July 4, 1961 A. R. CASAVANT 2,990,745

DETACHABLE LEG REST FOR DRUMS

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FIG.1.

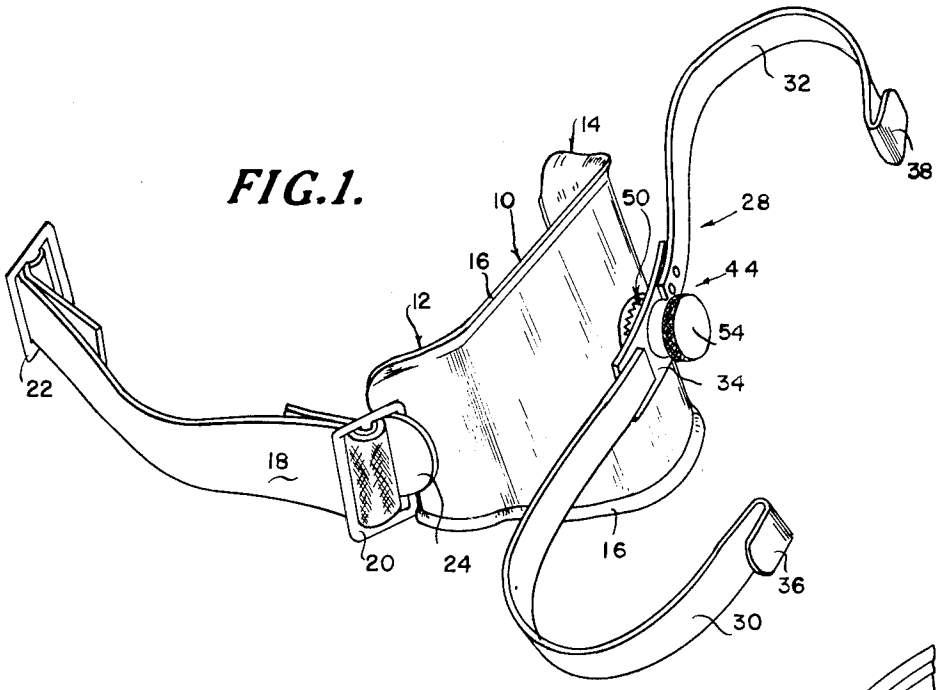


FIG.2.

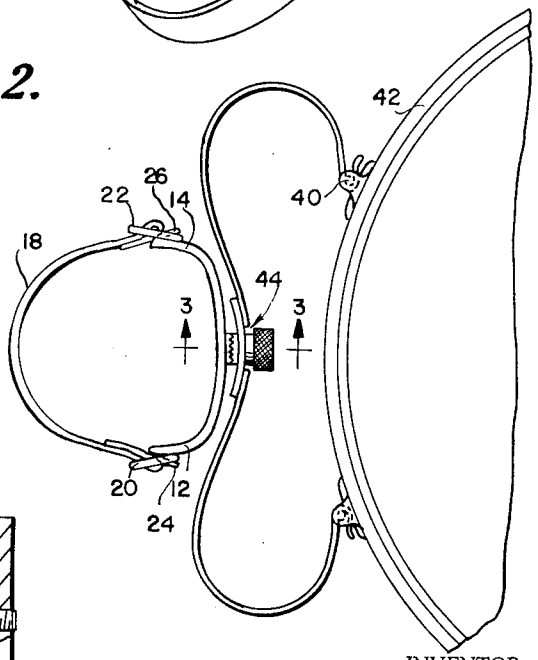
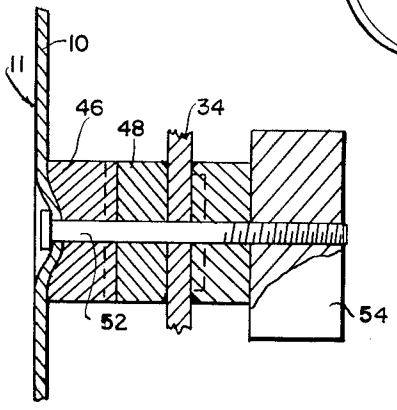


FIG.3.



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DETACHABLE LEG REST FOR DRUMS

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This invention generally relates to a supporting device for musical instruments and more particularly to an improved leg rest for parade drums.

The primary object of the present invention resides in the provision of a drum supporting leg rest which serves to effectively reduce vibrational impact of a parade drum on the leg of a musician without retarding mobility while marching.

Another important object of this invention is the provision of an improved detachable leg rest which may be easily and quickly secured and removed from the instrument and angularly adjusted to a desired playing position.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide a drum supporting leg rest of the above character which is extremely simple in construction, thoroughly reliable and effective in operation, neat and attractive in appearance, universally adaptable to the physical requirements of the musician, relatively inexpensive to manufacture, and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and the entire scope of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description given hereinafter. It should be understood, however, that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating the preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent as the description herein progresses.

Reference being made to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a drum supporting leg rest constructed in accordance with the principles of the present invention;

FIGURE 2 is a top plan view of the drum supporting leg rest detachably secured to a drum illustrated on a reduced scale; and

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along the line 3—3 of FIGURE 2.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, wherein for the purposes of illustration, there is described a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the numeral **10** generally represents an annular base plate suitably formed from sheet metal, plastic material or the like with curved outer end portions **12** and **14** which serve to define a leg embracing member of substantially U-shaped configuration. Secured to the inner face of base plate **10** is a resilient pad, not shown of sponge rubber or similar resilient material which generally conforms to the U-shaped contour of the leg embracing member and is arranged to engage the drummer's leg immediately above the knee in order to prevent slippage and improve comfort. Additionally, the peripheral edge **16** of the base plate **10** has been bevelled or flared outwardly, as illustrated in FIGURE 1, so as to minimize any discomfort which would otherwise occur if any sharp edges were allowed to bear against the musician's leg.

The supporting base plate **10** is retained in stationary alignment with the drummer's leg by means of an adjustable leg strap **18** detachably secured at each end to the outer end portions **12** and **14** of the leg embracing member. Leg strap **18** preferably is formed from flexible material, such as elastic cotton fiber webbing, to permit movement of the leg while retaining the supporting

base plate in stationary position. In this connection, a pair of conventional buckles or adjustable fasteners **20** and **22** are utilized to detachably secure each end of leg strap **18** to the related shoulder or ear portions **24** and **26** that extend outwardly in a forward direction from the end portions **12** and **14**, respectively, of base plate **10**. In this way, the length of leg strap **18** may be appropriately varied to meet the requirements of the wearer by first suitably sliding the same through buckles **20** and **22** until the desired adjustment is obtained. It is apparent that this adjustment may be performed either before or after the supporting base plate has been secured to the leg of the drummer.

Adjustably secured to the frontal portion of base plate **10** is a detachable clamping member **28** having a pair of oppositely disposed resilient arms **30** and **32** which are joined together by means of a central flange portion **34**. Preferably, arms **30** and **32** are formed from resilient material, such as spring steel, flexible plastic or the like in order to effectively reduce the vibrational impact of the drum **42** on the leg of the drummer while marching. However, it should be understood, that resilient arms **30** and **32** may also be integrally formed from a unitary piece of resilient material without affecting the function of the clamping member **28**. Each of the resilient arms **30** and **32** are curved or bowed inwardly toward one another intermediate their ends to form an outwardly extending loop. The outer terminal ends of each arm are flared outward to form separate shoulders **36** and **38**, respectively. Each of the shoulders are arranged to detachably engage a conventional connecting brace or strut **40** circumferentially spaced along the outer periphery of drum **42**.

In order to facilitate angular adjustment of the clamping member **28**, an adjustable locking member **44** is employed. As shown in FIGURE 3, locking member **44** includes a pair of relatively movable friction members **46** and **48** which are respectively secured to the supporting base plate **10** and the central flange portion **34** of clamping member **28** in any well-known manner. Friction members **46** and **48** preferably are serrated along their opposed outer faces in such a manner as to define a plurality of radially extending teeth **50** to form an interfitting connection such that the complementary radial teeth **50** formed on the outer face of one member will register with an adjacent radial groove formed in the opposing face. Extending axially through members **46** and **48** is a locking bolt **52** which is connected at one end to base plate **10** and threadably secured at the other end to adjustment knob **54**. In order to properly align clamping member **28** in relation to the supporting base plate **10**, adjustment knob **54** must be backed-off sufficiently to disengage the interlocking teeth **50** and permit angular rotation of friction member **48** relative to member **46**. After clamping member **28** has been rotated to the desired angular position, knob **54** is re-tightened causing the complementary teeth **50** to re-engage and prevent any subsequent movement between members **46** and **48**. Heretofore, conventional leg rests tended to cause the drummer considerable discomfort and soreness due primarily to the rigidity of the leg engaging support. Such a support would transmit the impact of vibrational shock directly to the drummer's leg, whereas in the present invention, a substantial portion of the shock and weight of the drum is absorbed by the resilient clamping member **28**. Moreover, in a conventional leg rest for parade drums, the leg engaging member thereof was not securely fastened to the leg of the drummer, and would accordingly hinder his mobility while marching since it was free to move outwardly away from the leg during each step. However, in the present invention, resilient arms **30** and **32** serve to dampen or filter out any vibrational

shock while the leg strap effectively stabilizes the leg engaging member in playing position without causing any discomfort to the drummer. These improvements are extremely significant, particularly with regard to parade mobility, since the exaggerated movement of the drummer's leg, while marching in cadence, would otherwise tend to constantly vary the positional alignment of the drum relative to the body of the player. Additionally, the aforementioned resilient arms also facilitate attachment of the leg rest to the drum without requiring any additional external connections or couplings on the instrument.

In operation, the drummer will first connect each of the resilient arms **30** and **32** to a related drum brace **40** by flexing the arms inwardly toward each other to a position where the outwardly flared shoulders **36** and **38** will engage a related drum brace **40** when the force on the arms is released. In this way, the clamping member **28** will be detachably retained in supporting position until subsequently released by inward flexure of the resilient arms **30** and **32**. Next, the drummer will back-off adjustment knob **54** sufficiently so that the inter-meshing teeth **50** will become disengaged to permit rotational adjustment of the supporting base plate **10**. After the base plate **10** is securely clamped to the musician's leg above the knee, by means of leg strap **18**, adjustment knob **54** is then re-tightened causing interfitting teeth **50** to re-engage whereby the instrument will be held in proper playing position. From the foregoing, it is apparent that the angular position of the drum can be subsequently varied to accommodate the comfort of the musician without either detaching the clamping member **28** from the drum or releasing leg strap **18**. Additionally, clamping member **28** may be easily removed and quickly resecured to a conventional snare or tenor drum without requiring any subsequent readjustment of the leg rest by merely flexing the resilient arms **30** and **32** toward each other, as previously described, so that the outwardly flared shoulders **36** and **38** will register with a related drum brace **40**.

It is also to be understood that, although several preferred embodiments of the invention have been shown in the drawings and described with considerable particularity in the foregoing specification, the invention is not limited to the specific details of construction, shown and described, but includes all modifications coming within the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents.

I claim:

1. A detachable leg rest for a parade drum comprising, a base plate adapted to engage the drummer's leg immediately above the knee, a leg strap detachably connected at each end to the outer terminal portions of said base plate for securing the same to the drummer's leg, resilient clamping means carried by said base plate for detachably securing the same to said drum, said resilient clamping means serving to effectively absorb any vibrational shock transmitted from said drum to the drummer's leg, and locking means for adjustably connecting said clamping means to said base plate in different angular positions.

2. A detachable leg rest for a parade drum having a plurality of circumferentially arranged braces comprising, a base plate having curved outer end portions which serve to define a substantially U-shaped leg embracing member, an adjustable leg strap connected at each end to said end portions, a resilient clamping member carried by said base plate for detachably securing the same to said drum, said clamping member including an elongated resilient arm which extends outwardly from a central portion in opposite directions, said resilient arm being symmetrically curved adjacent each end to define a pair of opposed annular loops, the outer terminal end portion of each loop being flared outwardly to define a connecting shoulder portion adapted to detachably engage a related drum brace, a locking member for adjustably connecting said clamping member to said base plate, said locking member including a pair of oppositely disposed frictional elements respectively secured to the central portion of said base plate and said clamping member, and a releasable locking bolt for forcing said elements into frictional engagement with one another whereby said clamping member will be retained in a selected angular position relative to said leg embracing member.

3. A detachable leg rest for a parade drum having a plurality of circumferentially arranged braces comprising, a base plate having curved outer end portions which serve to define a substantially U-shaped leg embracing member, an adjustable leg strap detachably connected at each end to said end portions, a resilient clamping member carried by said base plate for detachably securing the same to said drum, said clamping member including a pair of oppositely disposed resilient arms which extend outwardly from one another, each of said resilient arms being curved intermediate their ends toward each other to define an annular loop, the outer terminal end portion of each arm being flared outwardly to define a connecting shoulder portion adapted to detachably engage a related drum brace, a locking member for adjustably connecting said clamping member to said base plate, said locking member including a pair of oppositely disposed frictional elements respectively secured to the central portion of said base plate and said clamping member, and a releasable locking bolt for forcing said elements into frictional engagement with one another whereby said clamping member will be retained in a selected angular position relative to said leg embracing member.

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