

Nov. 7, 1939.

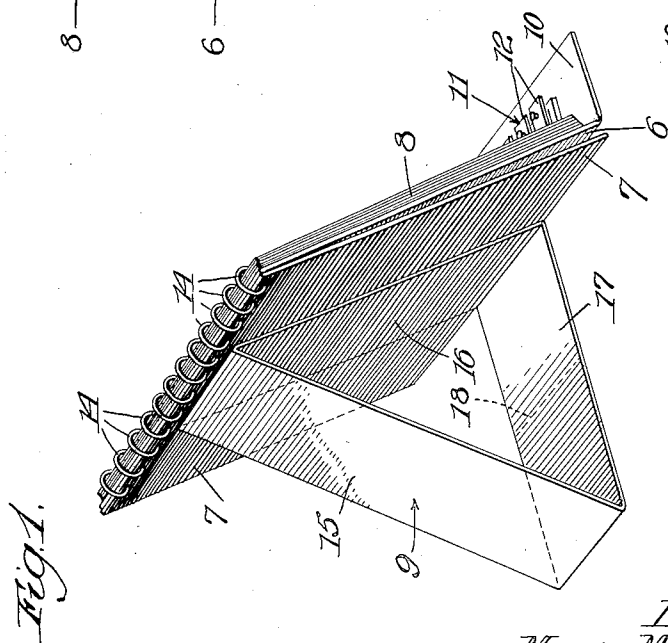
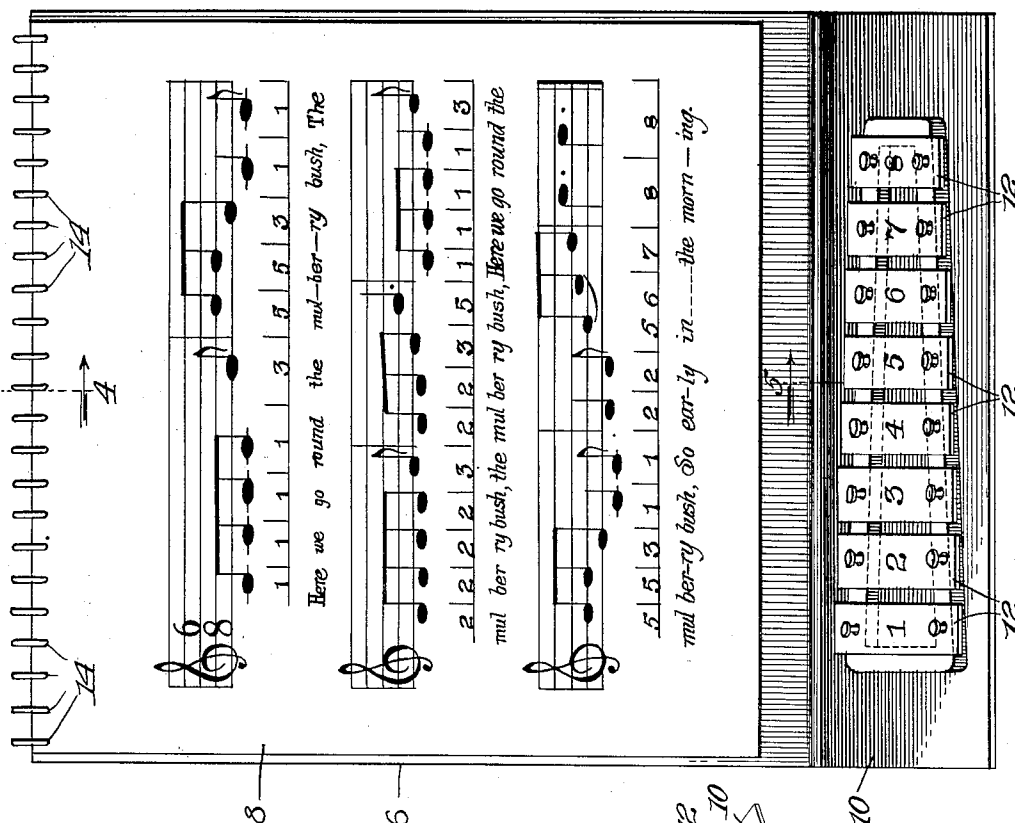
M. M. COLE

2,178,903

COMBINED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AND MUSIC-SCORE DEVICE

Filed May 20, 1939

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

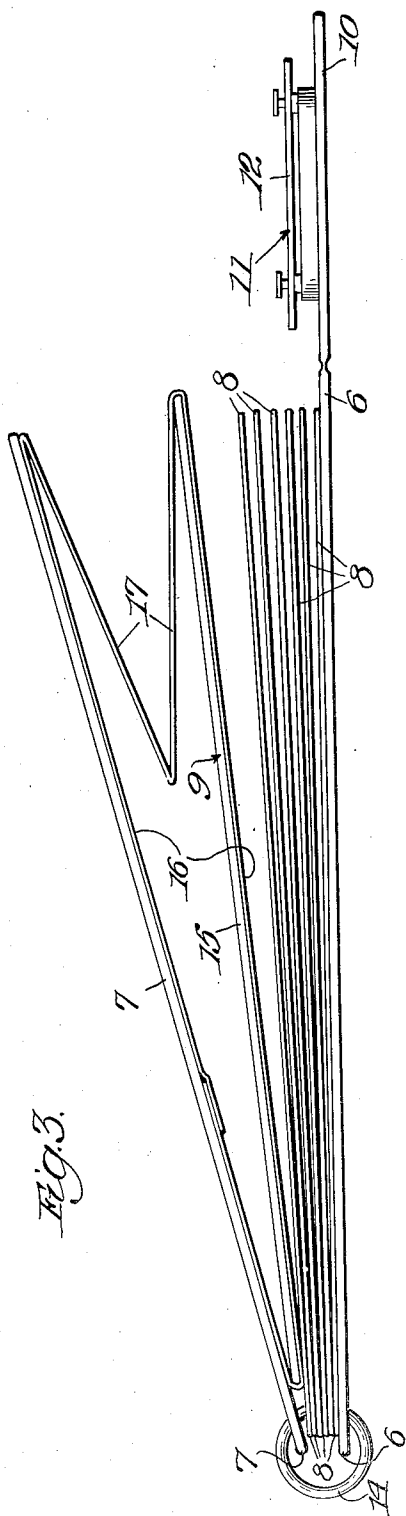
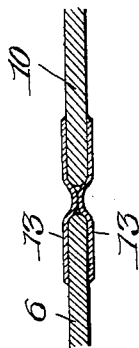
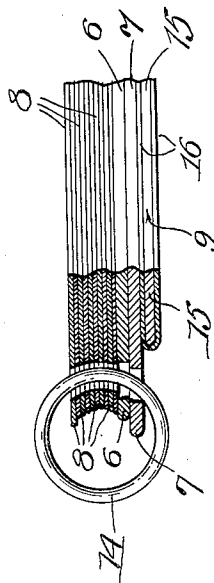


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AND
MUSIC-SCORE DEVICE

Morris M. Cole, Chicago, Ill.

Application May 20, 1939, Serial No. 274,817

1 Claim. (Cl. 84-403)

My invention relates to a combined musical instrument and music-score device and more particularly to such devices provided as toys.

My objects are to provide an improved form of such device; to provide a form of device in which the music-score and the musical instrument, such as for example a xylophone, may be positioned in such relation to each other and to the one playing the instrument, as to facilitate the playing of the instrument; to provide the device of such construction that it may be folded into compact condition when desired, as for example for shipping and when not in use, and when to be used quickly and easily extended into the desired condition; and other objects as will be manifest from the following description.

Referring to the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a rear perspective view of the device showing it in condition for use.

Figure 2 is a front perspective view of the device in the condition shown in Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is an edge view of the device showing it as manipulated into condition for shipping or storing with certain of the parts abnormally spread apart.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary enlarged sectional view taken at the line 4 on Fig. 2 and viewed in the direction of the arrow; and

Figure 5, a similar view taken at the line 5 on Fig. 2 and viewed in the direction of the arrow.

According to the preferred illustrated embodiment of my invention the device comprises a back plate-like member 6; a front plate-like cover section 7, the parts 6 and 7 being hingedly connected along adjacent edges; a stack of music-score sheets 8 arranged between the members 6 and 7 and hinged at their upper edges thereto; bracing means 9 carried on the inner side of the cover section 7 for holding the members 6 and 7 in operative, upwardly extending, position when the device is manipulated to condition it for use as shown in Figs. 1 and 2; a flap section 10 hinged to the lower edge of the member 6; and a musical instrument 11, such as for example a xylophone as shown, mounted on the upper side of the flap 10.

In conditioning the device for use it is manipulated from the closed condition shown in Fig. 3 into the condition shown in Figs. 1 and 2, in which manipulation the cover section 7 is turned back to extend behind the member 6 and the bracing means 9 are unfolded to form a support to engage the table, or other article on which the device is to rest when in use, for holding the members 6 and 7 in upwardly extending, prefer-

ably rearwardly inclined, position as shown, in which position of the device the flap 10 carrying the musical instrument extends forwardly from the member 6 and rests upon the table in substantially horizontal position.

The music-score sheets 8, which may be selectively exposed to view at the front side of the member 6, as desired, by reason of the hinged connection of these sheets with the members 6 and 7, carry designations, such as the numerals shown, corresponding with the designations on the sounding bars 12 of the musical instrument 11, these designations serving as a means for indicating to the player which of the bars 12 are to be struck in succession to play the particular music scores displayed by the sheets.

The members 6 and 7 and the flap 10 may be made of any suitable material, as for example stiff cardboard, and the hinged connection of the flap 10 with the member 6 provided in any suitable way as for example by securing strips 13 of fabric to the adjacent edges of these parts at the joint therebetween (Fig. 5).

The hinging together of the members 6 and 7 and the sheets 8 may be effected in any desirable way as for example by means of the rings shown at 14 which extend through registering openings in the members 6 and 7 and the sheets 8.

The bracing means 9 may be of any desirable construction, those shown comprising a leg portion 15 as for example of stiff cardboard, hingedly connected at its upper edge to the cover section 7 adjacent the hinging means 14, as by means of a strip 16 of any suitable material, such as, for example, tough paper, secured to the leg and to the inner side of the cover section 7, and a tie or check member 17 of any suitable material and shown as in the form of strip material adapted to be folded inwardly along a folding line 18, connected at one end with the lower end of the leg 15 and at its other end held in fixed relation to the cover section 7.

In the particular construction shown the strip 16 and the tie member 17 are formed as a continuous one-piece strip structure which extends continuously along the relatively stiff leg 15 and the inner side of the cover section 7.

The device is shown in Fig. 3 as folded for shipping or storing in which condition the cover section extends over the stack of music score sheets 8, (the cover 7 having been swung to this position at its hinged connection with the member 6 and sheets 8) and the bracing means 9, in folded flat compact form, extend between the cover section 7 and the stack of sheets 8. In this

condition of the device it assumes the form, and simulates somewhat the appearance, of a book with the musical-instrument-supporting flap 10 extending in the plane of the member 6 in which
5 condition the device is rendered very compact and may be enclosed in a thin container.

As will be understood, the relative positioning of the musical instrument and the music-score sheets and the relation of these parts to a player
10 located in front of the device, when the device is set up for use, is such as to greatly facilitate the playing of the musical instrument from the music score sheets.

While I have illustrated and described a particular embodiment of my invention, I do not wish to be understood as intending to limit it thereto as the same may be variously modified and altered without departing from the spirit of my invention.

20 What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

A device of the class described comprising, in combination: a book formed of covers and a plurality of leaves carrying musical scores, said leaves and covers hingedly bound together at one edge of the book; a flap hinged to the free edge of the back cover, thereby permitting said flap to lie flat in operative position; a musical instrument carried by said flap; a foldable support whose length is less than the length of the front cover hinged near the top of the inside of the front cover, a foldable check member connecting the free end of said support with the bottom of said front cover thereby permitting the face of the front cover to contact the face of the rear cover at an angle to the perpendicular, and permitting said leaves to be moved about their hinged edges to the rear of said foldable support whereby to expose the musical score of any leaf in a position above, beyond and at an angle to said musical instrument.

MORRIS M. COLE.