W. R. BAILEY.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

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1,008,518. Patented Nov. 14, 1911.

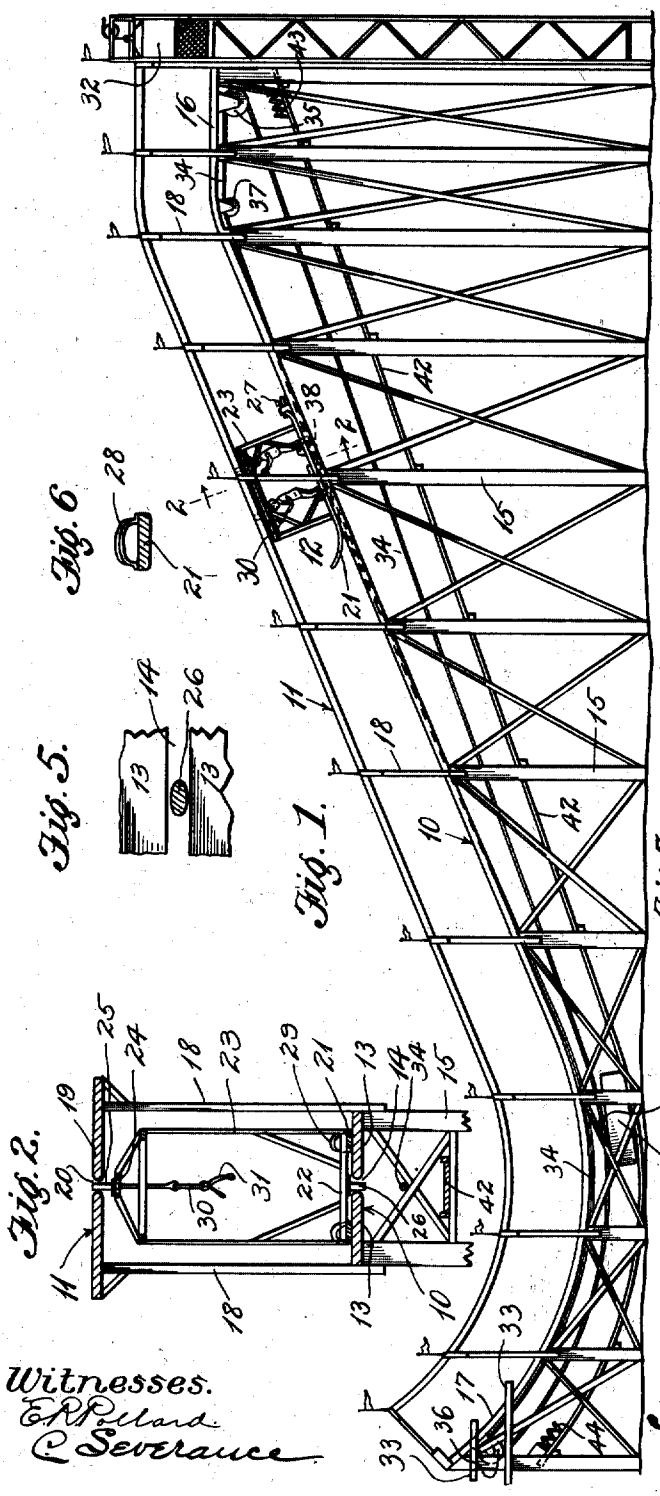

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6

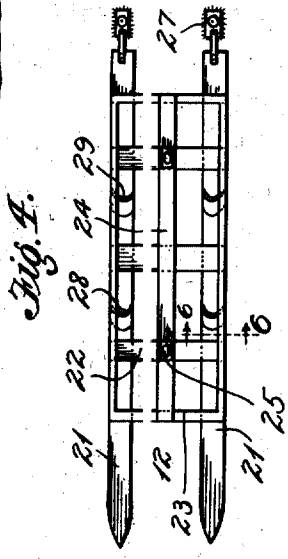

Fig. 4.

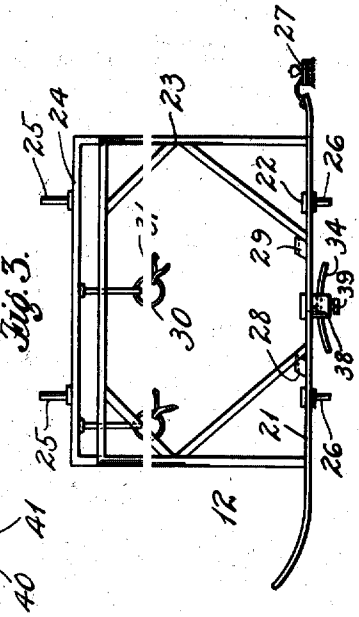

Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

1,008,518. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 14, 1911.

Application filed January 9, 1911. Serial No. 601,563.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. BAILEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Vidal, in the county of San Bernardino and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Amusement Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in amusement devices and it is the object of the invention to provide a slide or incline upon which skees may be used, similar to the Scandinavian skee, the device being provided with proper means for guiding the skees so that those using the same cannot be injured.

It is also an object of the invention to provide an amusement mechanism in which a skee frame mounted upon skees is employed capable of carrying one or more passengers, means being provided for returning the skee device to the top of the incline at the end of each trip.

In the drawing forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved amusement mechanism forming the subject matter of the present invention. Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view taken upon the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, showing the skee device and the mechanism for guiding the same. Fig. 3 is a side elevation upon an enlarged scale, of the skee device or frame. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary detail view of a portion of one of the guiding slots, a guiding pin being shown therein in section. Fig. 6 is a detail cross sectional view through a portion of the skee frame taken upon the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

The accompanying illustration sets forth the improved amusement device in its preferred form and the invention will now be described, reference being had to said illustration.

In the drawing 10 indicates an inclined path, 11 an overhead guiding frame, 12 a skee device or a sliding frame adapted to travel upon the incline. The incline 10 is preferably formed of side tracks 13 which are separated at the center by a groove or guideway 14, the purpose of which will be hereinafter described.

The side tracks or ways 13 are supported upon vertical standards 15 arranged at suitable intervals and braced to afford sufficient strength to the structure, the framing thus provided being adapted to support the tracks or ways 13 in an inclined position for the greater portion of their length. The upper ends of said tracks are supported for a short distance in a horizontal manner as at 16 to afford a station or stopping place for the skees when they are receiving passengers. The lower end of the track is curved and extended upwardly as at 17 which tends to stop the motion of the skee device at a suitable point.

The upper guide frame 11 is mounted upon the lower framing by means of standards 18, arranged at suitable intervals and guides 19 are mounted at the top of said standards so as to have a groove or guideway 20 between them. The upper framing 11 is given approximately the same shape in side elevation as the track 10 so as to be spaced the same distance from the said track from one end of the structure to the other.

The skee device 12 is formed of a pair of skees 21 made in the usual manner and curved upwardly at their forward ends, and also having a slight upward curve at their rear ends. These skees are connected by transverse bars 22 at suitable intervals to maintain them in a parallel position. A framing 23 also arises from the skees and the top longitudinal central bar 24 thereof is provided with upward projecting guide pins as 25 which engage the groove or slot 20 in the top framing 11. These pins slide freely in the said groove and prevent the skee frame from tipping. The cross bars 22 connecting the skees are also provided with guide pins 26 which extend downwardly below said bars and engage the groove or slot 14 between the tracks 13. These guide pins 26 are preferably made in the shape indicated in Fig. 5 and are of elongated oval or elliptical form in cross section, the long diameter extending longitudinally of the slot or guiding groove 14. By having two of the guide pins arranged near each end of the skees as shown in the drawing, it is impossible for the skees to move off from the tracks 13. The rear ends of the skees are usually provided with brush devices as 27 of any desired type which may be employed for applying lubricant of any form to the tracks upon which the skees run. The skees are also provided upon their upper surface with loops 28 and 29 to receive the feet of passengers, and prevent them from slipping from the skees. Hand holds are also pro-

vided in the frame 23 in the shape of rings 30 which are suspended from the upper part of the frame and wrist or arm engaging clasps or straps 31 are usually provided for securing the passengers within the frame to prevent their becoming injured in the event of their being frightened and loosening their hold upon the rings 30.

The passengers are usually hoisted by any suitable elevator as indicated as 32, to the platform 16 where they can get into the skee device. Any desired landing stage or steps as 33 are provided at the lower end of the structure where the passengers may alight after going down the slide.

The structure is also provided with means for returning the skee device to the upper end of the slide after the passengers have alighted. This device consists of an endless cable 34 which passes over the sheaves 35 and 36 and an intermediate sheave or pulley 37, and the said sheave being journaled in any suitable manner upon the framing of the structure. The cable 34 is rigidly secured to the under side of the skee device by means of a clamping loop 38 and set screw 39. The skee device can thus be adjustably clamped to any desired point upon the cable. Beneath the slide a moving counter-weight 40 is provided which is rigidly secured as at 41 to the lower loop of the cable 34. An inclined and partially curved path or slide 42 is provided for the said weight 40 and arranged beneath the tracks 13 of the skee slide. The said weight 40 is so connected to the endless cable 34 that it will be at the upper end of the amusement structure. The weight of the passengers is sufficient to overbalance the weight 40 enough to permit of the skees sliding, with a proper degree of swiftness, down the track or slide. The weight 40 is heavy enough, however, to overbalance the weight of the skees when the passengers have alighted and will then slide down the incline 42 and hoist the skee device to the upper end of the structure. In this simple manner the automatic return of the skees to the top of the incline is accomplished. Spring bumpers 43 and 44 are provided at each end of the track 42 so as to arrest the movement of the weight 40 without undue jar to the structure.

The operation of the mechanism will be evident from the above description. The skees are normally held upon the platform 16 at the upper end of the structure by the action of the weight 40. The passengers are taken up to the platform 16 by the elevator 32 and after entering the skee device and placing their feet in loops 28 and 29 and securing their hands upon the hand holes 30, the skees are started down the incline. The curved end of the track serves to arrest the movement of the skees without any unpleasant jerk or suddenness and the passengers alight upon the platform at 33. The shape of the track can of course be varied as to its incline and curved portions without departing in the least from the spirit of the invention. The skees may also be arranged to carry one or any number of persons by regulating the size of the skee device according to the number of passengers that it is designed to carry, all within the scope of the present invention.

What I claim is:—

1. An amusement structure comprising an incline slideway, skees adapted to receive passengers and arranged to move on said slideway, means arranged above the slideway for guiding the skees, and a framing extending upwardly from said skees for engaging said guiding means.

2. An amusement structure comprising inclined tracks, parallel skees adapted to slide thereon, and means for guiding the said skees in their longitudinal movement upon the inclined tracks, and overhead means for preventing the tipping of the skees and the passengers thereon.

3. An amusement skee device, comprising an inclined track having a guide slot therein, skees mounted on said track and engaging the sides thereof upon opposite sides of the slot, guiding projections connected with both skees and arranged to engage the guide slot, overhead guide means arranged above the incline track, and means projecting upwardly from the skees for engaging said overhead guideway.

4. An amusement skee device comprising guide tracks separated by a guide slot, skees mounted upon each side of the slot, framing connecting the said skees and having guide projections extending into said slot, and overhead guiding means carrying hand holds for the passengers in riding upon the skees.

5. A skee slide mechanism comprising an inclined track, skees arranged to slide thereon, a framing for connecting the skees and having upwardly extending guiding projections, a framing arranged above the skee frame and supported upon the inclined track, the said framing having a guiding slot for engaging said guide projections, and preventing the tipping of the skee frame, and hand holding devices suspended in said frame.

6. In combination with an inclined track having a guide slot formed therein and a counter-balanced mechanism operating below said track, a skee amusement device connected with said counter-balanced mechanism by a cable and having parallel skees adapted to move upon each side of said slot, and means above the skees for holding passengers in standing position upon the same.

7. In combination with an inclined track

having a guide slot formed therein, and a counter-balancing cable operating beneath said slot, a skee amusement device comprising parallel skees adapted to slide upon the track on each side of the said slot and having guiding projections extending into said slot, means connected with the skees for engaging the said cable, and overhead means for preventing the tipping of the skees, and the falling o the passengers therefrom.

In witness that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto subscribed my name this 28th day of December, 1910.

WM R. BAILEY.

Witnesses:
THOS. R. WHITMARSH,
H. M. OSBORNE.