May 19, 1925. 1,538,272

J. COOK

PLAYGROUND APPARATUS

Filed March 18, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

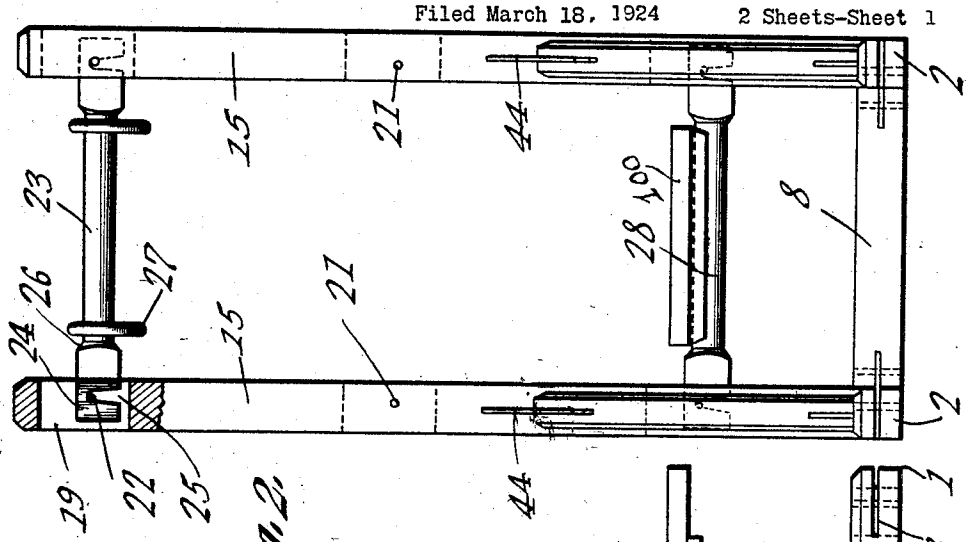


Fig. 2.

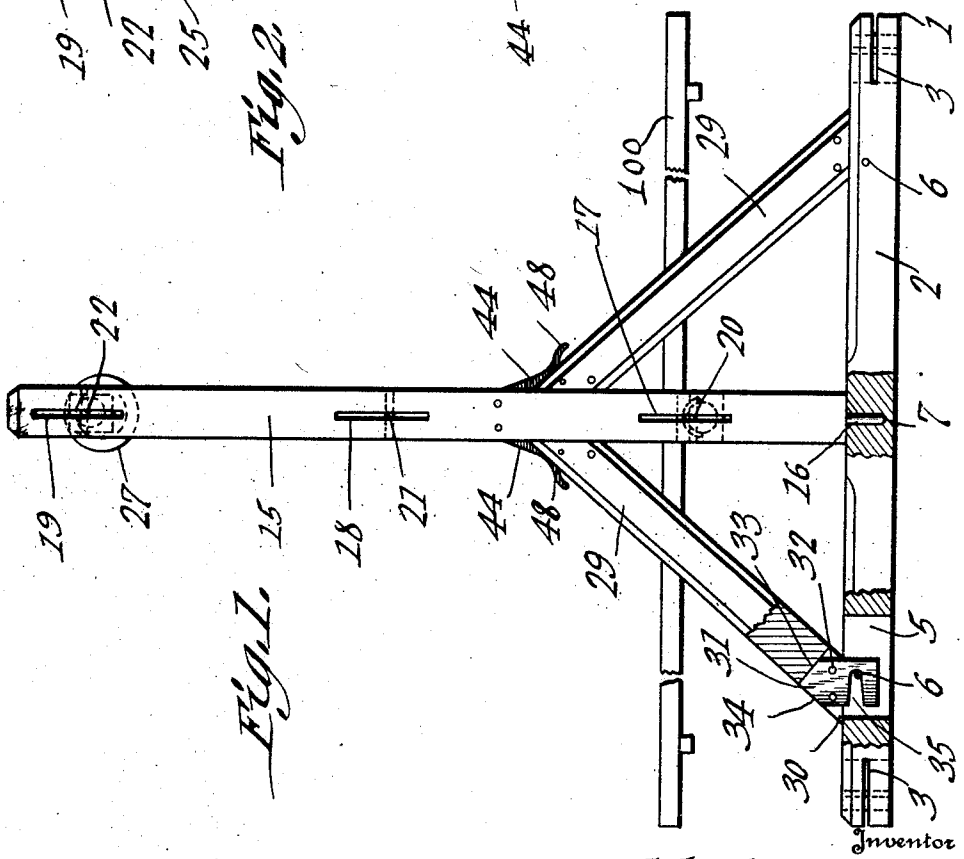


Fig. 1.

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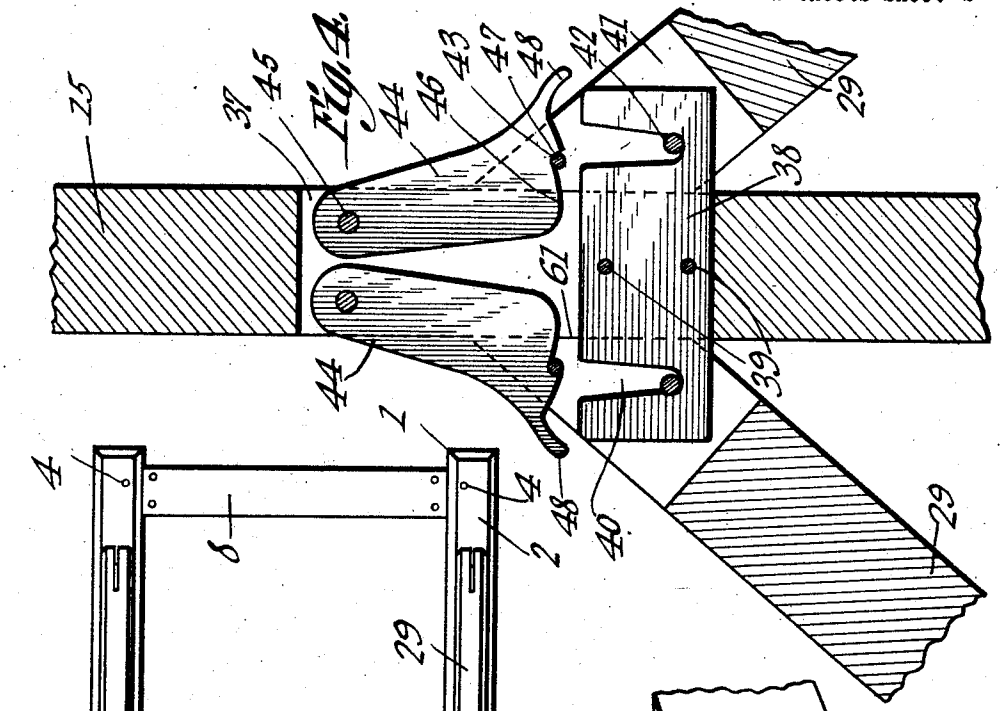
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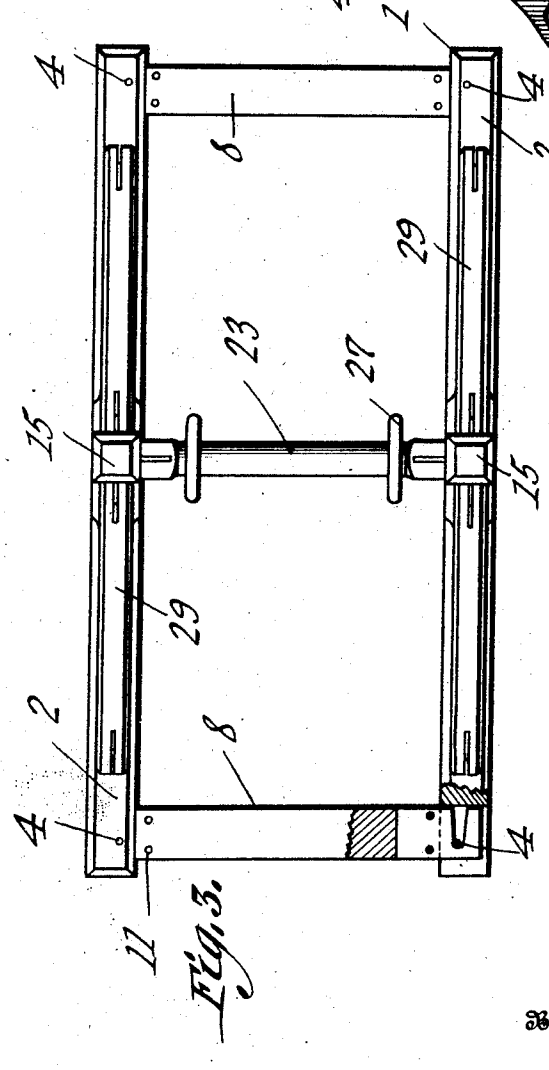
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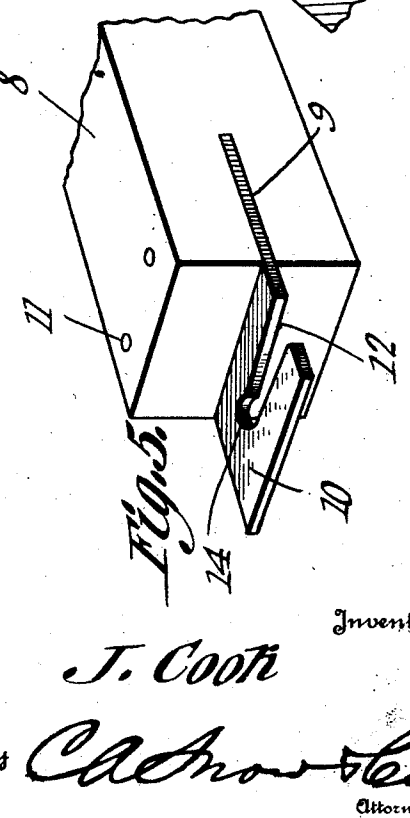
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PLAYGROUND APPARATUS

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAY COOK, OF COLDWATER, MICHIGAN.

PLAYGROUND APPARATUS.

Application filed March 18, 1924. Serial No. 700,095.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAY COOK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coldwater, in the county of Branch and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Playground Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

The device forming the subject matter of this application is a frame adapted to be used on a playground or in a gymnasium, and one object of the invention is to provide novel means whereby the frame may be set up and taken down readily. Another object of the invention is so to construct the frame that the same may be used to support a trapeze or a swing that may be used likewise at the will of an operator, to support a teeter board.

Another object of the invention is to provide novel means for connecting the braces with the standards.

It is within the province of the disclosure to improve generally and to enhance the utility of devices of that type to which the invention appertains.

With the above and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangements of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that, within the scope of what is claimed, changes in the precise embodiment of the invention shown, can be made, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 shows in side elevation, a device constructed in accordance with the invention, parts being broken away; Figure 2 is an elevation wherein the device is viewed at right angles to the showing of Figure 1, parts being broken away; Figure 3 is a top plan wherein parts are broken away; Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional detail showing the means for connecting the braces with the standards; Figure 5 is a perspective view showing one end of one of the members of the base.

The frame forming the subject matter of this application, comprises a rectangular base 1 including side sills 2. The side sills 2 having horizontal slots 3 in their ends. Pins 4 are mounted in the side sills 2 and extend across the slots 3. Vertical slots 5 are fashioned in the sides 2 inwardly of the slots 3. Horizontal pins 6 are mounted in the side sills 2 and extend across the vertical slots 5. Midway between their ends, the side sills 2 of the base 1 are provided with seats 7. The base includes end bars 8. The bars 8 are provided in their ends with horizontal slits 9. Plates 10 are mounted at their inner ends in the slits 9, and are held therein by securing elements 11. The plates 10 project beyond the ends of the bars 8 as clearly shown Figure 5. Flaring notches 12 are fashioned in the edges of the projecting portions of the plates 10. Lateral seats 14 are formed in the plates 10 at the inner ends of the notches 12. The projecting portions of the plates 10 are introduced into the slots 3 of the side sills 2, the pins 4 entering the notches 5 and arriving, ultimately, in the lateral seats 14, the end bars 8 thus being assembled detachably but securely with the side sills 2 of the base 1, the base thus being held in the rectangular form shown in Figure 3 of the drawings.

The lower ends of the vertical standards 15 rest on the side sills 2 of the base 1. The standards are provided at their lower ends with projections or pins 16 received in the seats 7 of the side sills 2. The standards 15 are provided with lower slots 17, with intermediate slots 18 and with upper slots 19. Pins 20 are mounted in the standards 15 and extend across the lower slots 17. Pins 21 are mounted in the standards 15 and extend across the intermediate slots 18. Pins 22 are mounted in the standards 15 and extend across the upper slots 19.

An upper horizontal bar 23 is located between the standards 15 and carries projecting plates 24 constructed like the plates 10. The projecting portions of the plates 24 have notches 25 like the notches 12 of Figure 5. The projecting ends of the plates 24 are adapted to be received in the upper slots 19 of the standards 15, the pins 22 being received in the notches 25, as clearly shown in Figure 2. Thus, the upper ends of the standards are connected and secured together.

The upper horizontal bar 23 is reduced in diameter intermediate at its ends to form shoulders 26. Rings 27 or like suspension elements are mounted on the intermediate portion of upper horizontal bar 23. Outward movement of the rings 27 is limited by the shoulders 26. The rings 27 may be used to support a swing, a trapeze or the like (not shown in the drawings).

A lower horizontal bar 28 is located between the standards 15. The lower horizontal bar 28 is constructed like the upper horizontal bar 23 and is assembled detachably with the standards 15, after the manner of the upper horizontal bar 23, the plates at the ends of the lower horizontal bar 28 being received in the slots 17. It will be understood that the lower horizontal bar 28 may be raised and may be used in connection with the intermediate slots 18 and the corresponding pins 21. Similarly, the horizontal bar 23 may be lowered, the plates 24 entering the slots 18, and the notches 25 co-operating with the pins 21.

Inclined braces 29 are provided, the lower ends of the braces 29 being beveled to rest on the side sills 2 of the base 1. The lower ends of the braces 29 have vertical slits 30 receiving the upper ends of the plates 31, the plates being held in place by securing elements 32. The lower ends of the plates 31 are received in the vertical slots 5 of the side sills 2 and have notches 35 of the sort hereinbefore described, the notches receiving the pins 6. Thus, a detachable connection is afforded between the lower end of each brace 29 and the corresponding side sill 2 of the base 1. The plates 31 are beveled at their upper ends, as shown at 33 so as to abut against the braces 29 at the inner ends of the slits 30. The plates 31 are beveled also as at 34, so as to lie flush with the outer or upper surfaces of the braces 29. The upper ends of the braces 29 are beveled as at 61 in Figure 4, so as to abut against the opposite vertical surfaces of the standards 15. Slots or openings 37 are formed in the standards 15. A hanger 38, in the form of a plate, is located in each opening 37 and abuts against the standard 15 at the bottom of the opening 37 as shown in Figure 4. Securing elements 39 are mounted in the standards 15, and, passing through each hanger 38, retain the hanger in place. Upwardly extended notches or seats 40 are fashioned in each hanger 38 on opposite sides of the corresponding standard 15. The notches or seats 40 are constructed like the notch 12 of Figure 5. There are slots 41 in the ends of the braces 29. Pins 42 are mounted in the upper ends of the braces 29 and extend across the slots 41. When the upper ends of the braces are moved downwardly into abutment with the standards 15, as shown in Figure 4, the pins 42 are received in the notches 40 in a way which will be understood by those skilled in the art. Pins or keepers 43 are mounted in the upper ends of the braces 29 and extend across the slots 41, the pins or keepers 43 being located above the pins 42. Latches 44 are mounted to swing in the slots 37 of the standards 15. The latches 44 are mounted at their upper ends on pivot elements 45 carried by the standards 15 and extended across the slots or openings 37. At the lower ends, the latches 44 are supplied with transverse cam edges 46, and outwardly of the cam edges 46, the latches have shoulders 47. At their outer lower ends, the latches 44 are equipped with reduced finger pieces 48. When the latches 44 are swung inwardly toward each other, into the position shown in Figure 4, the cam edges 46 of the latches, cooperating with the keepers or pins 43, crowd the braces 29 downwardly and cause the pins 42 to be engaged firmly and securely with the notches 40 of the hanger 38, the shoulders 47 ultimately engaging the keeper 43, the finger pieces 48 being held in spaced relation to the outer surfaces of the braces 29 so that the finger pieces may be engaged readily to pry the latches 44 out of engagement with the pins 43, the latches 44 swinging outwardly on their pivot supports 45.

The device forming the subject matter of this application is so constructed that it may be set up or taken down readily, the device being useful in supporting a trapeze, a swing or a teeter board, it being possible to adjust the teeter board upwardly or downwardly, it being possible likewise to adjust the trapeze or swing upwardly or downwardly.

If desired, the bars of the device may be used to support a teeter board 100, shown in Figure 1.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

1. In a device of the class described, a base comprising, as constituent members, side sills, and end bars, connections uniting the sills and the end bars, cooperating members comprising standards detachably erected on the sills and braces extended between the standards and the sills, connections uniting the lower ends of the braces with the sills, means for connecting the upper ends of the braces detachably with the standards, a horizontal bar extended between the standards, and connections uniting the horizontal bar with the standards, each of the connections embodying a projecting plate having a transverse notch in one edge, the member wherewith the plate coacts having a slot for the reception of the plate, and said member having a pin extended across the slot and adapted to be received in the notch of the plate.

2. In a device of the class described, a frame comprising a standard, an inclined brace cooperating with the standard, a hanger mounted on the standard and having a seat, a projection carried by the brace and received in the seat, a keeper on the brace, and a latch pivoted to the standard and engaged with the keeper.

3. A device of the class described comprising a frame, including a standard, a

brace cooperating with the standard, a hanger carried by the standard and having a seat, a projection on the brace, and received in the seat, a keeper mounted on the brace, and a latch pivoted to the standard, the latch having a cam edge, a shoulder and a finger piece, the cam edge and the shoulder being adapted to cooperate with the keeper, and the shoulder coacting with the keeper to space the finger piece from the brace.

4. In a device of the class described, a frame comprising a standard having an opening, a hanger extended through the opening and provided with seats disposed on opposite sides of the standard, inclined braces on opposite sides of the standard, and provided with projections received in the seats, the braces having openings for the reception of the hanger, keepers carried by the braces, and latches pivotally mounted in the opening of the standard and operating in the openings of the braces, the latches coacting with the keepers.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JAY COOK.

Witnesses:
CHARLES F. HOWE,
EMELINE SANFORD.