Dec. 17, 1929. C. BRITTON ET AL 1,739,945

AMUSEMENT DEVICE

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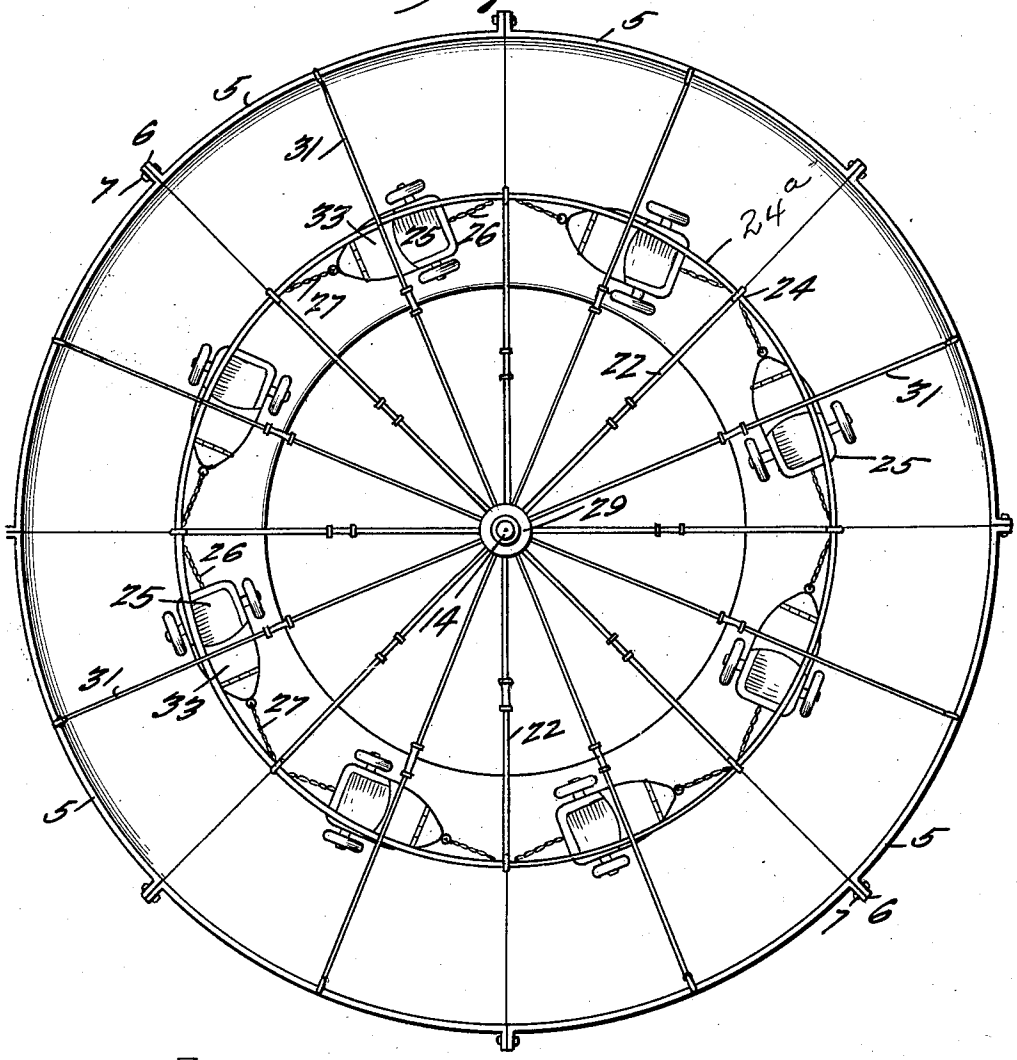
Fig. 1.



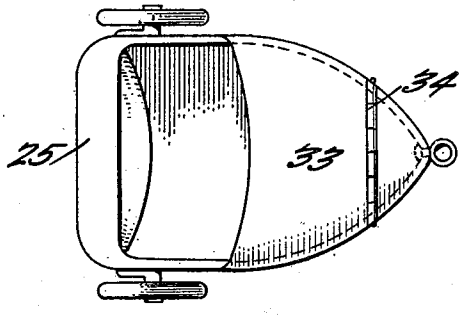


Fig. 4.

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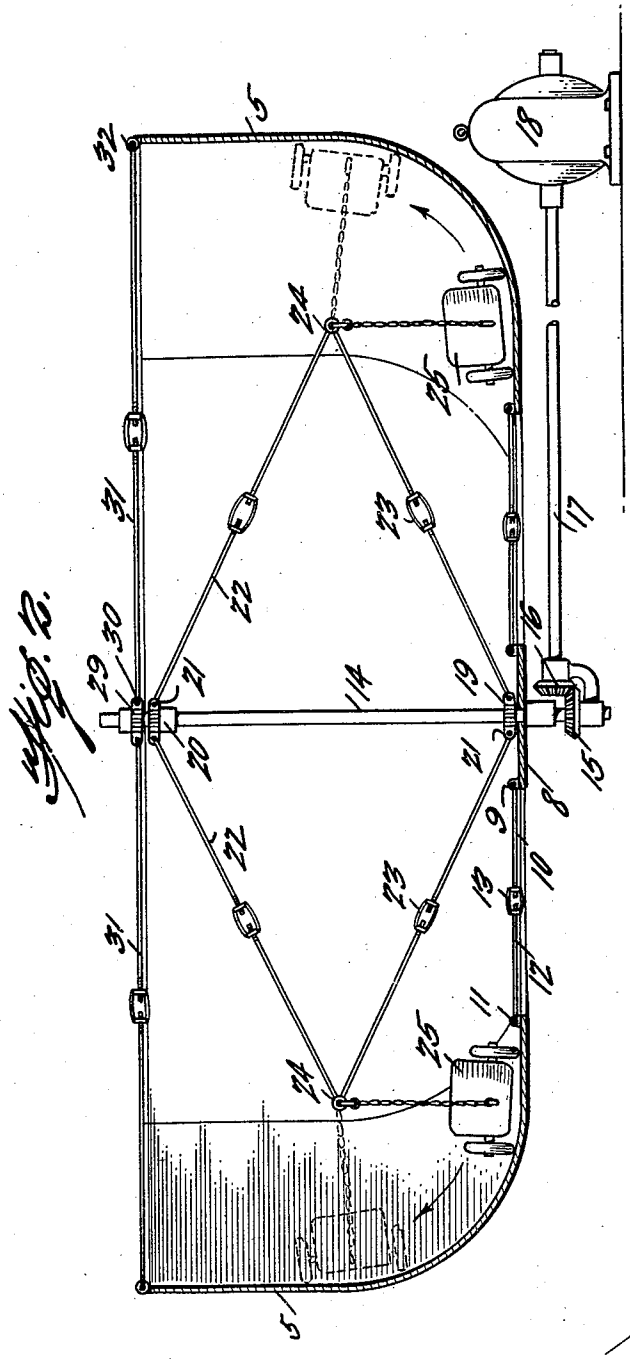

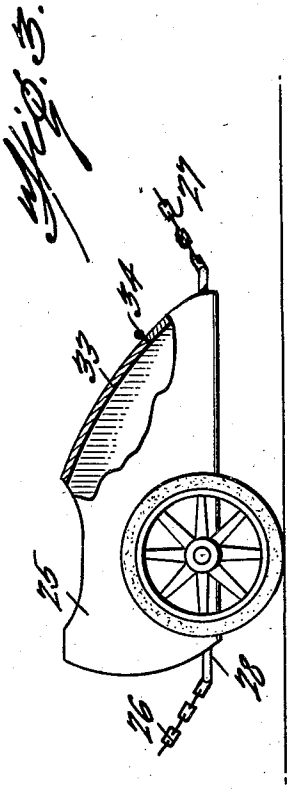

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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AMUSEMENT DEVICE

Application filed September 26, 1928. Serial No. 308,409.

This invention relates to amusement apparatus, and particularly to that type known as merry-go-rounds.

It is an object of this invention to provide an amusement device of this character, wherein the carriage or car for the users may occupy changing positions radially as the momentum increased or diminishes.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a bowl in which the car or cars will travel in engagement with the inner wall of the bowl, the radius of the bowl being that described by the car in its movement during the increased or diminished momentum.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide means for imparting motion to the cars, the said means being adjustable for the purpose of increasing or diminishing the tension of the braces and car propelling frame.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in the details of construction, and in the arrangement and combination of parts to be hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this application, wherein like characters denote corresponding parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 illustrates a plan view of an apparatus embodying the invention;

Figure 2 illustrates a vertical sectional view thereof;

Figure 3 illustrates a view in elevation partly in section of one of the cars; and

Figure 4 illustrates a plan view of said car.

In carrying the invention into practice, as shown in the present embodiment, the bowl is formed of a plurality of sections 5, each of which has flanges 6 at its edges and the flanges of the contiguous sections are secured together in appropriate way, as by fastenings 7, such as bolts or the like. The bowl may be supported in any appropriate way and a plate 8 in alinement with the bottom of the bowl has ears 9 to which bracing rods 10 are connected. The bottom of the bowl at its inner edge has a plurality of ears 11 to which another section 12 of a brace rod is connected. The adjacent ends of the rods 10 and 12 are adjustably connected by a turnbuckle 13 and, by this means, proper tension is maintained for holding the parts assembled.

A vertical shaft 14 is appropriately journaled in the center of the bowl and this shaft is provided with a gear wheel 15 meshing with a gear wheel 16 of a drive shaft 17 which may be rotated by power derived from an appropriate motor, as shown at 18.

The motor will serve, as stated, to rotate the shaft 14 and the shaft is associated with collars 19 and 20 which rotate with the shaft. The collars have ears, such as 21, to which sectional brace rods, such as 22, may be connected, the sections of each brace rod being adjustably connected by a turnbuckle 23.

The upper and lower brace rods extend outwardly and converge, as shown at 24.

The brace rods are connected at their outer ends by a hook or rim 24ª which with the braces forms a wheel. Instead of employing a motor, such as is shown and heretofore described, the wheel just referred to may be rotated through the employment of a motor cycle which will run in the bowl and have a hitch or connection to the wheel in any appropriate way. When this form of power is employed, the shaft 14 would remain stationary and the wheel would be rotatably mounted thereon.

Passenger carrying instrumentalities 25, such as a car, or other mounts commonly used in amusement devices of this kind, may be provided with wheels that engage the inner wall of the bowl, and preferably the device occupied by the passenger is connected at its front and rear to the rim of the wheel by hitches, such as chains 26 and 27, the former of which is here shown as being anchored, as at 28, to the rear of the car, and the latter as being connected to the front of the car. The hitch 26 extends rearwardly to the rim at its rear and the hitch 27 extends forwardly and is connected to the rim of the wheel immediately in front of the car. The relation of parts is such that the hitches will permit the car to move up and down the wall of the bowl as

the momentum of the cars increases or diminishes. The operation of this feature of the invention is well illustrated in Figure 2 where, on starting the device, the car will assume approximately the position in which the car is shown in full lines in said figure, but upon increased momentum, the said car will move outwardly and upwardly, following the contour of the wall of the bowl.

The shaft 14 is provided with another collar 29 having gears 30 to which sectional brace rods 31 are connected and these brace rods extend approximately horizontally and are connected to the rim of the bowl, as at 32. Any appropriate joint may be provided for this connection and it is the purpose of the inventors that the rods shall hold the bowl rigid while the device is being operated.

The car illustrated in the present embodiment consists of a body having a door 33 hinged, as at 34, to swing upwardly and forwardly to produce a clearance for the entrance or exit of the passenger, but the inventors do not wish to be limited with respect to these details, as they may be changed to suit particular requirements.

We claim:

1. In a merry-go-round, a bowl, a shaft journalled vertically of the bowl and centrally thereof, arms extending radially from the shaft, passenger carriers supported by the bowl, flexible hitches connecting the passenger carriers to the arms whereby the passenger carriers are propelled around the bowl, and means for rotating the shaft.

2. In a merry-go-round, a bowl comprising sections having flanges at their lateral edges, means for securing the contiguous flanges of the sections together, a shaft journalled vertically of the bowl and centrally thereof, arms extending radially from the shaft, passenger carriers supported by the bowl, flexible hitches connecting the passenger carriers to the arms whereby the passenger carriers are propelled around the bowl, and means for rotating the shaft.

3. In a merry-go-round, a bowl-shaped container, radially extending means for bracing the upper marginal edge of the bowl, radially extending means for bracing the lower part of the bowl, a shaft journalled vertically of the bowl and centrally thereof, arms extending radially from the shaft, passenger carriers supported by the bowl, flexible hitches connecting the passenger carriers to the arms whereby the passenger carriers are propelled around the bowl, and means for rotating the shaft.

4. In a merry-go-round, a bowl-shaped container comprising sections having flanges at their lateral edges, means for securing the contiguous flanges of the sections together, radially extending braces at the upper edge of the bowl, radially extending braces for the bottom of the bowl, a shaft journalled vertically of the bowl and centrally thereof, arms extending radially from the shaft, passenger carriers supported by the bowl, flexible hitches connecting the passenger carriers to the arms whereby the passenger carriers are propelled around the bowl, and means for rotating the shaft.

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