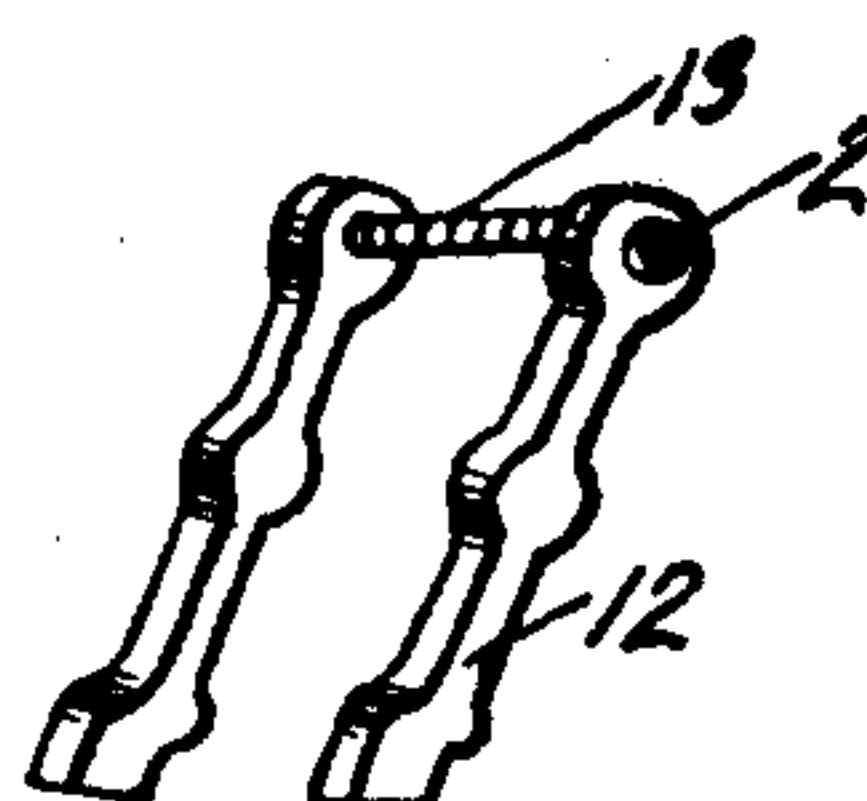


Fig. 7.

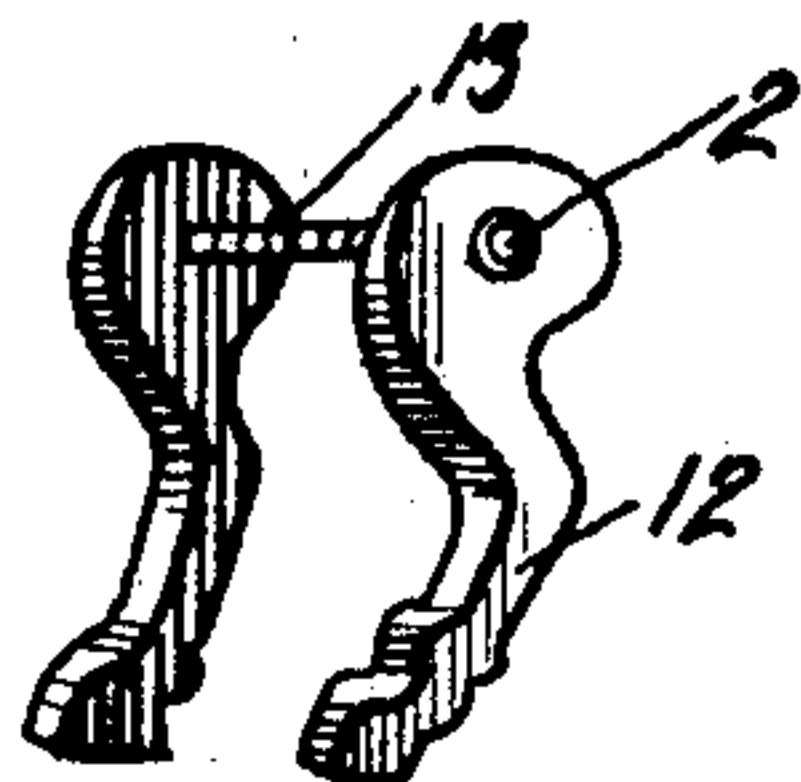


Fig. 8.

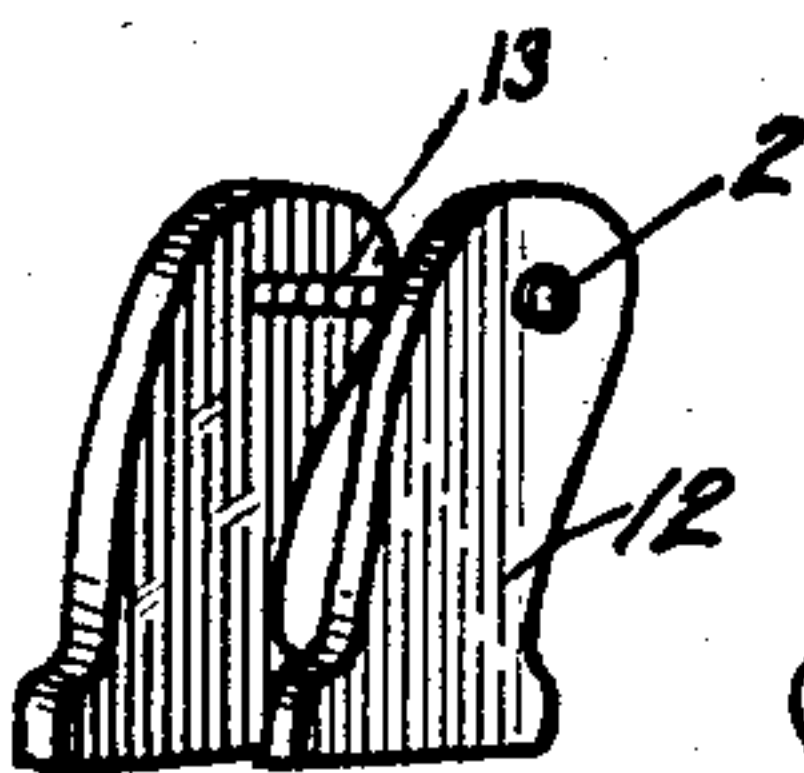


Fig. 9.

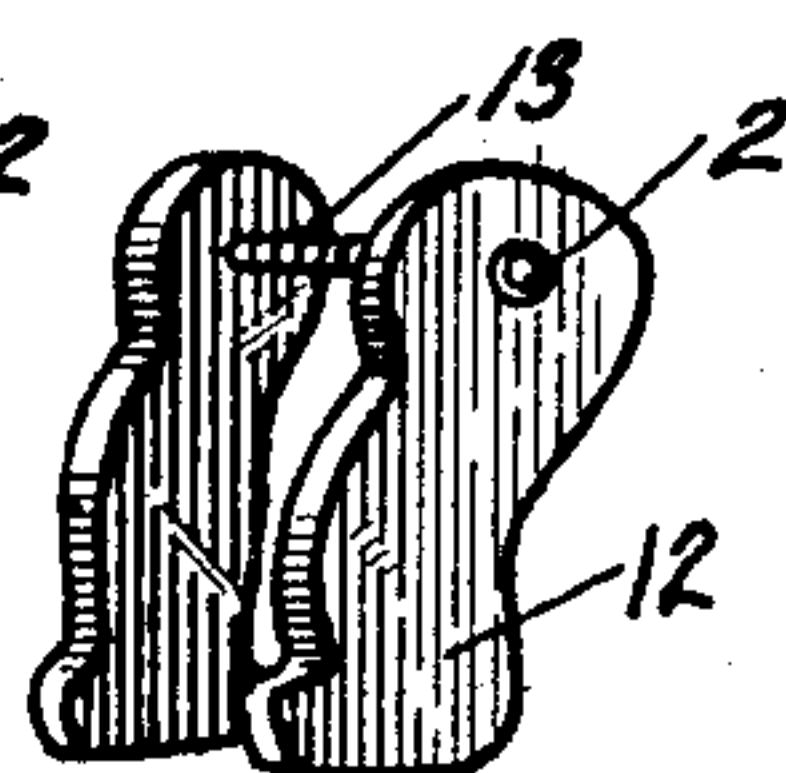


Fig. 10.



Fig. 11.

Fig. 12.

Fig. 13.

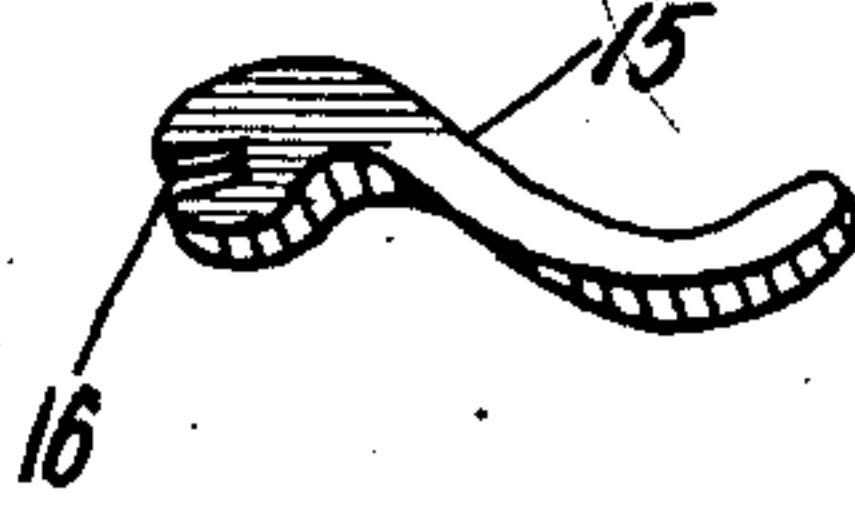
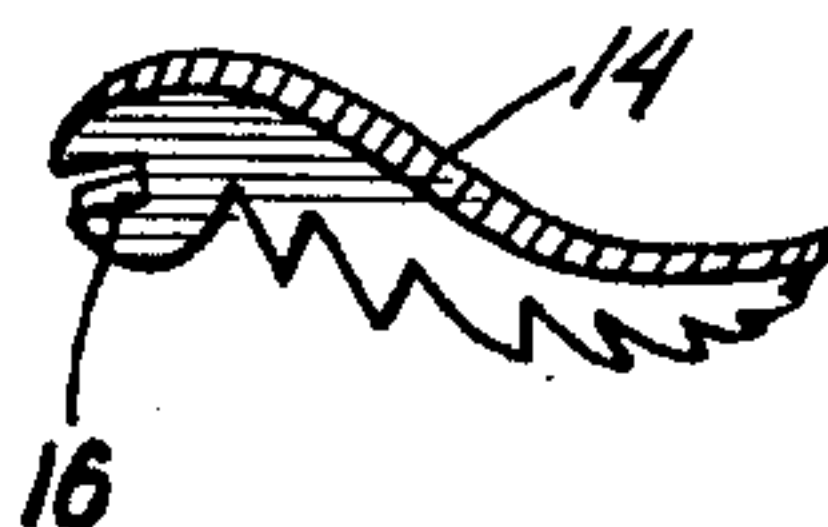


Fig. 14.

Fig. 15.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JAN VAN EERDE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO FREDERICK B. WARD, OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK

TOY

Application filed June 7, 1929. Serial No. 369,058.

My present invention has reference to a toy and my primary object is the provision of a toy designed to represent an animal or a caricature of an animal or the like which includes a body, a head, tail and legs and which embodies simple but extremely novel means for connecting the sections comprising the body and for pivotally and swingably associating therewith the heads, legs and the tails.

A still further object is the provision of toys of this character which may have their parts associated to represent different types of animals or the like, and wherein a plurality of such toys will permit of the child owning the same to produce a complete animal circus, and further wherein the supporting legs of the toy animals or figures are so constructed as to amply support the same in an erect position or at different desired inclinations.

A still further object is the provision of a toy for this purpose in which the body thereof constitutes two similar blocks or strips connected together adjacent to their ends by flexible or like elastic elements, and which elements provide pivots for the notched ends of the head and tail of the toy animal, the strips comprising the body having their lower edges, adjacent to the front and rear thereof notched and the fore and rear legs are connected by flexible or elastic elements which are received in the said notches and whereby all of the elements of the toy, when assembled are sustained in frictional engagement, with the head, tail, and legs pivotally associated with the body so that these elements of the toy may be made to assume various animals which will add to the amusement of the child owning the toy.

To the attainment of the foregoing and other objects which will present themselves the improvement further resides in certain other novel features of construction, combination and operative association of parts, one satisfactory embodiment of which is disclosed by the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of an animal

or similar toy in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a front elevation thereof.

Figure 3 is a side elevation thereof.

Figures 4 and 5 illustrate in perspective different forms of bodies which may be employed.

Figures 6 to 9 illustrate different forms or shapes of leg members which may be employed.

Figures 10 to 13 illustrate different forms of tail members which may be employed.

Figures 14 and 15 illustrate different types of head members which may be employed.

Except for the connecting and pivot means my improved toy is preferably constructed of wooden plates and strips. The plates comprising the body may be differently shaped as disclosed by Figures 4 and 5 of the drawings to correspond with the body of different types of animals. Each pair of plates 1, adjacent to the ends thereof are connected by elastic or like flexible cords or cables 2—2, respectively. These elastic elements 2—2 draw the plates 1 toward each other. The elements 2, however, provided pivots over which is arranged a notch 3 in the plate that is shaped to represent the head of the animal and the notch 4 in the strip that is shaped to represent the tail of the animal or like figure. In Figure 3 of the drawings the head 5 is shaped to represent that of an elephant, in Figure 14 the head 6 is shaped to represent that of a lion while in Figure 15 the head is shaped to represent that of a dog. Obviously other shaped heads may be employed. The tail element 8 illustrated in Figures 3 and 10 has a rounded inner portion and a downwardly curved outer portion, the said curved portion being comparatively short so that the same represents the tail of an elephant.

The lower edges of the body plates 1, adjacent to the front and rear thereof are provided with alining notches 10 and 11, respectively. The leg members for the toy are, of course, differently shaped to correspond with the animal to be represented by the toy and these various shaped legs are illustrated in perspective in Figures 6 to 9 of the drawings. Each pair of legs 12 is connected, adjacent to

their upper ends by an elastic cord or cable 13 which, of course, draw the leg members toward each other. The leg members 12 are spread to permit of the elastic elements 13 being received in the notches 10 and 11 of the body plates 1. The tail elements 14 and 15, illustrated by Figures 11 and 12 of the drawings are differently shaped, that disclosed by Figure 11 designed to represent the tail of a dog, and that disclosed by Figure 12 representing another type of animal. In each event the inner ends of the tail strips 14 and 15 are enlarged and preferably rounded and provided from the outer edges with notches 16 and these notches are designed to be received between the side plates 1 of the body of the animal and to receive therein the rear elastic element 2 of the body. In order to prevent the body plates from being forced too close together at their bottom portions, by the elastic elements 2 a spacer block 17 may be secured to the inner face of one of the said plates, as disclosed by the full lines in Figure 1 and by the dotted lines in Figure 3 of the drawings.

It is not thought necessary to enter into the various shapes and types of animals which may be produced with a toy construction in accordance with this invention nor is it deemed necessary to set forth a manner in which the body of the animal may be arranged at inclinations from either its fore or rear legs nor the manner in which the head or tail may be arranged on the body to represent different figures or animals as it is believed that such arrangement will be understood and appreciated by those skilled in the art to which the invention relates after the foregoing description has been read in connection with the accompanying drawings.

Obviously I do not wish to be restricted to the precise details herein set forth and, therefore, hold myself entitled to make such changes therefrom as fairly fall within the scope of what I claim.

Having described the invention, I claim:

A toy designed to represent animals, caricatures of animals and other animals comprising a body that constitutes two similar plates, elastic elements connecting the plates adjacent to the front and rear thereof designed to draw the plates toward each other, plates representing a head and a tail having notched ends to be received between the plate and to be received over the elastic connecting elements for the plates, said elastic elements providing pivots for the head and tail and means for forcing the body plate into frictional contact with the said head and tail, other plates arranged in pairs to represent the fore and rear legs of the animal or like object, elastic elements connecting the pairs of legs and the body plates having their lower edges adjacent to the front and rear thereof notched to receive the elastic elements therein

and said elastic elements designed to hold the legs in frictional contact with the outer sides of the body and to afford pivots for the legs, and a spacer lug secured on the inner face of one of the body plates adjacent to the bottom thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
JAN VAN EERDE.

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