March 17, 1959 F. ANDERSON 2,877,827

ROTATABLE TABLE AND SEATING APPARATUS

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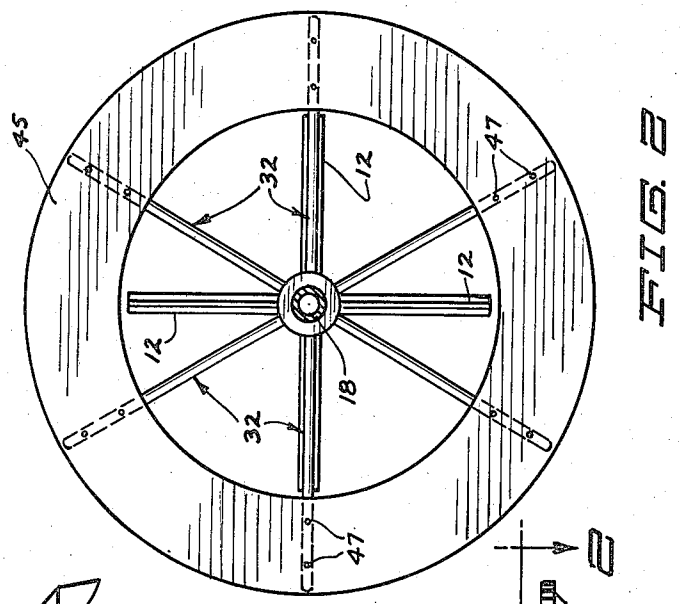


FIG. 2

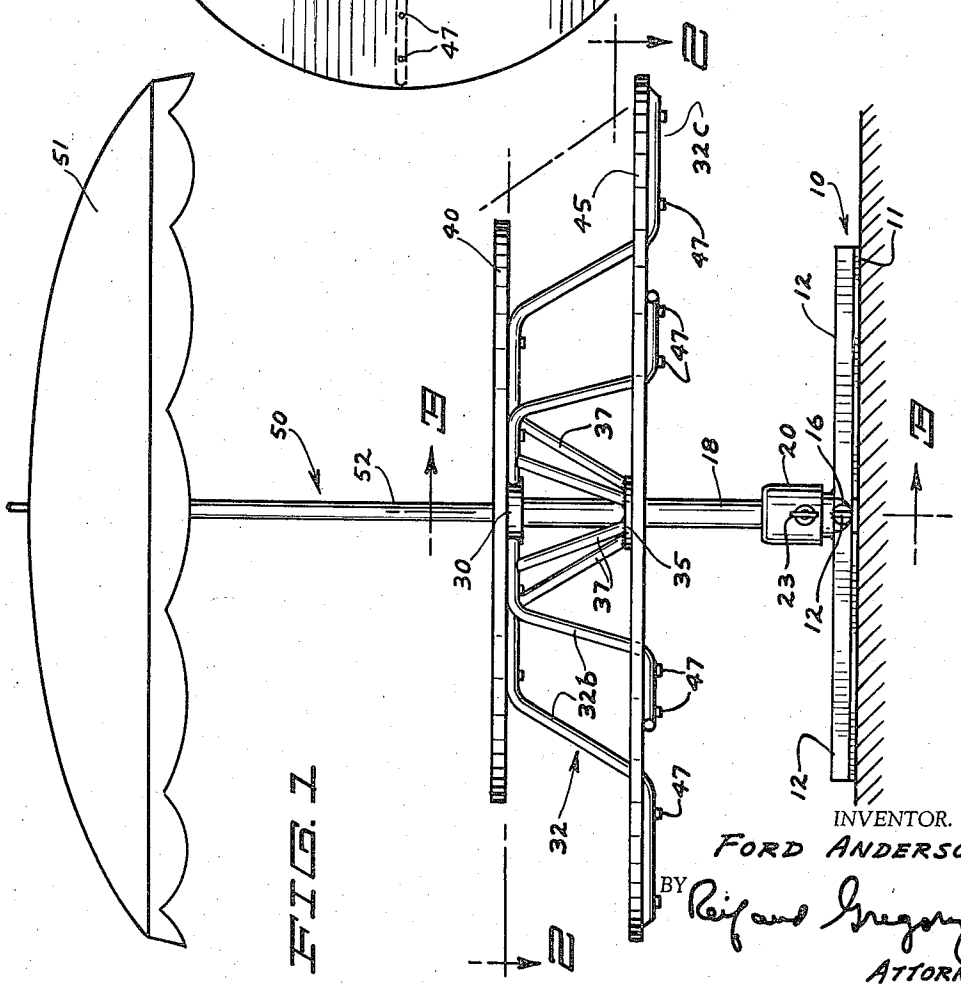


FIG. 1

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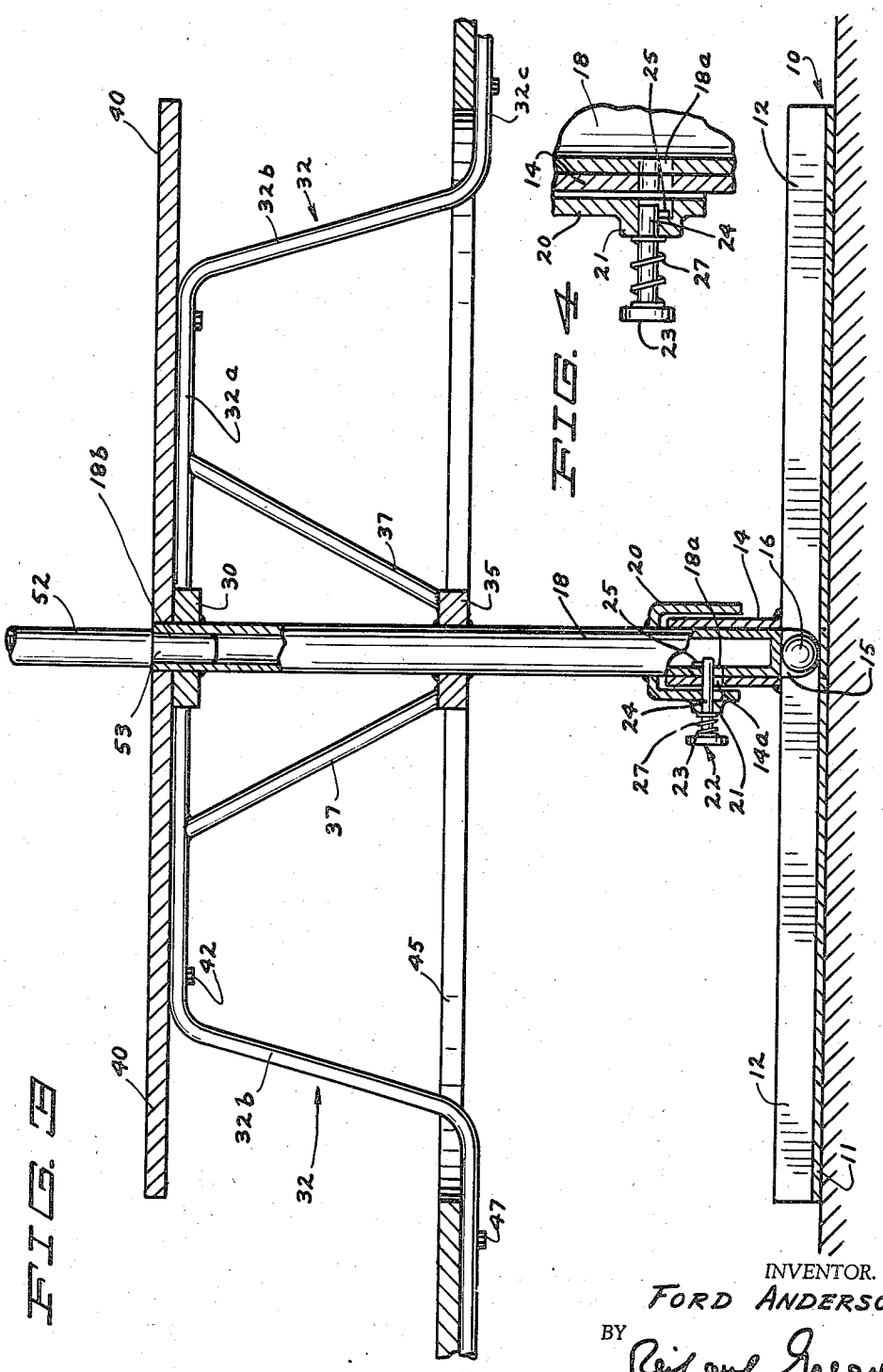


FIG. 4

FIG. 3

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United States Patent Office 2,877,827
Patented Mar. 17, 1959

2,877,827

ROTATABLE TABLE AND SEATING APPARATUS

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Application March 24, 1958, Serial No. 723,242

1 Claim. (Cl. 155—123)

This invention relates to a rotatable table and seating apparatus. It is desirable to have such an apparatus in picnic and recreational areas whereby the persons seated thereabout may have the pleasure of eating, playing games or visiting at such an apparatus while rotating therewith. If desired of course such an apparatus may be used in a stationary position. Such an apparatus is particularly adapted for use by children who enjoy being in motion while eating or playing games on a table surface, and particularly when attending an event, such as a picnic. It is desirable to have such an apparatus adapted for installation in a recreational area about a home. It is also desirable to have such apparatus adapted for use at public recreational areas, such as at public playgrounds or picnic grounds.

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide a rotatable table and seating apparatus of very simple construction adapted for use either in a recreational area about a home or at public playgrounds or picnic grounds.

It is another object of this invention to provide a rotatable table and seating apparatus particularly adapted for use by children which is of simple safe construction and about which children may be seated with comparative safety and provide the power for rotating said apparatus by movement of their dangling feet.

It is a more specific object of this invention to provide a rotatable table and seating apparatus comprising a central shaft rotatably mounted in a base portion and having secured thereto a table portion and a seating platform held in spaced relation by common brackets.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a rotatable table and seating apparatus such as is set forth in the previous object and to have means for holding said apparatus in a non-rotatable position, and to provide an umbrella for overhanging said apparatus to provide protection from elements of weather.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will be fully set forth in the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views and in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in side elevation showing applicant's invention in operating position;

Fig. 2 is a view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1 as indicated by the arrows;

Fig. 3 is a view in central vertical section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1 as indicated by the arrows; and

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view in section on an enlarged scale of a portion of applicant's device.

Referring to the drawings, applicant's invention is shown comprising a base **10**. While this base may be variously formed and variously shaped, it is here indicated as being circular and formed of a lower relatively thin sheet of material **11** and an upper relatively thick sheet of material **12**. Said base **10** is preferably made of sheet metal material having suitable characteristics for out-of-door use. Said base **10** will be of a diameter of sufficient size to support applicant's invention. Upstanding from said base **10** is a cylindrical socket **14** of some height. Said socket will be secured to said base **10** in any suitable manner, such as by welding. Disposed in a recess **15** in said plate **12** of said base **10** is a bearing **16**. Various forms of simple bearings may be provided, but in the embodiment of the invention here illustrated, said bearing is shown to comprise a single substantially large ball bearing.

Adapted to be removably disposed in said socket **14** and rest on its lower end portion on said bearing **16** is a shaft **18** extending upwardly for some distance. Said shaft may be variously formed but is here indicated as being cylindrical in form and having an enclosed lower end portion adapted to rotate easily on said ball bearing **16**. Said shaft **18** will be provided with a substantially thick wall surface and said shaft will have adequate strength to support the apparatus mounted thereon.

Adapted to be mounted on said shaft **18** adjacent said socket **14** is a socket cover or weather cap **20**. Said cap member **20** is cylindrical in form having its upper end of reduced diameter and enclosing said shaft **18** and being secured thereto, as by welding. Said cap **20** will extend downwardly over said socket **14** for some distance. Said cap **20** is provided with a boss **21** apertured to have a detent **22** mounted therein. Said detent is provided with a head portion **23** and a shaft **24**. Said shaft has a key or lug **25** on its inner end. A spring **27** is mounted on said shaft **24** intermediate said boss **21** and said head portion **23**. Said spring will normally urge said detent to an outward position. Said socket **14** and said shaft **18** are provided with aligned apertures **14***a* and **18***a* respectively. Said apertures are of sufficient width to have said detent **22** pass therethrough with the key **25** in a downward direction, as indicated in Fig. 4. When moved inwardly through said aligned apertures **14***a* and **18***a* said detent will be turned 180 degrees, as shown in Fig. 3, to have said key **25** engage the inner surface of said shaft **18** and thus be held in locked position.

Mounted on said shaft **18** somewhat below its upper end portion is a collar **30**. Said collar **30** may be secured to said shaft **18** in various ways, such as by being removably secured thereto, but in the embodiment of the invention here illustrated, it is shown being secured to said shaft as by welding. Said collar is formed having substantial thickness and extends outwardly of said shaft **18** for some little distance. A plurality of radially extending brackets **32** are provided spaced about collar **30** and having their upper ends secured to said collar, as by welding. Said brackets **32** have portions **32***a* extending outwardly horizontally from said collar for some distance and then having portions **32***b* inclined downwardly and outwardly and having their lower free end portions **32***c* bent to extend outwardly horizontally in a common plane. A collar **35** similar to said collar **30** is mounted on said shaft **18** somewhat below said collar **30**. Said collar **35** may be secured in various ways to said shaft **18** so as to be removable therefrom or permanently secured thereto. In the embodiment of the invention here illustrated it is shown to be secured to said shaft **18**, as by welding. Spaced about said collar **35** and having their lower ends secured thereto, as by welding, are a plurality of struts or supporting members **37** inclined upwardly and outwardly to have their upper ends respectively engage and be secured to said horizontal portions **32***a*. Thus said struts **37** provide support for said brackets **32**.

Mounted on said shaft **18** at the upper end thereof and resting on said collar **30** and the horizontal portions **32***a* of said brackets **32** is a table **40**. Said table **40** is here shown to be circular in form, of suitable thickness,

and will be formed of material having characteristics suitable for outdoor use. Said table **40** will be apertured at its central portion to fit over said shaft **18**, and is shown here to be flush with the upper end of said shaft. Said brackets **32** will be secured to said table **40**, as by bolts **42**.

Adapted to be mounted on the horizontal portions **32***c* of said brackets **32** is a seating platform **45**. Said seating platform may take various forms, but in the embodiment of the invention here illustrated, it is shown as being circular in form and will extend outwardly of said table **40** sufficiently for a comfortable seating arrangement. Said seating platform **45** will be formed of material suitable for outdoor use. Said horizontal portions **32***c* of said brackets **32** will be secured to said seating platform **45**, as by bolts **47**.

Said shaft **18** will be formed having an open upper end forming a socket **18***b*. Adapted to be removably mounted in said socket **18***b* is shown an umbrella **50** comprising an upper protective covering portion **51** which will be of a common and well known structure and a handle portion **52**. Said handle portion will have a lower end portion **53** of reduced dimension adapted to be disposed in said socket **18***b*. Said portion **53** will be of sufficient length to provide adequate support for said umbrella **50**. The protective portion **51** of said umbrella **50** will be of sufficient diameter to give adequate protection against elements of weather, such as sun or rain, to the table and seating platform therebelow.

In operation, applicant's rotatable table and seating apparatus may be used with or without said umbrella **50**, as may be desired. The users of said apparatus will be seated on said seating platform **45**, and conveniently arranged in connection therewith is said table **40**. Said platform **45** and table **40** mounted as an integral unit on said shaft **18** are rotatable therewith, or if desired by use of the detent **22** said shaft may be locked in a non-rotatable position. The uses to which said apparatus may be put are quite obvious and varied in number.

Thus it is seen that I have provided a very simple sturdily built rotatable table and seating apparatus which may be very easily installed wherever its use may be desired. It is made but of few simple parts each of which are easily formed and they are easily assembled together to form applicant's apparatus.

It will of course be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the parts, without departing from the scope of applicant's invention, which, generally stated, consists in an apparatus capable of carrying out the objects above set forth, in the parts and combinations of parts disclosed and defined in the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A rotatable table and seating platform apparatus having in combination, a wide flat circular base, a socket extending upwardly for a short distance centrally of said base, a large ball bearing recessed in said base at the bottom of said socket, a vertical shaft having its lower end portion journaled in said socket and being supported on said ball bearing, a cylindrical collar forming a weather cap carried on said shaft and adapted to be disposed over said socket, a collar secured to said shaft adjacent its upper end portion, a flat circular table mounted on said shaft and resting at its central portion on said collar and having a diameter substantially the same as that of said base, a plurality of radially extending brackets being respectively secured at one end to said collar and having portions extending horizontally for some distance below said table and being secured thereto and having outer portions respectively inclined downwardly and outwardly and having their free end portions respectively extending outwardly horizontally in a common plane and extending for a distance beyond the periphery of said base, a flat annular seating platform supported on said horizontally extending free end portions of said brackets and being secured thereto.

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