A. P. LAUSTER.

SPEEDWAY AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 28, 1920.

1,353,918.

Patented Sept. 28, 1920.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

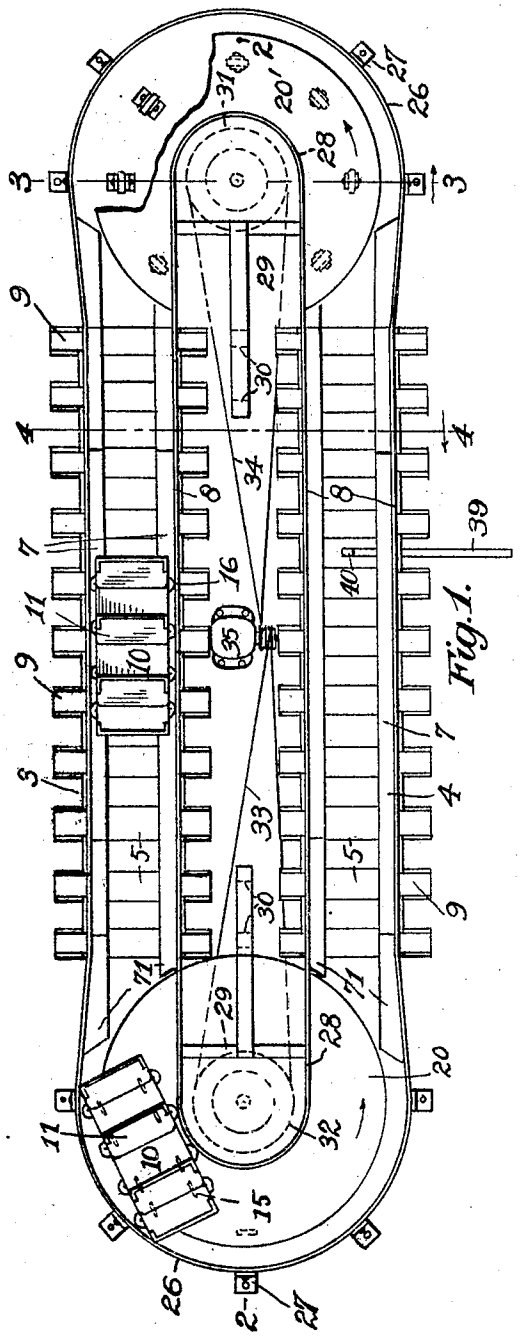

Fig. 1.

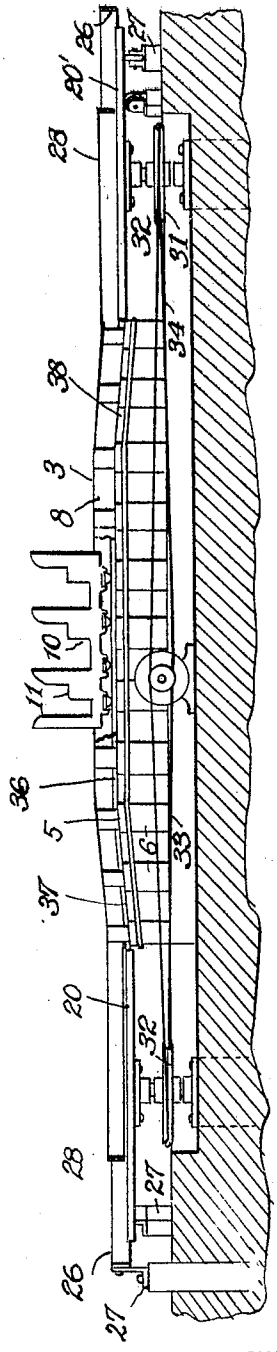

Fig. 2.

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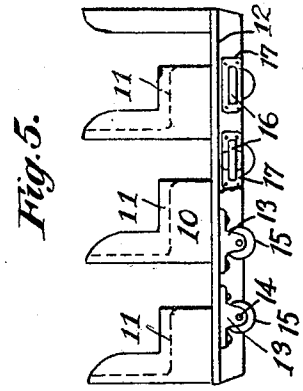

Fig. 5.

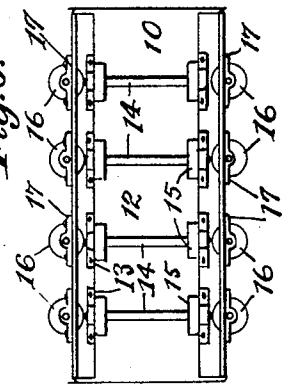

Fig. 6.

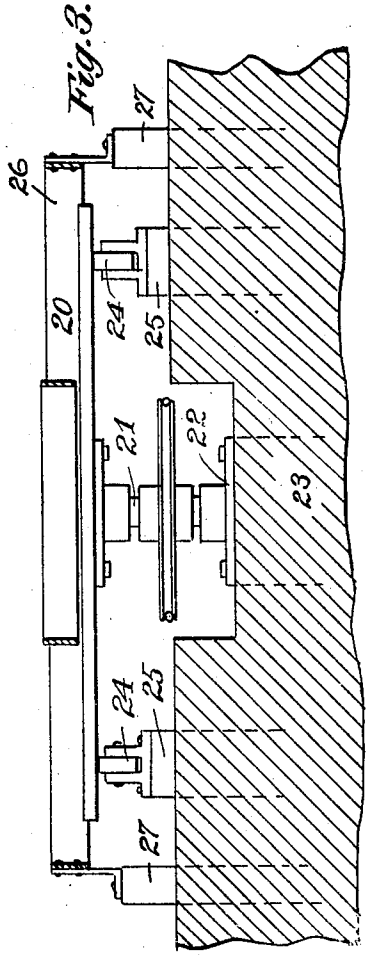

Fig. 3.

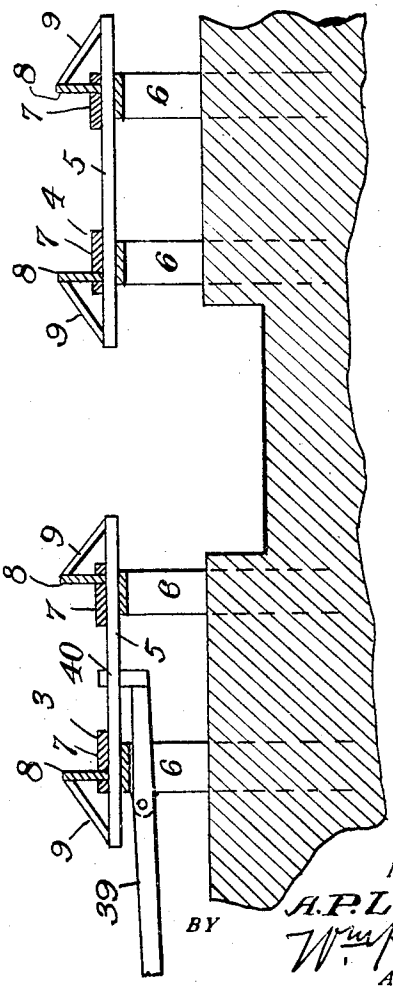

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST P. LAUSTER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO HYLA F. MAYNES, OF GAINES, PENNSYLVANIA.

SPEEDWAY AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

1,353,918. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 28, 1920.

Application filed February 28, 1920. Serial No. 361,953.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST P. LAUSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Speedway Amusement Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to amusement devices in the form of a car and track over which the car is operated.

The object of this invention is to provide an apparatus of this character in which a car is shot or hurled from point to point along its track under varying conditions of speed, and in an irregular and jerky fashion. This is accomplished by means of one or more projectors moving to contact with a car as it rolls along the track and thus speed it on its way. The sudden speed changes effected in this manner are exhilarating and pleasurable.

A further object of the present invention is to provide in an apparatus of this character, in connection with a pair of tracks and a car, turn-tables arranged to receive the car from one track and change its direction, and start it running back on the other track, to be there received by a similar turn-table and caused to be again deflected and started back on the other track.

In the accompanying drawing showing embodiments of my invention, Figure 1 is a plan view of the apparatus.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section.

Fig. 3 shows enlarged a vertical section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 shows the car in side elevation.

Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the car.

As shown in the drawings I provide a pair of runways or tracks, denoted generally by 3 and 4, that as shown are arranged parallel a short distance apart. These tracks as set forth in Fig. 4, are shown as comprising cross ties 5 supported on pillars 6, 6. On these ties are placed the running rails 7, 7 that as shown are simply flat plates. At the outer sides of the rails 7, I arrange guide plates 8, 8 that may be supported by blocks 9 on each side at their outer faces.

These tracks are identical on each side 3 and 4, and adapted to receive a car 10, provided with seats 11, 11.

The bottom 12 of the car is provided with journal blocks 13, 13 on each side, that receive the axles 14 provided with running wheels 15, 15. Four of these axles and wheels are shown on the bottom of the car, and these wheels are adapted to run on the rails 7 of the track.

The car is also provided with a series of guide wheels 16, 16 on each side that each turns on a vertical axis in a bearing block 17; four of these guide wheels being shown on each side. These guide wheels are adapted to engage the inner faces of the guide plates 8, 8 of the tracks.

At each end of the tracks I arrange a turn-table or projector, adapted to receive the car from the end of one track and deflect it to be reversed in direction and enter the other track. I therefore provide means for rotating these turn-tables, and also arrange lateral guiding means, so that the car entering the turn-table from the end of one track will pass around the turn-table to the opposite side, and thereupon be caused to leave the turn-table under considerable momentum and pass along the other track. This car will continue along the latter track and be received by the turn-table at the other end, and will go through the same operation at this turn-table, being reversed and caused to again enter the first track under considerable speed. Its momentum will cause it to travel along the latter track until each engages the other turn-table.

At one end of the tracks 3 and 4 I provide a turn-table comprising a circular platform 20 having a vertical shaft 21 mounted to rotate in a suitable bearing 22 carried by a masonry block 23 set in the ground. Suitable wheels 24 are rotatably mounted on posts 25 to guide the rotation of the turn-table.

The disk 20 of the turn-table is arranged on a level with the tracks 7, 7 of the two track members, and these tracks are continued by extensions 71 up to the edge of disk 20, so that the car wheels will run on to the turn-tables from the tracks. This applies to both sides of the turn-table so that the car traveling around on the turn-table can pass back on to the other track 4. Around the outside of the turn-table I pro-

vide an upright guide plate 26 supported on posts 27, that extends from the outer guide plate 8 of the track 3, to the outer guide plate 8 of the track 4. This guide plate will engage with the guide wheels 16 on the side of the cars, see Fig. 1 and serve to cause the car when received on the turn-table and carried around with it, to remain on the disk 20. I further provide an inner guard plate 28 suitably supported by arms 29 from a post 30; which guide plate will engage wheels 16 on the inner side of the car as shown. A second turn-table 20′ is arranged at the other end of the tracks 3 and 4, whose location and arrangement is identical with the one just described.

Suitable means are provided for rotating these turn-tables, and in the same circular direction. Sheaves 31, 32 are secured to the shafts of the turn-tables and connect by belts 33, 34, with a suitable motor 35 located between the tracks.

It will be seen from the Fig. 2 that the tracks have an intermediate portion 36 that is level, and the end portions 37 and 38 are inclined toward the turn-table. This will produce a different effect, as the car is shot off from one turn-table at a considerable speed it will run a short distance on the inclined portion of the track then run along the level portion to the end portion of the track that is declined. This will insure the car running on to the turn-table in case its momentum has become reduced.

When it is desired to stop the car, a swinging arm 39 has an end portion 40 arranged to project up between the rails to engage the car and arrest its motion. One of these devices is shown on one side, but a duplicate could be arranged on the opposite side in case two cars were in operation.

What I claim is:

1. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables mounted to rotate and located some distance apart, a car, a guideway adjacent one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a similar guideway for the other turn-table, and a pair of track guideways for the said car, one arranged to cause the car when ejected from one turn-table by the guideway to pass along one track and enter the said guideway of the other turn-table, the second track guideway being arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table.

2. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables mounted to rotate and located some distance apart, a car, a guideway adjacent one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a similar guideway for the other turn-table and a pair of track guide-ways for the said car, one arranged to cause the car when ejected from one turn-table by the guideway to pass along one track and enter the said guideway of the other turn-table, the second track guideway being arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table, and means for causing movement of the car along said track guide-ways and around the turn-tables.

3. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables mounted to rotate and located some distance apart, a car, a guideway adjacent one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table and to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a similar guideway for the other turn-table, and a pair of track guideways for the said car, one arranged to cause the car when ejected from the turn-table by the guideway to pass along one track and enter the said guideway of the other turn-table, the second track guideway being arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table, and means for rotating both turn-tables to advance the car around the same and also along one track guideway to the other turn-table.

4. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables mounted to rotate and located some distance apart, a car, a guideway adjacent one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto one turn-table and to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a similar guideway for the other turn-table, and a pair of track guideways for the said car, one arranged to cause the car when ejected from the turn-table by the guideway to pass along one track and enter the said guideway of the other turn-table, the second track guideway being arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table, means for rotating both turn-tables to advance the car around the same and also along one track guideway to the other turn-table, the track guideway being declined toward each turn-table.

5. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables mounted to rotate and located some distance apart, a car, a guideway adjacent one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table and to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and

thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a similar guideway for the other turn-table, a pair of track guideways for the said car, one arranged to cause the car when ejected from one turn-table by the guideway to pass along one track and enter the said guideway of the other turn-table, the second track guideway being arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table, the car being provided with running wheels, and horizontal guide wheels on each side to engage said guideways.

6. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables mounted to rotate and located some distance apart, a car, a guideway adjacent one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table and to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a similar guideway for the other turn-table, and a pair of track guideways for the said car, one arranged to cause the car when ejected from one turntable by the guideway to pass along one track and enter the said guideway of the other turn-table, the second track guideway being arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table, the car being provided with running wheels, horizontal guide wheels on each side to engage said guideways, and means for rotating the turn-tables to each advance the car around the same and also along one track guideway to the other turn-table.

7. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables, a car, a pair of upright side guideways connected with one turn-table to receive the car and direct in onto the turn-table and to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a pair of similar upright guideways for the other turn-table, and a pair of rails for the car with side guides arranged to cause the car when ejected from the turn-table by its guideway to pass along one track and enter the said upright guideways of the other turn-table, a second pair of rails and side guideways arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table.

8. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables, a car, a pair of upright side guideways connected with one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table and to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a pair of similar upright guideways for the other turn-table, and a pair of rails for the car with side guideways arranged to cause the car when ejected from the turn-table by its guideway to pass along one track and enter the said upright guideways of the other turn-table, a second pair of rails and side guideways arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table, the car being provided with track running wheels and also side horizontal guide wheels to engage said guideways, and means for rotating the turn-tables to each advance the car around the same and along one track onto the other turn-table.

9. In a device of the character set forth, a pair of horizontal turn-tables mounted to rotate and located some distance apart, a car, a guideway adjacent one turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table to the opposite side and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, a similar guideway for the other turn-table, and a pair of track guideways for the said car, one arranged to cause the car when ejected from one turn-table by the guideway to pass along one track and enter the said guideway of the other turn-table, the second track guideway being arranged to receive the car ejected from the latter turn-table and guide it back to the other turn-table, and a stop member in the track arranged to arrest the car.

10. In an amusement apparatus, a guideway comprising track members and vertical wall members, a car adapted to move along said guideway, a horizontal rotating projector moving within said guideway to propel the car, the upper surface of said rotating projector being continuous with the track surface of the guideway.

11. In an amusement apparatus, a guideway, a car adapted to move on rollers along said guideway, a moving bottom at one section of the guideway whereby the car moving on to said moving bottom section has the motion of the latter gradually imparted to it.

12. An amusement device comprising a guideway, cars adapted to be moved along said guideway, a horizontally rotating circular platform or projector situated at a curve in said track-way to impart its motions to the cars, the peripheral face portion of the projector serving as a bottom for the guideway at the curve, the relation of the foregoing parts being such that the cars make the passage to and from the projector in an irregular and jerky fashion.

13. An amusement device comprising a guideway, cars adapted to be moved along said guideway, a horizontally rotating circular projector situated at a curve in said track way, the relation of the foregoing parts being such that the cars pass to and from the projector under varying conditions of speed.

14. In a device of the character set forth, a horizontal turn-table mounted to rotate, a car, a guideway adjacent the turn-table to receive the car and direct it onto the turn-table to guide the car to travel around on the turn-table and thereupon direct the car from the turn-table, and a pair of track guideways for the said car, one arranged to receive the car when ejected from the turn-table by the guideway to pass along the track, the second track guideway being arranged to guide the car to the turn-table.

15. An amusement apparatus comprising a guideway, a car adapted to move along said guideway and a rotary projector moving within the guideway to propel the car in an irregular and jerky fashion.

16. An amusement apparatus comprising a guideway, a car adapted to move along said guideway and a horizontally rotating projector moving within the guideway to contact with the car and impart its motion thereto.

17. In an amusement apparatus, a guideway comprising track members and vertical wall members, a car adapted to move along said guideway, rollers on the bottom of said car to engage the track members and rollers on the sides of said car to engage the vertical wall members of the guideway, a horizontally rotating projector moving within said guideway to propel the car, the upper surface of said rotating projector being continuous with the track surface of the guideway.

18. In an amusement apparatus, a guideway comprising track members and vertical wall members, cars adapted to move along said guideway, a circular rotating projector situated at a turn in the guideway, the radius of the curvature of the outer wall of the guideway being substantially the radius of the projector at that point, the upper surface of the projector being substantially continuous with the track surface of the guideway, whereby cars moving on the guideway and on to the surface of the projector have the motion of the latter imparted to them.

Signed at New York, N. Y., on February 26, 1920.

AUGUST P. LAUSTER.