May 10, 1927. 1,627,570

L. W. MELCHER

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Filed Jan. 20, 1923

Fig. 1.

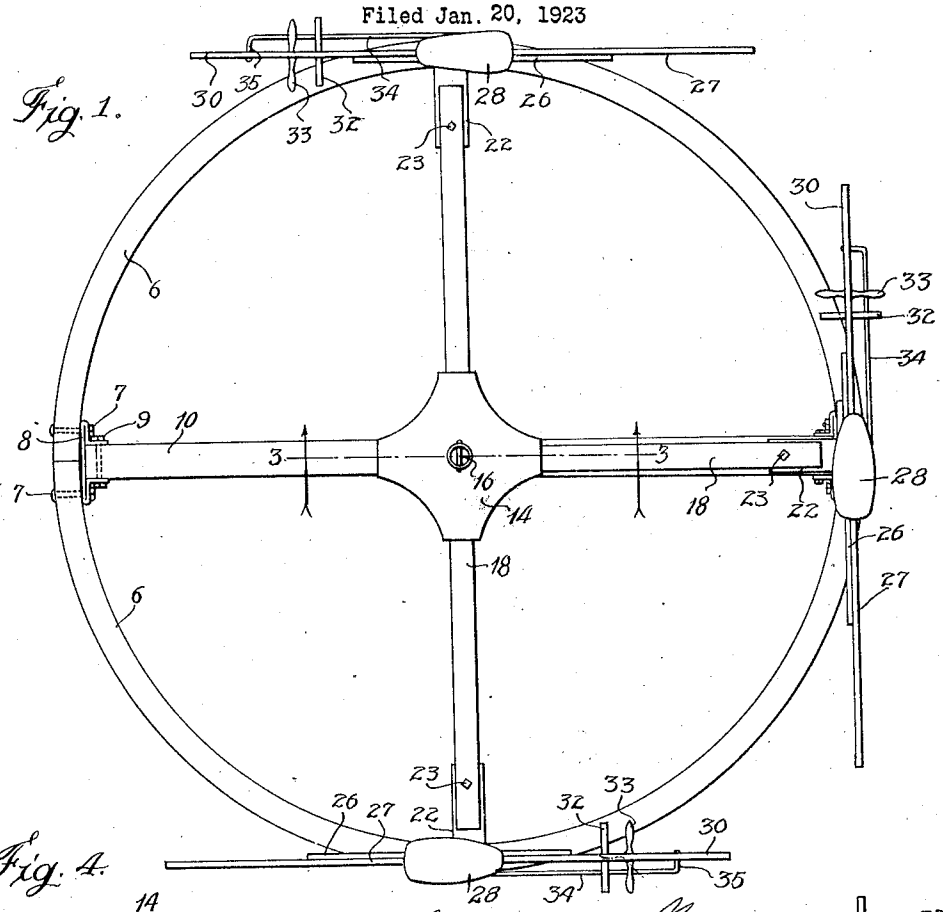


Fig. 4.

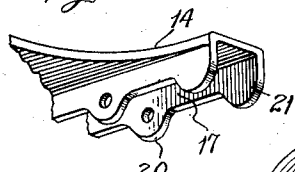


Fig. 2.

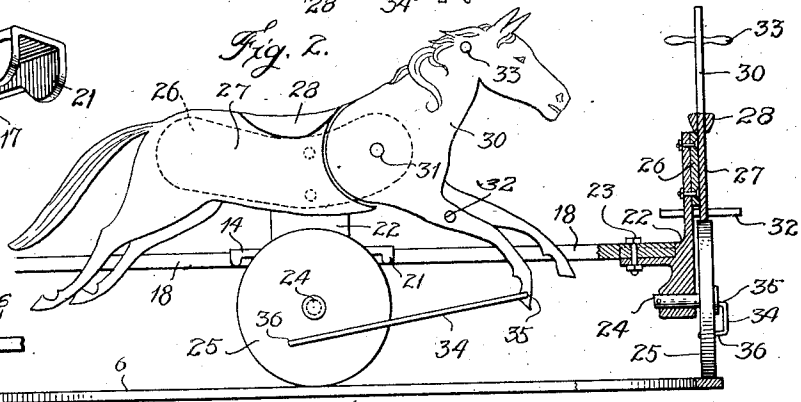
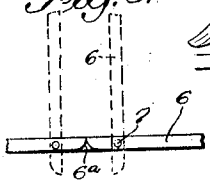


Fig. 5.



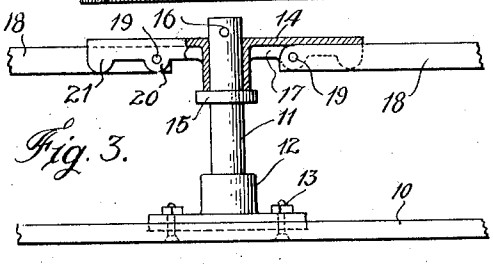
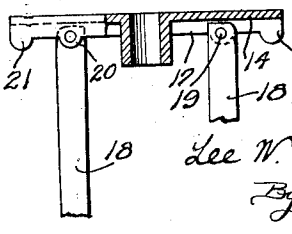


Fig. 3.

Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MERRY-GO-ROUND.

Application filed January 20, 1923. Serial No. 613,892.

The invention relates to merry-go-rounds and its object is to provide an improved construction which is simple, which permits the addition and removal of members to adapt it for one or more children, which is made up of parts which can be folded for convenience in storage or transportation and which can be produced at a low cost.

The invention consists in the several novel features hereinafter set forth and more particularly defined by claims at the conclusion hereof.

In the drawings: Fig. 1 is a plan of a structure embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation, parts being shown in section. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail of the bracket for connecting one of the arms to one of the supports on which the child rides. Fig. 5 is a detail of the track sections showing how they may be swung into parallel position for convenience for storage. Fig. 6 is a detail section of the head removed from the standard, showing how the arms on which the members are supported may be swung inwardly, for convenience in storage, after the members have been removed therefrom.

The invention is exemplified in a structure comprising a track which is composed of arcuate sections 6 each extending through approximately 180° and adapted to form a substantially continuous circular track. The contiguous ends of these track-sections are beveled as at 6a, and are each secured by a bolt 7 to a bracket 8. Each bracket 8 is secured by a bolt 9 to a bar 10 which extends diametrically across the track and at its center forms a support for a standard 11. Bolts 7 pivotally connect the ends of the track-sections to brackets 8 and cross-bar 10, so that the sections by means of their beveled ends may be swung together into substantially parallel relation for convenience in storage or shipment. A socket 12 is secured by bolts 13 to the central portion of cross-bar 10 and standard 11 is formed of a section of pipe rigidly secured in said socket. A head or hub 14 is pivotally held on standard 11 being confined vertically thereon between a collar 15 and a pin 16. This head or hub is provided with a series of recesses or channels 17, each of which is adapted to receive the inner end of an arm 18. Each arm 18 is pivotally connected to the head 14 by a bolt 19 which passes through depending ears 20 integrally formed with the head. Each arm 18 fits between ears 20 and also between ears 21 so that the arms and head will be locked to rotate together horizontally. The purpose in providing the channelled or socket and pivotal connection between the arms and the head is to permit the arms to be swung downwardly to extend lengthwise of the axis of standard 11 for convenience in transportation or storage after head 14 has been removed from the standard 11. This construction with a removable bolt 19 also makes it possible to remove arms 18 from the head or replace them so that only the number which it may be desired to use will be connected thereto. In practice, arms 18 and bar 10 are usually formed of wood.

A bracket 22 is provided with a recess to receive the outer end of an arm 18 and is secured thereto by a bolt 23, such a bracket being thus secured to each arm. A spindle 24 is carried in bracket 22 and a supporting wheel 25 is secured to said spindle and so it will run on the circular track. A board 26 is secured to the upper portion of each bracket 22. The carrier or support for the child is in the form of a horse and comprises a member 27 secured to board 26 and forming the body and rear portion of the horse, a saddle 28 fixed to member 27, and a member 30 forming the head, shoulders and front legs of the horse which is pivoted at 31 to board 26. Pins 32 projecting from the sides of member 30 form pedals or foot rests for the feet of the child and grips 33 are fixed to the upper portion of member 30, so that by pushing on the foot rests and pulling on the grips, the child will rock member 30 around pivot 31. The lower portion of member 30 is connected by a pitman 34 which is formed of a metallic rod having its front end bent transversely and extending, as at 35, through a hole in member 30 and having its rear end bent inwardly, as at 36, and extended through a hole in wheel 25 to drive the wheel as the member 30 is rocked by the child.

The invention exemplifies a merry-go-round in which the track is formed of arcuate sections which permit it to be folded into substantially one-half of the space occupied by a circular track; in which the arms which space the carrier or supports for the child from the axis of rotation are pivotally connected to a head so as to permit them to be swung together for convenience in transpor-

tation or storage after the head has been removed from the standard and the brackets 22, on which the members 26 are secured, are disengaged from the arms by the removal of bolts 23; in which provision is made for ready replacement and removal of the arms and supports, so that the child can operate the merry-go-round with one or more carriers or supports; and which is simple in construction and can be produced at a low cost.

The invention is not to be understood as restricted to the details set forth, since these may be modified within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

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

1. In a merry-go-round, the combination of a circular track composed of substantially semi-circular sections, a cross-bar, pivotal connections between the sections and the cross-bar, a standard on the cross-bar, a carrier or support provided with a wheel adapted to run on said track, and an arm between the standard and said carrier.

2. In a merry-go-round, the combination of a circular track composed of substantially semi-circular sections, a cross-bar having brackets at the ends thereof, pivot bolts extending through the ends of the sections and the brackets, a standard on the cross-bar, a carrier provided with a wheel adapted to run on the track, and an arm between the standard and the carrier.

3. In a merry-go-round, the combination of a central standard, a head rotatably mounted on the standard, an arm having its inner end secured to the head, to rotate therewith, a bracket secured to the outer end of the arm, a carrying wheel connected to said bracket, a board secured to said bracket, and a carrier comprising a body member fixed to said board and a head member pivoted to said board and operatively connected to the wheel.

4. In a merry-go-round, the combination of a central standard, a head rotatably mounted on the standard, an arm having its inner end secured to the head to rotate therewith, a bracket secured to the outer end of the arm and provided with a support, a carrying wheel pivotally connected to said bracket, a carrier comprising a body member fixed to said support and a head member pivoted to said support and operatively connected to said wheel, and means to rock said head member to rotate the carrying wheel.

Signed at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois this 5th day of January, 1923.

LEE W. MELCHER.