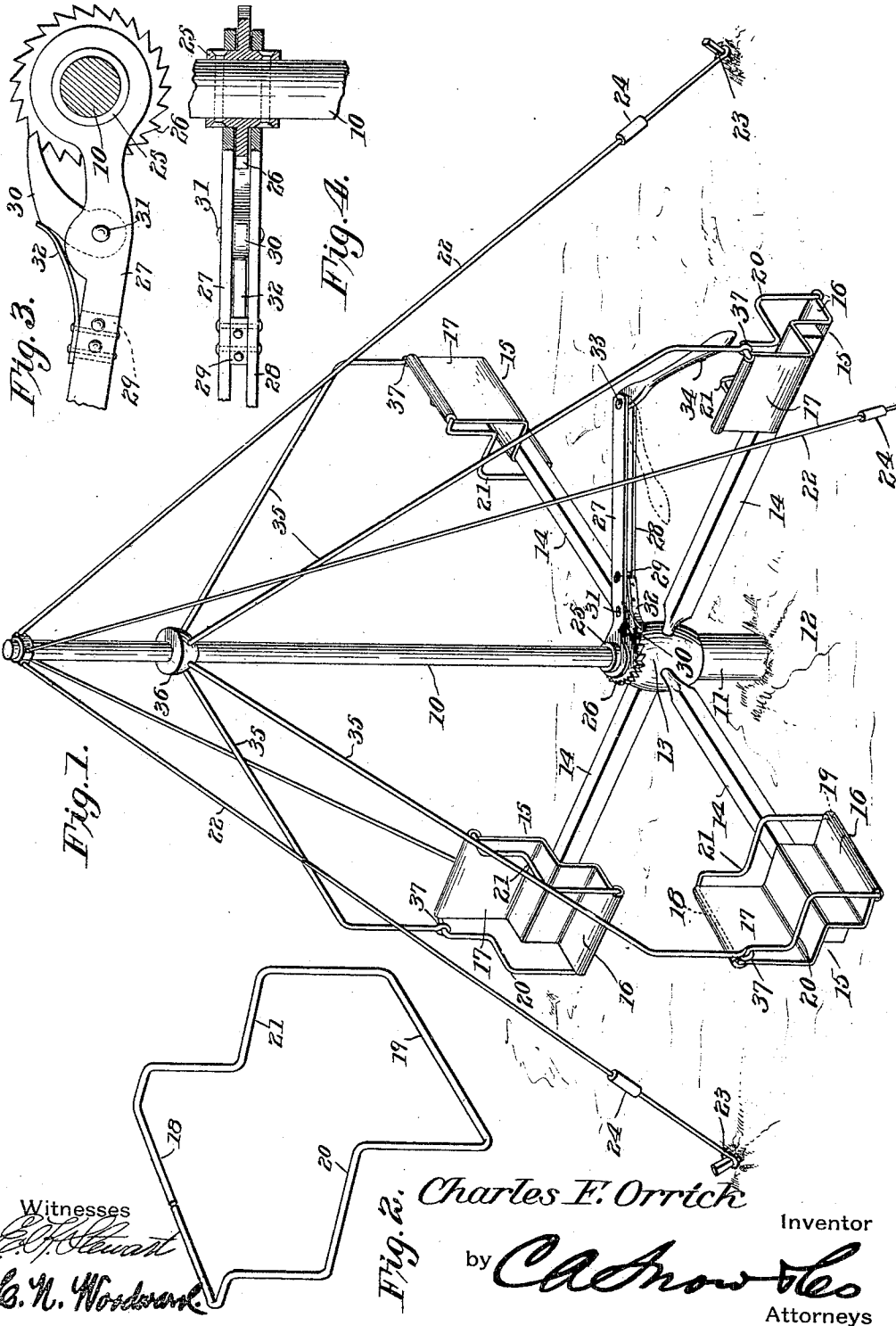


No. 839,631.

PATENTED DEC. 25, 1906.

C. F. ORRICK.
MERRY-GO-ROUND.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 27, 1905.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. ORRICK, OF MOUNT VERNON, ILLINOIS.

MERRY-GO-ROUND.

No. 839,631.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 25, 1906.

Application filed November 27, 1905. Serial No. 289,329.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. ORRICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mount Vernon, in the county of Jefferson and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Merry-Go-Round, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of amusement apparatus known as "merry-go-rounds," wherein a plurality of supports for the riders are caused to revolve about a central member or mast, and has for its object to simplify and improve the construction and increase the efficiency and utility of devices of this character.

With these and other objects in view, which will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in certain novel features of construction, as hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification and in which corresponding parts are denoted by like designating characters, is illustrated the preferred form of the embodiment of the invention capable of carrying the same into practical operation, it being understood that the invention is not necessarily limited thereto, as various changes in the shape, proportions, and general assemblage of the parts may be resorted to without departing from the principle of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

In the drawings thus employed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved apparatus. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the seat-frames detached. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail of the ratchet-and-pawl mechanism.

The improved device comprises a mast or central support 10, having an enlarged lower end 11 for embedding in the ground, (represented at 12,) the enlargement forming a shoulder upon which a sleeve or hub 13 is rotatively mounted.

Guy rods or cables 22 are connected at one end to the upper end of the mast 10, and with the other ends secured in the ground, as by stakes 23, at a sufficient distance from the mast for the swing members to pass beneath them, as hereinafter explained.

The guy members when formed of rods will be provided with turnbuckles 24 or other means for providing the requisite tension.

Radiating from the central member 13 are arms 14, having seats 15 upon their free ends, the seats each formed from a single sheet of metal pressed into the required shape with a foot-rest 16 at one end and a back-rest 17 at the other end.

The seat members are bolted or otherwise secured to the arms 14 and provided with "rolls" at the ends for bearing over rods bent into the form represented in Fig. 2, the end portions 18 19 for engagement by the rolls, and the side portions 20 21 serving as arm rests and guards to the ends of the seat.

Supporting-rods 35 are connected at one end to a collar 36 upon the mast 10 and at the other end at 37 to the outer arm rest or guard portions of the seats, the rods extending vertically for a distance from the seats, as shown, so that the rods will not endanger the heads of the occupants of the seats or annoy them in any manner. This makes a very simple, strong, and durable seat structure, inexpensive to manufacture, and which is comfortable and safe for the occupant.

Attached rigidly to the mast member 10 near the hub 13 is a sleeve 25, having a ratchet-edged disk 26 centrally thereon, and mounted to rotate upon this sleeve at opposite sides of the ratchet member are spaced lever members 27 28, having a spacer member 29 between them, and also supporting a pawl 30 between them by a pivot 31, the free end of the pawl for engaging the teeth of the ratchet member.

A spring 32 is riveted or otherwise connected to the spacer member 29 for bearing upon the pawl and holding it yieldably in engagement with the ratchet member.

The lever members 27 28 do not extend far enough to be engaged by the seats as they rotate, and pivoted at 33 to swing between the free ends of the lever members is an arm or handle 34, which extends within reach of the occupants of the seat, as in full lines in Fig. 1, when required, or foldable against the lever members when not required, as in dotted lines in the same figure. By this simple arrangement the occupant of one of the seats by grasping the handle portion 34 of the lever member and pulling on the same will cause the arms and the seats and hub connected therewith to rotate about the mast, and when the stroke is complete the lever and its attachments will be carried around

the mast with the rotating portion of the structure, so that the occupant of the seat by alternately drawing the handle toward himself and then pushing away the same will rapidly rotate the hub, arms, and the seats thereon.

When the requisite speed is attained, the handle is released and thrown around into the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1.

When the motion begins to slacken, it is an easy matter for the occupants of one of the seats to grasp the handle and repeat the operation as long as required.

In practice one of the seat occupants will retain the handle and pull the same toward himself at frequent intervals or often enough to maintain the requisite speed, and when wearied relinquish the same for the occupant of another of the seats, who can "pick up" the handle without stopping the device.

The supporting-rods 35 may be utilized to support a canopy or as a reel for drying clothes, if required.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is—

1. In an apparatus of the class described, a vertical mast having a shoulder near the lower end, a hub rotative on said mast and bearing upon said shoulder, arms radiating from said hub and carrying seats at the free ends, a sleeve fast to the mast and provided with a ratchet-disk centrally thereon, spaced lever members rotative upon said sleeve at opposite sides of said ratchet-disk, a spacer-block connecting said lever members a pawl pivoted between said lever members, for engaging said ratchet-disk, a spring connected to said spacer member for bearing upon said

pawl, and a handle connected to swing between the free ends of said lever members and foldable with the same when not in use.

2. In an apparatus of the class described, a vertical mast having a shoulder near the lower end, a hub rotative on said mast and bearing upon said shoulder, arms radiating from said hub and carrying seats at the free ends, a ratchet member rigidly connected to said mast, a lever-arm swinging around said mast and carrying a pawl-spring operated for engaging said ratchet member, and a handle swinging from the free end of said lever member and foldable therewith when not in use.

3. In an apparatus of the class described, a vertical mast having a shoulder near the lower end, a hub rotative on said mast and bearing upon said shoulder, arms radiating from said hub and carrying seats at the free ends, a collar upon the mast and spaced above said hub, supporting-rods connected at one end to said collar and at the other ends to the outer sides of said seats, with the portions next the seats extending vertically, a ratchet member connected to said mast a lever-arm swinging around said mast, and carrying a pawl-spring operated for engaging said ratchet, and a handle swinging from the free end of said lever and foldable therewith when not in use.

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

CHARLES F. ORRICK.

Witnesses:

J. V. HYRE,
J. W. SMEE.