

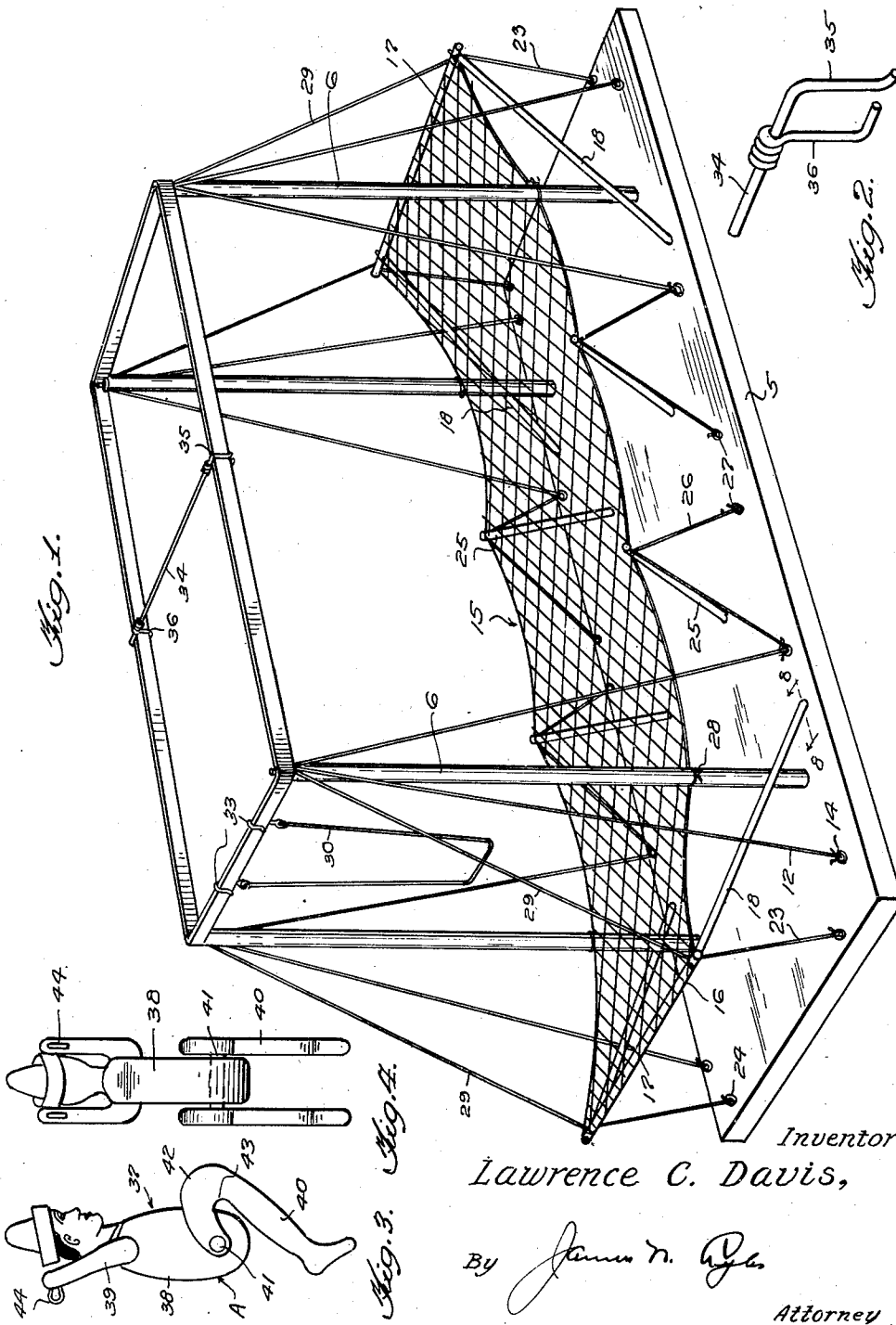
July 20, 1948.

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AMUSEMENT DEVICE

2,445,387

Filed Nov. 24, 1945

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

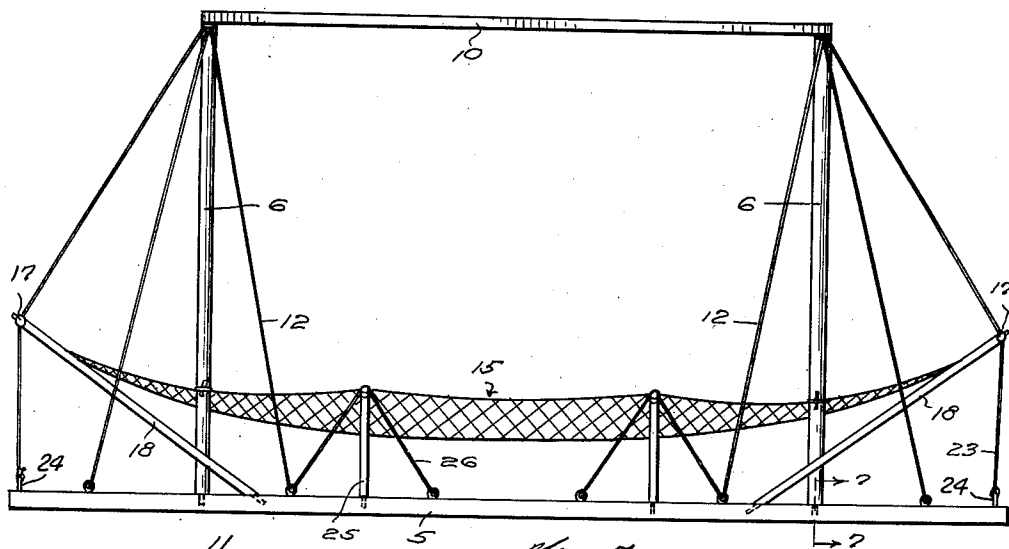


Fig. 5.

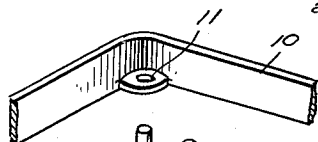
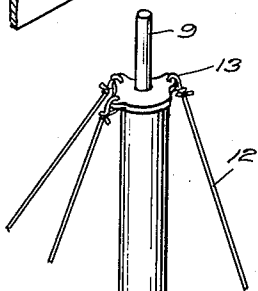
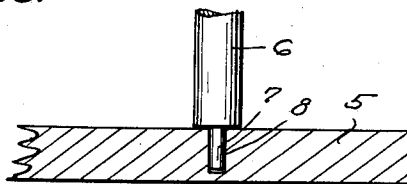


Fig. 7.

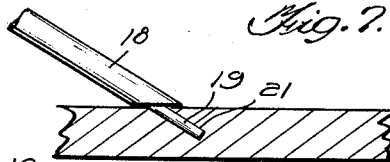


Fig. 8.

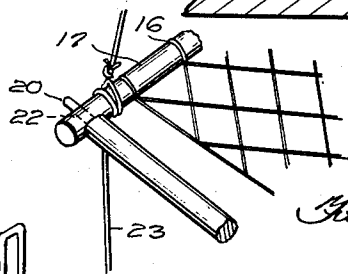


Fig. 9.

Fig. 6.

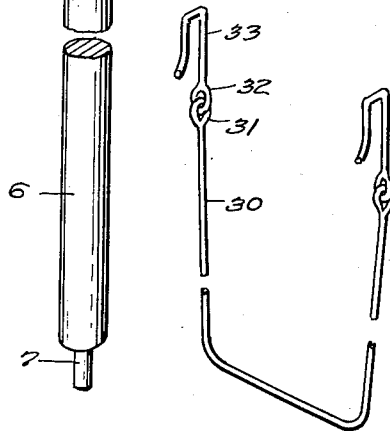


Fig. 10.

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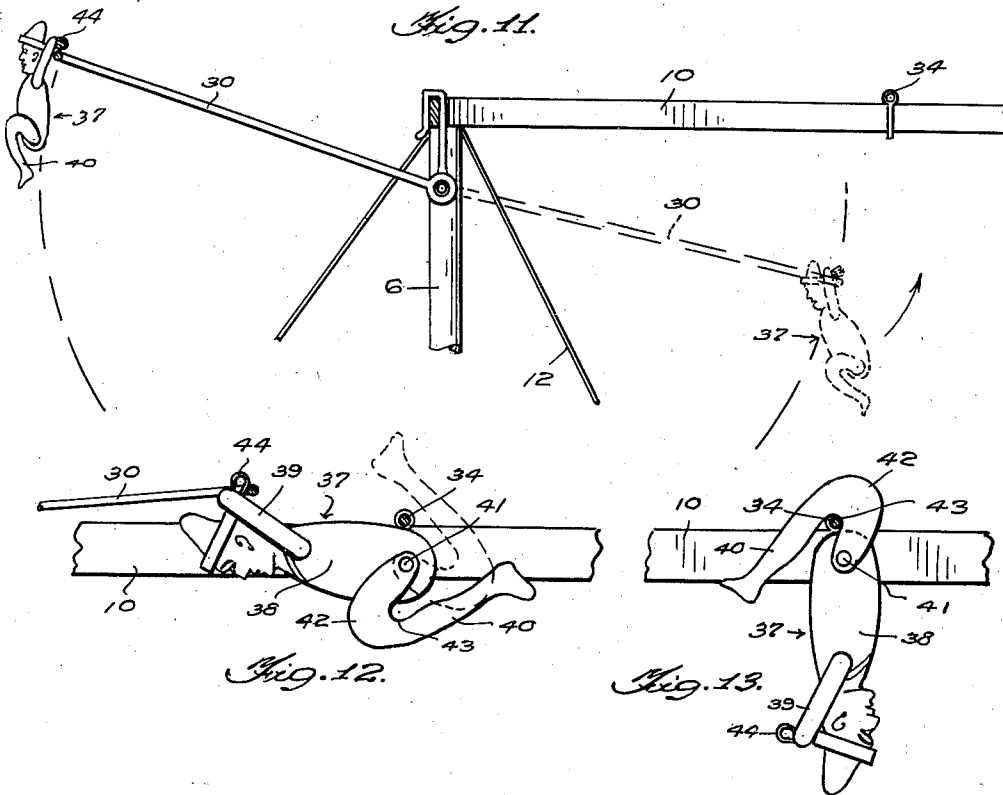
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2,445,387

AMUSEMENT DEVICE

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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AMUSEMENT DEVICE

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Application November 24, 1945, Serial No. 630,606

3 Claims. (Cl. 46-130)

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This invention relates to mechanical toys and generally to a toy simulating a circus or like amusement and entertaining device.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a toy of the above mentioned nature composed of a plurality of parts that are normally sold in a knocked-down form to be erected by the user in much the same manner as a circus, lending a life-like appearance to the device and stimulating the ingenuity of the user.

Other and important objects and advantages of the invention will present themselves during the course of the following description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device in erected form and illustrating the use of equipment for one gymnast,

Figure 2 is a fragmentary end perspective of a cross bar shown in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a side elevation of a gymnast for use upon the equipment shown in Figure 1,

Figure 4 is a rear elevation of Figure 3,

Figure 5 is a side elevation of the erected device, with all equipment removed,

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of a corner pole showing the method of attachment to the main frame,

Figure 7 is a section on 7-7 of Figure 5,

Figure 8 is a section on 8-8 of Figure 1,

Figure 9 is a fragmentary perspective of a corner of the safety net, showing the manner of assembling the supporting props,

Figure 10 is a perspective of the trapeze shown in Figure 1,

Figure 11 is a longitudinal section through the main frame, illustrating the trapeze and cross bar of Figure 1 and illustrating the manner of attachment of the gymnast of Figure 3 and the motion imparted thereto,

Figure 12 is a similar view with the trapeze at the end of its movement and the gymnast in the act of striking the cross-bar,

Figure 13 is a similar view illustrating the final action of the gymnast after striking the bar.

Like reference characters are employed to designate like parts throughout the several figures.

Referring specifically to the drawings, the numeral 5 designates a base, preferably formed of wood and rectangular in shape. Supported upon the base 5 are four poles 6, held in vertical position by pins 7, carried by the lower ends of the poles and engaging in sockets 8 of the base. The poles are also provided at their upper ends with

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pins 9 and are adapted to support a main frame 10 by the interengagement of the pins 9 in openings 11 of said frame. As clearly shown, the frame is rectangular and preferably formed of a flat metallic band. At erection, the poles and supported frame 10 are held against twisting or misalignment, by guy cords, secured to the upper ends of the poles, as at 13 and adjustably connected to eyes 14, carried by the base 5. The erection of the poles and the frame is done in much the same manner as that done by workmen in a conventional circus.

Mounted between the poles 6 and substantially co-extensive with the base 5, is a safety net, denoted generally by the numeral 15. The net is preferably formed of a woven material and has its ends 16 woven about a cross supporting bar 17. As clearly shown, the net is spaced above the base 5 and the bars 17 are in turn supported by diagonal braces 18, whose ends are provided with pins 19 and 20. The pins 19, see Figure 8, engage in diagonal recesses 21 of the base, while the pins 20 engage openings 22 in the ends of the bars 17. Guy cords 23, carried by the bars 17, adjacent their ends, serve to hold the net comparatively taut, by being adjustably connected to eyes 24 carried by the base 5. Intermediate diagonal poles 25 serve to support the sides of the net, such poles connected to the net at their upper ends and provided with pins, similar to the pins 19 and engageable in diagonal recesses in the base, not shown. Guy cords 26 are attached to the upper ends of the poles 25 and are also adjustably connected to eyes 27, carried by the base. Any suitable adjusting means may be employed for the several cords. The net is further supported by being tied to the poles 6, as at 28 and also by end cords 29, fixed at one end to the upper ends of the poles 6 and at their lower ends to the cross bar 17. The structure so far described and its method of assembly, corresponds to that employed for equipment used in the art of gymnastics.

Referring to Figures 1, 10 and 11, the numeral 30 designates a swinging trapeze, preferably formed of wire and being of a generally U-shape and provided with eyes 31 at its free ends for swingably engaging eyes 32, carried by U-shaped supporting hooks 33. The trapeze is supported upon the end portion of the frame 10 by the hooks 33 and is freely swingable longitudinally of the frame. The hooks 33 snugly engage the frame to prevent accidental displacement of the trapeze. The trapeze is adapted to swing in an arc, as clearly illustrated in Figure 11. The numeral 34

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designates a striking and supporting bar, see Figures 1, 2 and 11. The bar 34 has its ends bent downwardly as at 35, for engaging the side runs of the frame 10 and slidable locking members 36 are carried by the bar to engage beneath the frame 10 at assembly, to prevent displacement of the bar upon being struck by the gymnast, to be described.

Referring now to Figures 3, 4, 11, 12 and 13, the numeral 37 designates one form of gymnast, having a body portion 38, upwardly and slightly rearwardly extending rigid arms 39 and legs 40. The legs 40 are pivotally connected, as at 41, to the body 38 and the legs are crooked at the knees, as at 42, for forming a socket 43, for a purpose to be described. The arms are provided with rearwardly extending eyes 44, serving as supporting means for the gymnast upon the trapeze 30, see Figure 11. The gymnast is preferably clothed to simulate a conventional acrobat.

In the use of this invention, the operator holds the trapeze in substantially the position shown in Figure 11 and the gymnast is supported thereon by the eyes 44, as in Figure 11. It should be understood that the bar 34 is positioned on the frame in a predetermined position by suitable markings, such as color combinations and such bar is in a position to be struck by the gymnast upon being released. When the trapeze is released by the operator, the gymnast will swing through the arc indicated in Figure 11, his body striking the bar 34 at about the point A, at which time the legs 40 swing upon their pivot around the bar 34 and the body drops by gravity, freeing itself from the trapeze and being supported upon the bar by the socket 43. In the initial mounting of the gymnast upon the trapeze, the legs are first moved to the position shown in Figure 3 and are normally held in such position by a slight frictional engagement of the pivot 41.

It will be observed from the foregoing, that a very novel and entertaining device has been provided. The structure is intended to be sold in knocked-down form, all suitably encased in a suitable container and the assembly thereof is intended to stimulate the structural and mechanical interest of the user, which serves as much in entertainment, as the actual performance of the gymnasts. One of more of the gymnastic attachments may be sold with the set and others added from time to time to maintain interest and to build up a train of acrobatic stunts. The various gymnasts and their particular apparatus may carry suitable color combinations to readily distinguish the several parts in a particular stunt. Color markings may likewise be placed on the main frame to assist in properly

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positioning the various accessories. From the standpoint of structure, the device is very simple, cheap to manufacture, is strong, durable and highly entertaining in use.

It is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the actual details of construction shown, but that it includes in its purview, whatever changes fairly come within either the terms or the scope of the appended claims.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A simulated circus comprising a rectangular base and a rectangular frame, means for rigidly supporting the frame in spaced parallelism to the base, a trapeze longitudinally swingably supported upon the frame, a cross bar rigidly supported upon the frame, a simulated gymnast, means for supporting the gymnast upon the trapeze for swinging movement, said last named supporting means permitting automatic disengagement of the gymnast from the trapeze upon predetermined contact of the trapeze riding gymnast with the cross bar, said contact automatically causing the gymnast to be suspended upon said cross bar.

2. The matter of claim 1, said gymnast having fixed arms and pivoted legs, said arms provided with rearwardly extending supporting devices, said legs being permanently crooked at the knee, said gymnast being detachably suspended from said trapeze by said supporting devices to permit the gymnast to move with said trapeze in an arc, said cross bar so positioned in the path of movement of the gymnast as to cause the legs to swing about their pivots and suspend the gymnast from the bar by said legs upon contact of the gymnast with the crossbar, such action disengaging the gymnast from the trapeze.

3. The matter of claim 1, said trapeze being of a U-shape, hooks for supporting the trapeze from the frame, pivotal connection between the trapeze and the hooks, said cross bar being provided with downturned ends for engagement with the side rails of the frame and slidable locking means for retaining the downturned ends in engagement with the frame.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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