May 29, 1928. 1,671,403

W. E. BROWN

ROUNDABOUT

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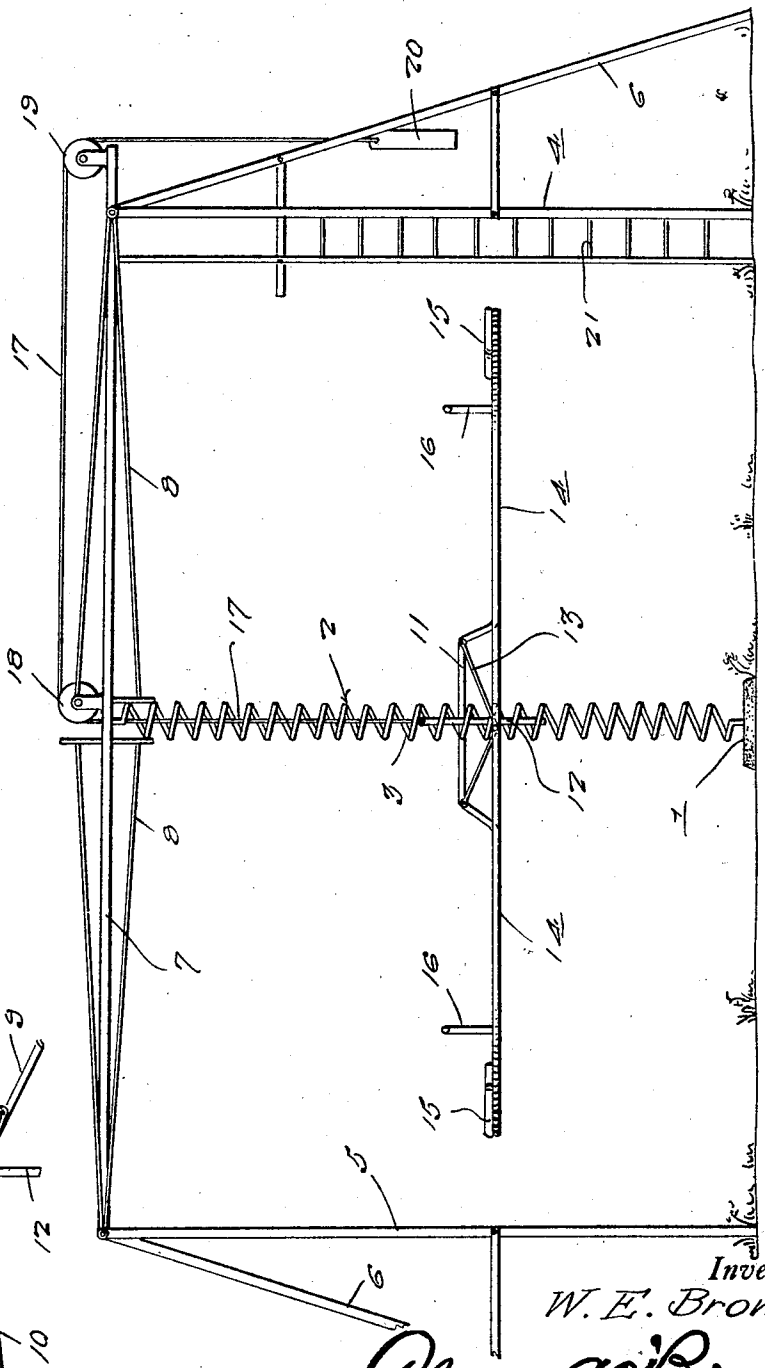



Fig. 1.

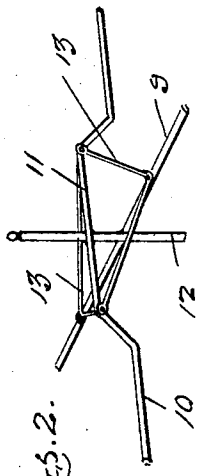



Fig. 2.

Inventor

W. E. Brown

By Clarence A. O'Brien

Attorney

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. BROWN, OF POTTSBORO, TEXAS.

## ROUNDABOUT.

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The present invention relates to improvements in amusement devices and has for its principal object to provide a roundabout which will afford amusement to grown folks as well as to children.

One of the important objects of the present invention is to provide a roundabout which includes a vertically arranged spiral stem, the convolutions of which are disposed in such relation with respect to one another as to provide a track, a cross member being adapted to travel downwardly on the track formed by the convolutions by gravitation and at the same time rotating at a relatively great rate of speed.

A further object of the invention is to provide a vertical pin in association with the cross bar, which pin is adapted to travel downwardly within the convolutions of the spiral stem, and which pin provides a guide for balancing the cross bar during its downward movement on the stem.

A further object of the invention is to provide a roundabout of the above mentioned character wherein a cable or string may be attached to the upper end of the vertical pin to facilitate the movement of the cross bar in an upward direction on the stem.

A further object is to provide a roundabout of the above mentioned character which is simple in construction, inexpensive, strong and durable and further well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this application, and in which like numerals designate like parts:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the roundabout, and

Figure 2 is a fragmentary detail perspective view of the vertical pin and the right angularly disposed cross member forming a part of the roundabout.

In the drawing, the numeral 1 designates a base, and extending upwardly therefrom is the spiral stem designated generally by the numeral 2. This stem is formed of a single strand of wire, and the convolutions 3 are spaced from each other to provide a spiral track, the purpose of which will be hereinafter more fully described.

Arranged on opposite sides of the stem 2 are the supports 4 and 5 respectively, the same being provided with usual braces illustrated at 6. The horizontal brace 7 extends between the upper ends of the vertical supports 4 and 5, and suitable trusses 8 of any well known construction are associated with the horizontal brace member 7 in the manner clearly shown in Figure 1.

The roundabout further includes a pair of intersecting cross members 9 and 10 respectively, the intermediate portion of the cross member 10 being arched as illustrated at 11. A vertical pin 12 has its intermediate portion secured to the intersecting portions of the cross members 9 and 10 and suitable braces 13 are associated with the intermediate portions of the cross members in the manner as is more clearly shown in Figure 2.

A ring 14 extends around the outer ends of the cross members 9 and 10. A seat 15 is arranged on the outer end of each of the cross members and a suitable handle bar 16 extends upwardly from each of the cross members adjacent the respective seats, as is clearly shown in Figure 1.

The vertical pin 12 is adapted to travel vertically within the convolutions of the spiral stem 2 and furthermore acts as a guide or balancing means for the cross members 9 and 10. The intermediate portions of the cross members are adapted to travel on the track formed by the convolutions 3 and the manner in which the roundabout rotates and travels downwardly will be presently apparent.

A cable 17 is attached to the upper end of the vertical pin 12, and this cable extends upwardly through the convolutions of the spiral stem 2 and is trained over suitable guide pulleys 18 and 19 which are mounted on the intermediate portion of the horizontal bracket member 7 and the outer end thereof respectively. A weight 20 is attached to the opposite end of the cable and this weight normally tends to move the pin 12 upwardly within the spiral stem, and at the same time raising the seat supporting cross members to an elevated position.

The operation of the roundabout may be briefly described as follows. With the parts arranged as shown in Figure 1, the children climb up the ladder 21 and the cross members 9 and 10 are in turn rotated by hand

until all the seats are occupied. As soon as all of the seats are occupied, the weight of the occupants will automatically cause the cross members 9 and 10 to travel downwardly by gravitation on the stem 2 and at the same time rotate and during the downward movement of this roundabout, the weight 20 is elevated. When the roundabout has descended to such a point as to permit the children to reach the ground and leave the seats 15, the weight 20 will automatically return the roundabout to its normally elevated position, thus resetting the device where it may again be used in the manner as above described.

It will thus be seen from the foregoing description that I have provided a roundabout which due to its simplicity may be manufactured at a very low cost and will at all times be positive and efficient in its operation. Furthermore, a roundabout of the character embodied in the present application will afford amusement to grown folks as well as to children.

While I have shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that minor changes in the size, shape and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claim.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:—

A roundabout comprising in combination, a base, a spiral stem extending upwardly therefrom, a pair of standards arranged vertically on opposite sides of the spiral stem, a cross bar secured at its outer end to the upper ends of the standards, a ladder arranged adjacent one of the standards, the upper end of the spiral stem being secured to the cross bar, the convolutions of the spiral stem being spaced with respect to each other to provide an inclined track, a vertical pin adapted for movement within the convolutions of the spiral stem, intersecting cross members secured at their points of intersection to the intermediate portion of the vertical pin, seats arranged on the outer ends of the cross members and accessible from said ladder, said cross members being adapted to rotate and simultaneously travel downwardly on the track formed by the spaced convolutions of the spiral stem by gravity, and a weight operatively connected to the upper end of the vertical pin for returning the same and said cross members to the top of the spiral stem.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM E. BROWN.