INCLINED MERRY-GO-ROUND

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My invention relates to inclined merry-go-rounds for use more particularly on public play grounds, and one object is to provide a simple, inexpensive and substantial amusement device of this character in which the children or other passengers constitute the means of propulsion.

Other objects will hereinafter appear and in order that the invention may be fully understood, reference will now be had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the device.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the overhead frame arranged in a horizontal plane.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on line III-III of Fig. 1, with the parts arranged in a horizontal plane.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical section of a hub employed in carrying out the invention.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary section on line V-V of Fig. 2.

Referring now in detail to the various parts, 2 designates a vertical post having its lower portion embedded in the ground and its upper portion 4 tapered, as shown by Fig. 1.

6 designates an inclined shaft secured to the tapered portion 4 of the post 2 by suitable means such as U-bolts 8. The inclined shaft 6 extends above the post 2 and is provided with a hub 10 mounted on antifriction bearings 12 and an antifriction thrust-bearing 14.

The hub 10 carries an overhead frame 16 of skeleton form consisting of rods, bars, or tubing. The periphery of the frame consists of members 18 supported by horizontal members 20 and the braces 22 are connected at their inner ends to the hub 10 and at their outer ends to the members 18 by couplings 24.

26 designates a plurality of hangers depending from the members 18 to which they are connected by suitable means such as T-fittings 28. The hangers 26 are provided at their lower ends with seats 30, the ends of which are connected by tie-bars 32, to hold them in spaced relation to each other. The hangers 26 incline inwardly towards their lower ends in order to dispose the seats 30 inwardly out of the way of children swinging by their hands from said hangers.

When constructed as shown and described, it is apparent that there is no frame work or other obstruction in the space between the post 2 and the seats 30, and hence there is nothing to prevent children from running inside of said space and pushing upon the hangers 26 or the seats 30 to rotate the same and the frame 16. By pushing upon the seats 30 or the hangers 26 from inside of the space as stated, a shorter path is traversed and when the children vault into said seats 30 they are aided by centrifugal force which carries them into said seats and adds momentum thereto and to the frame 16. The frame 16 and the seats 30 may then be kept in motion by the passengers leaning inwardly towards the center of rotation on the upward travel, and outwardly from said axis on the downward travel, thereby overbalancing the rotary frame 16 and causing it to continue to rotate so long as the unbalancing effect is maintained.

The ascending and descending motion due to the inclination of the revolving parts accentuates the thrill attained from the rotary motion and thereby adds to the popularity of the amusement device. In addition to riding on the seats 30, the children may swing from the hangers 26 and the horizontal members 20, thereby obtaining a variety of exercises which could not be had with an ordinary merry-go-round.

From the foregoing description it is apparent that I have provided amusement devices embodying the advantages above pointed out, and while I have shown and described two forms of the device, I reserve the right to make such other forms as properly fall within the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

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

1. An amusement device consisting of an inclined rotary frame, a central support therefor, hangers depending from said frame and inclining towards said support, and seats rigidly secured to said hangers and spaced from the support.

2. An amusement device consisting of a central support, an overhead inclined skeleton frame rotatably mounted at the upper portion of said support, hangers rigidly connected to and depending from said frame, and seats rigidly connected to said hangers and spaced from the support to
leave an unobstructed space between said support and the seats.

3. An amusement device consisting of a stationary support, a shaft fixed to said support, a rigid overhead frame having a hub journaled upon said shaft, hangers rigidly connected to said frame and inclining towards the axis of rotation, seats fixed to the lower portions of said hangers, and means connecting said seats.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WALTER D. MOLBY.