United States Patent [19]

Hoellerich

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[54] **MULTIPLE DRUM CARRIER**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **224/5 S,** 84/421, 224/25 R

[51] **Int. Cl.** **G10g 5/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 224/5 S, 5 V, 5 R, 224/5 A, 5 B, 5 BC, 5 MA, 5 Q, 5 M, 5 N, 25 R, 26 R, 26 B, 5 E, 5 F, 5 G; 84/453, 421, 411

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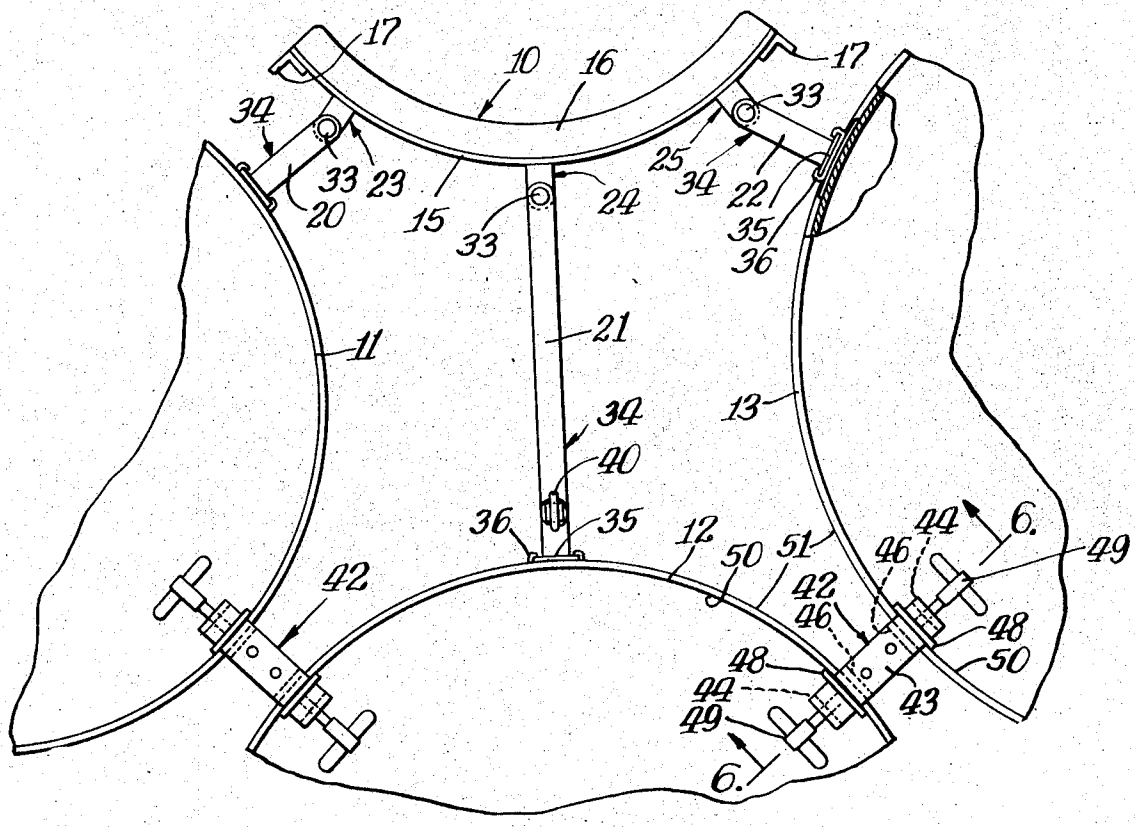
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Assistant Examiner—Jerold M. Forsberg
Attorney—Hofgren, Wegner, Allen

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A carrier for carrying a plurality of musical drums on the person of a drummer. The carrier includes means for adjustably mounting the drums on a support member resting against the front of the person for improved positioning of the drums for play by the drummer. The carrier is arranged to dispose the drums with the upper beating head substantially in a common plane with a preselected spacing therebetween while permitting the drums to have different diameters and axial lengths.

14 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures



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Fig. 1.

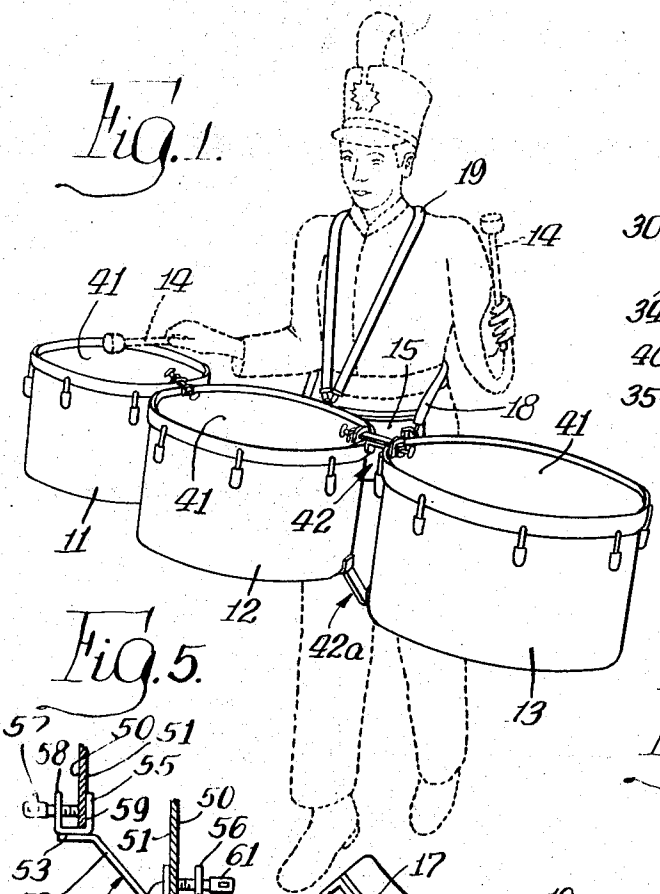


Fig. 2.

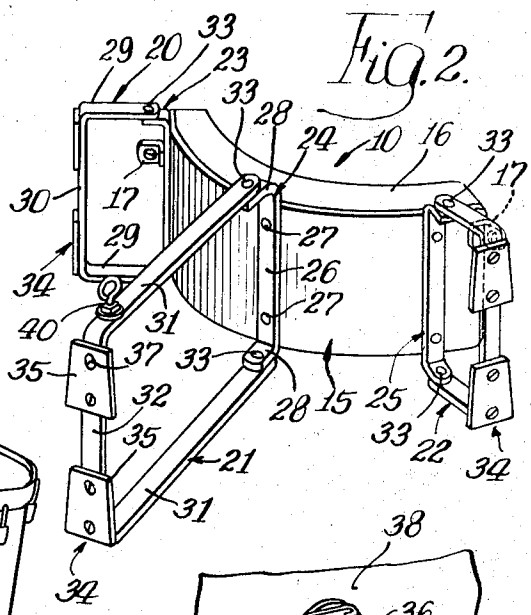


Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.

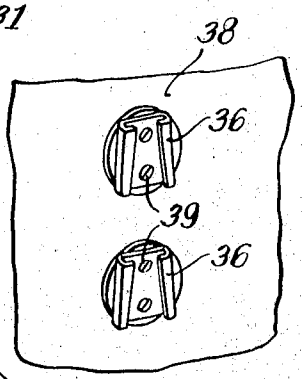


Fig. 3.

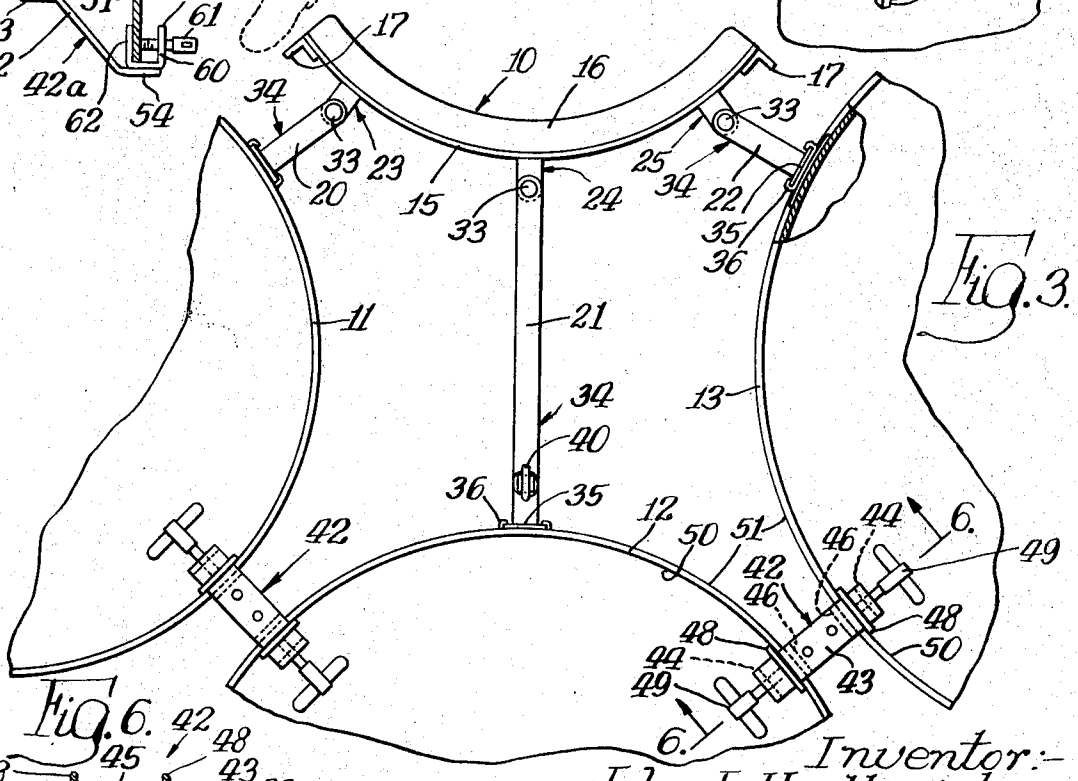
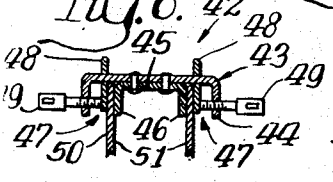


Fig. 6.



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MULTIPLE DRUM CARRIER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates to musical instrument accessories and in particular to carriers for carrying musical drums on the person of a drummer.

2. Description of the Prior Art

A number of different carriers have been developed for carrying two or more drums on the person of a drummer whereby the drums may be played while the drummer is marching, etc. The known constructions have the disadvantage of relative complexity and high cost and do not provide optimum efficiency in the mounting and dismounting of the drums. Further, the known constructions do not provide desirable adjustability in the arrangement of the drums and desirable disposition of the beating heads.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprehends an improved carrier for carrying a plurality of musical drums on the person of a drummer eliminating the disadvantages of the known constructions in a novel and simple manner. More specifically, the present invention comprehends the provision of multiple drum carrier including a support member, means for mounting the support member to the drummer's body to bear rearwardly against the front of the drummer, a plurality of arm members, pivot means pivotally mounting one end of each arm member to the support member for swinging forwardly of the support member about spaced vertical axes, and securing means on the distal end of each arm member for releasably securing a musical drum thereto, whereby a plurality of the drums may be carried by the drummer in laterally adjusted side-by-side, axially vertical relationship for play by the drummer.

The securing means may comprise portions of adjustable drum mounting devices carried on the distal ends of the arms and cooperating devices carried on the drums. More specifically, the adjustable mounting devices may comprise insert and socket elements arranged to permit the mounting of the drum on the carrier by a simple fitted reception of the cooperating elements one to the other. In the illustrated embodiment, the mounting devices comprise wedge shaped clips carried on the distal ends of the arms and corresponding socket elements carried on the drum shell.

Means may be provided interconnecting the counter hoops of the drums in side-by-side relationship to stabilize the mounting and to provide a preselected spaced relationship between the drums. The mounting devices may be arranged to dispose the beating heads of the drums in a common horizontal plane in front of the drummer notwithstanding a difference in the length of the different drums.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is a front perspective view of a drummer carrying a plurality of drums on his person by means of a carrier embodying the invention;

FIG. 2 is a front perspective view of the carrier;

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary top plan view of the drum and carrier assembly;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of the carrier socket means as mounted on a portion of a drum;

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary vertical section of a pair of drums and an interconnecting element disposed at the lower end thereof; and

FIG. 6 is a fragmentary vertical section taken substantially along the line 6—6 of FIG. 3 of a pair of drums and an interconnecting element disposed at the upper end thereof.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

In the exemplary embodiment of the invention as disclosed in the drawing, a drum carrier generally designated **10** is shown for use in carrying a plurality of drums **11, 12** and **13** on the person of a drummer to be played such as with conventional beaters **14.**

The carrier includes a curved baseplate **15** provided on its rear surface with a suitable resilient pad to bear against the front of the drummer. Suitable clips **17** may be provided at the opposite ends of the plate **15** for attachment thereto of sling means **18.** A neck sling **19** may be connected at its lower end to a portion of the carrier as will be brought out more fully hereinafter, to complete the mounting of the assembly on the person for facilitated playing of the drums. The drums are connected to baseplate **15** by means of a plurality of arm members **20, 21,** and **22** which are pivotally connected to the baseplate by means of a corresponding plurality of pivot elements **23, 24** and **25,** as best seen in FIG. **2.** Each pivot element comprises a similar U-shaped bracket having a bight portion **26** secured to the plate **15** as by rivets **27,** and forwardly projecting legs **28.** Bracket **23** is connected to the plate **15** at one end thereof and bracket **25** is connected to plate **15** at the opposite end thereof. Bracket **24** is connected to the plate at the mid-portion thereof, as shown in FIG. **2.** Arm members **20, 21** and **22** comprise U-shaped brackets. Arm members **20** and **22** are similar in defining U-brackets having relatively short legs **29** and bight portions **30.** The arm member **21** comprises a U-bracket generally similar to U-brackets **20** and **22,** but having relatively long legs **31** joined by a bight portion **32.** The respective legs **29** and **31** are pivotally connected to the out-turned legs **28** of the plate mounted brackets **23, 24** and **25** by suitable rivet-type pivots **33,** permitting the U-brackets **20, 21** and **22** to swing about vertical axes forwardly of the plate **15.**

The drums are secured to the bight portions **30** and **32** of the respective arm members **20, 21** and **22** by securing means generally designated **34.** Herein the securing means comprise insert and socket means adapted to permit facilitated installation of the drums on the U-bracket arm members while yet securely retaining the drums in place thereon for play by the drummer. Thus, in the illustrated embodiment, the securing means comprise upwardly narrowing wedge clips **35** and correspondingly downwardly narrowing wedge sockets **36.** Clips **35** may be secured to bight portions **30** and **32** of the respective arms by suitable means, such as screws **37,** and sockets **36** may be secured to the drum shell **38** by suitable means, such as screws **39.** It should be understood that a reverse arrangement would function similarly, namely, the provision of the socket elements **36** to narrow downwardly on arm bight portions **30** and **32** and the clip elements **35** on the drum shell **38** to narrow downwardly. A pair

of such clip and socket elements is utilized in connection with each arm member and drum for improved stability in the mounting of the drum on the brackets. As shown in FIG. 2, a hook eye 40 may be secured to the upper leg of the U-bracket 21 adjacent the bight 32 for connection thereto of the neck strap 19 referred to above. By so disposing the hook eye at the outer end of the arm, maximum stability in the mounting of the drum assembly on the person's body is obtained.

The securing means 34 may be so located on the bracket arm members and the drum so as to cause the drum heads 41 of the respective drums to lie in a single common horizontal plane, as shown in FIG. 1, notwithstanding a difference in the axial lengths of the respective drums 11, 12 and 13. Similarly, the mounting brackets 20, 21 and 22 may be swung suitably to position the respective drums in spaced association, as shown in FIG. 3, with the center drum 12 extending substantially directly forwardly of the drummer. Thus, where the lefthand drum 13 is of larger diameter than the righthand drum 11, the bracket 22 is swung angularly slightly further away from the fore-and-aft centerline so as to space the somewhat larger diameter drum equidistant from the drum 12 as the spacing of the smaller drum 11 therefrom. The drums may be secured in the adjusted spaced relationship by suitable interconnecting devices generally designated 42, as shown in FIG. 6. Each interconnecting device may comprise an outer U-member 43 having downturned legs 44 and an inner U-member 45 having downturned legs 46 defining therebetween adjustment spaces 47. Bearing plates 48 are suitably carried on the bight portion of the outer U-member 43 and thumbscrews 49 are threaded into the downturned legs 44 of outer U-member 43 to bear against plates 48 and urge the plates against the inner surface 50 of the drum counter hoop with the downturned leg 46 of the inner U-bracket 45 abutting the outer surface 51 of the counter hoop thereby to clamp the counter hoop between the plate 48 and the bracket leg 46. Each of the counter hoops of the adjacent drum portions is so clamped and, thus, the drums are so secured in the desired spaced relationship as shown in FIG. 3, the spacing between the drums being fixed by the length of the small U-member 45.

As indicated above, the drums 11, 12 and 13 may have different axial extents and, thus, the lower ends of the drums may be at different levels while the upper ends 41 are disposed in the desired common plane. To interconnect the drums at the lower ends while accommodating the differences in levels thereof, a modified form of interconnecting device generally designated 42*a* is provided, as shown in FIG. 5. Device 42*a* includes a strip 52 having angularly turned parallel ends 53 and 54. End 53 carries an upturned U-bracket 55 and end 54 carries an upturned U-bracket 56. A thumbscrew 57 is threaded through the outer leg 58 of the upper U-bracket 55 to bear against the inner surface 50 of the counter hoop with the inner leg 59 of the bracket bearing against the outer surface 51 of the counter hoop whereby the screw 57 locks the upper end of the bracket to the counter hoop. The lower bracket 56 similarly has an outer leg 60 through which is threaded a thumbscrew 61 to bear against the inner surface 50 of the counter hoop and urge the counter hoop outer surface 51 against an inner leg 62 of the bracket thereby to secure the lower end of the device 42*a* to the second counter hoop and thereby interconnect the lower ends of the drums rigidly in the desired spaced relationship. In this regard, the spacing between inner legs 55 and 62 of the respective U-brackets is made to be equal to the spacing between the outer surfaces of the downturned legs of bracket 45 of device 42 so that the drums will be mounted in axially parallel relationship on the carrier by stabilizing of the devices 42 and 42*a*. 3

Where the drums have equal axial heights, a straight interconnecting device may be employed at the lower end as well as at the upper end of the drum.

By virtue of the different lengths of the arm members 20, 21 and 22, the drum mounting is prevented from swinging freely about the axes of pivots 33 thereby further stabilizing the mounting of the drums on the carrier.

The carrier may be formed of a relatively strong rigid material, such as aluminum, to provide desired rigidity while yet effectively minimizing the overall weight of the carrier for facilitated carrying of the drum assembly by the drummer. The structure of the drum carrier 10 is extremely simple and economical of construction while yet providing the facilitated mounting and carrying of the desired plurality of drums as desired.

If desired, the carrier may be used to carry a single drum by merely mounting the single drum on the middle securing means 34. Further alternatively, the carrier may be used as a two-drum carrier by mounting the two drums on the side securing means 34 and swinging the arm members thereof toward each other to juxtapose the two drums at the centerline of the carrier with the two drums being secured in the desired spaced relationship by the suitable interconnecting devices.

The foregoing disclosure of specific embodiments is illustrative of the broad inventive concepts comprehended by the invention.

I claim:

1. A carrier for carrying a plurality of musical drums on the person of a drummer, comprising: a support member; means for mounting the support member to the drummer's body to bear rearwardly against the front of the drummer; a plurality of arm members; pivot means pivotally mounting one end of each arm member to said support member for swinging forwardly of the support member about spaced vertical axes; securing means on the distal end of each arm member for releasably securing a musical drum thereto to extend outwardly therefrom, whereby a plurality of said drums may be carried by the drummer in laterally adjusted side-by-side, axially vertical relationship for play by the drummer; and means for interconnecting the drums in said adjusted side-by-side relationship with each drum carried by a single arm member.

2. The drum carrier of claim 1 wherein said pivot means comprise brackets each having a rear portion fixedly secured to said support member, and an arm portion projecting forwardly therefrom, and said arm member one ends are pivotally secured to the arm portion of said brackets.

3. The drum carrier of claim 1 wherein said pivot means comprise U-brackets each having a rear bight portion fixedly secured to said support member, and arm portions projecting forwardly therefrom, and said arm member one ends are pivotally secured to the arm portions of said U-brackets.

4. The drum carrier of claim 1 wherein said arm members comprise U-brackets having forwardly dis-

posed bight portions and rearwardly extending arm portions, the rearward end of said arm portions comprising said one end of the arm members pivotally mounted to said support member, and said securing means being provided on said bight portion.

5. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said securing means comprises a wedge element on one of said arm members or the drum to be mounted thereon, and a complementary socket element on the other of said arm members or the drum removably receiving the wedge element therein.

6. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said securing means comprises an upwardly narrowing wedge element on said arm member, and a comlementary socket element on the drum removably receiving the wedge element therein.

7. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said securing means comprises a pair of vertically spaced wedge elements on one of said arm members and drum structure, and a pair of correspondingly vertically spaced socket elements on the other of said arm members and drum structures removably receiving the wedge element therein.

8. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said plurality of arm members includes one relatively short arm member and one relatively long arm member.

9. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said plurality of arm members includes a pair of relatively short arm members and one relatively long arm member.

10. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said plurality of arm members includes a pair of relatively short arm members at opposite ends of said support member and one relatively long arm member at the center of said support member.

11. A carrier for carrying a plurality of musical drums on the person of a drummer, comprising: a support member; means for mounting the support member to the drummer's body to bear rearwardly against the front of the drummer; a plurality of arm members; pivot means pivotally mounting one end of each arm member to said support member for swinging forwardly of the support member about spaced vertical axes; securing means on the distal end of each arm member for releasably securing a musical drum thereto to extend outwardly therefrom, whereby a plurality of said drums may be carried by the drummer in laterally adjusted side-by-side, axially vertical relationship for play by the drummer; and means for laterally interconnecting the drums in said adjusted side-by-side relationship with each drum carried by a single arm member.

12. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said mounting devices comprise means for disposing the upper beating heads of the drums substantially in a common horizontal plane irrespective of the axial heights of the respective drums.

13. The drum carrier of claim **1** wherein said means for mounting the support member to the drummer's body includes a connector carried on a forwardmost distal portion of one of said arm members and a neck strap removably connected thereto.

14. The drum carrier of claim **11** wherein said means for laterally interconnecting the drums comprises threaded clamp means adapted to clamp against the counter hoops of each of a pair of adjuacent drums and an interconnecting element extending therebetween.

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