Oct. 27, 1953 M. MYERS 2,657,054

ROTATING AMUSEMENT APPARATUS

Filed Aug. 3, 1951 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

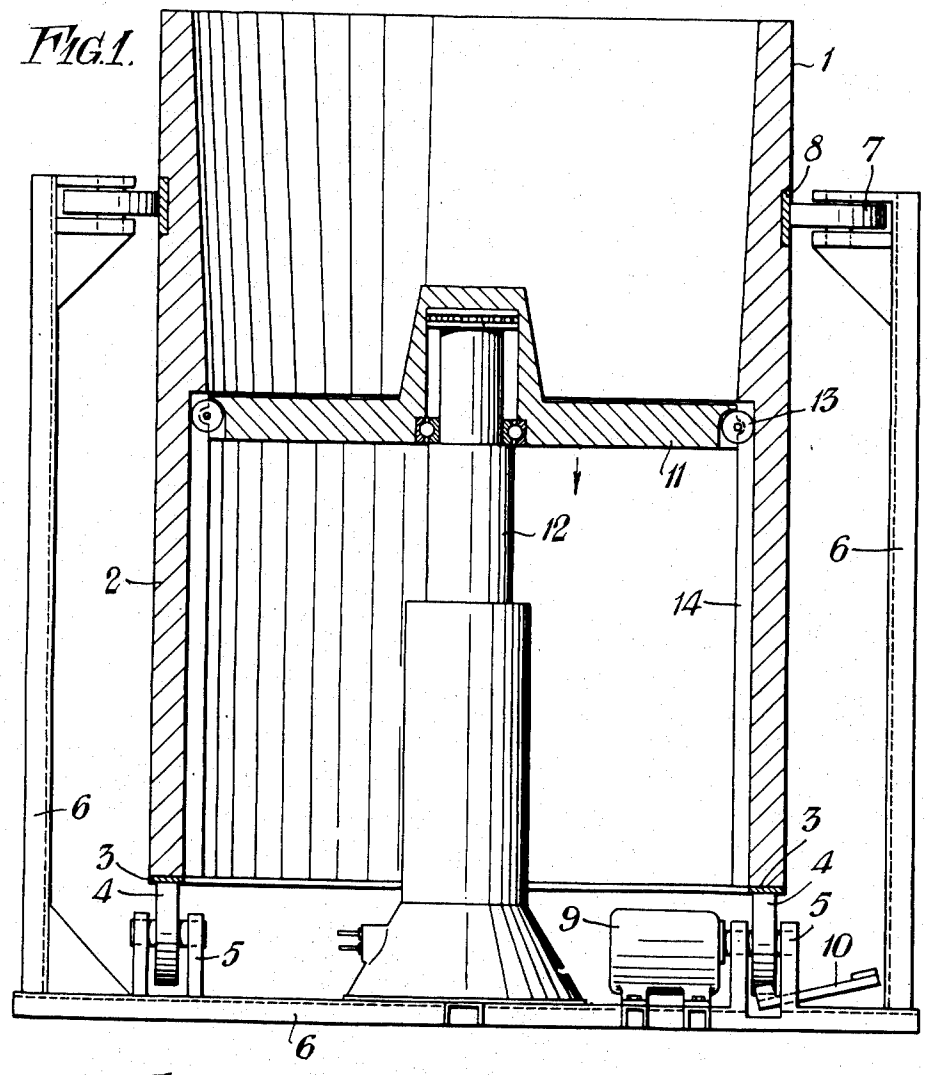


FIG. 3.

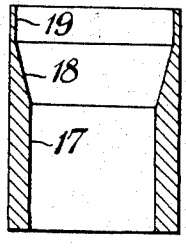


FIG. 2.

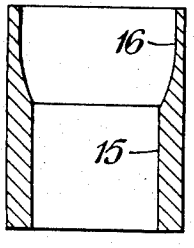
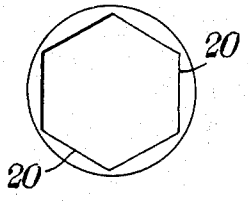


FIG. 4.



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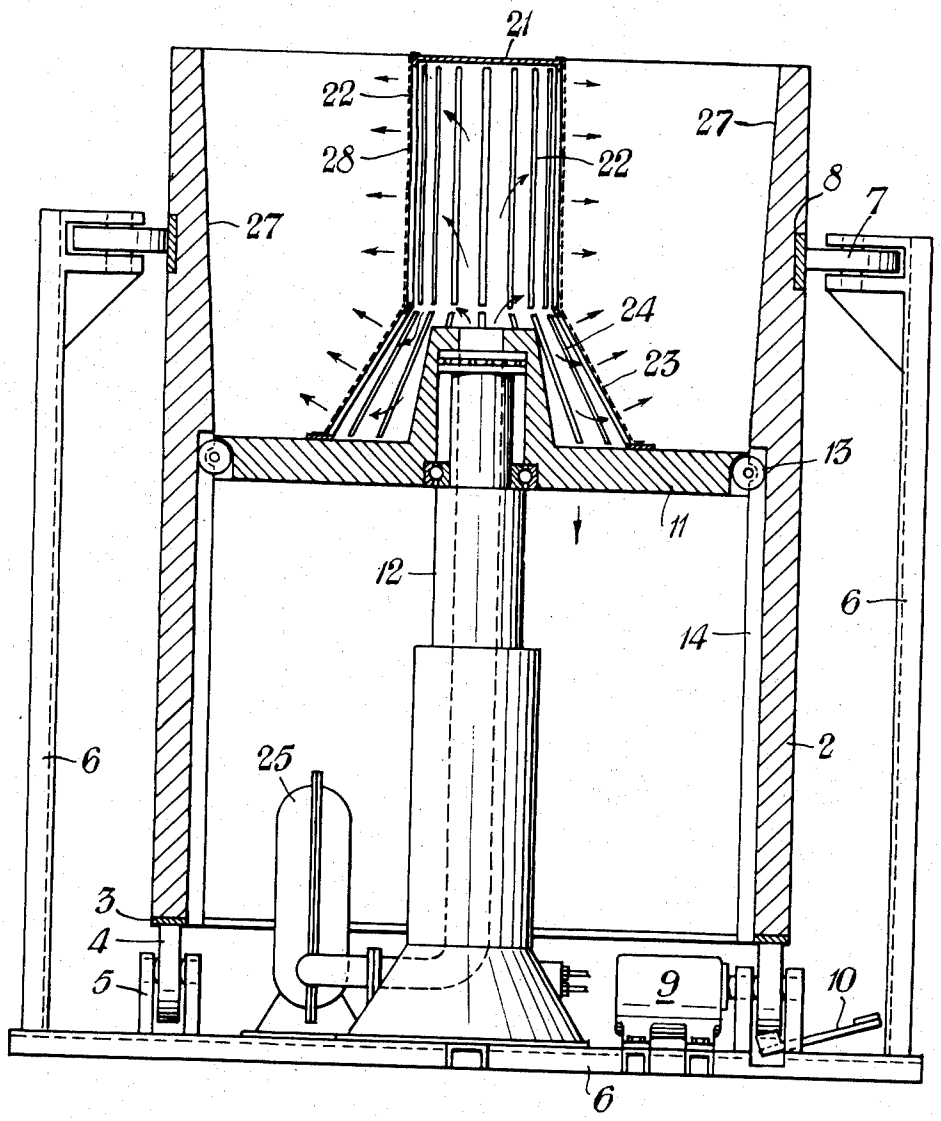

FIG. 5.

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ROTATING AMUSEMENT APPARATUS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 272—46)

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This invention relates in general to amusement apparatus and, in particular, to apparatus in which persons are amused by being carried by centrifugal force against an inclined wall which is caused to rotate about an axis. Essentially, the apparatus comprises a hollow member having an outwardly flaring conical upper part and a lower cylindrical part and a floor movable only in the lower cylindrical part.

An object of the present invention is to provide improved constructions which afford more amusement both to persons taking part and also to onlookers. It also possesses an increased safety factor.

Under one form of the invention a rotating wall of the apparatus converges downwardly to give the increased safety factor, so that any tendency for a person to tilt forward as the rotating wall slows down is avoided, the body of the person always remaining inclined backwardly against the wall instead of sliding down in a vertical position.

In another construction a person is held or is assisted in being held to the wall by air pressure directed from the axis of a central column towards the wall, that is to say from the centre outwardly.

A temporary support or floor is provided on which a person stands until such time as the support is transferred to the internal part of the wall.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a part sectional elevation of one form of apparatus.

Figs. 2, 3 and 4 are detail views of various contours, and

Fig. 5 is a part sectional elevation of a modified form of apparatus.

Referring to Fig. 1 the wall has an internal part consisting of a lower cylindrical part 2 and a downwardly converging part 1. At the base of the part 2 is a track 3. This track is mounted on runners or wheels 4 which may be pneumatically tired. The runners or wheels 4 are mounted on brackets 5 carried on a framework 6. Mounted on the uprights of the framework 6 are guide wheels 7 which bear against a track 8 on the external part of the wall. A motor or other source of power 9 drives one or more of the wheels 4 and through this drive the wall is rotated. Braking means as indicated at 10 may be provided.

Within the wall is a support or platform 11 which is lowered or raised by a jack device 12 which may be hydraulically air actuated or by some mechanical arrangement. The platform 11

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is guided for movement by runners 13 working on tracks 14 on the internal part of the wall.

In this construction a person stands upon the platform 11. The apparatus is then set in motion and when the person has reached the internal wall due to the centrifugal force set up, the platform is lowered, and the person is held to the internal wall.

Examples of the form of internal wall are shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4.

In Fig. 2 the internal wall consists of a parallel-walled part 15 and a cup-shaped walled part 16. In Fig. 3 there is shown an internal wall consisting of a parallel-walled part 17 and, a downwardly converging part 18 merging into a parallel-walled part 19. In this construction the person could move up the wall 18 for a time, but on reaching the part 19 the movement would be discontinued or checked and thereafter the movement would be one of revolution only. Fig. 4 shows an internal wall 20 of hexagonal contour.

Fig. 5 shows another form of apparatus. According to this construction a person is held or is assisted in being held to the wall by air pressure directed from the axis of a central column 21 towards the wall, that is to say, from the centre outwardly. The speed of rotation is generally much slower than with the form in which centrifugal force set up during rotation of the wall is used alone to hold a person against the wall.

The applied air pressure issues from the central column 21 from multiple outlets, such as elongated slots 22 spaced around the perimeter of the column. The column 21 may be of uniform cross section at the upper part merging at the lower end into the frustum of a cone 23, the slanting sides of which may have multiple outlets 24 for directing streams of air in suitable directions, for example, at issuing angles whereby the said streams intersect the streams issuing from that part of uniform cross section. The path of the latter streams may be at right angles to the wall. The streams of air may be likened to whirling or like sprays directed towards the wall.

The supply of air may be obtained from any suitable apparatus, for example, an air pump or a compressor or blower 25.

A wire meshing 28 may be placed over the air outlets.

The apparatus may be used for purposes other than amusement, for example, gymnastic performances.

It will be apparent that the invention can be

variously modified and changed within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An amusement apparatus comprising, the combination of, a hollow member having an open top and rotatable about its vertical axis, means to rotate said member about said axis, the lower part of said member having interior walls formed of a cylinder, the upper part of said member having interior walls formed of a truncated cone upwardly flaring, a circular horizontal floor slidably positioned within said cylindrical walls and means to raise and lower said floor to alternately close and open the bottom of said truncated part of said member, said floor forming a base, when closing the bottom end of said truncated cone, upon which a person may stand with his back against said upwardly flaring wall, the rotation of said member causing said person to remain suspended against said wall when said floor is lowered and to slide upwardly on said wall, the bottom of the cone-shaped part having a diameter smaller than the diameter of the cylindrical part of the hollow member thus forming an abutment to limit the upward movement of said floor.

2. An apparatus as recited in claim 1, in which means are provided for directing a plurality of air streams from said axis outwardly against said upwardly flaring walls for assisting in holding a person against the surface of said upwardly flaring walls.

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