

L. E. MYERS.
MINIATURE PANAMA CANAL.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1913.

1,096,119.

Patented May 12, 1914.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

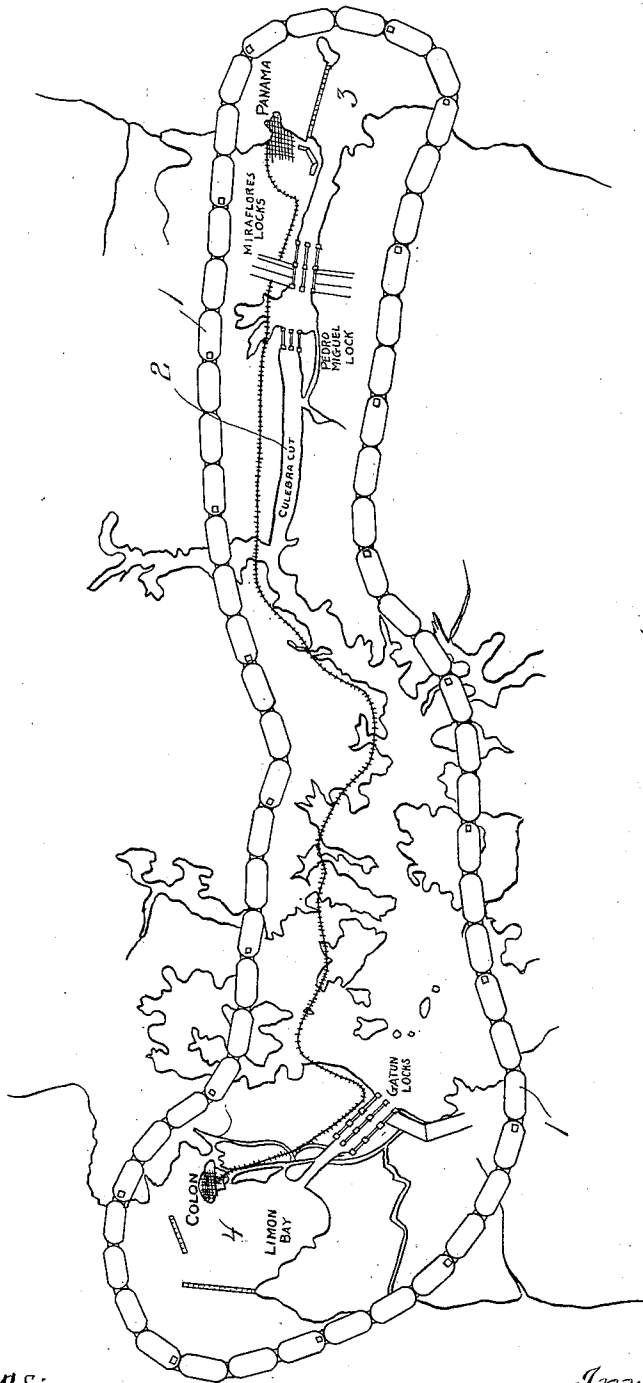


Fig. 1.

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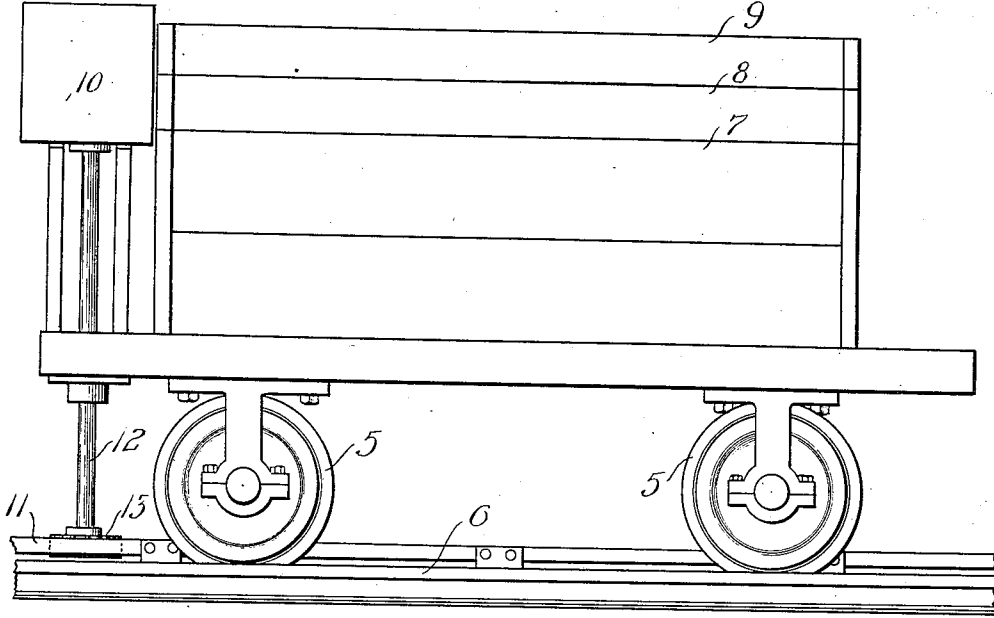


Fig. 2.

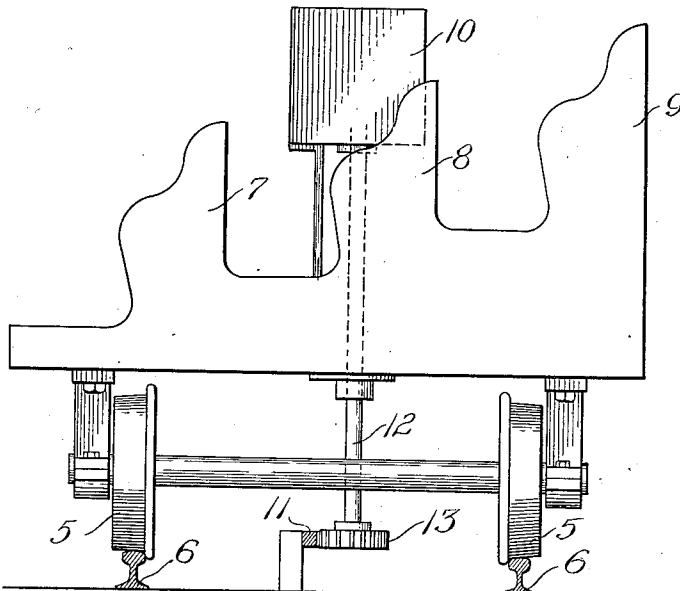


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS E. MYERS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO
THE ANGLO-CALIFORNIA TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALI-
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MINIATURE PANAMA CANAL.

1,096,119.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 12, 1914.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS E. MYERS, a
citizen of the United States, residing at Chi-
cago, county of Cook, State of Illinois, have
5 invented a certain new and useful Improve-
ment in a Miniature Panama Canal, and de-
clare the following to be a full, clear, and
exact description of the same, such as will
enable others skilled in the art to which it
10 pertains to make and use the same, reference
being had to the accompanying drawings,
which form a part of this specification.

My invention has for its object to produce
a simple and novel arrangement for convey-
15 ing people past or around something of con-
siderable size which is to be exhibited to
them and simultaneously and automatically,
by means of a phonograph, deliver a lecture
concerning the thing exhibited.

20 Specifically considered, my invention has
for its object to produce a simple and novel
arrangement for carrying large numbers of
people past and around a reproduction of
the Panama Canal, its terminals and the ad-
25 jacent territory, built on a considerable
scale; and at the same time, by means of au-
tomatic phonograph devices, deliver lectures
describing and explaining the various points
of interest or matters of history, in such a
30 way that all of the persons who are being
carried will be able to hear the lectures dis-
tinctly.

The various features of novelty whereby
my invention is characterized will herein-
35 after be pointed out with particularity in the
claims; but, for a full understanding of my
invention and of its object and advantages,
reference may be had to the following de-
tailed description taken in connection with
40 the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a plan view of an apparatus
arranged in accordance with my invention in
proper relation to a reproduction of the
Panama Canal to exhibit the latter fully;
45 Fig. 2 is a side view of one of the cars or
carriages of which the conveying apparatus
is made; and Fig. 3 is a view looking toward
the right from the left hand end of Fig. 2.

Referring to Fig. 1 of the drawings, 1 rep-
50 resents a chain of cars or carriages, prefer-
ably a continuous chain running over a track
formed in an endless loop which surrounds a
reproduction on a fairly large scale of the
Panama Canal, 2, and its terminals, 3 and 4,

and incloses any desired amount of territory 55
lying on each side of the channel of the
canal.

The cars or carriages may take any suit-
able form, being preferably mounted on
wheels, 5, which run along ordinary railway 60
rails, 6. The cars or carriages may be cou-
pled together and move in any suitable man-
ner. In order to give the cars or carriages a
large seating capacity, I prefer to provide
each with a series of seats, chairs or benches, 65
as indicated at 7, 8 and 9, these extending
lengthwise of the car so that persons seated
therein face in the direction at right angles
to the track. I furthermore prefer to ar-
range the seats at different elevations, those 70
on the side which are to be on the inside of
the loop being the lowest and those on the
outside the highest, so that each row of per-
sons in the car will have a full view of the
exhibit over the heads of those in front of 75
them. In all of the cars or carriages, or at
short intervals throughout the train are
placed phonographs, 10; there being in the
arrangement shown one of these phono-
graphic devices on every third car in the 80
train. Extending along the track, prefer-
ably between and parallel with the rails is
a stationary rack bar, 11. From each of the
phonographs extends a vertical shaft, 12,
having on its lower end a gear wheel or pin- 85
ion, 13, meshing with the rack bar. The ver-
tical shafts may either be propelling shafts
for the phonographs, that is the means for
driving the records, or they may be control-
ling devices which govern the rate at which 90
the records are actuated by suitable spring
motors or other motors. In either case, the
records of the phonograph will be actuated
in definite relation to the movement of the
cars on which they are carried. Conse- 95
quently if one of the phonographic devices is
initially adjusted so that a record can be
made thereby and the car on which it is
mounted is made to travel around the loop
while a lecturer is talking into the device, 100
delivering the part of the lecture pertinent
to each point of interest as that point is
reached, a record will be produced which
will thereafter repeat whatever the lecturer
has said at the very point where he said it. 105

By providing each of the phonographic
devices with a record made in the manner
described and arranging for the shifting

from the end of a record to the beginning at some predetermined point along the route, each phonograph will automatically deliver a running lecture which keeps parallel with the objects of interest along the canal as long as the train is running, stopping when the train stops, and starting again when the train begins to move.

I claim:

1. In an apparatus of the character described, a miniature Panama Canal, a conveyer movable along the canal, a phonograph carried by the conveyer and adapted to deliver a lecture on the Panama Canal, and means for governing the operation of the phonograph so as to synchronize the lecture with the passing view as seen from a point on the conveyer near the phonograph.

2. In an apparatus of the character described, a miniature Panama Canal, a conveyer movable along the canal, a phonograph carried by the conveyer and adapted to deliver a lecture on the Panama Canal, and means for governing the operation of the phonograph with reference to its position relative to the canal.

3. In an apparatus of the character described, a miniature Panama Canal, a movable endless conveyer surrounding the canal, a phonograph carried by the conveyer and adapted to deliver a lecture on the Panama Canal, and means for governing the operation of the phonograph so as to synchronize the lecture with the passing view as seen from a point on the conveyer in the vicinity of the phonograph.

4. In an apparatus of the character described, a miniature Panama Canal, a car movable on tracks running adjacent to the

canal, a phonograph carried by the car and adapted to deliver a lecture on the Panama Canal, a rack bar extending in the direction of and in the vicinity of said tracks, and a governor for said phonograph geared to said rack bar.

5. In an apparatus of the character described, a miniature Panama Canal, a car running on a track surrounding the canal and its terminals, a phonograph carried by the car and adapted to deliver a lecture on the Panama Canal, and means for governing the operation of the phonograph so as to synchronize the lecture with the passing view as seen from the moving car.

6. In an apparatus of the character described, a spectacle to be exhibited, a conveyer movable along the same, a phonograph carried by the conveyer and adapted to deliver a lecture on said spectacle, and means for governing the operation of the phonograph so as to synchronize the lecture with the passing view as seen from a point on the conveyer near the phonograph.

7. In an apparatus of the character described, a movable conveyer, a phonograph carried by the conveyer and adapted to deliver a lecture on the passing view, and means for governing the operation of the phonograph so as to synchronize the lecture with the view as seen from a point on the conveyer near the phonograph.

In testimony whereof, I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

LOUIS E. MYERS.

Witnesses:

M. B. SNITLOFF,
HARRY K. GERWIG.