

Aug. 4, 1953

C. F. SMITH

2,647,429

GUITARIST'S STEEL BAR

Filed March 21, 1951

FIG. 1.

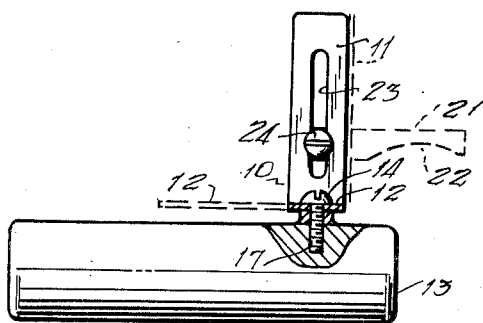


FIG. 2.

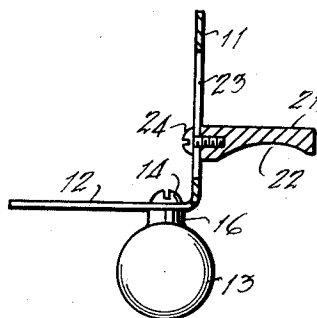


FIG. 3.

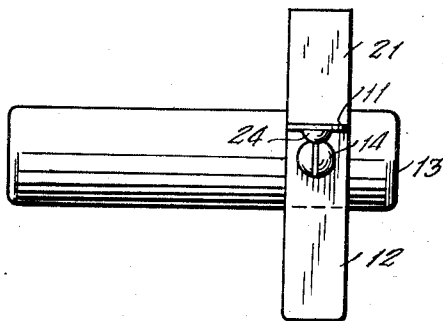


FIG. 4.

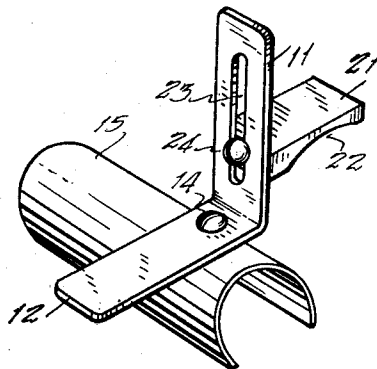


FIG. 5.

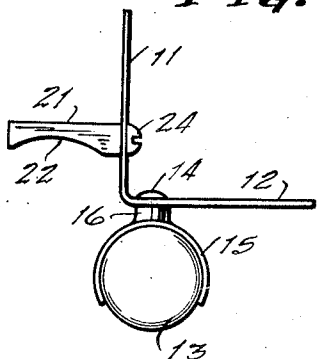
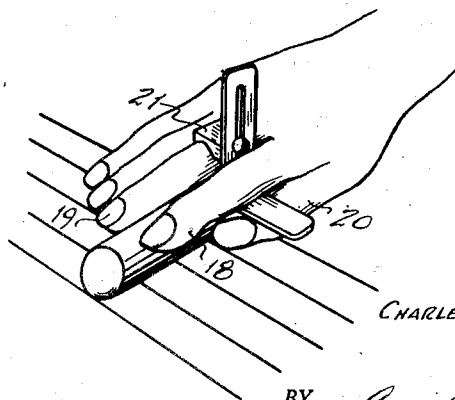


FIG. 6.



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2,647,429

GUITARIST'S STEEL BAR

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Application March 21, 1951, Serial No. 216,739

5 Claims. (Cl. 84-319)

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This invention relates to a musician's steel bar for controlling the tones of stringed instruments, such as guitars, and operated along the strings of the instrument to effect different tones, and the principal object of the invention resides in the provision of a means for properly holding the device while playing the instrument, and affording an arrangement whereby the bar can be manipulated with greater ease and comfort to the operator, and providing apparatus which can be properly adjusted or arranged according to the individual requirements of the musician.

It is an object of the invention to provide a handle, or rigid right-angularly arranged member, more readily adapting the steel bar to manipulation by a guitarist, and especially affording an arrangement whereby the steel bar can be manipulated and properly controlled by amateur, or unskilled musicians, and providing means whereby muscular tensions in the operator's fingers may be relieved to insure skillful movement of the bar along the strings of the instrument since the bar can be more firmly grasped and manipulated with greater ease.

Broadly, the invention contemplates the provision of a simple and economical device by which the steel contact bar, manipulated along the strings of a guitar by musicians in playing so-called Hawaiian string music, can be firmly handled, and affording a device which may be readily attached to such devices which are commonly known to musicians of the type here under consideration.

While the foregoing objects are paramount, other and lesser objects will become manifest as the description proceeds, taken in connection with the appended drawings wherein:

Figure 1 illustrates, in elevation, a conventional steel bar showing the invention detachably secured thereto, and illustrating the operative positions of the device in dotted lines.

Figure 2 illustrates, in elevation, an end view of the bar and the control device attached thereto.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the invention shown attached to the steel bar.

Figure 4 is a perspective illustration of a tensioned clip adapted to embrace the conventional bar, and showing the holding and control device extending from the top thereof.

Figure 5 is an end elevational view of the invention in which the clip is shown attached to the bar, and illustrating the vertically adjustable arm on the L-shaped bracket, and

Figure 6 illustrates the invention in operation, showing the manner in which the device is held

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between the index and middle fingers of the operator.

Accordingly, the invention comprises an L-shaped bracket 10 which has a normally vertical leg 11 and a horizontal leg 12, being pivotally connected to the conventional bar 13 by a screw 14, as illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 3, or detachably and pivotally connected to a tensioned sleeve 15, shown in Figures 4 and 5, by the screw 14, as desired, but in either case, the bracket 10 is pivotal so that it can be arranged longitudinally of or transversely to the bar 10.

The bracket 10 is formed with the legs 11 and 12, the latter being arranged at right angles to the clip or sleeve 15, and having the screw 14 arranged therethrough so that the leg 11 can be rotated about the pivot 14 to any angular position relative to the bar 13, the leg 12 always projecting at right angles from the clip 15, as illustrated in Figures 4 and 5. It is desirable that a boss 16 be formed about the threaded bore 17 in the bar 13, or the aperture in the sleeve 15, as apparent in Figures 1, 2 and 5, to provide for the free rotative movement of the bracket 10 with respect to either the bar 13 or the sleeve 15.

It will become apparent that the bracket 10 may be pivoted to almost any angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the bar 13, and thus be conveniently aligned with the operative plane of the fingers of the operator, as illustrated in Figure 6. The vertical leg 11 of the bracket 10 is employed between the index and middle fingers 18 and 19 of the operator, as indicated in Figure 6, while the horizontal leg 12 extends outwardly over the thumb 20. By holding the assembly in this manner the bar 13 can be raised, lowered and pivoted with a minimum of effort on the part of the musician.

An arm 21 extends at right angles, or horizontally from the vertical leg 11 of the bracket 10 and is conformable on its underside to the anterior of the operators' fingers, as by a contour 22, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 4. The arm 21 is adjustable vertically on the leg 11 in a longitudinal slot 23 in the latter and being secured by a screw 24. Thus the arm 21 can be moved to properly accommodate musicians having different size hands, or whose fingers vary in thickness, enabling the invention to be employed by anyone desiring to use the same.

It is obvious that the tensioned member 11 can be made in different diameters which adapt the structure to be applied to bars of different weights and diameters, according to the use to which the bar is to be applied, and the sleeves 11 can be of

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such material as to be highly tensioned so that the bar 10 can be securely held therein. It is apparent that the bracket 10 can be pivoted in a complete circle providing for use of the device by either right- or left-hand musicians.

Manifestly, the structure herein shown and described is capable of certain changes and modifications from time to time, by persons skilled in the art, without departing from the spirit and intent of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a holder device for a steel bar for playing stringed instruments, in combination with said bar, a tensioned sleeve, cylindrical in transverse section, having a longitudinal division along its underside providing for expansibility, an L-shaped bracket pivotally arranged on the said sleeve opposite said division so that one leg of said bracket is in transverse relationship to said sleeve, a longitudinal slot in the vertical leg of said bracket, and an arm arranged at right angles to said vertical leg and secured by a screw through said slot providing for adjustment of said arm with respect to said sleeve.

2. In a steel bar for controlling the tones of stringed instruments, a handling device pivotally connected to said bar, the said handling device comprising a right-angular bracket having a horizontal and a vertical leg, a screw arranged through said horizontal leg of said bracket providing said pivotal connection to said bar, a slot formed longitudinally of said vertical leg, and an arm arranged at right angles to said vertical leg and adjustable with respect to said horizontal leg and said bar.

3. In a musician's metal bar for playing a guitar, in combination with a round metal bar, a detachable holder comprising a tensioned clip conformable to said bar and capable of slidably

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embracing the same, a right-angular bracket formed with a vertical and a horizontal leg, the said horizontal leg having a pivotal connection with said holder near one end, a longitudinal slot formed in said vertical leg, and an arm attached to said vertical leg and extending at right angles therefrom and adjustable with respect to said clip.

4. In a detachable holding device for a musician's steel bar for playing a guitar, in combination with a round steel bar, a tensioned clip conformably embracing said bar, an L-shaped bracket pivotally connected with said clip so that one leg of said bracket extends at right angles therefrom, a slot formed longitudinally of said leg, and an arm attached to said right angularly extending bar adjustable in said slot with respect to said clip.

5. In a device for holding a steel bar for playing guitars, in combination with a musician's string bar, a tensioned clip formed substantially cylindrical and capable of conformably embracing said bar, an L-shaped bracket formed with right angularly arranged legs, a detachable pivotal connection of said bracket with said clip near the inner end of one leg of said bracket, a longitudinal slot formed in the opposite leg of said bracket, an arm extending at right angles from said opposite leg and a longitudinal slot in said opposite leg whereby to rigidly secure said arm in adjusted positions with respect to said clip.

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