Feb. 2, 1960 O. C. LYTLE 2,923,545

ROCK AND ROLL AMUSEMENT DEVICE

Filed Dec. 31, 1958 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

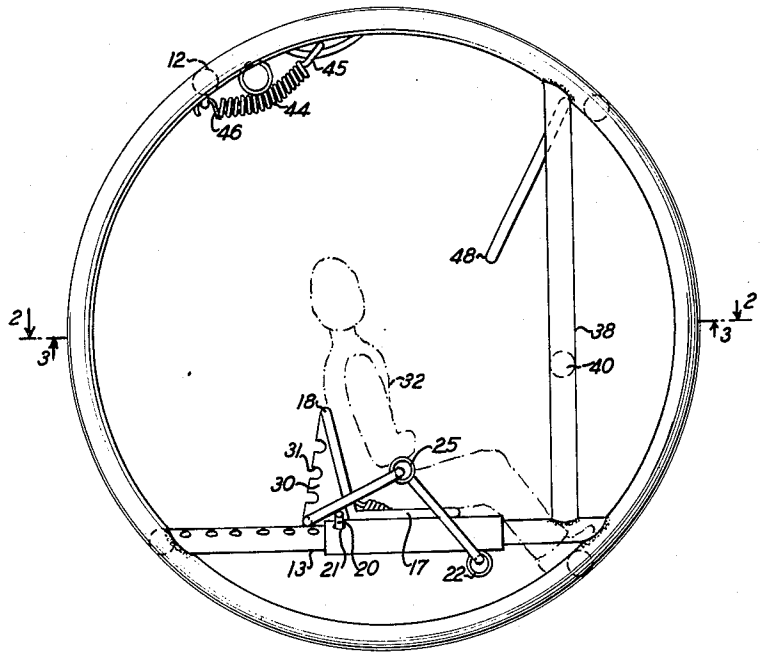


Fig. 1

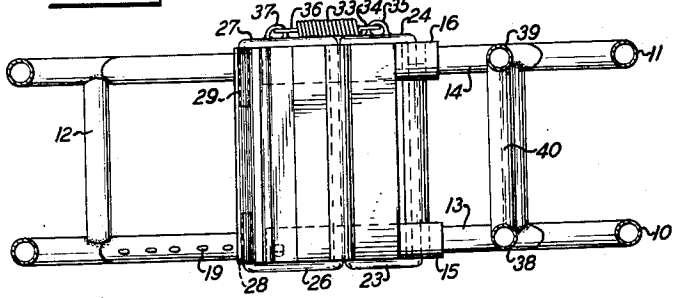


Fig. 2

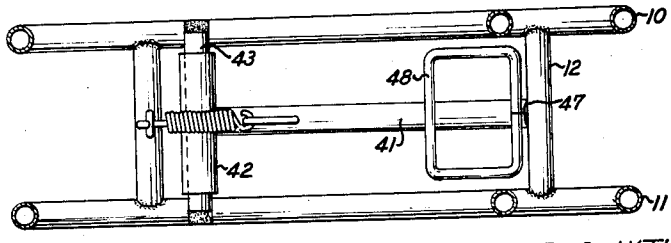


Fig. 3

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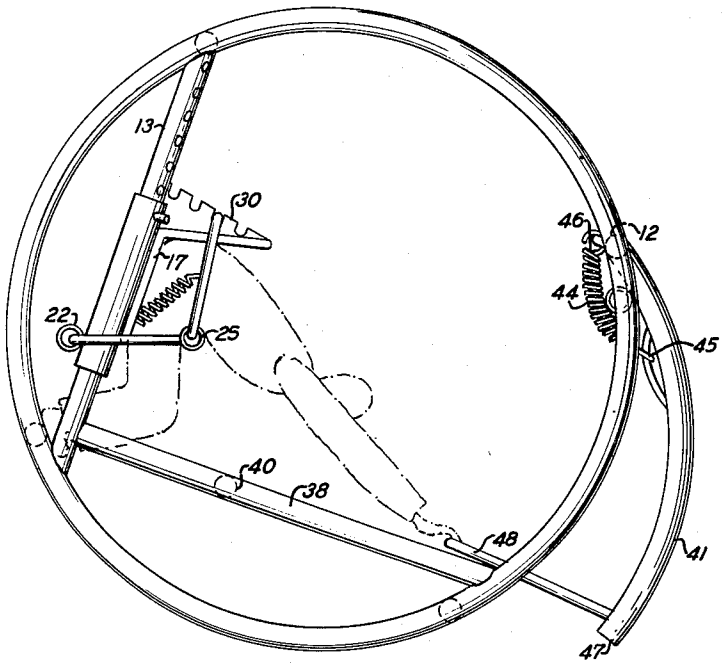


Fig. 5

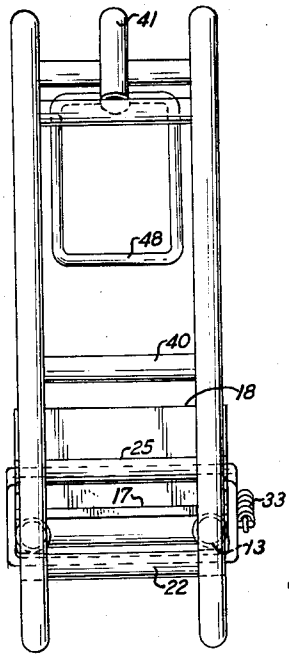


Fig. 4

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ROCK AND ROLL AMUSEMENT DEVICE

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Application December 31, 1958, Serial No. 784,234

5 Claims. (Cl. 272—1)

This invention relates to amusement devices and more particularly to a device of this nature in which an occupant may rock back and forth or by proper manipulation, roll entirely over in the nature of a wheel. The device of this invention when utilized to roll completely over operates somewhat in the nature of a unicycle except that in the latter apparatus means is provided for retaining the occupant substantially in a horizontal plane, whereas in the instant invention, the occupant also rolls over with the device.

Amusement devices of this general nature have heretofore been proposed and utilized but these devices did not provide adjustable seat features for accommodating occupants of different sizes and furthermore, did not include safety means for retaining the occupant in the seat. Furthermore, these prior art devices did not provide means for stopping the device, either from rolling completely over or for stopping the device after a series of revolutions had been completed. Consequently, these prior art devices were often the cause of accidents and injury to the occupant since once the roll over motion had been started, it was extremely difficult for the occupant to stop the same and if this motion took place on an incline, stopping thereof was substantially impossible until the bottom of the incline had been reached or some obstruction encountered.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a rock and roll amusement device incorporating safety features which substantially eliminate danger of injury to the occupant.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a rock and roll amusement device which may be conveniently utilized for rocking movement or which may be manipulated to roll completely over one or more times at the will of the occupant.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a rock and roll amusement device substantially in the form of a hoop and provided with means for seating an occupant within the hoop and in which means is also provided to retain the occupant in seated position during movement of the device.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a rock and roll amusement device including a seat incorporated within a hoop and in which the seat is adjustable to accommodate occupants of different sizes.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a rock and roll amusement device in the form of a hoop having a seat for an occupant incorporated therein and in which means is provided operable at will by the occupant to limit movement of the device and prevent a complete rotation thereof or which may be operated after a series of rotations in order to stop movement of the device.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a rock and roll amusement device which may be conveniently and economically manufactured from readily available materials and which will provide such a device

which is sturdy yet relatively light in construction and which is suitable for use by persons of tender years.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a rock and roll amusement device constructed in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 a sectional view taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 a front elevational view of the device shown in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 5 a side elevational view of the device shown in Fig. 1 and showing the operation of the stop means for limiting movement of the device.

With continued reference to the drawing, there is shown a rock and roll amusement device constructed in accordance with this invention and which may well comprise a pair of hoops **10** and **11** secured together in spaced parallel relation by a plurality of cross members **12**. The hoops **10** and **11** as well as the cross members **12** may be formed of tubular material or may, if desired, be formed of solid material and such material may be metallic, plastic, or any other material suitable for this purpose which will provide sufficient strength and at the same time, be sufficiently light in weight to provide a device easily operable by persons of tender years.

Mounted within the hoops **10** and **11** are seat supporting bars **13** and **14** disposed in spaced parallel relation and in the same plane and it is to be noted as shown in Fig. 1 that the seat supporting bars **13** and **14** are secured to the hoops **10** and **11** in offset relation to the center of the hoops. Tubular members **15** and **16** are slidably received on the bars **13** and **14** and a seat **17** having a backrest **18** is mounted on the tubular members **15** and **16**. At least one of the tubular members **13** and **14** is provided with a series of longitudinally spaced apertures **19** in which may be selectively received a removable pin **20** extending through an aperture **21** in the tubular member **15** or **16** and the pin **20** serves to retain the tubular members **15** and **16** and the seat and backrest **17** and **18** carried thereby in adjusted position on the bars **13** and **14**.

A tubular cross member **22** may be secured to the members **15** and **16** forwardly of the seat **17** and below the members **15** and **16** and extending transversely thereof and pivotally mounted in the tubular cross member **22** are arms **23** and **24** which extend above the seat **17**. A safety bar **25** is secured between the arms **23** and **24** and is movable toward and away from the backrest **18**. Pivotally mounted retaining arms **26** and **27** extend rearwardly from the safety bar **25** on each side of the backrest **18** and the retaining arms **26** and **27** terminate in inturned ends **28** and **29** disposed rearwardly of the backrest **18**. A vertically disposed rearwardly extending taper plate **30** is secured on the rear side of the backrest **18** at each end thereof and the plates **30** are provided with spaced notches **31** in the rear edges thereof for receiving the inturned ends **28** and **29** of the retaining arms **26** and **27**. It will thus be seen that by positioning the inturned ends **28** and **29** in an appropriate pair of notches **31** that the position of the safety bar **25** may be adjusted to securely retain a person **32** on the seat **17** and against the backrest **18**.

In order to prevent inadvertent disengagement of the inturned ends **28** and **29** from the notches **31** and to facilitate engagement of such inturned ends therewith, there may be provided a tension spring **33** having one end **34** connected to an eye **35** on the arm **24** and with the

opposite end 36 connected to an eye 37 on the retaining arm 27.

Spaced parallel posts 38 and 39 may be secured to the forward ends of the seat supporting bars 13 and 14 and extend upwardly and be secured at their upper ends to the hoops 10 and 11 as clearly shown in Fig. 1. A hand engaging bar 40 may be secured between the vertical posts 38 and 39 in a position convenient to the occupant 32 of the device.

Stop means for preventing roll over of the device may be provided in the form of an arcuate stop bar 41 having a sleeve 42 at one end thereof pivotally received on a cross member 43 extending between the hoops 10 and 11 above the occupant in the seat 17. The arcuate bar 41 may be of substantially the same curvature as the hoops 10 and 11 and as shown in Fig. 1 with the stop bar 41 in inoperative position the same is positioned within the periphery of the hoops 10 and 11 and does not in any way impede rolling movement of the hoops. The stop bar 41 may be retained in inoperative position as shown in Fig. 1 by a tension spring 44 having one end 45 secured to the stop bar 41 and the opposite end 46 secured to one of the cross members 12 extending between the hoops 10 and 11. Inward movement of the stop bar 41 beyond the position shown in Fig. 1 is prevented by engagement of the forward end 47 of the stop bar with one of the cross members 12 extending between the hoops 10 and 11. Also secured to the stop bar 41 adjacent the forward end 47 thereof is a handle member 48 which extends downwardly from the stop bar 41 to a position convenient to the occupant 32.

As shown in Fig. 5, the occupant may grasp the handle 48 and move the stop bar 41 outwardly against the action of spring 44 and in this position the end 47 of the stop bar 41 will contact the surface supporting the hoops 10 and 11 and prevent further rolling movement of the hoops in that direction.

As will be seen from the above, there is provided an amusement device which the occupant may operate to provide a rocking movement or by proper manipulation, may cause the device to roll completely over in the nature of a wheel and the rolling movements may be continued until such time as the occupant desires to stop the same which may be accomplished by moving the stop bar 41 outwardly as shown in Fig. 5 which as explained above, will operate to stop the rolling movement of the device. Release of the handle 48 will permit the stop bar 41 to automatically return within the periphery of the hoops 10 and 11 thereby permitting further rolling movement of the device.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof and therefore the invention is not limited by that which is shown in the drawing and described in the specification, but only as indicated in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A rock and roll amusement device comprising a pair of hoops, cross members securing said hoops together in spaced parallel relation, seat supporting bars disposed in spaced parallel relation in the same plane and secured to said hoops in offset relation to the center, a tubular member slidably received on each bar, a seat carried by said tubular members and having a backrest, means to releasably lock at least one of said tubular members in adjusted position on said bars, arms pivotally mounted on said tubular members forwardly of said seat and extending above said seat, a safety bar secured between said arms and movable toward and away from said backrest, pivotally mounted retaining arms extending rearwardly from said safety bar on each side of said backrest, a vertically disposed rearwardly extending tapered plate on the rear side of said backrest at each end, spaced notches in the rear edge of each plate, inturned ends on said retaining arms selectively engageable in said notches to hold said safety bar in engagement with a person on said seat, a tension spring connecting one of said first mentioned arms and the adjacent retaining arm, spaced parallel posts extending upwardly from the forward portions of said seat supporting bars and a hand engaging bar secured between said posts in a position convenient to a person on said seat, whereby a person on said seat may rock said device or cause the same to roll over and stop means for preventing roll over of said device comprising an arcuate stop bar pivotally mounted between said hoops above said seat, spring means for yieldably retaining said stop bar within the periphery of said hoops and a handle extending downwardly from said stop bar, whereby upon movement of said handle by a person on said seat said stop bar will move outwardly of the periphery of said hoops and engage the surface supporting said device to stop rolling movement and upon release of said handle said stop bar will be returned inwardly of the periphery of said hoops by said spring means.

2. A rock and roll amusement device comprising a pair of hoops, cross members securing said hoops together in spaced parallel relation, seat supporting bars disposed in spaced parallel relation in the same plane and secured to said hoops in offset relation to the center, a tubular member slidably received on each bar, a seat carried by said tubular members and having a backrest, means to releasably lock at least one of said tubular members in adjusted position on said bars, arms pivotally mounted on said tubular members forwardly of said seat and extending above said seat, a safety bar secured between said arms and movable toward and away from said backrest, means to adjustably and releasably hold said safety bar in engagement with a person on said seat, spaced parallel posts extending upwardly from the forward portions of said seat supporting bars and a hand engaging bar secured between said posts in a position convenient to a person on said seat, whereby a person on said seat may rock said device or cause the same to roll over and stop means for preventing roll over of said device comprising an arcuate stop bar pivotally mounted between said hoops above said seat, spring means for yieldably retaining said stop bar within the periphery of said hoops and a handle extending downwardly from said stop bar, whereby upon movement of said handle by a person on said seat said stop bar will move outwardly of the periphery of said hoops and engage the surface supporting said device to stop rolling movement and upon release of said handle said stop bar will be returned inwardly of the periphery of said hoops by said spring means.

3. A rock and roll amusement device comprising a pair of hoops, cross members securing said hoops together in spaced parallel relation, seat supporting bars disposed in spaced parallel relation in the same plane and secured to said hoops in offset relation to the center, a tubular member slidably received on each bar, a seat carried by said tubular members and having a backrest, means to releasably lock at least one of said tubular members in adjusted position on said bars, a safety bar pivotally mounted forwardly of said seat and movable toward and away from said backrest, means to adjustably and releasably hold said safety bar in engagement with a person on said seat, spaced parallel posts extending upwardly from the forward portions of said seat supporting bars and a hand engaging bar secured between said posts in a position convenient to a person on said seat, whereby a person on said seat may rock said device or cause the same to roll over and stop means for preventing roll over of said device comprising an arcuate stop bar pivotally mounted between said hoops above said seat, spring means for yieldably retaining said stop bar within the periphery of said hoops and a handle extending downwardly from said stop bar, whereby upon movement of said handle by a person on said seat said stop bar will

move outwardly of the periphery of said hoops and engage the surface supporting said device to stop rolling movement and upon release of said handle said stop bar will be returned inwardly of the periphery of said hoops by said spring means.

4. A rock and roll amusement device comprising a pair of hoops, cross members securing said hoops together in spaced parallel relation, seat supporting bars disposed in spaced parallel relation in the same plane and secured to said hoops in offset relation to the center, a tubular member slidably received on each bar, a seat carried by said tubular members and having a backrest, means to releasably lock at least one of said tubular members in adjusted position on said bars, a safety bar pivotally mounted forwardly of said seat and movable toward and away from said backrest and means to adjustably and releasably hold said safety bar in engagement with a person on said seat, whereby a person on said seat may rock said device or cause the same to roll over and stop means for preventing roll over of said device comprising an arcuate stop bar pivotally mounted between said hoops above said seat, spring means for yieldably retaining said stop bar within the periphery of said hoops and a handle extending downwardly from said stop bar, whereby upon movement of said handle by a person on said seat said stop bar will move outwardly of the periphery of said hoops and engage the surface supporting said device to stop rolling movement and upon release of said handle said stop bar will be returned inwardly of the periphery of said hoops by said spring means.

5. A rock and roll amusement device comprising a pair of hoops, cross members securing said hoops together in spaced parallel relation, seat supporting bars disposed in spaced parallel relation in the same plane and secured to said hoops in offset relation to the center, a tubular member slidably received on each bar, a seat carried by said tubular members and having a backrest, means to releasably lock at least one of said tubular members in adjusted position on said bars, a safety bar pivotally mounted forwardly of said seat and movable toward and away from said backrest and means to adjustably and releasably hold said safety bar in engagement with a person on said seat, whereby a person on said seat may rock said device or cause the same to roll over and stop means for preventing roll over of said device comprising a stop bar pivotally mounted between said hoops of said seat and a handle extending downwardly from said stop bar, whereby upon movement of said handle by a person on said seat said stop bar will move outwardly of the periphery of said hoops and engage the surface supporting said device to stop rolling movement.

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