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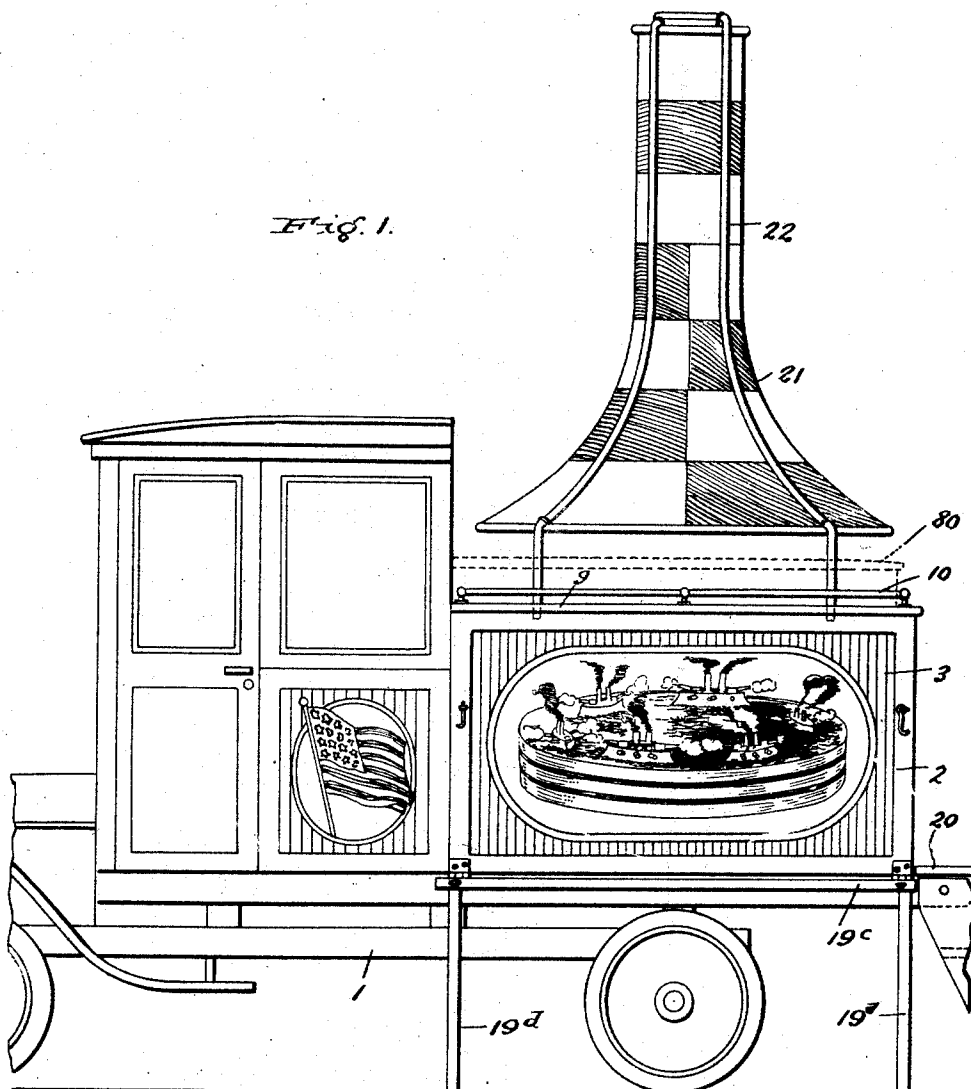
T. R. NOCK

AMUSEMENT APPARATUS

Filed Oct. 10, 1924

5 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



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INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans

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WITNESS:

Gerald Henney

Jan. 12, 1926.

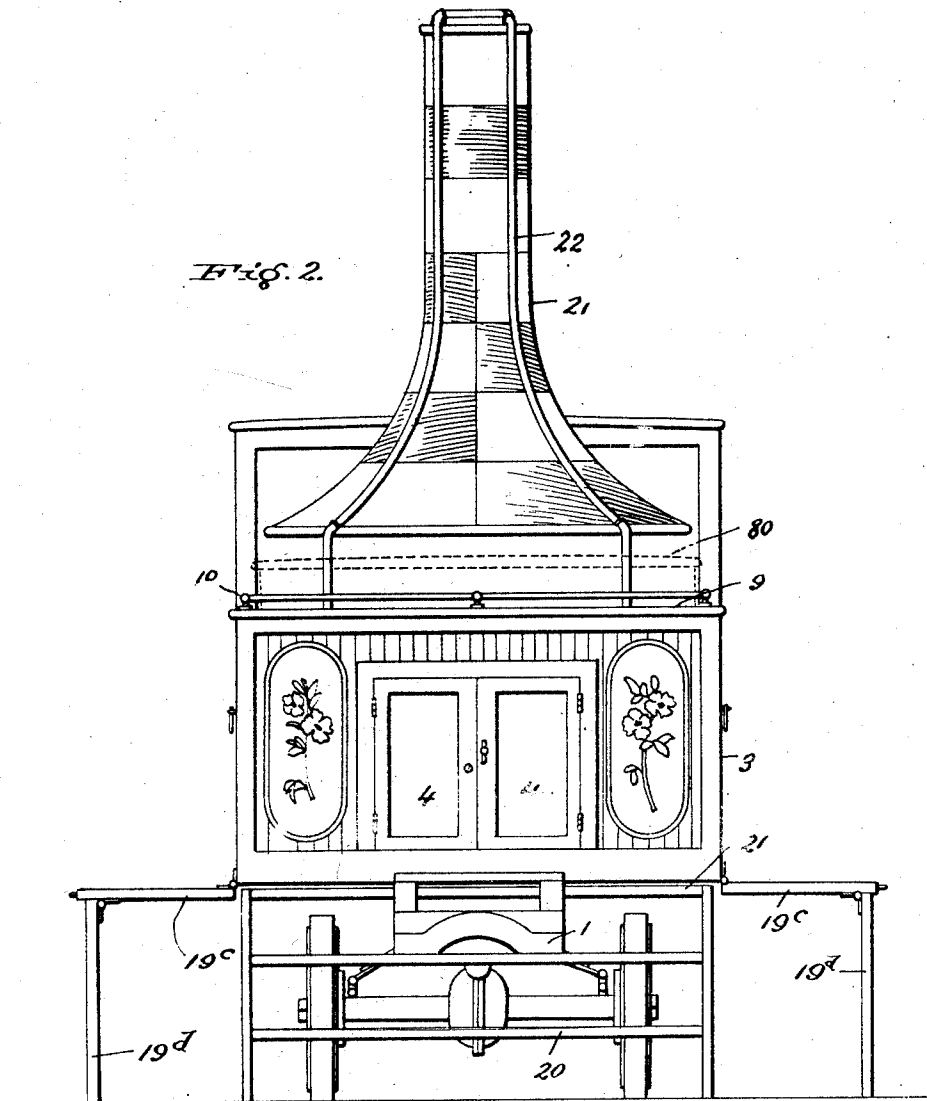
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5 Sheets-Sheet 2



Thomas R. Nock
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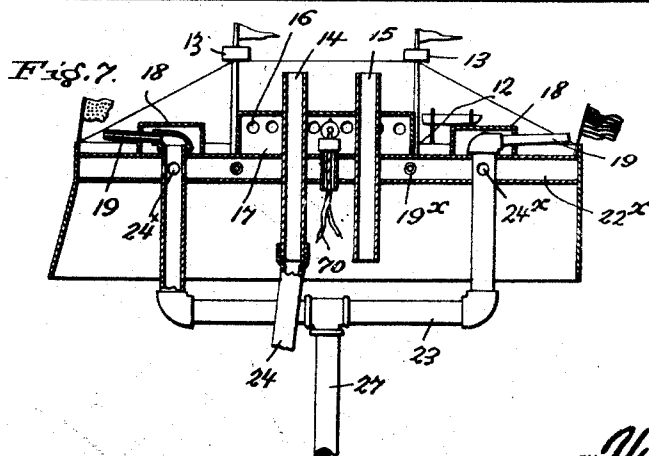
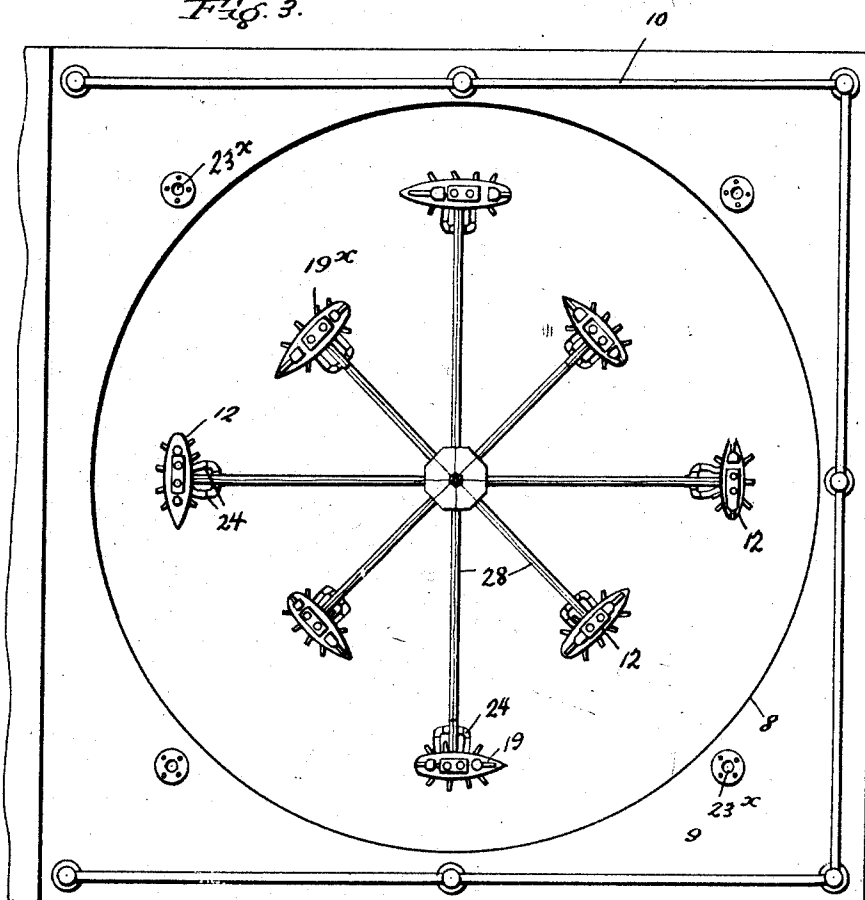
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5 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 3.



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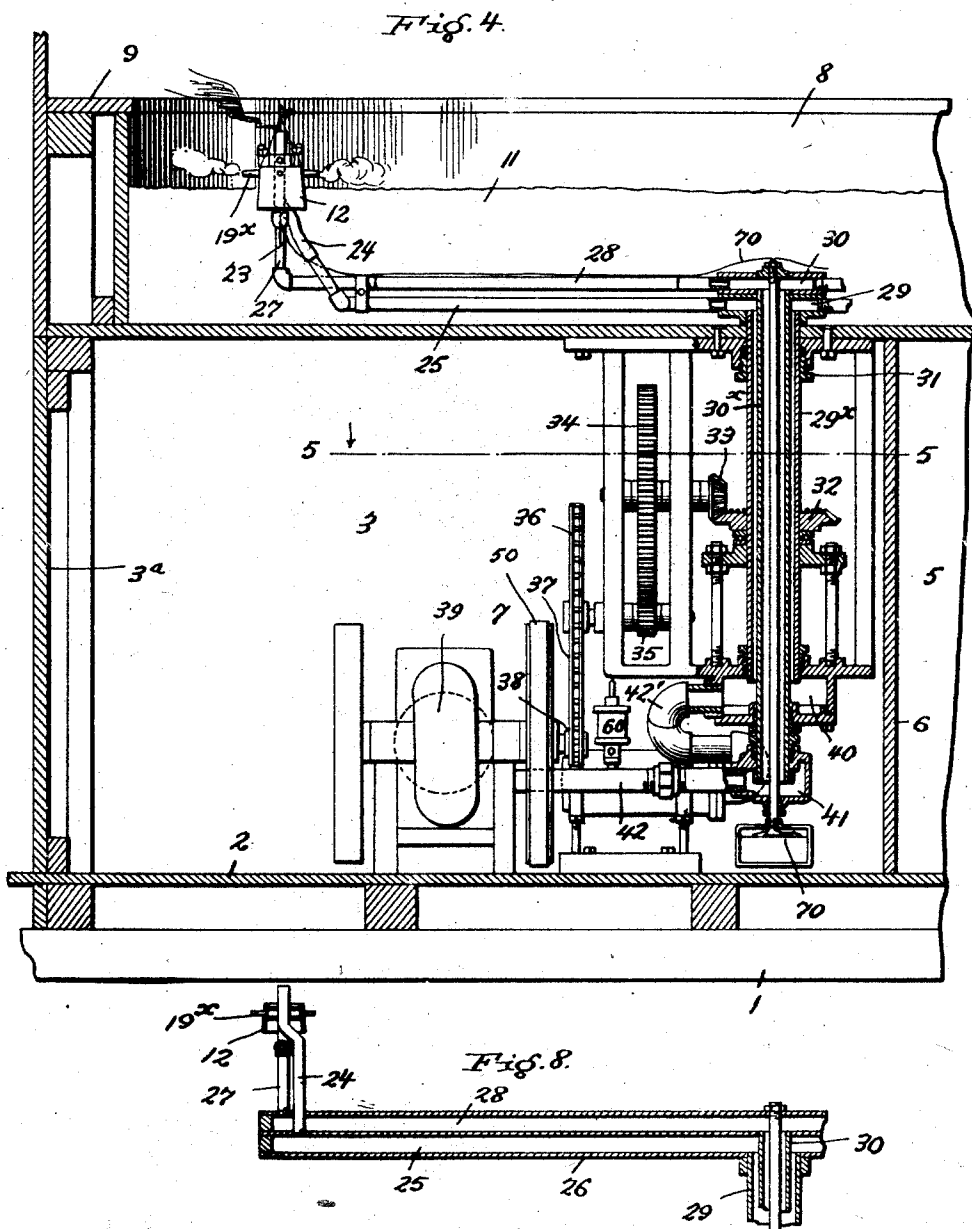
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T. R. NOCK

AMUSEMENT APPARATUS

Filed Oct. 10, 1924

5 Sheets-Sheet 4



Thomas R. Nock

INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans

ATTORNEY

WITNESS: Gerald H. Hennessey

Jan. 12 , 1926,

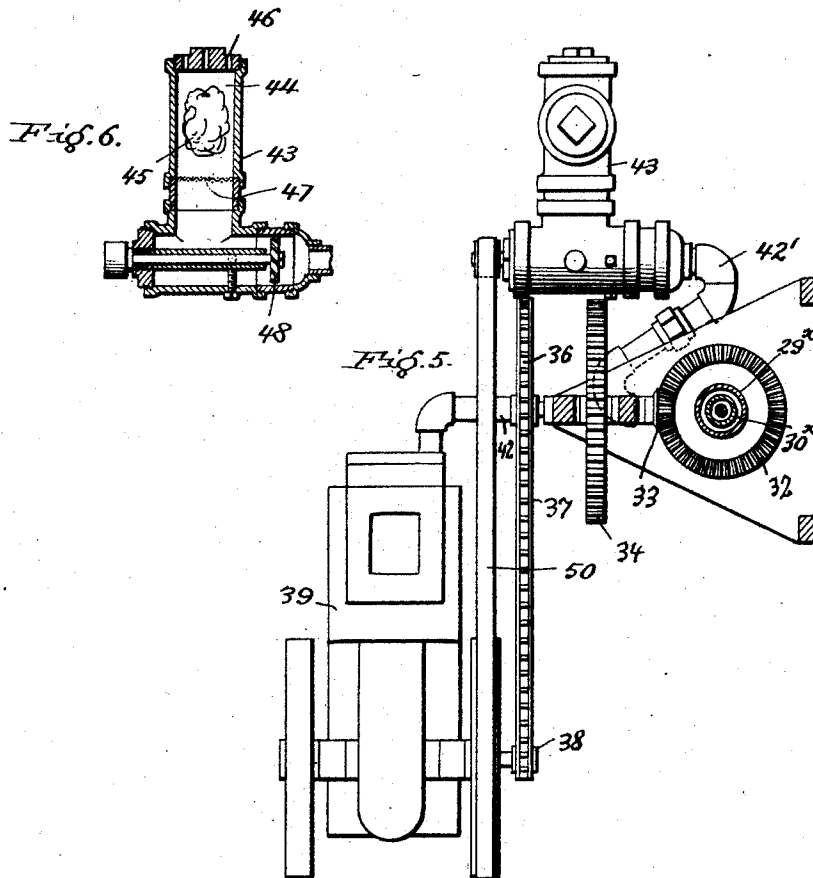
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T. R. NOCK

AMUSEMENT APPARATUS

Filed Oct. 10, 1924

5 Sheets-Sheet 5



Thomas R. Nock

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WITNESS:

Gerald H. Hume

Patented Jan. 12, 1926.

1,569,780

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS R. NOCK, OF WACHAPREAGUE, VIRGINIA.

AMUSEMENT APPARATUS.

Application filed October 10, 1924. Serial No. 742,888.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS R. NOCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wachapreague, in the county of Accomac and State of Virginia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Amusement Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

One object of my present invention is the provision of an amusement apparatus calculated to excite the interest of and afford considerable amusement to children as well as adults.

Another object of the invention is to provide a portable amusement apparatus characterized as indicated and including means which makes it necessary for children or adults to traverse steps before they are able to view the amusement affording marine scene.

Other objects and practical advantages of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims, when the same are read in connection with the drawings, accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation illustrating the preferred embodiment which has been reduced to actual practice.

Figure 2 is a rear end elevation of the apparatus.

Figure 3 is an enlarged detail plan of the apparatus taken from a view point above the tank which is also shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 is an enlarged vertical longitudinal section illustrative of the tank and its appurtenances.

Figure 5 is a detail horizontal section taken in the plane indicated by the line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a vertical section of a smudger or smoke supplying device comprised in my improvement.

Figure 7 is an enlarged detail longitudinal section of one of the miniature vessel simulating devices comprised in my improvement.

Figure 8 is a detail section illustrative of the smoke conduits for one vessel.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings.

I prefer to utilize an automobile truck for the support and carriage of my improvement, and so that the novel amusement apparatus may be conveniently transported

from one point to another. In general the automobile truck is of the ordinary well known construction, but in accordance with my invention the rear portion of the automobile body is formed by a casing 2 having side panels 3, a preferably removable front panel 3^a and back doors 4, the said doors 4 being designed to afford access to a locker space 5 which is separated by a partition wall 6 from an engine compartment 7, all as best shown in Figure 4.

Appropriately supported above the engine compartment 7 is a circular tank 8, surrounded by a platform 9, Figures 3 and 4 and having adjacent to three of its edges a hand rail 10, Figures 1, 2 and 3. The tank 8 is designed to receive and hold a liquid body 11, the said body 11 being preferably of water and being preferably colored blue to simulate the color of sea water and at the same time to hide from view the mechanism in connection with several miniature vessels 12 of which eight are preferably employed as illustrated in Figure 3. The several vessels 12 are identical in construction, and therefore, an exact understanding of the several vessels will be understood from a specific description of the vessel shown in Figure 7 which will be understood as simulating a gunboat having representations of the usual appurtenances of a gunboat such as fighting towers 13, smoke stacks 14 and 15, port-holes 16 in communication with a saloon chamber 17, turrets 18 and gun simulating tubes 19 extending from the turrets 18.

My invention contemplates the movement of the vessels 12 in the body of water 11, the supply of smoke to the smoke stack 14 of each vessel 12 and the supply of puffs of smoke to the gun representing tubes 19 at intervals so that when the apparatus is in operation a miniature scene of marine warfare will be displayed to those positioned to view the surface of the water in the tank 8.

For enabling those who are permitted to do so to view the scene alluded to conveniently, I provide in association with the truck and the casing 2, the side platforms 19^a and end steps 20 shown in Figures 1 and 2 at the sides and back, respectively, of the casing 2, the said platforms and steps being preferably hinged at 21 to the truck frame so that the same can be swung upwardly clear of the ground as when the apparatus is to be moved from one point to another,

and the platforms 19^c having hinged and foldable legs 19^d.

For the purpose of preventing the smoke emanating from the smoke stacks 14 and the gun representing tubes 19 from interfering in any measure with the enjoyment of those viewing the scene of marine warfare, I provide in spaced relation above the platform 9 and over the tank 10, the mouth of a smoke uptake 21, the said smoke uptake 21 being flared downwardly as illustrated to promote the passage of air and products of combustion upwardly therethrough, and being supported by rods 22 which are connected to and rise from the points 23^x of the platform 9. At the points 23^x are sockets as shown in Figure 3, and in the said sockets are disposed the lower ends of the rods 22, and the said rods 22 are permanently connected to the uptake 21 as shown in Figures 1 and 2, and consequently it will be understood that when it is desired for any purpose the uptake 21 and its rods 22 may be readily lifted as a unit off the platform 9 and may as readily be replaced on the platform 9 with the lower flared portion of the uptake 21 spaced above the platform 9 for the entry of air into the lower portion of the uptake 21 and also to enable children and other persons standing on the uppermost steps of the flights 20 to conveniently view the scene furnished by the movement of the vessels 12 in the body of water in tank 8 and also furnished by the emission of smoke from the several smoke stacks 14 and the several tubes 19 that represent guns as before mentioned. When the uptake 21 is removed as before stated, a cover 80 such as shown by dotted lines in Figure 1 may be arranged over the tank 8.

Manifestly the side panels 3 of the casing 2 may be and preferably are provided with pictures such as shown in Figure 1 illustrative of the type of scene that is furnished by the operation of the apparatus. I would also have it understood that when deemed expedient the uptake 21 may be painted in different colors as red, white and blue so that the apparatus in addition to furnishing amusement may be employed for the stimulation of patriotism.

It is within the purview of my invention to employ any appropriate means for moving the vessels 12 in the body of water 11 contained in the tank 8, and it is also within the purview of my invention to employ any suitable means for furnishing smoke or smudge to the smoke stacks 14 of the several vessels 12 as well as any suitable means for furnishing puffs of smoke to the tubes 19 that represent guns or cannons.

For the carriage and movement of the vessels 12, I prefer to employ the mechanism best shown in Figures 4, 7 and 8. By particular reference to Figure 7 it will be noted

that in addition to the gun tubes 19 each vessel 12 is provided with a chamber 22^x and lateral gun tubes 19^x in communication with said chamber, and it will also be noticed that each vessel 12 is carried on and by a pipe 23 having its ends in communication with the gun tubes 19 and also having lateral apertures 24^x in communication with the chamber 22^x. From this it follows that when a puff of smoke is sent through the pipe 23 puffs of smoke will be emitted by the tubes 19 and 19^x, which puffs of smoke obviously will closely simulate the appearance of a piece of ordnance when the same is fired. Reference to Figure 7 will also make clear that a pipe 24 is connected to the smoke stack 14 of each vessel 12. Each pipe 24 is connected to a conduit 25 of a rotor arm 26 of which there is one for each vessel 12, and each pipe 23 is connected to a pipe 27, Figures 4, 7 and 8 which is connected, in turn, with a conduit 28 carried by each rotor arm 26. The said conduits 25 and 28 comprised in the eight arms of the rotor may be arranged as shown in Figure 4 or as shown in Figure 8, it being understood in this connection that Figure 8 is illustrative of a slightly modified form of rotor. For instance, in the rotor shown in Figure 4, the conduits 25 and 28 are in the form of spaced pipes and are connected at their inner ends to chambers 29 and 30, respectively, Figure 4, while in Figure 8, the conduits 25 and 28 are arranged in one body and are connected at their inner ends to chambers 29 and 30, the latter chambers being formed by upright tubes. In the embodiment shown in Figure 4, the chambers 29 and 30 are fixed with respect to rotary tubes 29^x and 30^x, respectively, and it will be understood that the tube 29 of Figure 8 as well as the tube 29^x of Figure 4 is journaled in the bottom of the tank 8 and that a stuffing box 31 such as shown in Figure 4 or any other appropriate means is employed about the outer tube of the rotor with a view to precluding leakage of water or other liquid from the tank 8. Also in the embodiment shown in Figure 4 a miter gear 32 is fixed to the tube 29^x, and meshed with the said miter gear 32 is a pinion 33 fixed with respect to a spur gear 34 in mesh with a spur pinion 35 that is fixed with respect to a sprocket gear 36, connected by a sprocket belt 37 with a sprocket gear 38 on a shaft of an internal combustion engine 39, the said internal combustion engine being of any approved type and being of internal combustion character in order to utilize the products of combustion that it gives in the production of smoke for the maintenance of the scene of warfare alluded to. At its lower end the outer upright tube of the rotor is in communication with the chamber 40, Figure 4, and at its lower end the inner upright tube of the

rotor is in communication with a chamber 41, the said chamber 41 being also connected to a conduit 42 that leads from the exhaust port of the engine 39. Connected by a conduit 42 with the chamber 40 is a smudger 43, the said smudger having a chamber 44, Figure 6, for the reception of the smudge 45 which may be oil soaked cotton or any other appropriate material. The smudger 43 also has air inlet openings 46 for the promotion of combustion and a straining screen or diaphragm 47, and arranged in the smudger in the relation shown in Figure 6 is a blower fan 48 that is designed to be driven from the engine 39 through the driving connection 50 shown in Figure 5. By virtue of the construction just described it will be understood that incident to the operation of the apparatus, smoke will be discharged through the smoke stacks 14 of each vessel 12, while the vessel 12 is traversing the body of water 11. It will also be understood that the products of combustion given off by the engine 39 will be supplied to and will be discharged from the gun tubes 19 and 19* of the vessels 12. In order to increase the density of the products of combustion furnished through the engine exhaust pipe 42 to the gun tubes 19 and 19* of the vessels 12, I prefer to employ an oil cup 60, Figure 4, in connection with the interior of the said exhaust pipe 42. Manifestly when oil is fed from the cup 60 into the pipe 42, the hot pipe by action on the oil will materially increase the density of smoke referred to.

At this point, I desire it understood that the blower 48 shown in Figure 6 may be of any type compatible with the purpose of my invention.

The emission of smoke in puffs from the gun representing tubes 19 and 19* as before mentioned is preferably brought about by the puffing of the internal combustion engine 39, and from this it will be understood that the products of combustion are also emitted from the smoke stacks 14 in puffs.

Arranged in the chamber 17 of each vessel 12 is an incandescent electric lamp electrically connected as indicated by 70 in Figures 4 and 7 with a source of electric energy. This provision is made so that the light shown through the porthole 16 of the vessels 12 will give the vessels 12 more the appearance of warships at sea. When desired and with a view to eliminating necessary vibration, the several conduits 25 and 28 of the several vessels 12 may be carried in a rotary disk with the result that all of the conduits 25 and 28 such as shown in Figure 8 will be moved as a unit.

In the practical use of my improvement it will be understood that children or adults will occupy positions on the steps 20 and will view the scene in the tank 8 through

the space panel, the platform 9 and the lower end of the uptake 21, and when necessary or desirable the spectators may grasp the rod or hand rail 10. Manifestly by virtue of the provision shown in Figures 1 and 2 a number of persons may view the interior of the tank 8 at one and the same time, and when the rotor is actuated and smoke is supplied to the stacks 14 and the guns 19 and 19*, it will be apparent that the smoke emitted from the several moving vessels 12 will give rise to a scene closely simulating a marine warfare scene. This obviously will excite the interest and accord considerable amusement to adults as well as children, and the similarity of the mimic battle to a real battle will be further enhanced by the putting or puffing of the internal combustion engine employed.

Notwithstanding the practical advantages ascribed to my novel apparatus, it will be noted that the apparatus is simple and inexpensive in construction as well as compact, and that it is free of delicate parts such as are likely to get out of order after a short period of use.

I have specifically described the present and preferred embodiment of my invention in order to impart a full, clear and exact understanding of the said embodiment. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to the disclosed construction inasmuch as the scope of my invention is defined by my appended claims within which changes may be made without involving departure from my invention.

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

1. In an amusement apparatus, a boat simulation having a tube representing a smoke stack and also having turret representations and tubes representing guns carried by and extending from said turret representations and further having a chamber and broad side tubes representing guns in communication with said chamber, the smoke stack tube being adapted to be connected with smoke supply means, and the turret representing guns being combined with pipes adapted to be connected with a source of smoke supply and having openings in communication with said chamber for the passage of smoke to the tubes representing broad side guns.

2. An amusement apparatus comprising a tank adapted to contain liquid, boat simulations movable in the tank and liquid and having smoke emitting means, an internal combustion engine connected with and adapted to move the boat simulations in the liquid, and means for conducting smoke from the exhaust of the engine to the smoke emitting means of the boat simulations.

3. An amusement apparatus comprising a

tank adapted to contain liquid, boat simulations movable in the tank and liquid and having smoke emitting means, an internal combustion engine connected with and adapted to move the boat simulations in the liquid, and means for conducting smoke from the exhaust of the engine to the smoke emitting means of the boat simulations; the said smoke emitting means being in the form of gun representations, smoke stacks carried by the boat simulations, and means for supplying smoke to said stacks.

5 adapted to move the boat simulations in the liquid, and means for conducting smoke from the exhaust of the engine to the smoke emitting means of the boat simulations, in combination with material for supplying smoke increasing means to said conducting means.

10 smoke increasing means to said conducting means.

4. An amusement apparatus comprising a tank adapted to contain liquid, boat simulations movable in the tank and liquid and

having smoke emitting means, an internal combustion engine connected with and adapted to move the boat simulations in the liquid, and means for conducting smoke from the exhaust of the engine to the smoke emitting means of the boat simulations; the said smoke emitting means being in the form of gun representations, smoke stacks carried by the boat simulations, and means for supplying smoke to said stacks.

15 combustion engine connected with and adapted to move the boat simulations in the liquid, and means for conducting smoke from the exhaust of the engine to the smoke emitting means of the boat simulations; the said smoke emitting means being in the form of gun representations, smoke stacks carried by the boat simulations, and means for supplying smoke to said stacks.

20 said smoke emitting means being in the form of gun representations, smoke stacks carried by the boat simulations, and means for supplying smoke to said stacks.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

25

THOMAS R. NOCK.