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VIOLIN HOLDER AND HARNESS

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Fig. 3.

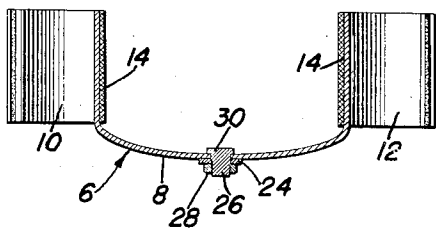


Fig. 1.

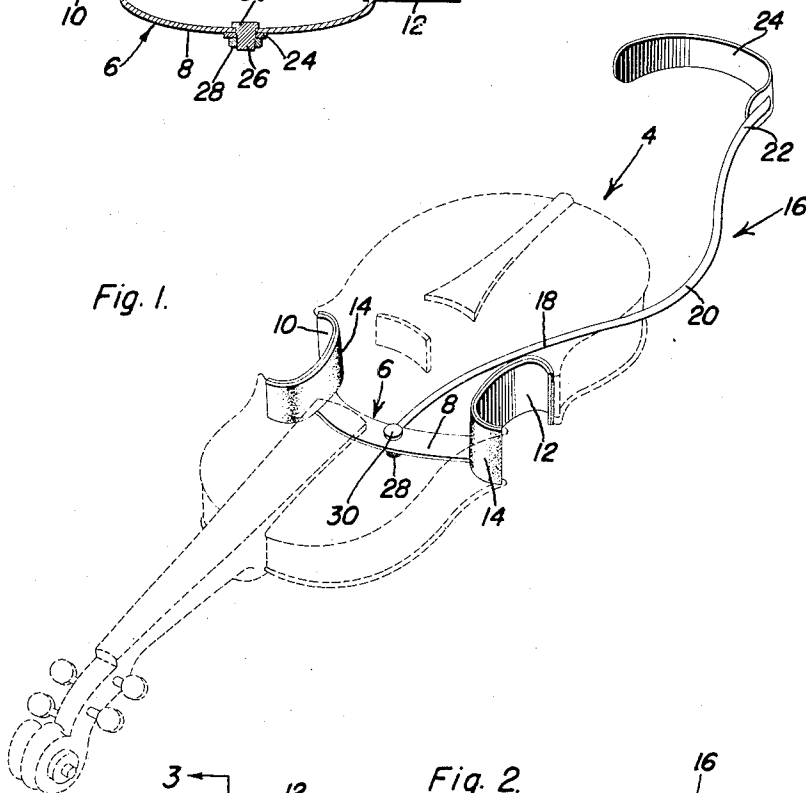
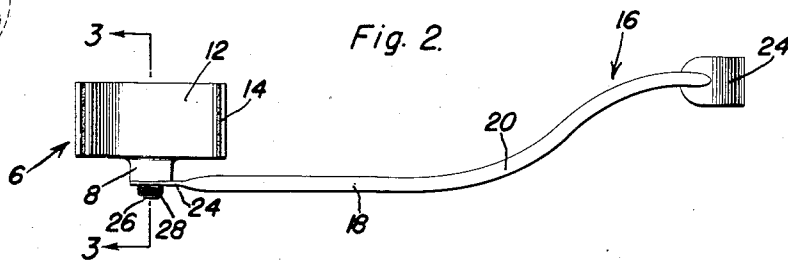


Fig. 2.



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3 Claims. (Cl. 84—280)

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The present invention relates to a novel holder for a violin and means on said holder whereby the violin and holder may be harnessed temporarily in playing position on the performer.

It is a matter of common knowledge, of course, that as a general rule, most violins are provided with chin rests and the violin is therefore held with the butt or tail end between the chin and shoulder of the player in a familiar manner. Some players find it necessary to use shoulder cushions in addition to a chin rest. Of course, there are those players who use neither pads nor chin rests. While it is, of course, true that violinists may become accustomed to holding a violin to best advantage without chin rests and other accessories, it is believed that if the beginner would start out with a mechanical holding and harnessing device, he would not only learn to play the instrument more quickly and with greater comfort but would perhaps find it advisable, having learned to play with holding and harnessing means, to continue to use the latter indefinitely.

It will be evident from the foregoing that the instant invention has to do with a holder which is fastened to the median portion of the violin and a harness which is attached to the holder and coacts with the latter and violin in maintaining the instrument in a readily and satisfactorily usable playing position.

In reducing to practice a preferred embodiment of the invention, the structural adaptation is characterized by two units, a saddle which clamps on the violin and constitutes the holder proper and an adapter which fastens to the holder and constitutes the harness.

The saddle-like holder comprises a truss which transversely spans the back of the violin and which has clamps or grips at its opposite ends which are neatly nested into the usual constriction notches opposite the customary *ff* holes.

The harness has to do with an appropriately shaped reach arm or member fastened at one end to the intermediate portion of the truss and having a collar at its opposite end to embrace the neck of the user.

Other objects and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying illustrative drawing.

In the drawings, wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a violin in dotted or phantom lines and showing, in full

lines, the complete attachment, that is, the holder and harness combined.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the overall attachment removed from the violin.

Figure 3 is an enlarged cross-section on the vertical line 3—3 of Figure 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now to the drawings by distinguishing numerals and lead lines, the violin, which is shown in dotted lines and is conventional, is denoted by the numeral 4. The permanently attachable part of the attachment is a saddle-like device or unit and this is denoted by the numeral 6. As before indicated, it comprises a properly bowed metal strap 8 which underlies the back of the violin body. It conforms in shape and is of springy metal and is provided at opposite ends with a pair of arcuate adapters 10 and 12. These are duplicates of one another and have appropriate facing and protector pads 14—14. The pads are adapted to contact the finish of the violin body to prevent marring or scratching same. These adapters are obviously designed to snugly lodge themselves in the constrictor notches which are usually found between the forward and rearward half portions of the body or, let us say, opposite to the usual *ff* holes (not shown). The other component of the complete attachment means is denoted by the numeral 16 and this comprises an elongated reach rod or arm 18 having its intermediate portion properly offset and bowed, as at 20, and its rearward end portion properly toed-in and bent up (see Figure 2) as at 22, where it is provided with a semi-circular collar which might well also be called an adapter. It is perhaps advisable, however, to call it a neck collar, since it is designed to fit around and hang itself upon one's neck. The stated collar is denoted by the numeral 24 and is of appropriate curvature and material and is rigidly connected to the reach arm. The forward end of the arm is properly bent to underlie the mid-portion of the back of the violin and this terminates in a flattened apertured ear 24. This ear is adapted to accommodate the shank portion 26 of a bolt, which shank is provided with an assembling and retaining nut 28. The head portion of the bolt 30 is interposed between the saddling strap 8 and body of the violin. The part 8 may of course be referred to as either a saddling strap, truss, or equivalent element. It follows that suitable holding means 6 is saddled on the violin and forms a part thereof. It is not too tight nor too heavy to interfere with the resonance or other tonal properties of the violin. As a general rule,

the harness unit 16 is also left in place and is attached to the violin by way of the saddling means. From time to time, if desired, the means 16 may be detached from the means 6. In any event, the gist of the invention is in having harnessing means which is hung from the neck of the user and which includes a reach arm, said reach arm being fastened, preferably by the means 6 to the mid-portion of the violin. It follows, therefore, that the violin may be aptly and suitably held without aid or support of the hands of the user. This means that the left hand may be slid back and forth on the neck and finger board without being hampered. It is obvious that since it is not necessary to support the instrument while playing, the hand has greater freedom in resorting to unhampered fingering activities.

In view of the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, it is believed that a clear understanding of the device will be quite apparent to those skilled in this art. A more detailed description is accordingly deemed unnecessary.

It is to be understood, however, that even though there is herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of the invention, the same is susceptible to certain changes fully comprehended by the spirit of the invention as herein described and within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A violin holder of the class described comprising a holder separably applicable to the median portion of a violin, said holder embodying a transverse truss member, and harnessing means, said means embodying a rigid elongated reach arm adapted to partially underlie the violin with one end portion projecting beyond the butt end of the violin, an arcuately shaped adapter collar adapted to be conformingly fitted and hung about the neck of the violinist, said collar being secured at one end to the adjacent end of said reach rod, and bolt means separably and hingedly connecting the first-named end of said reach rod to said truss member.

2. In a structure of the class described, a saddle-like holder comprising a truss having adapters at opposite ends, said truss being adapted to extend transversely across the back of the violin body and said adapters being adapted to be nested retentively in the usual notched marginal portions of the body, and said adapters being conformably curved and sized to fit in said notches and being provided with protective covering means, an elongated reach arm adapted to underlie the back of the violin body, means removably attaching one end of said reach arm to the intermediate portion of said truss, and means connected to the opposite end of said reach arm and adapted to be fitted and saddled about the neck of the violinist.

3. In a structure of the class described, a saddle-like holder comprising a truss having adapters at opposite ends, said truss being adapted to extend transversely across the back of the violin body and said adapters being adapted to be nested retentively in the usual notched marginal portions of the body, and said adapters being conformably curved and sized to fit in said notches and being provided with protective covering means, an elongated reach arm having its outward end portion underlying the back of said violin, bolt and nut means securing said outer end hingedly and detachably to the intermediate portion of said truss, and a curvate collar having one end secured to the inward end of said reach arm, said collar being at approximate right angles to the longitudinal axis of said reach arm and being adapted to be fitted about the neck of the violinist.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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