

No. 648,813.

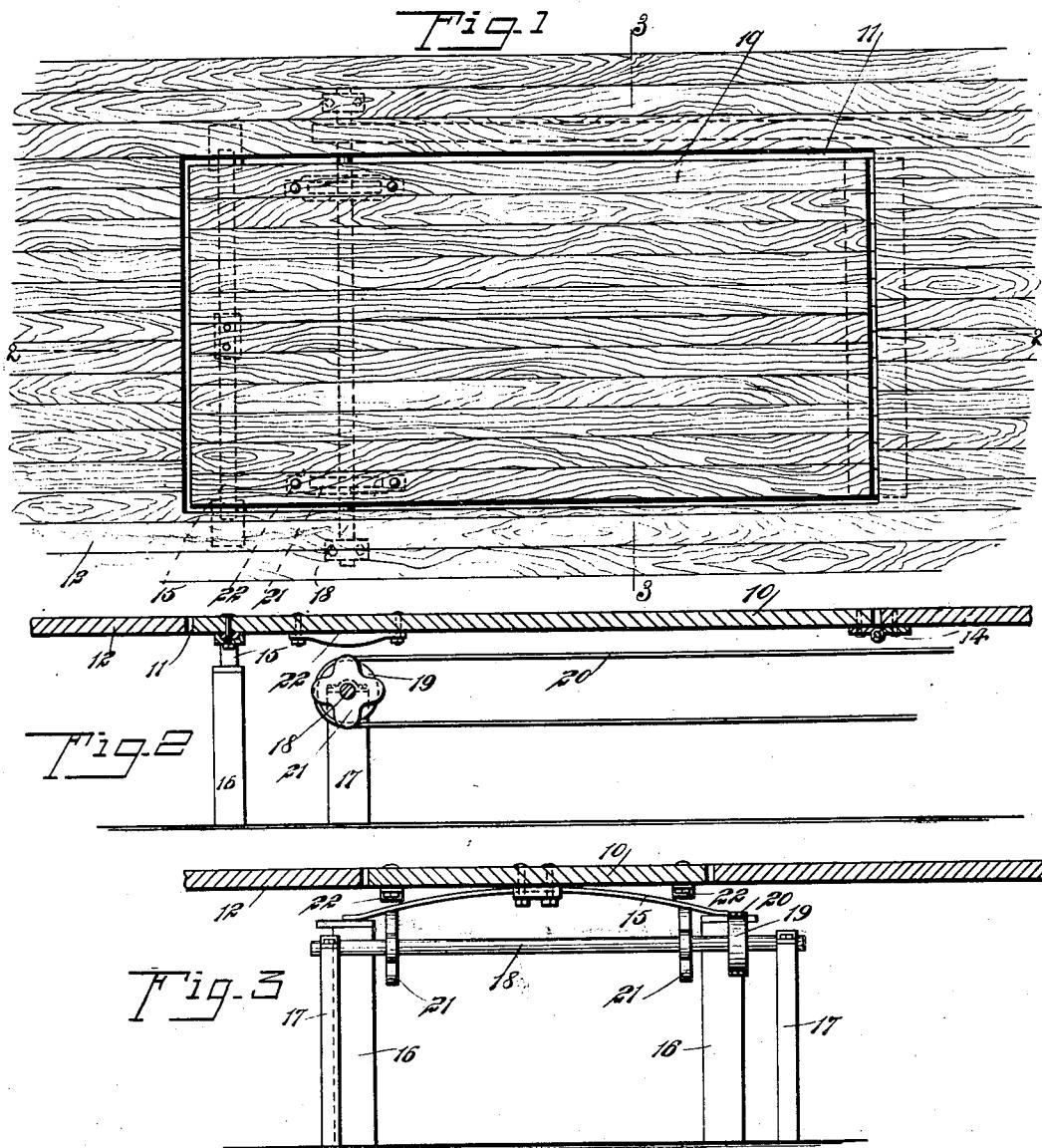
Patented May 1, 1900.

G. C. TILYOU.
AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

(Application filed Aug. 30, 1899.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

J. A. Hooley
Isaac B. Evans.

Fig. 4



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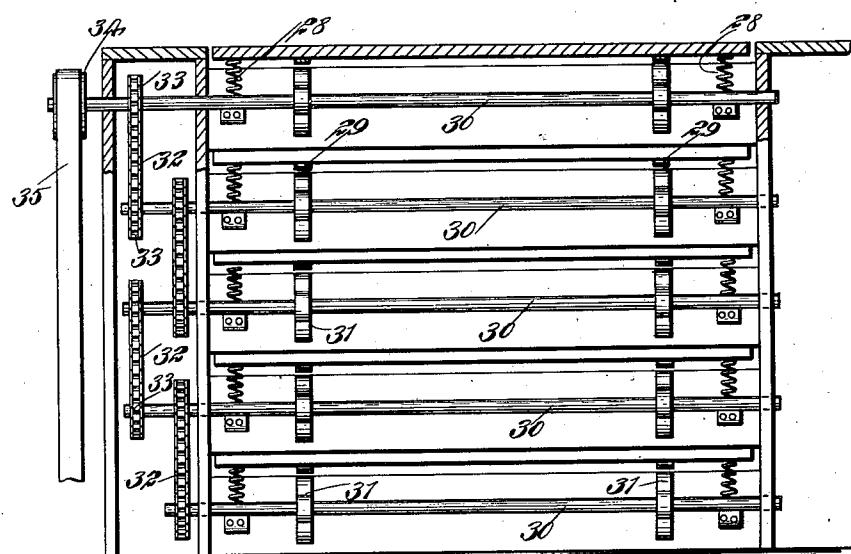
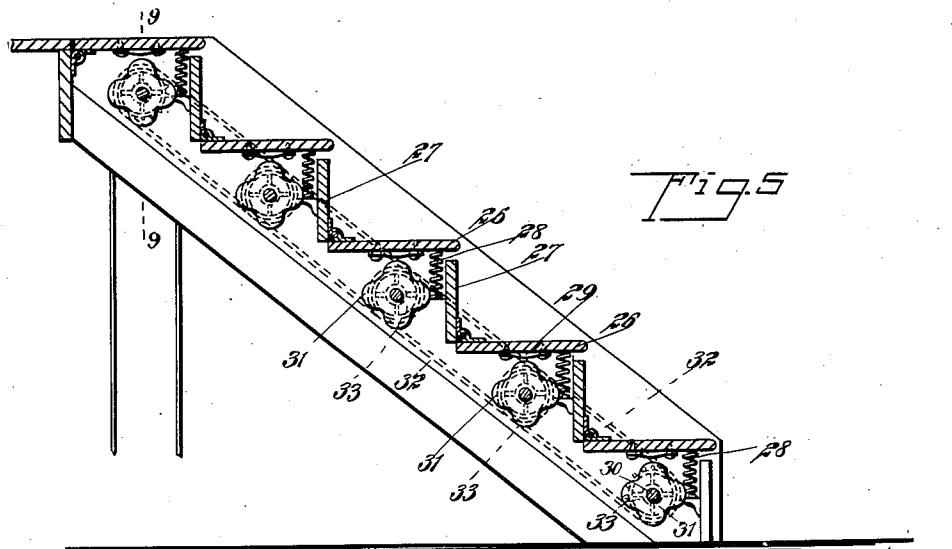


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE C. TILYOU, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,813, dated May 1, 1900.

Application filed August 30, 1899. Serial No. 729,000. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. TILYOU, of the city of New York, (Coney Island,) borough of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State 5 of New York, have invented a new and Improved Amusement Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to an amusement device adapted especially to the floors of buildings and providing means for startling and amusing persons walking on the floor.

This specification is the disclosure of several forms of my invention, while the claims define the actual scope thereof.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of one form of the 20 invention. Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail view illustrating a modified form of cam or eccentric. Fig. 5 is a vertical section of a modification of my 25 invention by which it is adapted to stairs, and Fig. 6 is a rear elevation of this structure with parts in section on the line 9 9 of Fig. 5.

The form of my invention shown in Figs. 30 1, 2, and 3 comprises a removable floor-section, platform, or other support 10, which is set into an opening 11 in the stationary or main floor 12, the floor-section or platform being held normally level with the main floor 35 by means of hinges 14 at one end and a spring 15 at the other end, the spring 15 being of bowed or semi-elliptical form, attached to the platform at the middle of the spring and bearing at its ends upon supports 16, erected beneath the floor 12. The platform 10 is normally supported in the position shown; but should a person step on the platform the force of the spring 15 will be overcome and the platform will swing downward on its hinges 14.

45 Mounted on pedestals 17 erected beneath the floor 12 is a shaft 18, adapted to be continuously revolved by means of a band-wheel 19 and a belt 20. This shaft 18 carries two approximately-cruciform cams 21, which are 50 adapted to be engaged by wear-blocks 22, fastened to the under side of the platform 10.

When the apparatus is in use, the shaft 18 is driven continuously, and should a person step on the platform 10 the platform will be depressed, causing the wear-blocks 22 to bear 55 on the cams 21. These cams revolving rapidly with the shaft 18 will impart a vibratory movement to the platform 10, and at the same time will raise a great noise, much to the terror and subsequent amusement of the person 60 stepping on the platform. If it be not desired to have the apparatus make such a noise, the eccentrics 21^a (shown in Fig. 4) may be employed. These eccentrics will impart a vibratory movement to the platform, 65 but will not make the great rattling noise which will be produced by the cams shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3.

Figs. 5 and 6 illustrate the attachment of the apparatus shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 to a 70 stairway. This is effected by hingedly mounting the treads 26 at the bottom of the risers 27. The front portions of the treads are sustained by springs 28, which may be of any desired sort—for example, the expansive 75 spiral springs illustrated. The under side of each tread is provided with wear-blocks 29, and beneath each tread is mounted a revolute shaft 30, these shafts carrying cams or eccentrics 31, such cams being respectively 80 arranged beneath the wear-blocks 29. The shafts 30 are connected in pairs by sprocket-chains 32, working on sprocket-wheels 33, fastened to the shafts 30 in the manner shown. The uppermost shaft 30 is provided with a 85 band-wheel 34 and belt 35 for driving it, and the movement of this uppermost shaft 30 is transmitted to the other shafts by the sprocket-chain and wheels 33, as will be understood. When no one is standing on the stairs, the 90 treads 26 will be held with the blocks 29 raised above the cams 31; but should a person attempt to ascend the stairs the depression of the treads causing the blocks 29 to engage the cams 31 will result in the rapid vibration 95 of the treads and in a great rattling noise, as explained hereinbefore.

It should be understood that the cams may be of any form desired and that various other modifications may be effected in the form and 100 details of the parts without departing from my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination of a movable platform normally sustained in a certain position and adapted to be depressed by the weight of a person, and means mounted beneath the platform for affecting the platform, the platform being normally out of engagement with such means.
2. The combination of a movable platform or support normally sustained in a certain position and adapted to be depressed by the weight of a person standing on it, and a cam mounted beneath the platform or support and adapted to be driven continuously, so that when the platform or support engages the cams, the cams will impart to the platform a vibratory movement.
3. The combination of a hingedly-mounted

platform or support, a spring sustaining the free portion of the platform, and a cam mounted beneath the platform and out of engagement therewith when the platform is in its normal position, the platform being depressed into connection with the cam.

4. The combination with a floor having an opening therein, of a platform or support hingedly mounted in said opening, a spring sustaining the free end of the platform or support, a shaft located beneath the platform or support, a cam attached to the shaft and adapted to be engaged by the platform when the same is depressed, and means for driving the shaft.

GEO. C. TILYOU.

Witnesses:

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