

May 24, 1932.

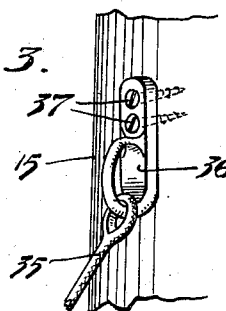
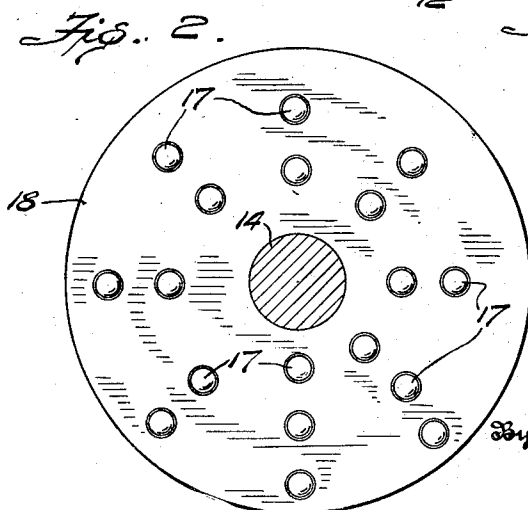
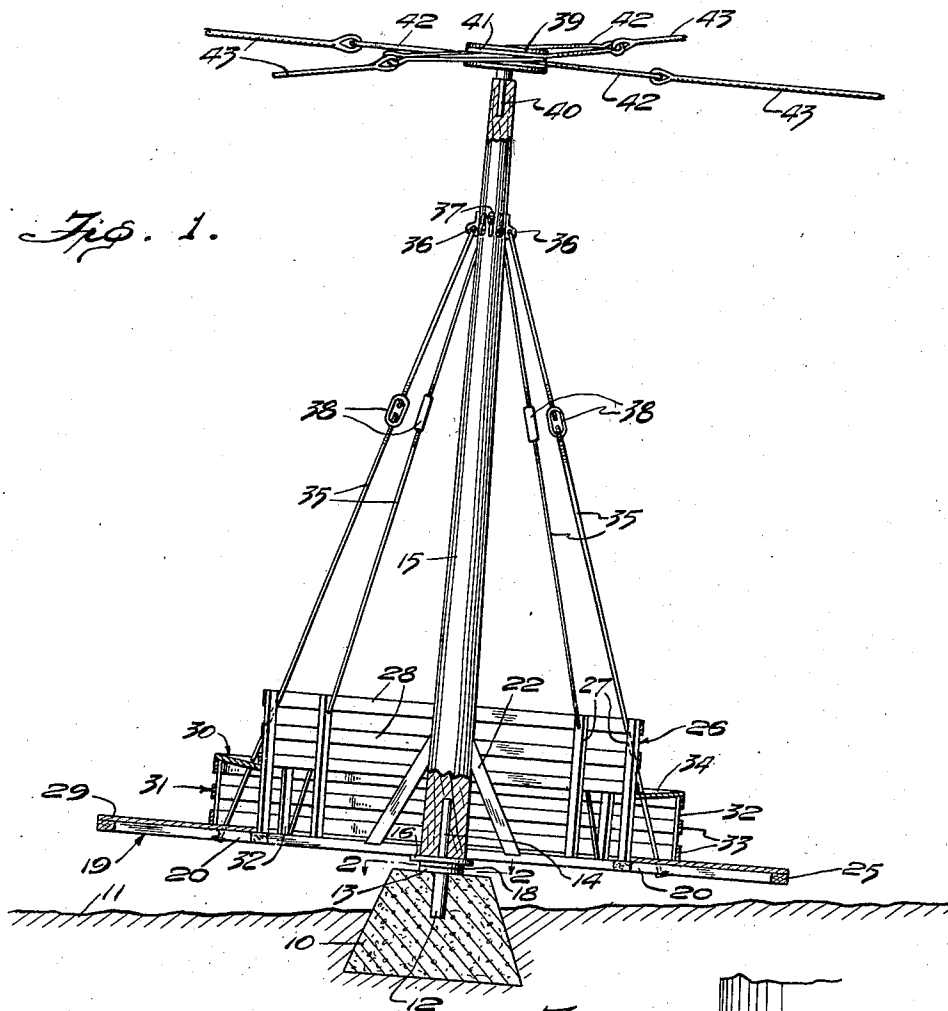
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1,860,194

ROUNABOUT OR MERRY-GO-ROUND

Filed Nov. 20, 1929

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 4.

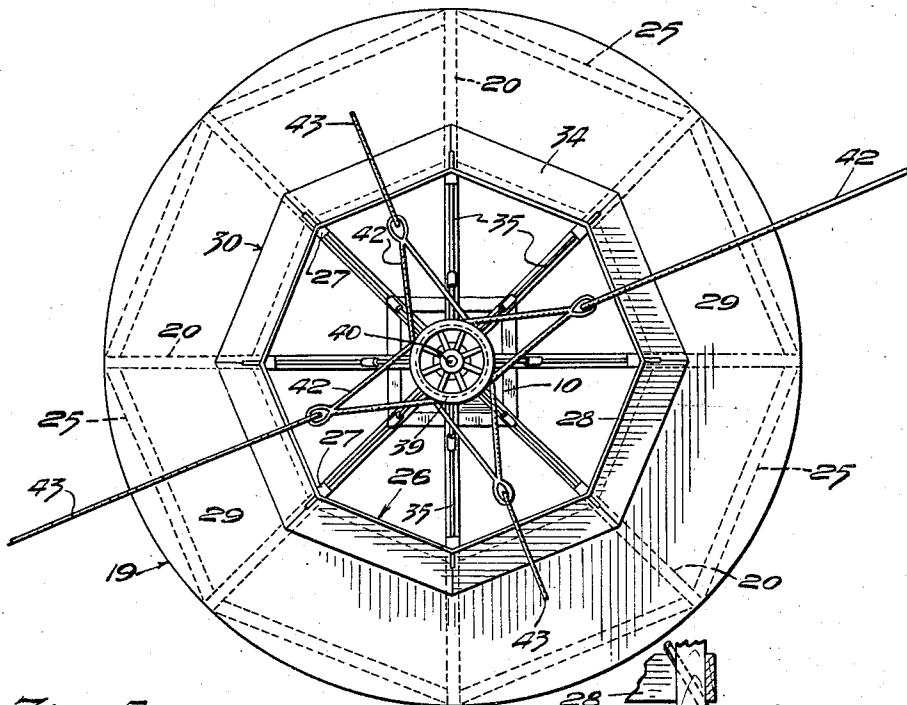
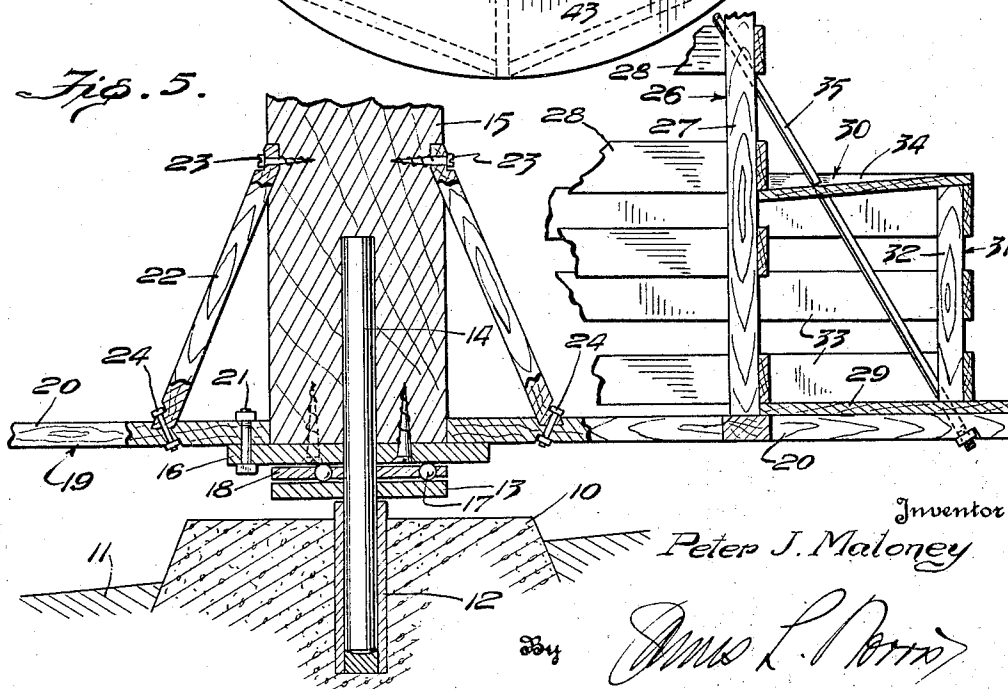


Fig. 5.



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ROUNABOUT OR MERRY-GO-ROUND

Application filed November 20, 1929. Serial No. 408,515.

This invention relates to a roundabout or merry-go-round.

A prime object of the invention is to produce a device of this character which does not require mechanical power or extraneous means for the operation thereof.

Another important aim is to provide a construction which rotates about an oblique axis and which may be easily rotated and maintained in motion through movement of one or more of the occupants.

A further desideratum is to provide an apparatus of this character which is substantial and relatively inexpensive employing a ball bearing means at its base and having an inclined platform as well as an oblique axis, so that "climbing" of the platform will produce rotation.

Various additional objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the description following, of one operative embodiment, taken in connection with accompanying drawings thereof.

In said drawings:

Figure 1 is a view primarily in elevation of the improved roundabout, the lower portion being shown in central vertical section to disclose details;

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a detail perspective view of a fragment of the mast and one of the anchor-wire cleats;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the roundabout, and

Figure 5 is an enlarged, fragmentary, central vertical sectional view taken through the apparatus.

Referring specifically to the drawings, wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts, 10 designates an anchor or base block of any suitable material, for instance, concrete, fixed or secured in the ground 11.

Rigidly or loosely disposed in said block

10 as preferred is a tubular bearing 12 which preferably extends above the block and has a bearing plate or disk 13 rigid therewith or forming a part thereof. Said bearing 12 is obliquely disposed as in Figure 1 and a shaft or rod 14 is journaled therein. The said shaft or rod 14 is rigid with the mast 15 of the roundabout and extends below such mast. The mast 15 and shaft 14 have their longitudinal axes obliquely disposed similar to the bearing 12. A disk or plate 16 preferably of larger diameter than the disk 13 is secured, as by screws, to the lower end of the mast, and preferably is rigid with or a part of the shaft 14. Anti-friction devices are interposed between the plates or disks 13 and 16. Such devices are shown as balls 17 in apertures formed in a plate 18 interposed between the opposing faces of the plates or disks 13 and 16. Preferably the plate or disk 18 is made of Babbitt metal and the plates 13 and 16 are of steel.

A platform 19 surrounds the mast 15 at a right angle to the latter and accordingly is obliquely disposed as shown in Figure 1. This platform may be provided in various ways. As shown, it comprises equidistantly spaced radial beams 20 whose inner ends bear against the mast above the plate or disk 16 and are secured to the latter as by bolts 21. Braces 22 extend between the mast 15 and beams 20 and have their opposite ends secured to said parts, respectively, by screws 23 and bolts 24. Beams 25 span the spaces between the beams 20, adjacent their outer ends.

A polygonal or equivalent wall 26 is built on the platform and may consist of uprights 27 fastened to beams 20 and spaced longitudinal slats 28 fastened thereto. Suitable flooring 29 is fastened to beams 20 outwardly of wall 26. An endless seating structure for the occupants of the apparatus is provided at 30 in any suitable way. As shown, a low wall 31, similar in shape to that at 26 sur-

rounds the latter in outwardly spaced relation and may consist of uprights 32 fastened to beams 20 and longitudinal slats 33 secured to uprights 32. Seats 34 are fastened in a continuous row to the walls 26 and 31.

In order to efficiently brace and rigidify the rotating structure, guy rods 35 are fastened to the beams 20, passing through the same, the seats 34, the wall 26 and in some instances, the uprights 27 thereof, and at their upper ends are fastened to suitable cleats 36 screwed or otherwise fastened to the mast 15 as at 37. Relative sliding movement to a slight extent between the wall 26, seats 34 and guy rods 35 will take place in accordance with adjustment of the guy rods since nuts or other fastenings on the guy rods adjacent the said wall and seats are unnecessary because the guy rods are obliquely disposed. Said braces or guy rods 35 form dividers between the seats and are preferably made in sections adjustably connected together by turnbuckles 38.

In order to support and journal the mast 15 at its upper end, a spindle 40 is rigidly fastened to the mast and a wheel 39 having a groove 41 is rotatively mounted on said spindle. Yokes 42 engage the groove 41 and extend in various directions therefrom. Said yokes are supported from any suitable stationary or steady means as through the agency of ropes or cables 43 attached to the same and to said yokes.

Presuming operation, the occupants mount the platform 19 and occupy the seats 34. Due to the oblique disposition of the axis of the rotating parts an operator mounts the platform and walks uphill thereon to impart motion to the roundabout and cause that motion to be maintained. To retard or stop the motion of the roundabout, the operator walks downhill. The operation of the device occurs with minimum friction because of the ball bearing mounting at 17. In fact, with the platform or seats occupied, I find it difficult in practice to bring the roundabout to a complete stop. It will be realized that the apparatus is maintained in operation solely by the walking uphill of a person thereon and thus does not require mechanical or extraneous power for its motion.

Various changes may be resorted to provided they fall within the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim as my invention:—

A roundabout having a rotatable mast, a platform on the mast at a right angle to its longitudinal axis, said platform being marginally free and unobstructed whereby it may be occupant-propelled, a wall rising from the platform, seats secured to said wall and facing outwardly, and adjustable guy members extending substantially obliquely from the platform and freely through the seats and said wall to reinforce the seats and

wall, said guy members constituting dividers between the seats and being fastened to the mast above said seats and wall, and the said disposition of the guy members with respect to the wall and seats permitting slight relative sliding movement between the wall, seats and guy members in accordance with adjustment of the guy members.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

PETER J. MALONEY.