Feb. 22, 1927. **1,618,521**

A. EILERT

FRAME FOR STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Filed Oct. 12, 1925

Fig.1

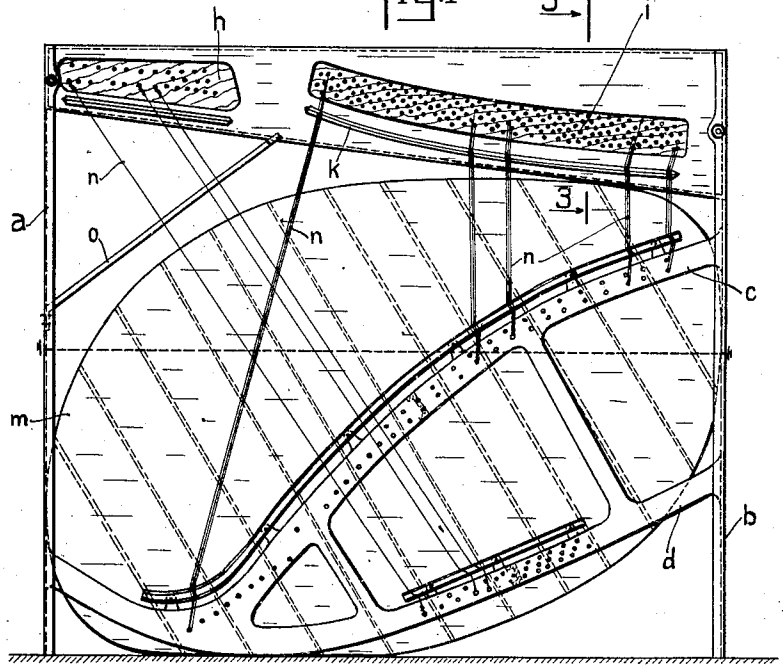


Fig.2

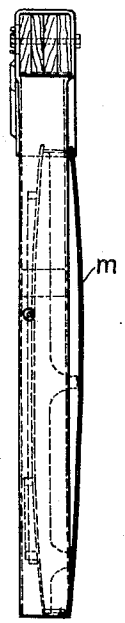


Fig.4

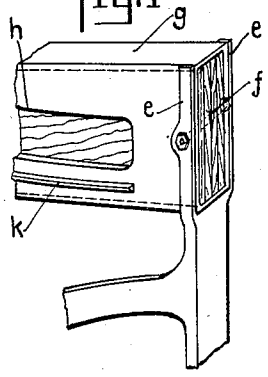
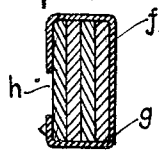


Fig.3



Adolf Eilert
Inventor

By Byrnes Townsend & Brickenstein
Attys.

Patented Feb. 22, 1927. 1,618,521

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLF EILERT, OF BRUNSWICK, GERMANY.

FRAME FOR STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Application filed October 12, 1925, Serial No. 62,151, and in Germany April 25, 1925.

My invention relates to improvements in frames for stringed musical instruments, and the object of the improvements is to provide a frame in which the strength of the tuning plank as against bending stresses is large as compared to its cross-section, and in which the number of the supporting means for the said tuning plank may be reduced, the said tuning plank being supported in some cases exclusively at its ends. Another object of the improvements is to provide a frame the wooden tuning plank of which is proof as against atmospheric influences, which is important for example when shipping the instrument such as a piano to tropic countries. With these objects in view my invention consists in providing the wooden tuning plank with a metal jacket. Preferably the said jacket is formed at the side of the strings with cut-out portions through which the tuning pins are screwed into the wooden part of the plank.

For the purpose of explaining the invention an example embodying the same has been shown in the accompanying drawing, in which the same reference characters have been used in all the views to indicate corresponding parts. In said drawing,

Fig. 1, is an elevation showing the frame and the sounding board carried thereby,

Fig. 2, is an end view looking from the left in Fig. 1,

Fig. 3, is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 4, is a perspective view showing one of the corners of the frame.

In the example shown in the drawing the frame consists of side members *a* and *b* and braces *c* and *d* connecting the said side members and provided with pins for attaching the strings thereto, the side members *a* and *b* being preferably U-shaped in cross-section. At their top ends the side members *a* and *b* are bifurcated, as is shown at *e* in Fig. 4, and the bifurcated portions *e* provide seats for the tuning plank. The tuning plank consists of boards *f* of wood enclosed within a jacket *g* of a suitable metal such as sheet steel. At the side of the strings the said jacket is formed with a cut-out portion or portions *h* through which the tuning pins *i* are screwed into the wood part *f*. Below the said cut-out portions bridges *k* made from brass or another suitable metal are fixed to the jacket *g*. The sounding board *m*, which in the example shown in the figures is in the form of a box, is secured to the frame in any known or preferred way.

In most cases the strength of my improved tuning plank is sufficient to take up the tension of the strings *n* when being freely supported exclusively at its ends. But in some cases I provide a bracing member *o* fixed with one end to the jacket *g* and with its opposite end to the side member *a*.

I claim:

1. A frame for stringed musical instruments comprising a body having a bottom member and two side members, and means securing the upper ends of said side members to each other to complete said frame, said means comprising a wooden tuning plank, and a metal jacket enclosing said tuning plank.

2. A frame as set forth in claim 1, wherein the metal jacket enclosing said tuning plank is cut away to expose the tuning plank at points where tuning pins are to be secured thereto.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

ADOLF EILERT.