C. B. MANZER.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 27, 1917.

1,272,488.

Patented July 16, 1918.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

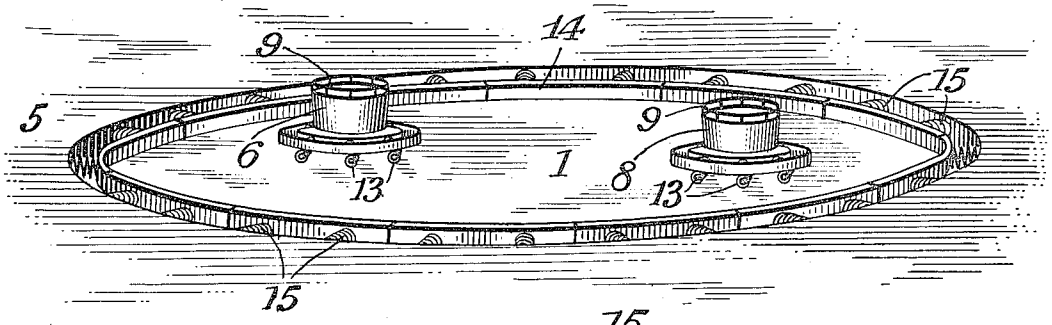
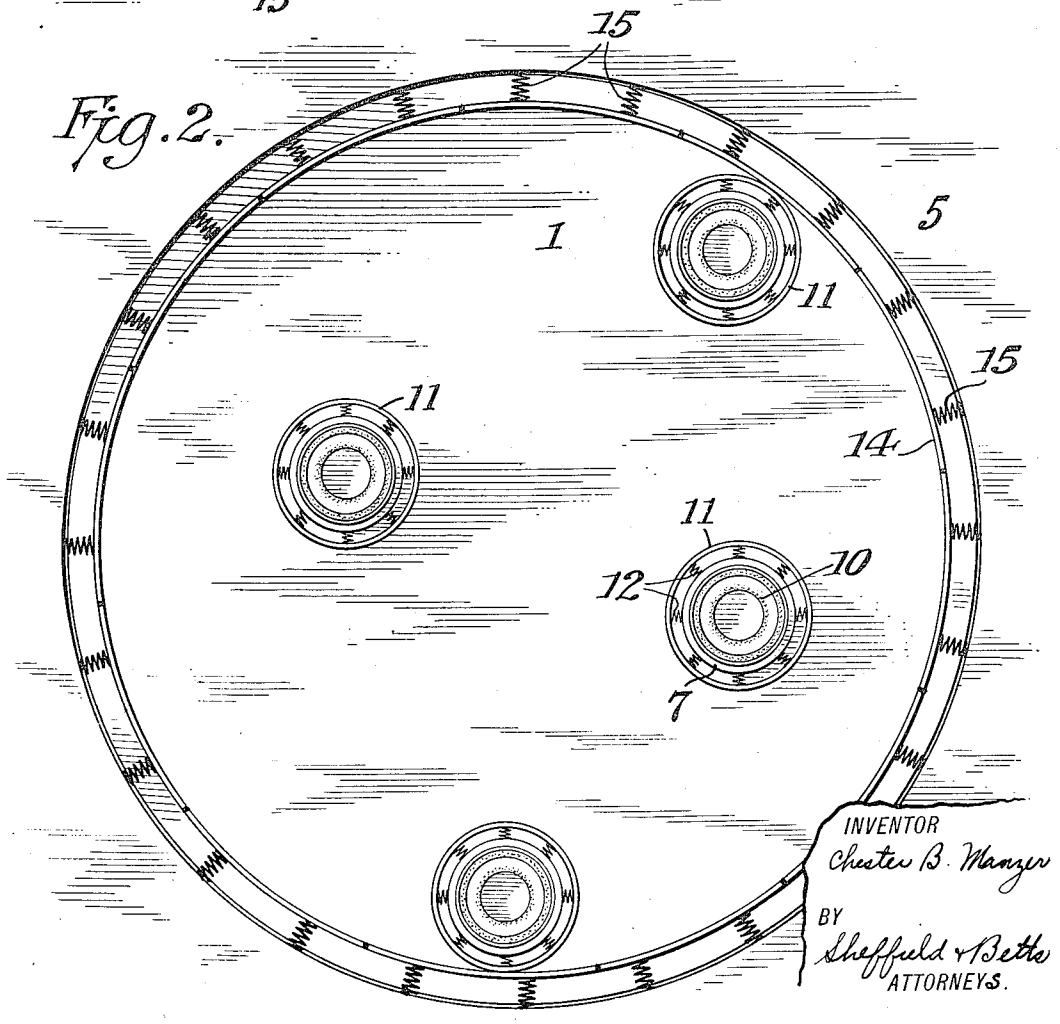


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

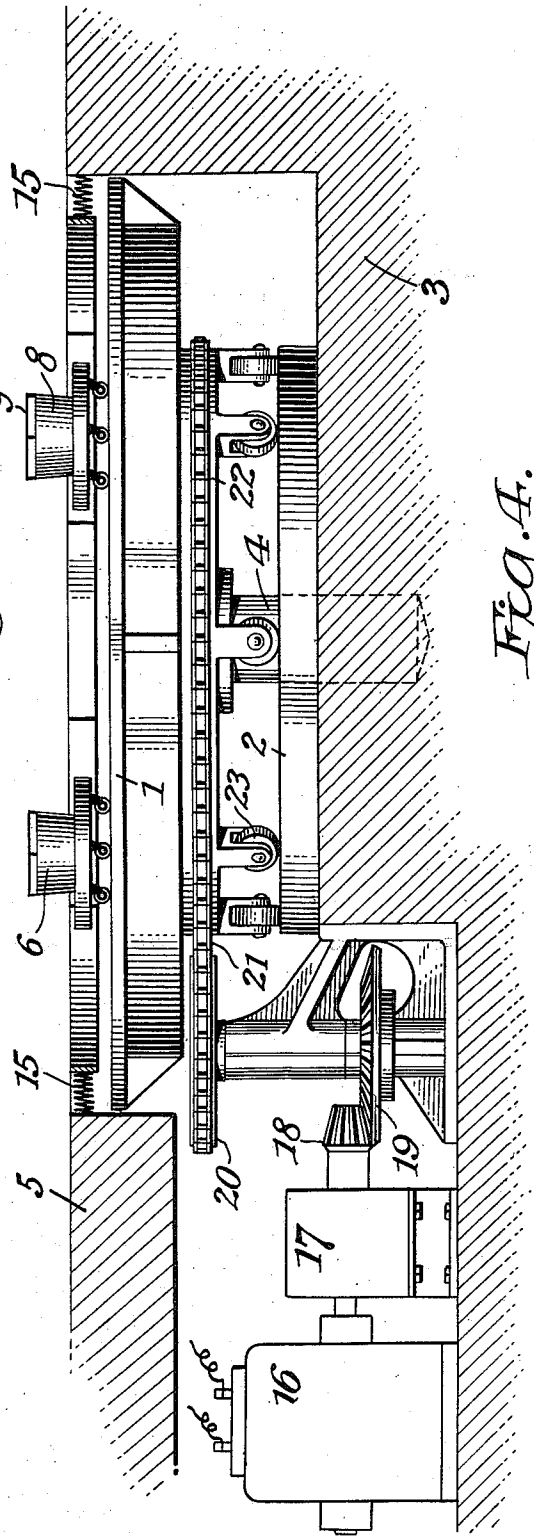
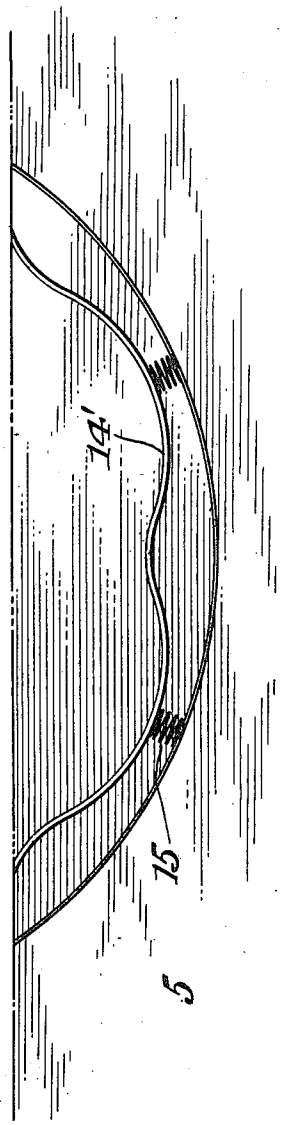


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHESTER B. MANZER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

1,272,488. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 16, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHESTER B. MANZER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, city, county, and State of New York, have invented or discovered certain new and useful Improvements in Amusement Devices, of which the following is a full, clear, and complete disclosure.

My invention relates to the class of amusement devices and has as its principal object the provision of means which will cause a pleasant and unusual sensation to those making use of the same.

Further objects of my invention will appear to those skilled in the art upon perusal of the following specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an apparatus embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of an apparatus similar to that shown in Fig. 1, but showing a larger number of cars in use.

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view through the apparatus shown in Fig. 2, illustrating the means for driving the apparatus.

Fig. 4 is a detail plan view showing a portion of a modified arrangement wherein the buffer means has a wavy or sinuous horizontal projection.

Throughout the separate views the same part is designated by the same reference character.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, 1 is a disk mounted to revolve upon the steel track 2 supported by a concrete base 3. 4 is a central pivot for maintaining the disk true on the track. Surrounding the disk 1 is a platform 5, the surface of which is somewhat above the surface of the disk 1, so that persons on the platform 5 can conveniently step from the platform into cars such as 6, which may be placed on the disk 1. The cars 6 comprise flat bases such as 7, which may be circular or other convenient shape in exterior outline, and mounted upon which are frusto-conical or cylindrical seat backs 8, around the upper edges of which are rails, such as 9, and within which are cushioned seats such as 10. Surrounding the flat bases 7 are buffer rings, such as 11, the shape of which depends upon the outline of the bases, and which are shown in the drawings as being circular. Springs 12 support the buffer rings 11 from the bases 7. The cars 6 are mounted upon casters 13 so that they may be perfectly free to roll on the surface of the disk 1, the so-called high tension ball-bearing casters being preferred. The surface of the disk need not be flat as shown.

In Figs. 1 and 2 it will be seen that the aperture in the platform 5 for receiving the disk 1 is circular in plan view, and the upper edge of the platform carries a plurality of arcuate buffer segments, such as 14, segments 14 being supported from the edge of the platform by springs such as 15. It will be seen that the segments 14 normally are held by their springs so as to make a circular buffer ring immediately above the surface of the disk 1 and concentric therewith, but of slightly less diameter than the disk.

If desired, the buffer carried from the platform may have a wavy or undulating effect as shown in connection with the buffer segment 14′ in Fig. 4.

In Fig. 3 I have illustrated a convenient apparatus for revolving the disk 1 when desired, said arrangement comprising a motor 16, preferably of the electric type, the shaft of which carries a gear (not shown) within the gear box 17, and a shaft extending from the gear box 17 carries a bevel pinion 18 meshing with the bevel gear 19 on the vertical shaft, the upper end of which carries the sprocket wheel 20 for driving a chain or cable 21 surrounding a skirt 22 which depends from the lower portion of the disk 1 and has a driving engagement therewith. It will be seen that the disk may be driven by relatively small expenditure of energy, since it is supported by wheels, such as 23, which roll on the steel track 2.

In the operation of my device, when the disk 1 is stationary, persons can seat themselves in one of the cars 6, the number of cars used on the disk 1 at any given time depending upon the number of persons who may wish to ride thereon. Upon rotating the disk 1, the centrifugal and rotative forces throw the cars around in an entertaining manner, the cars being entirely free to move on the surface of the disk. Disagreeable shocks are, however, avoided by the buffer rings on the cars as well as the buffer segments fixed to the platform, so that there is no danger to the occupants of the cars, but said occupants nevertheless receive pleasing and unusual sensations from the strange

movements of the cars as they roll against one another and against the surrounding buffer segments.

The disk 1 may be of any desired size and may be rotated at any desired speed, but I find that a disk sixty feet in diameter gives good results.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. An amusement device comprising in combination a rotatable disk, a car supported by said disk and free to move on the surface thereof, and buffer means protecting the edge of said disk, and presenting a sinuous surface to said car.

2. An amusement device comprising in combination a rotatable disk, a car supported by said disk and free to move on the surface thereof, and resilient buffer means protecting the edge of said disk, and presenting a sinuous surface to said car.

CHESTER B. MANZER.