(No Model.)

T. D. HOLCOMB.

CAROUSEL.

No. 592,870. Patented Nov. 2, 1897.

Fig. 2.

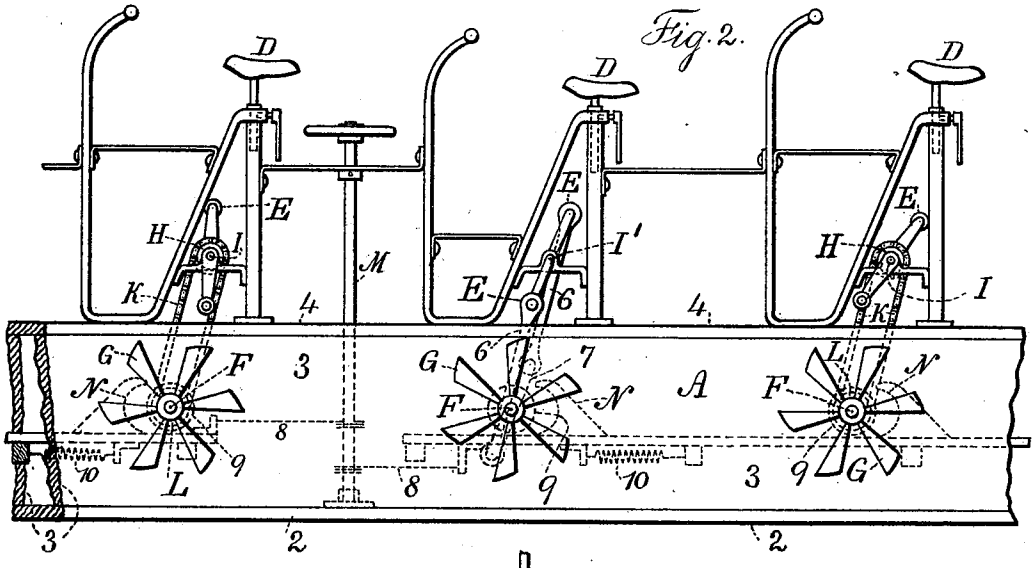


Fig. 1.

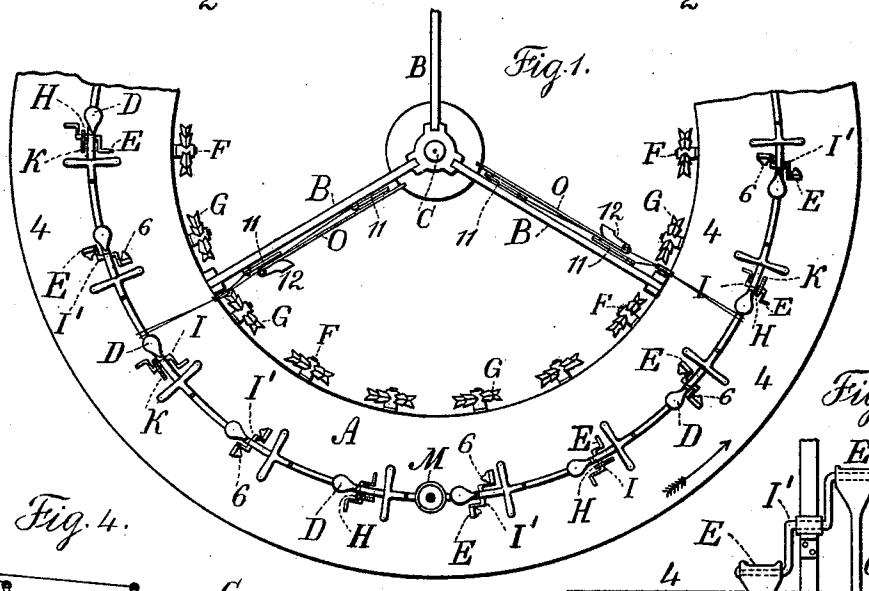


Fig. 3.

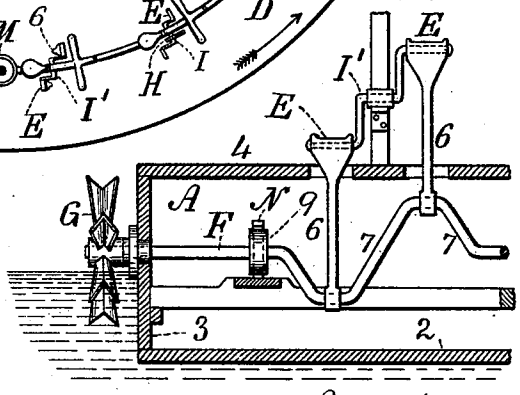
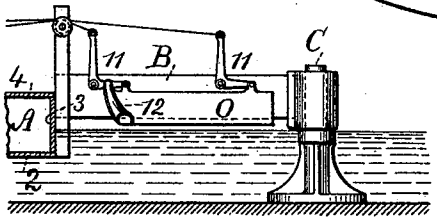


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CAROUSEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 592,870, dated November 2, 1897.

Application filed July 17, 1897. Serial No. 644,877. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS D. HOLCOMB, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Carousels, of which the following is a specification.

Amusement has been afforded to children and others by a rotary device having saddles or seats upon imitation animals or other devices that are carried around upon a vertical pivot, and in some instances boats have been similarly arranged and carried through the water.

In the present improvement the seats are supported upon a circular float connected with a central pivot and placed in a suitable tank or pond, and paddle-wheels or propellers are provided with connections to treadles, by which the riders are enabled to actuate such wheels or propellers in the water and give motion to the annular float, and I provide for stopping the movement of the annular float by holding the paddle-wheels, and also by the immersion into the water of brake buckets or boards connected with the arms that extend to the pivot.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a partial plan view. Fig. 2 is an elevation, partially in section, of a portion of the ring. Fig. 3 is a cross-section showing the paddle wheel and shaft and the connections for driving the same; and Fig. 4 is an elevation, partially in section, showing one of the brake-boards and its supports.

The annular float A may be of either wood or metal, having a bottom 2, sides 3, and top platform 4, and the arms B extend from the annular float to the pivot C, which pivot is received by any suitable step at the bottom of the pond or basin.

Around upon the annular float any desired number of seats or saddles may be provided, according to the size of the float. I have represented saddles at D, but such saddles or seats are to be of any desired size and shape, and the pedals E are adapted to being acted upon by the feet of the persons seated upon the saddles, and these pedals E are connected with the shafts F of the paddle-wheels or propellers G, the shafts F being within the hollow annular platform and projecting above the water-line at either the inside or the outside or both and receiving the paddle-wheel G, which may be within or outside of the annular float or both, and the connections between the pedals E and the shafts F may vary, so as to have the appearance of the pedals and crank-shafts of a bicycle or tricycle.

At H a sprocket-wheel is represented upon the crank-shaft I, carrying the pedals E and a chain K to a sprocket-wheel L upon the shaft F of the paddle-wheel G, and at 6 connecting-rods are represented from crank-shafts I′ to the crank 7 upon the paddle-wheel shaft F. In this manner the power from the foot is communicated to the paddle-wheels for propelling the annular float around in the water, and the speed of the same can be quite rapid and with the exertion of but little power, as the friction in the water alone has to be overcome.

In order to stop the movement, the paddle-wheels may be held by the pedals, or such paddle-wheels may be turned backward by the riders; but as children very frequently occupy the seats upon the carousels it is advantageous for the attendant to apply the power necessary to stop the rotation, and with this object in view a brake-shaft M and hand-wheel are provided with chain or other connections 8 from the brake-shaft to the brakes N, which are adjacent to wheels 9 upon the paddle-wheel shafts F, there being springs 10 to throw off the brakes. By this arrangement one brake-shaft and wheel can be employed to hold a number of paddle-wheels stationary in order that their resistance may check the movement of the annular float, and upon the arms B the brake-boards O are supported, preferably by bent levers 11, pivoted upon the arms, so that the attendant by a cord or wire can raise up or depress the brake-boards, and these, standing radially or nearly so, offer a resistance against the water, which speedily stops the momentum of the annular float, and as a matter of amusement to the riders I provide at the ends of the brake-boards volute tubes 12, with their open ends forward and with their contracted jet-orifices upward, whereby the water will be caused to spout up through the volute tubes

by the action of the brake-boards in checking the momentum.

It is to be understood that the platform 4 of the annular float may be sufficiently near the rim of the tank or pond containing the water that floats the annular float for a person to step on or off such platform 4, or there may be a pier or platform running out from the shore to enable parties to pass onto the platform 4 or off the same.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a carousel, a hollow annular float, arms and a central pivot, in combination with propelling-wheels and their shafts upon the float, seats and pedals to be acted upon by the feet and connections from the pedals to the shafts of the propellers, substantially as set forth.

2. An annular float having a bottom, sides and a platform, in combination with propelling-wheels and their shafts supported on such annular float, seats, pedals to be acted upon by the feet, crank-shafts carrying the pedals and connections from such crank-shafts to the shafts of the propelling-wheels, substantially as set forth.

3. An annular float having a bottom, sides and a platform, in combination with propelling-wheels and their shafts supported on such annular float, seats, pedals to be acted upon by the feet, crank-shafts carrying the pedals, sprocket wheels and chains connecting the crank-shaft of the pedals with the shafts of the propelling-wheels, substantially as set forth.

4. The hollow annular float, arms and a central pivot, in combination with wheels for propelling the float, seats and pedals acted upon by the persons occupying the seats, connections between the pedals and the shafts of the propelling-wheels, and brakes for the shafts of the propelling-wheels, and mechanism for actuating such brakes, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination with the annular float, arms and a central pivot, of mechanism for propelling the float, brake-boards and means for raising and lowering the same to cause such brake-boards to act upon the water in stopping the movement of the annular float, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination with the annular float, arms and a central pivot, of mechanism for propelling the float, brake-boards and means for raising and lowering the same to cause such brake-boards to act upon the water in stopping the movement of the annular float, and volute tubes upon the brake-boards for projecting jets of water during the movement of the float, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 15th day of July, 1897.

THOS. D. HOLCOMB.

Witnesses:
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