April 4, 1950 F. SIKORA 2,503,135

SPUR FOR BASS DRUMS

Filed Jan. 7, 1947

FIG. 1.

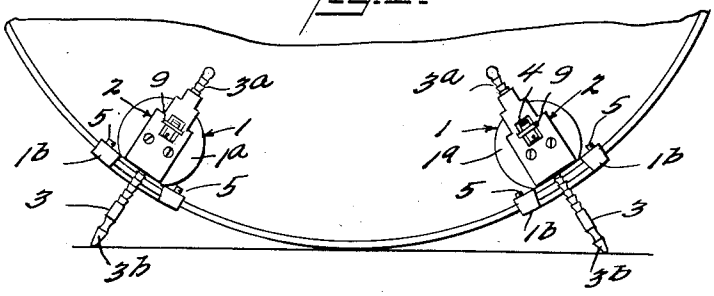


FIG. 2.

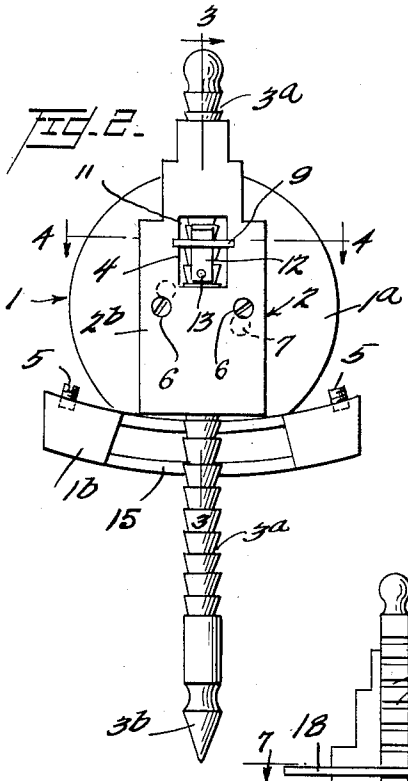


FIG. 3.

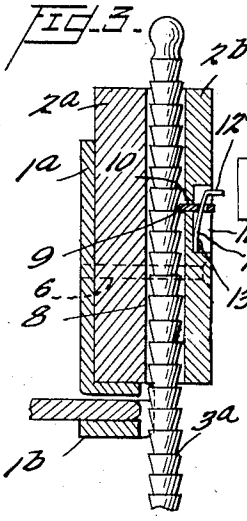


FIG. 4.

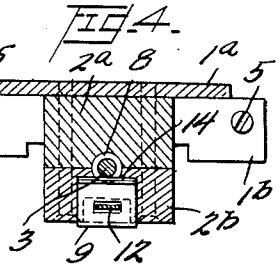


FIG. 5.

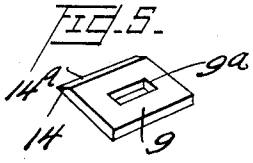


FIG. 6.

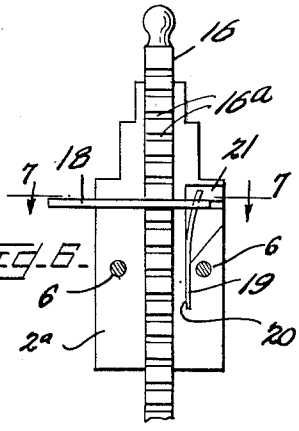


FIG. 7.

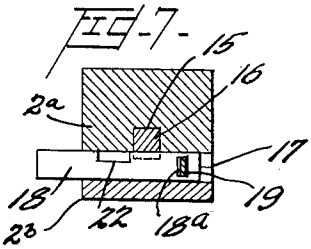


FIG. 8.

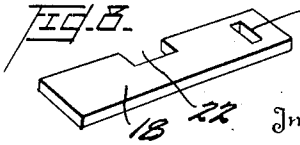
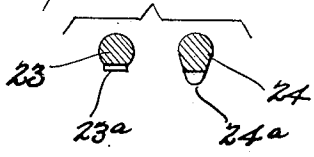


FIG. 9.



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Patented Apr. 4, 1950

2,503,135

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,503,135

SPUR FOR BASS DRUMS

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Application January 7, 1947, Serial No. 720,588

5 Claims. (Cl. 84—421)

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This invention relates to drum spurs for bracing a bass drum against rolling or rocking when it is set up in playing position in a band or orchestra.

An important object of my invention is to provide in a drum spur of the above character means for quickly and conveniently assembling the spur with a drum and for adjusting it to the correct position for holding the drum.

Another object of my invention is to provide in a drum spur of the above character, latching means for securing the spur in operative position and quickly releasable means for disengaging the latching means to permit the speedy withdrawal of the spur when the drum is to be moved to a new location.

Still another object of my invention is to provide in a drum spur of the above character, a mounting plate and spur block adapted to be permanently clamped to the circumference of the drum and providing a slideway for a spur rod and a spring-biased latch incorporated therein for locking the spur rod in different positions of longitudinal adjustment.

A further object of my invention is to provide a drum spur of the above character which is simple in construction, effective in operation and convenient in use, and which does not require screw adjustments, such as are troublesome and time consuming, when setting the drum up in playing position.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary view of a bass drum showing the manner in which the spurs are adapted to be attached thereto;

Figure 2 is a front view of one of the drum spurs;

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view through the drum spur of Fig. 2 taken on the line 3—3 of that figure;

Figure 4 is a transverse cross-sectional view of the drum spur taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2;

Figure 5 is a detail view of the latch plate of the drum spur;

Figure 6 is a vertical cross-sectional view of a modified form of spur block;

Figure 7 is a transverse cross-sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6;

Figure 8 is a detail view of the latch plate forming part of the drum spur of Fig. 6; and

Figure 9 illustrates transverse cross-sectional views of two other forms of spur rods.

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In the drawing is shown a drum spur comprising generally a mounting plate 1 adapted to be clamped to the circumferential hoop of a bass drum and providing a support for a spur block 2 within which latter is slidably mounted a spur rod 3 held in adjustable position by a latch 4. In practice it is anticipated that two of these drum spurs will be clamped to the drum hoop a suitable distance apart about the drum and remain permanently attached to the drum and that the spur rods 3 will be adjusted within the spur blocks 2 so as to engage the ground, floor or platform on which the drum is supported to hold the drum steady and prevent it from rocking or rolling when it is in use.

Coming now to a more detailed description of the parts, the mounting plate 1 comprises a circular section 1*a* adapted to lie parallel to but spaced from the face of the drum and an arcuate channel section 1*b* integral with and generally tangently disposed to the circular section and being so designed as to snugly fit over the circular hoop of the drum. On the channel section is mounted a pair of clamping screws 5 each being threaded through a wall of the channel section and having its end arranged to bear against a face of the drum hoop so that when the screws are turned down the mounting plate 1 is rigidly clamped to the drum.

Fastened to the mounting plate 1 as by means of a pair of tie screws 6 is the spur block 2 of generally rectangular cross-section and composed of two block sections 2*a* and 2*b* arranged in face-to-face relation. The screws 6 pass through aligned holes in the block sections and screw into a pair of screw threaded openings 7 in the circular plate section for clamping the block sections together and for securing the spur block to the mounting plate. A number of the openings 7 are provided in the circular plate section so that the block may be arranged at different angles relative to the plate by appropriately choosing the pair of openings for receiving the ends of screws 6.

The opposed faces of the two block sections 2*a* and 2*b* are formed with longitudinally extending grooves, the two grooves together defining a circular slideway 8 for receiving the spur rod 3 which extends completely through the slideway and projects above and below its ends. The spur rod is formed with saw-tooth notches upon its circumference, as indicated at 3*a*, and its lower end is pointed, as indicated at 3*b*. The latch 4 for engaging the teeth comprises a latch plate 9 slidable within a slot 10 disposed trans-

versely of the spur block 2 and opening into a rectangular shaped pocket 11 in the outer face of the spur block.

The latch plate 9 is of such a length as to normally project beyond the slot into the pocket 11 and the projecting end of the plate is formed with an aperture 9a through which passes the upper end of a leaf spring 12, the lower end of the spring being fastened by means of a screw 13 to the vertical wall of the recess. The spring is so tensioned as to exert an inward thrust upon the latch plate tending to move it toward and crosswise of the slideway 8. The inner end of the latch plate is formed with a chisel-edge 14, the sloping portion 14a facing upwardly toward the top of the spur block and being inclined at substantially the same angle as the sloping surfaces of the teeth on the spur rod 3. Thus when the spur rod is passed downwardly within the slideway 8, it forces the latch plate outwardly against the thrust of the spring 12 in the manner of a ratchet, but the latch plate 9 engages behind the teeth to lock the spur rod against upward movement. The leaf spring 12 is extended horizontally outwardly of the pocket at its upper end to provide a finger-piece 12a, downward pressure upon which acts to shift the latch plate out of engagement with the teeth on the spur rod. The channel section 1b of the mounting plate 1 is cut away in the area below the spur block to provide a clearance space 15 which allows passage for the lower projecting end of the spur rod 3.

In Figs. 6, 7 and 8 there is shown an alternative form of latching mechanism. In this form of the latching mechanism one of the spur blocks 2a is longitudinally recessed to provide a slideway 15 of square transverse cross-section adapted to receive a spur rod 16 of corresponding cross-sectional shape and provided with a series of slots 16a defining square teeth extending lengthwise thereof. The pair of spur block sections 2a and 2b are grooved upon their opposed faces at corresponding locations so that these grooves when the block sections are assembled together define a horizontal slot 17 which slot extends from side-to-side of the block and intersects a portion of the slideway 15 in a direction at right angles thereto.

Adapted to slide within this slot is a latch plate 18 one end of which normally projects beyond an end of the slot so as to be engaged by the fingers and being intermediately formed with an aperture 18a through which projects the upper end of a leaf spring 19. The lower end of the spring is held within a vertically disposed slot 20 while the opposed faces of the spur block sections 2a and 2b are suitably recessed to form a pocket 21 allowing clearance for the movable upper end of the spring. The latch plate 18 is of such dimensions in transverse cross-section as to readily pass transversely through the slots 16a on the spur rod 16 and hold the spur rod against both upward and downward sliding movement. The leaf spring 19 normally holds the latch plate in locking engagement with the teeth on the spur rod (as shown in Fig. 7) but the latch plate is cut away along a longitudinal edge to form a clearance opening 22 which when the latch plate is slid lengthwise against the thrust of spring 19, by finger pressure applied to the projecting end of the plate, rides into alignment with the slideway 15 and permits the spur rod to be adjusted either upwardly or downwardly as desired.

The spur rod need not be round in cross-section, as shown in the embodiment of Figs. 1–5, or square, as in the embodiment of Figs. 6–8, but may be of other suitable shapes. In Fig. 9 is illustrated spur rods 23 and 24 of generally circular cross-section having longitudinally extending ribs 23a and 24a, respectively, with teeth cut therein for engagement with the latch plate. By making these spur rods of non-circular shape they are correctly positioned when introduced into their slideways so as to present the teeth to the latch plate.

In the ordinary use of the two forms of drum spurs just described, the part of spur blocks 2 will be attached to the drum at angularly spaced distances apart circumferentially of the drum, this attachment being more or less permanently effected by means of the mounting plates 1 which are secured by the clamping screws 5 to the drum hoop in a manner which already has been explained. The spur rods 3 are then introduced into the slideways in the spur blocks and pushed downwardly until their lower ends engage the floor or ground upon which the drum is supported to hold the drum against rocking. In the case of the form of device of Figs. 1–5, the spur rods may be shoved downwardly within their slideways without releasing the spring latches which operate in the manner of a ratchet in conjunction with the saw teeth on the spur rods 3; while in the case of the form of device of Figs. 6–8, the latches will be manually retracted to release the latch plates from the square teeth when the spur rods are adjusted to position.

When the drum is to be taken up for carrying, it is merely necessary to exert finger pressure against the latches of the devices as earlier described to unlock the spur rods and permit them to be either entirely withdrawn from their slideways or retracted a sufficient distance so that they do not project beyond the circumference of the drum. In this way the spur rods may either remain permanently associated with the drum or removed from the drum and separately stowed away.

It will be apparent from the foregoing description that the spur rods may be quickly and easily adjusted into operative position and that their adjustment avoids the use of wing nuts and thumb screws which are slow and irksome to manipulate and which frequently get out of order as a result of the mutilation of the threads or because of loss or breakage of the nuts and screws.

The spur block 2 may be attached to its mounting plate 1 at different angles by selecting the appropriate pair of screw-threaded openings 7 for receiving the ends of the tie screws 6. The arcuate channel section 1b of the mounting plate may be made somewhat oversize, if desired, so as to fit bass drums of different radii, although it will usually be found most satisfactory to provide individual mounting plates for each size of drum.

While certain preferred specific embodiments of the invention have been set forth, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the exact constructions illustrated and described, but modifications of these details may be made within the purview of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A drum spur comprising a spur block, a clamp for attaching the spur block to the circumference of a drum so as to protrude laterally beyond the side of the drum, a slideway in the spur block within the protruding portion of the block adapted to

slidably receive a spur rod having a series of teeth extending lengthwise thereon so as to project beyond the circumference of the drum, a latch plate mounted for movement in a path intersecting the slideway, said latch plate having sliding side contact with the teeth on the spur rod and having a cut-out of a size to provide clearance for the spur rod, a spring for urging the latch plate in one direction for interlocking the latch plate with the teeth on the spur rod and finger-engageable means for moving the latch plate in the other direction for bringing the cut-out into alignment with the teeth.

2. A drum spur comprising in combination a mounting plate including an arcuate channel section adapted to fit over the circumferential hoop upon a drum, means for clamping the mounting plate to the hoop, a spur block secured to the mounting plate and arranged to protrude beyond the drum hoop and providing a slideway disposed transversely of the channel section, a spur rod slidably mounted in the slideway and adapted to project beyond the circumference of the drum, said spur rod having circumferential teeth extending lengthwise thereof, a latch plate slidably mounted in the spur block for movement in a path intersecting the slideway and engaging the teeth of the spur rod, a spring for urging the latch plate in one direction for interlocking with the teeth on the spur rod and finger-engageable means for moving the latch plate in the other direction for releasing said teeth.

3. A drum spur as set forth in claim 2 in which the means for securing the spur block to the mounting plate are so constructed and arranged as to allow the spur block to be secured to the mounting plate at different angles with respect thereto.

4. A drum spur adapted to be attached to the

circumferential hoop of a drum to hold the drum against rocking movement, said drum spur comprising a spur block having a channel for fitting over the outer edge of the drum hoop so as to overhang the hoop, clamping means for clamping the spur block to the hoop, a slideway disposed in a plane extending transversely of said channel, a spur rod slidable in said slideway so as to project beyond the circumference of the drum, a series of teeth extending lengthwise of the spur rod, a latch member mounted on said spur block for movement in a path intersecting the slideway for interlocking with the teeth on the spur rod, spring means for urging the latch member into tooth-engaging position and finger-engageable means for moving the latch plate in the reverse direction out of tooth-engaging position.

5. A drum spur as set forth in claim 4 in which the latch member comprises a plate slidable within a slot formed in the spur block.

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