

July 1, 1924.

1,499,672

E. A. LEZERT

AMUSEMENT DEVICE

Filed July 15, 1922

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig 1

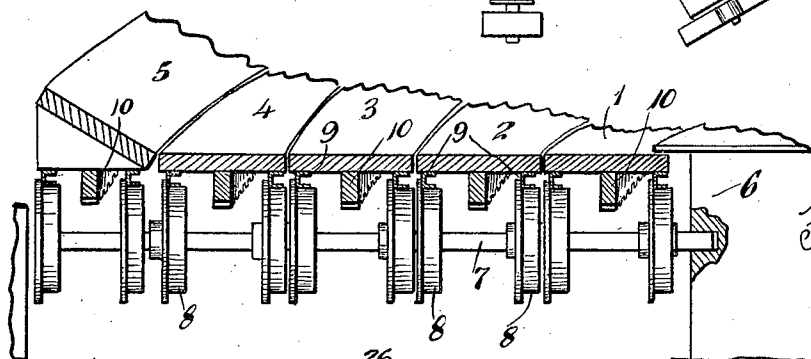
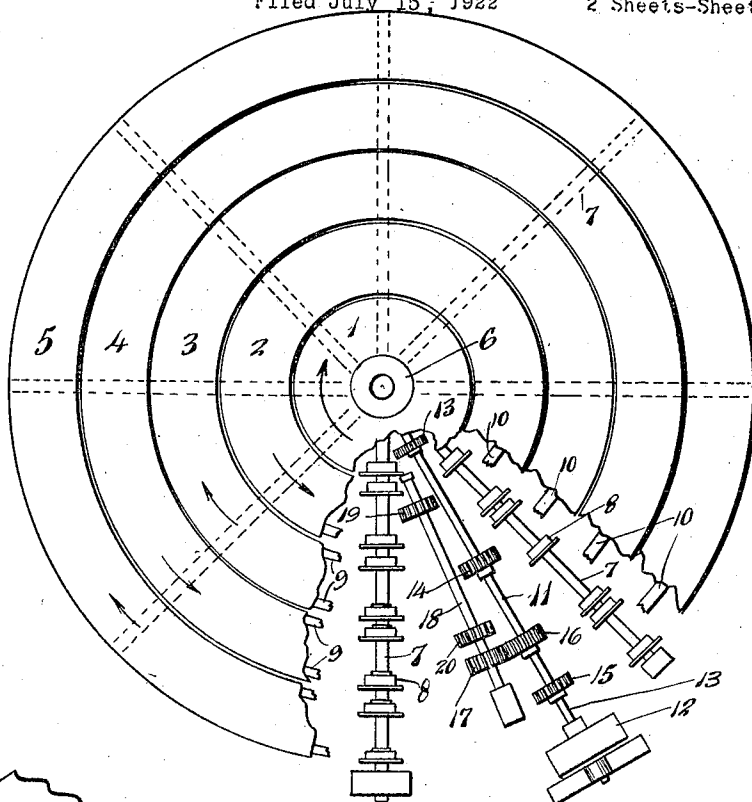


Fig 2

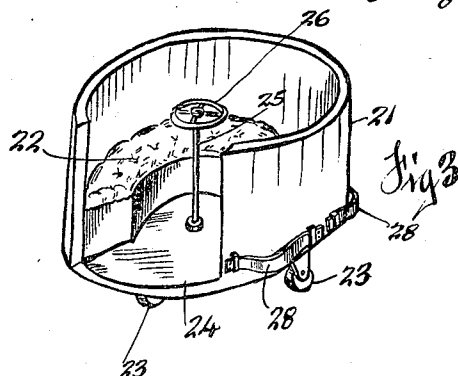


Fig 3

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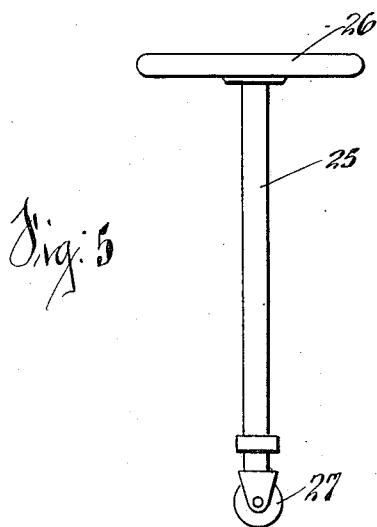
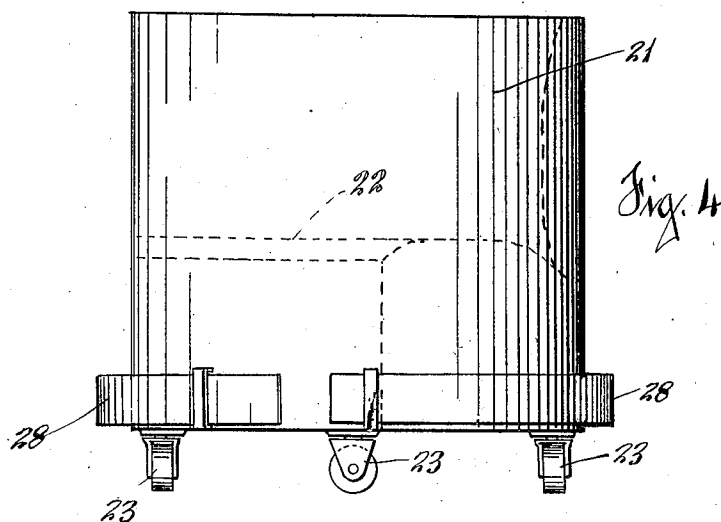
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

Application filed July 15, 1922. Serial No. 575,216.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERASTUS A. LEZERT, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and resident of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Amusement Devices, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to amusement devices, and has particular reference to the provision of an amusement device suitable for use in public parks.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide an amusement device comprising a carriage for passengers adapted to ride upon a platform, and means for communicating a complexity of movements of greater or less rapidity thereto.

Other objects of this invention will appear from the following detailed description thereof.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the platform forming a part of this invention, part thereof being broken away to show the actuating mechanism;

Figure 2 is a radial section of the platform;

Figure 3 is a perspective of one of the carriages adapted to move upon the platform;

Figure 4 is in elevation of the carriage;

Figure 5 is a detail elevation of the steering mechanism of the carriage.

The platform of my new amusement device comprises a plurality of annular sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 concentrically mounted around the center post 6. Mounted underneath the platform sections is a number of shafts 7 carrying flanged wheels 8, the wheels of each shaft being disposed so that two are located under each of the annular platform sections, one under the inner and the other under the outer portion thereof. Secured to the underside of each of the platform sections are two tracking rails 9, constructed preferably of channel iron. The tracking rails are annular and conform to

the curve of the platform sections; said rails are adapted to ride upon the wheels 8, carrying the platform sections and permitting the same to rotate around the center post 6. Secured on the underside of each of the platform sections is an annular rack 10 by means of which the respective table sections may be driven by mechanism next to be described.

Mounted in suitable bearings underneath the platform is a drive shaft 11, to which power may be transmitted from any suitable source by means of a pulley 12 or other suitable mechanism. Keyed on the shaft 11 are gears 13, 14 and 15 adapted to mesh respectively with the racks 10 under platform sections 1, 3 and 5; also keyed on to said shaft is a gear 16, said gear being adapted to intermesh with a gear 17 keyed on a countershaft 18, said countershaft being mounted in bearings under the platform. Keyed on countershaft 18 are gears 19 and 20, said gears being adapted to mesh respectively with the racks 10 under platform sections 2 and 4. When the shaft 11 is driven by means of the pulley 12, it will thus be seen that the platform sections 1, 3 and 5 are driven in a uniform direction by the gears on said shaft, for instance in the direction shown by arrows in Figure 1; the gear 16 on shaft 11 transmits power to the countershaft 18, which drives, thru gears 19 and 20, the platform sections 2 and 4 in the reverse direction, as shown also by arrows in Figure 1.

As clearly shown in Figure 2 of the drawings platform section 5 inclines upwardly, so as to form a batter to prevent a carriage on the platform from leaving the same.

Adapted to ride on the platform constructed as above described and to be driven by the movements of the sections thereof, is a carriage consisting of a body 21, which is preferably round in shape as shown in Figure 3. The carriage 21 is provided with a seat 22 for passengers. The carriage rides on pivotally mounted casters 23 of any suitable and well known construction, four of such casters preferably being provided to support the carriage. Rotatably mounted in

the bottom 24 of the carriage is a steering column 25 having a steering wheel 26 on its upper end in convenient location for operation by a passenger in the carriage. The lower end of the steering column is bifurcated and carries a wheel 27, the direction of which may be changed at will by rotating the steering wheel 26, thus permitting the passenger to a certain degree to control the movements of the carriage. The outer circumference of the carriage 21 is provided with spring bumpers 28 to reduce impact when the carriage comes into collision with other carriages on the platform.

In operation a number of carriages 21 are provided on a platform constructed of a plurality of annular sections as described, the sections being driven in alternate directions as above set forth. The carriages are of such dimension with respect to the width of the platform sections, and the caster wheels on said carriages are so disposed, that each carriage may be supported on a single platform section, but the body will at all times overlap more than one such section. The carriage thus may be carried by a single section thus traveling about the axis of the platform. When, however, two or more carriages attempt to pass on adjacent sections they are necessarily brought into collision by reason of the alternate rotary movements of the sections and there is thus communicated to the carriages a complexity of movements. These movement of the carriage may be to a certain extent controlled by means of the steering wheel 26 operated by a passenger in the carriage, but such control is not adapted or intended to relieve the uncertainty of the carriage movements, and the steering mechanism is provided largely for the psychological effect in contributing to the passenger's sense of amusement derived from the device. Frequently, of course, during the movements of the carriages upon the platform two or more carriages are brought into collision; all detrimental effects of such event are removed by means of the bumpers 28, and such collision contributes further to the amusement and pleasure of the experience.

It will thus be seen that in the construction described and shown in the drawings, I have provided an amusement device of simple and safe construction, and well adapted to communicate to a passenger carriage a complexity of uncertain and more or less rapid movements adapted to produce an effect exhilarating and pleasing to the person or persons occupying the same.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In an amusement device, a platform,

said platform comprising a plurality of contiguous annular concentric sections, means whereby the alternate sections may be rotated in opposite directions, and a carriage adapted to ride on said platform, said carriage comprising a body and pivotally mounted wheels arranged to support the same.

2. In an amusement device, a platform, said platform comprising a plurality of contiguous annular concentric sections, a plurality of shafts radially mounted under said platform, wheels mounted on said shafts, annular tracking rails on the underside of said platform sections and adapted to ride on said wheels to support the platform sections, means whereby the alternate sections may be rotated in opposite directions, and a carriage adapted to ride on said platform, said carriage comprising a body and pivotally mounted wheels arranged to support the same.

3. In an amusement device, a platform, said platform comprising a plurality of contiguous annular concentric sections, means whereby the alternate sections may be rotated in opposite directions, and a plurality of carriages adapted to ride on said platform, each of said carriages comprising a body, pivotally mounted wheels arranged to support said body, and spring bumpers on said body.

4. In an amusement device, a platform, said platform comprising a plurality of annular concentric sections, means whereby the alternate sections may be rotated in opposite directions, and a plurality of carriages adapted to ride on said platform, each of said carriages comprising a body, pivotally mounted wheels arranged to support said body, and spring bumpers on said body, the wheels of each carriage being so disposed as to permit the carriage to ride on a single platform section, and the body being of such dimensions as to overlap at all times more than one section.

5. In an amusement device, a platform, said platform comprising a plurality of contiguous annular concentric sections, means whereby the alternate sections may be rotated in opposite directions, and a carriage adapted to ride on said platform, said carriage comprising a body and pivotally mounted wheels arranged to support the same, the outer platform section sloping upwardly to form a batter to prevent the carriage leaving the platform.

6. In an amusement device, a platform, said platform comprising a plurality of contiguous annular concentric sections, means whereby the alternate sections may be rotated in opposite directions, and a carriage adapted to ride on said platform, said carriage comprising a body and pivotally mounted wheels arranged to support the

same, and steering mechanism mounted in said carriage.

7. In an amusement device, a platform, said platform comprising a plurality of
5 contiguous annular concentric sections, means whereby the alternate sections may be rotated in opposite directions, and a plu-

rality of carriages adapted to ride on said platform, each of said carriages comprising a body, pivotally mounted wheels arranged 10 to support said body, spring bumpers on said body, and steering mechanism mounted in said carriage.

ERASTUS A. LEZERT.