

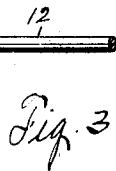
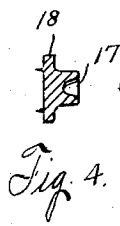
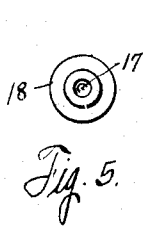
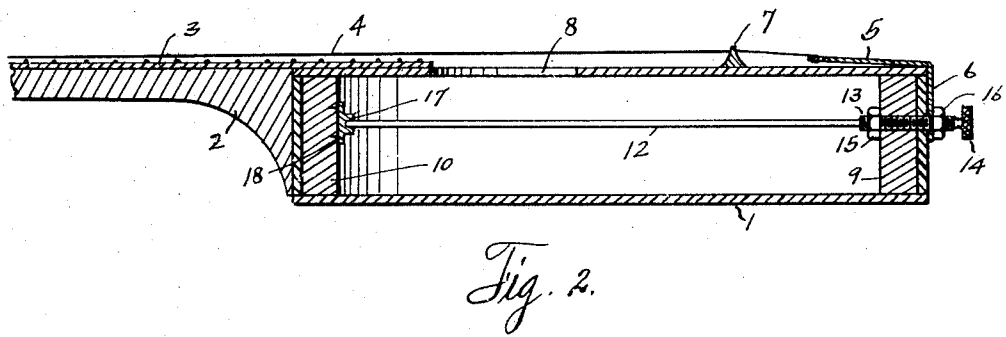
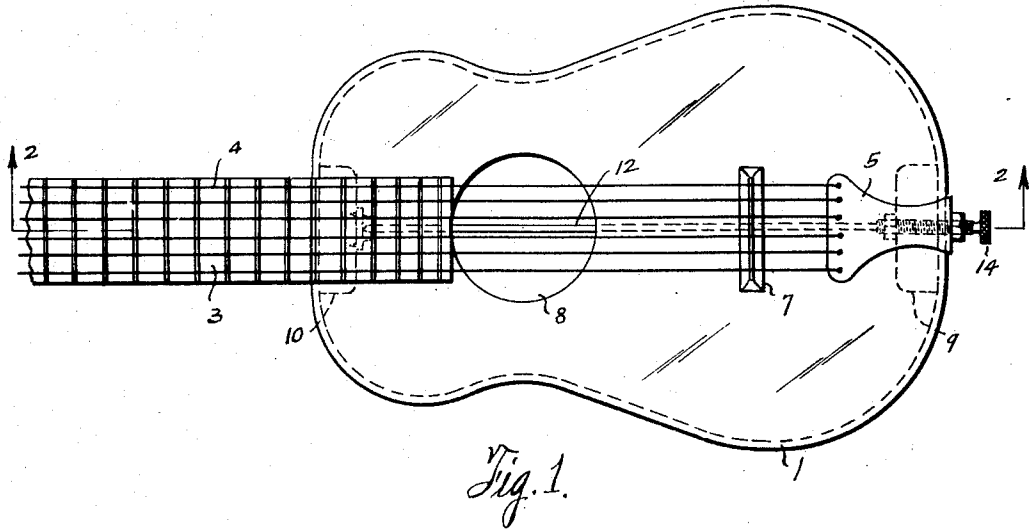
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V. C. OVERTON

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

Filed Jan. 21, 1932



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

Application filed January 21, 1932. Serial No. 587,881.

This invention relates to a musical instrument and has particular relation to a novelly arranged sound post in said instrument.

The invention is particularly applicable to musical instruments of the lute, viol, or other similar type and has been illustrated as applicable to a guitar.

Another object of the invention is to provide in a musical instrument of the character described, a sound post so arranged as to maintain the proper shape of the instrument, to improve the tone thereof and which is adjustable to vary the quality of the tone.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention has particular relation to certain novel features of construction, arrangement of parts and use, an example of which is given in this specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Figure 1 shows a fragmentary plan view of a guitar showing the invention embodied therein.

Figure 2 shows a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 shows a fragmentary view of the post.

Figure 4 shows a sectional view of the post bearing, and

Figure 5 shows a plan view of said bearing.

In the drawing, the numeral 1 designates the body or box of the instrument which may be of any selected contour and the numeral 2 designates the neck having the usual finger board 3 thereon and provided with strings 4. At one end the strings are anchored to the metal tail-piece 5 which is turned downwardly over the end of the body forming the button 6. At their other ends the strings are attached to the usual pegs mounted in the head or peg box not shown. The strings are drawn over the bridge 7 and across the sound hole 8. These strings are under considerable tension and the tension of these strings tends to cause the top of the box 1 to assume a concave form which is injurious to the appearance and the tone of the instrument.

In the ends of the box and forming a part of the framework thereof are the wooden

blocks 9, 10, the latter of which is arranged opposite the inner end of the neck 2.

There is a sound post 12 extending lengthwise through the box and whose outer end 13 is enlarged and is externally threaded and projects beyond the end of the box 1 and is formed with a knurled grip 14. This enlarged end extends through the metal button 6 and is threaded through the wood block 9, and has the inner and outer clamp nuts 15, 16 threaded thereon which clamp against the block 9 and button 6 respectively. The inner end of the post 12 works in a central bearing 17 of the bearing member 18 which is suitably attached to the block 10.

The nut 16 may be loosened and the post 12 turned to increase or decrease the stress on said post and during this turning movement the nut 15 will be held against turning by its contact with the block 9 and when adjusted as desired, the clamp nut 16 may then be tightened up to maintain said adjustment. The sound post not only serves as a brace to maintain the top of the box in shape but also gives to the instrument an improved tone and by varying the stress on said post the quality of the tone of this instrument may also be varied.

If desired the sound post may be equipped with the usual turnbuckle for the purpose of varying the stress on said post.

What I claim is:

The combination with a musical instrument having a body provided with an inside bearing member on one end wall, said bearing member having a bearing, of a sound post extending lengthwise through the body one end of which is enlarged and threaded through the other end wall on said body and whose other end works in said bearing, an external grip on the enlarged end of said post and clamp nuts on said enlarged end, clamping opposite sides of the adjacent wall of said body.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

VALDY C. OVERTON.