

Nov. 18, 1924.

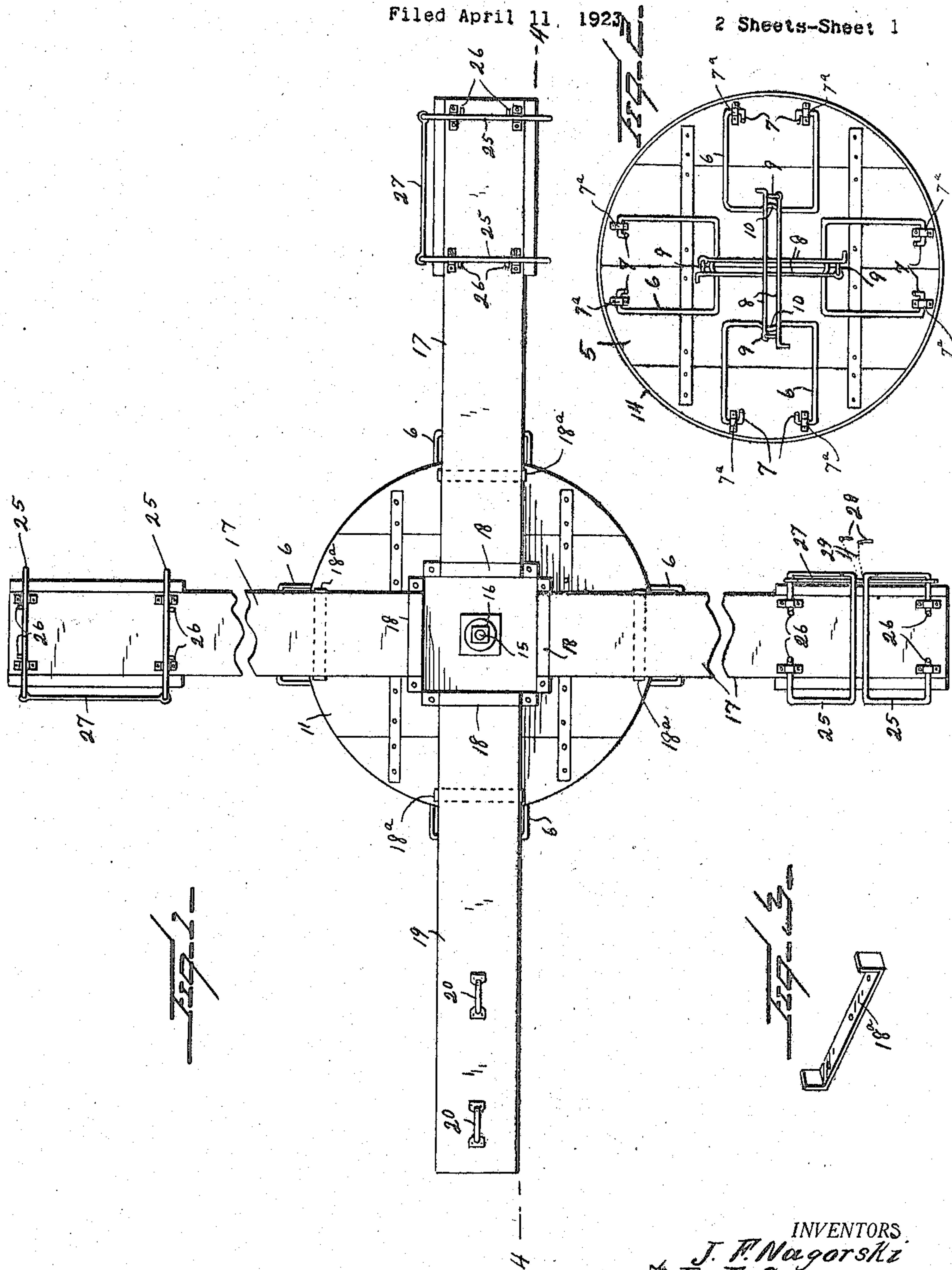
J. F. NAGORSKI ET AL

1,515,903

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Filed April 11, 1923

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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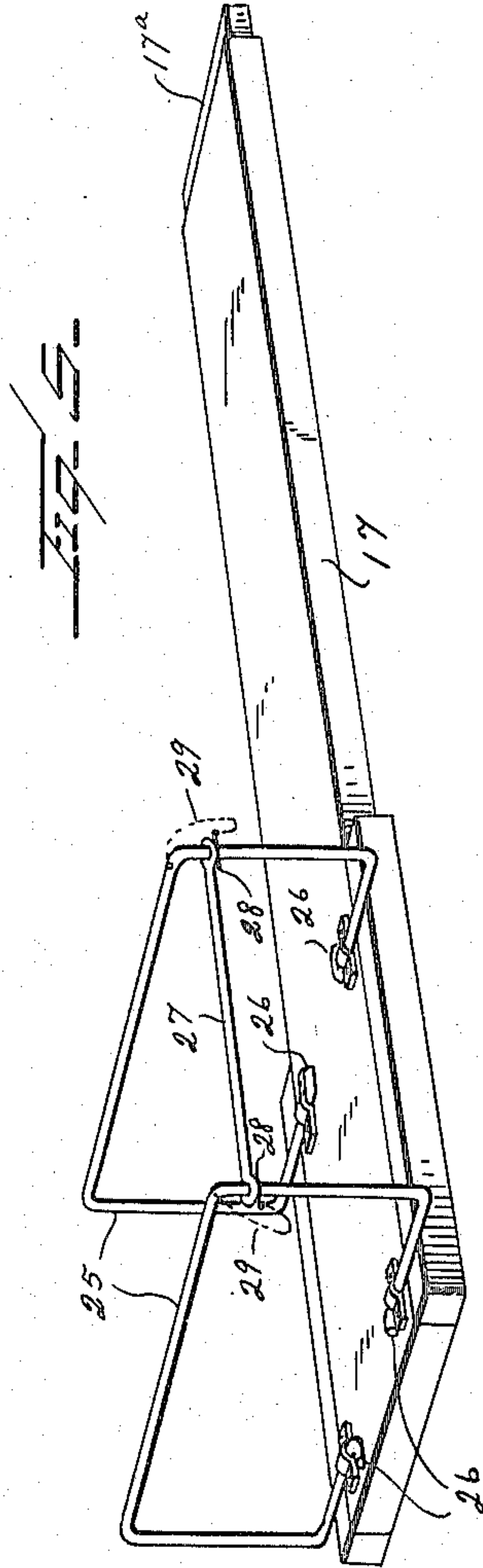
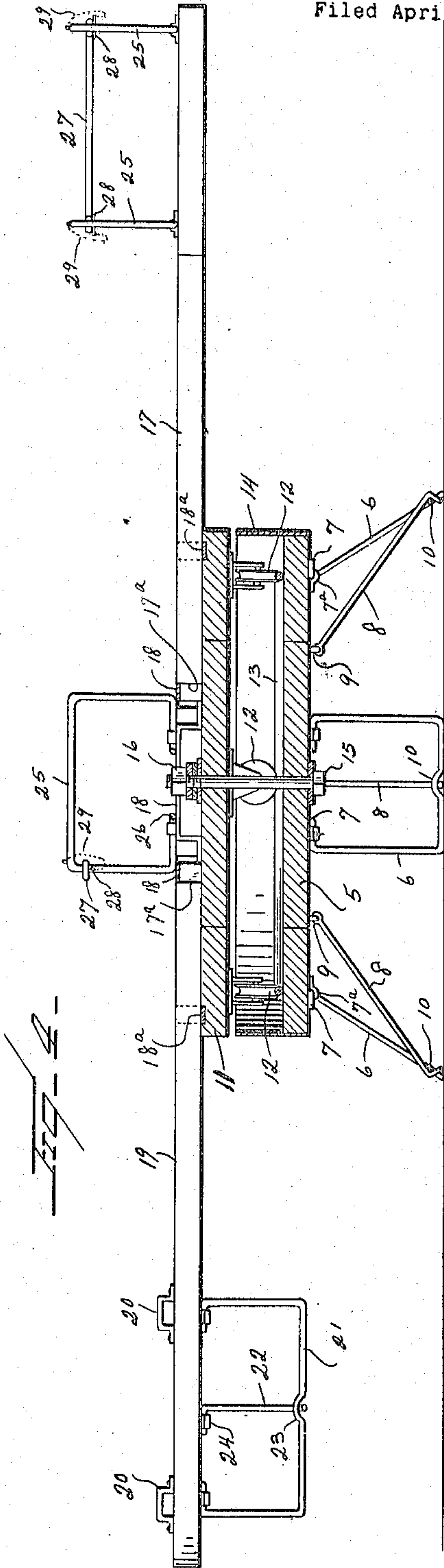
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MERRY-GO-ROUND.

Application filed April 11, 1923. Serial No. 631,408.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN F. NAGORSKI and DURWOOD F. CARSE, citizens of the United States, residing at Bedford, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Merry-Go-Rounds, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in merry-go-rounds of that type which are driven around by one of the persons riding upon or using the same, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a simpler and cheaper merry-go-round for use upon home lawns, school playgrounds, and other pleasure grounds or places.

Another object of the invention is to provide a merry-go-round embodying a supporting base with removable seat carrying beams and foldable supporting legs, and wherein the arms and backs of the seats are foldable so that the structure may be knocked down and thereby require a minimum amount of space during shipment or storage, when not in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a merry-go-round embodying a supporting base with radiating seat forming boards rotatably mounted thereon and provided with foldable seat arms and backs for the safe accommodation of passengers, one of the boards being provided with hand grips to act as a starting board and also being provided with a foldable hanger to support the person in a crouched standing position after he has started the merry-go-round.

With the above general objects in view, and others that will become apparent as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel form, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and claimed.

In the drawings, wherein like reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view, partly broken away, of a merry-go-round constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view of the lower platform with its legs in folded position.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one of the outer keeper strips for the passenger boards.

Figure 4 is a sectional view on line 4—4 of Figure 1; and

Figure 5 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the seat boards.

Referring more in detail to the several views the present invention embodies a supporting base including a platform 5 having supporting legs 6 foldably attached thereto, said legs each embodying a substantially C-shaped member with its ends pivotally attached as at 7^a to the under surface of the platform 5 near its periphery for radial swinging movement, and means such as a hook or catch 8 for retaining the legs in the outwardly inclined position shown in Figure 4. As shown, the hook 8 is hinged as at 9 to the under surface of the platform 5 inwardly of the adjacent leg and has its other end formed to detachably engage the inwardly offset central portion of said leg as at 10. By means of this construction the platform 5 is effectively supported at the desired elevation and when the device is not in use, the hooks and legs may be swung inwardly to lie flatly against the under surface of the platform 5, thereby providing a compact arrangement cooperating with other features to be later described whereby the device may be packed or stored in a minimum of space.

An upper platform 11 is disposed above the platform 5 and of the same general form as the latter, said platforms being held in spaced relation by means of grooved supporting rollers 12 which are fixed to the under surface of the platform 11 and which ride upon a guide or track 13 placed upon the upper surface of the platform 5. This guide 13 is preferably in the form of a rod or tube ring of circular cross section engaging the semi-circular groove of each supporting roller 12.

The space between the platforms 5 and 11 is covered by means of a sheet metal band 14 which is preferably secured to the mar-

ginal edge of the platform 5 and which projects upwardly to a point adjacent the platform 11, thereby shielding the clothes of the children from contact with the rollers 12 and avoiding any chance of injury from this source.

The two platforms are held in proper operative relation by means of a pivot bolt 15 which extends through aligned central openings in the two platforms and which has a suitable nut 16 threaded upon the upper end thereof. Washers may be provided between the upper surface of the platform 11 and the nut 16 for a well known purpose. The platforms 5 and 11 may be composed of a plurality of permanently and rigidly connected boards as shown, and the platform 11 is adapted for removable reception of the inner ends of a plurality of radial seat forming beams or boards 17. Each board 17 has its inner end removably held upon the platform 11 by means of a pair of aligned and spaced keeper strips 18 and 18^a which cooperate with the platform to provide sockets into which the inner ends of said board 17 are removably slid.

If found necessary any suitable means may be provided for positively retaining the ends of the seat carrying boards in these keepers, but in practice it has been found that when the seats are occupied the weight of the passenger sets up sufficient friction between the upper surface of each board 17 and the inner keeper 18 for this purpose.

The remaining beam or board 19 constitutes what may be termed a starting board, and it is provided with a pair of longitudinally spaced handles or hand grips 20, upon its outer end portion, which may be gripped by one of the passengers to facilitate starting of the merry-go-round.

In order to support the starter after the merry-go-round has been placed into operation so that the starter may also enjoy the ride, a hanger or stirrup 21 is suspended from the board 19 near one edge of the latter beneath the hand grips 20. This hanger embodies a substantially C-shaped member which is preferably hinged at its ends to the under surface of the board so that it may be folded flatly against said surface when not in use. In order to effectively hold the hanger 21 from swinging when in use, a hook 22 is detachably engaged with the offset central portion of the hanger as at 23 and this hook is pivoted or hinged in a suitable keeper 24 provided on the board 19. It will be understood that the child may hop onto the horizontal lower portion of the hanger 21 while gripping the handles 20 and thereby safely enjoy the ride as before mentioned.

The seat carrying boards 17 are such as to have their outer ends constitute the seat bottoms, and in order that even young chil-

dren may safely use the device, a novel form of retaining means is provided for holding the passenger against displacement from these boards, which structure may be termed a collapsible back and arm structure for each seat. The arms of each seat embody two substantially C-shaped members arranged transversely of each board 17 and indicated by the reference character 25, said members 25 being arranged in pairs and hinged at their end portions for radial swinging movement toward and away from each other. The extreme end portions of the members 25 are turned out as at 26 so as to form feet which engage the upper surface of the board or beam for limiting the upward swinging movement of these members 25 to a vertical position but permitting the same to swing downwardly toward each other so as to lie flatly upon the upper surface of the board when not in use. In order to retain the members 25 in their upright operative position each pair of the same is connected by means of a rod 27 having its ends slidably engaging the members 25 which it connects, so that said rod 27 may be slid downwardly to a position upon the inwardly projecting ends of the members 25 for allowing the latter to be folded or collapsed. This construction will also allow the rods 27 to be moved upwardly so as to engage the vertical portions of said members 25 whereby the latter are effectively retained in upright spaced relation. Any suitable means for retaining the rods 27 in the last mentioned position may be provided such as pins 28 extending through openings in the members 25 beneath the eyes of the adjacent rod 27 and preferably attached to its respective member 25 by means of a flexible member or chain 29 so as to guard against loss of the pins.

From the above description it will be seen that the boards 17 and 19 may be readily removed from the platform 11 and that the guard frames of the seats, as well as the hanger of the starting board may be readily folded into flat engagement with the surfaces of these boards so as to present a compact structure which may be stored or shipped in a minimum of space particularly when the legs are folded into flat engagement with the under surface of the supporting platform 5.

In this way a very compact, simple, safe and durable merry-go-round is provided which may be readily set up for use and knocked down for shipment or storage without the requirement of special skill or tools.

From the foregoing description it is believed that the construction and operation as well as the advantages of the present invention will be readily understood and appreciated by those skilled in the art.

Minor changes may be made without de-

parting from the spirit and scope of the invention, as claimed.

The legs 6 and stirrup 21 may be provided with out-turned ends 7 similar to the ends 26 of the members 25 for limiting the legs and stirrup in their swinging movement to operative position. It will be seen that the inner end of each board 17 or 19 is reduced as at 17^a so that the upper surfaces of the keepers 18 will be flush with the upper surfaces of these boards.

What is claimed is:—

1. A merry-go-round embodying a supporting platform having collapsible feet foldable against its under surface and provided with means for retaining the same in downwardly and outwardly extending positions for supporting the platform at a desired elevation, a second platform pivoted to and arranged spaced above the first named platform for rotation upon a vertical axis, anti-friction members carried by the second platform and cooperating with the lower platform, a plurality of seat forming beams having their inner ends removably engaged with the second named platform and resting upon the upper surface of the latter, and seat guard frames including members pivoted upon said supports and foldable flatly against the upper surfaces thereof.

2. A merry-go-round embodying a supporting platform having collapsible feet foldable against its under surface and provided with means for retaining the same in downwardly and outwardly extending positions for supporting the platform at a desired elevation, a second platform pivoted to and arranged spaced above the first named platform for rotation upon a vertical axis, anti-friction members carried by the second platform and cooperating with the lower platform, a plurality of seat forming beams having their inner ends removably engaged with the second named platform and resting upon the upper surface of the latter, and collapsible seat guard frames including members foldable flatly against the upper surfaces of said seat forming boards, and a starting board having hand grips longitudinally spaced and secured upon its outer end portion and provided with a depending hanger forming a supporting stirrup for a person starting the merry-go-round.

3. A merry-go-round embodying a supporting platform having collapsible feet foldable against its under surface and provided with means for retaining the same in downwardly and outwardly extending positions for supporting the platform at a desired elevation, a second platform pivoted to and arranged spaced above the first named platform for rotation upon a vertical axis, anti-friction members carried by the second platform and cooperating with the

lower platform, a plurality of seat forming beams having their inner ends removably engaged with the second named platform and resting upon the upper surface of the latter, and collapsible seat guard frames including members foldable flatly against the upper surfaces of said seat forming boards, and a starting board having hand grips longitudinally spaced and secured upon its outer end portion and provided with a depending hanger forming a supporting stirrup for a person starting the merry-go-round, said hanger being collapsible against the under surface of the starting board and provided with means for retaining the same in depending operative position when in use.

4. In a merry-go-round, a plurality of radial beams, and seat frames carried thereby, each seat being formed of a pair of substantially C-shaped members pivoted upon a beam and adapted to be folded flat thereagainst, and a bridle rod slidable upon the sides of said C-members and disposable to maintain the same in upright position or to permit folding thereof.

5. In a merry-go-round, a seat forming beam having a pair of substantially C-shaped guard frames hinged to the outer end of the same and arranged transversely of the same for swinging movement in a direction longitudinally of the board, means for limiting the swinging movement of said members in one direction to a substantially vertical position, and a connecting rod having its ends slidably engaging said members and movable to positions wherein the same respectively retains said members in vertical position and wherein swinging of the same in the opposite direction into flat engagement with the surface of the board is permitted.

6. In a merry-go-round, a plurality of radial beams, and seat frames carried thereby, each seat being formed of a pair of substantially C-shaped members pivoted upon a beam and adapted to be folded flat thereagainst, and a bridle rod slidable upon the sides of said C-members and disposable to maintain the same in upright position or to permit folding thereof, and retaining elements for holding the bridle rod in operative position for maintaining the C-members upright.

7. In a merry-go-round, a plurality of radial passenger carrying beams and a foldable hanger mounted on the underside of the end portion of one beam and adapted to support an operator, in a crouched standing position, and a plurality of seat frames mounted upon the tops of all the other beam ends.

8. In a merry-go-round, a passenger carrying beam and a supporting frame thereon comprising a pair of substantially C-shaped

frame members having their short arms upon said short arms whereby to permit pivoted on the beam, a rod terminating at folding of the frame members flat upon both ends in eyes slidably engaged upon the the beam. 10

5 selectively in spaced relation to the beam. In testimony whereof we hereunto affix our signatures.

JOHN F. NAGORSKI.
DURWOOD F. CARSE.