This invention relates to a swing primarily for use by an infant, and especially aims to provide a means whereby the infant may be swung without labor on the part of the mother or other nurse, and enabling such mother or other nurse to otherwise advantageously spend her time.

It is particularly aimed to provide a structure wherein the swing or equivalent is operable by the pendulum of clockworks.

A further object is to provide a construction wherein the swing or equivalent is adjustable as to position along the pendulum and also as to weight in order to balance the load of the swing with the infant therein, with due regard to the increase in weight of the infant as he becomes older.

Further, an object is to enable the clockworks also to function as usual in indicating time.

Various additional objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the description following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings illustrating an operative embodiment by way of example.

In said drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view of the improved structure in side elevation;

Fig. 2 is a view of the said structure in end elevation; and

Fig. 3 is a plan view partly broken away.

Referring specifically to the drawings, wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts throughout the different views, I provide a suitable frame or support generally designated 10, which may be of any suitable size and dimensions, for instance four feet high. This frame has a platform or support at the top as at 11, and angularly disposed legs 12, one at each corner, with such top and legs suitably braced as at 13.

Co-acting with and within the frame is a swing generally designated 14, which may be of any appropriate size, material and shape. It may be in the form of a basket, bed, box, crib, basinette, or the like, in which an infant may be placed. Such swing 14 is adapted to contain bedding as at 15. Surmounting and suitably secured to the support 11 as at 16 is a clockworks 17. Such clockworks may be of any conventional type, for instance that having a spring motor adapted to be manually or otherwise wound. Such clockworks 17 operates a pendulum device as at 18 in the usual or conventional manner, and the swing 14 is supported from such pendulum 18 in order to be swung or moved back and forth therewith, thus to swing the infant through the actuation of the clock or spring motor thereof.

The pendulum device may consist of a single pendulum as is usual in clockworks of the spring motor type, or it may consist of similar pendulum elements as at 18, one at the front of the clock and one at the rear of the clock, suitably connected together for unitary pendulum operation or oscillation. The pendulum elements depend through and move in suitable spaces or clearance through the support 11 in order to suspend the swing 14. Said swing 14 has suspending devices 20, one at each side thereof, and including sleeves 21 at the apices of the downwardly diverging arms thereof, such sleeves having openings 22 therethrough enlarged with respect to the pendulum elements 18 so that the latter depend loosely therethrough. The lower portions of the pendulum elements are screw-threaded as at 23, and nuts 24 are screw-threaded thereon to form seats or mountings for the sleeves 21, and the lower ends of the latter are preferably spherical at 25, so that as the swing 14 moves back and forth, it will always be in a vertical position as the openings 22 and surface 25 permit slight relative movement between the swing, pendulum elements and nuts 24.

The parts may be, for example, so proportioned and arranged as to accommodate and balance a load consisting of the swing and infant or approximately thirty-five pounds, and to be adjusted so as to be balanced for a lesser weight and also for a greater weight as the infant gradually increases in weight through growth. This end may be attained in part by adjusting the nuts 24 up or down to raise or lower the swing, and also through the adjustment of weight means as at 26.

Such weight means 26 consist of extensions 27 at the base of the swing having pegs 28 rising therefrom, and each accommodating a plurality of individual, disk-like weights or poises 29, all of similar size and centrally of the aperture so that any one or more of the same may be applied to or removed from the pegs 28 to effect the desired balancing.

In addition to the clockworks 17 being of sufficient size and power to operate the swing 14 with a to and fro motion from the pendulum device 18, such clockworks 17 may function as usual, especially for the benefit of the mother, other nurse, or attendant, the clockworks being shown equipped with the usual hour and minute hands at least, as at 30 and 31, respectively, coacting with a dial 32.
It is also within the purview of my invention to provide means to limit the period of actuation of the pendulum or of the clockworks, so that the same will automatically stop as an aid to the mother, nurse or attendant.

Various changes may be resorted to, provided they fall within the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. Apparatus of the class described comprising a clock mechanism support means therefor, said clock mechanism having a pendulum element at the front and a pendulum element at the rear, said pendulum elements being parallel and operatively depending from the clock mechanism at the axis of rotation of the hands thereof and terminating below said clock mechanism, nuts threaded on the lower portions of said pendulum elements, a swing member, parallel rigid suspending devices on said swing member, each suspending device comprising a pair of upwardly converging arms having a sleeve connecting them together at their upper ends, said pendulum elements extending loosely through the respective sleeves with the latter supported on the respective nuts.

2. A structure according to claim 1, wherein the lower ends of said sleeves are rounded.

3. A structure according to claim 1 wherein the swing is generally rectangular and has outward extensions at its corners, pegs rising from said extensions, and removable weight means positioned by and co-acting with each peg.

MACK M. PRUETT.

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