

T. WILSON.
 DRUM ROD SUPPORT.
 APPLICATION FILED JAN. 20, 1910.

1,014,109.

Patented Jan. 9, 1912.

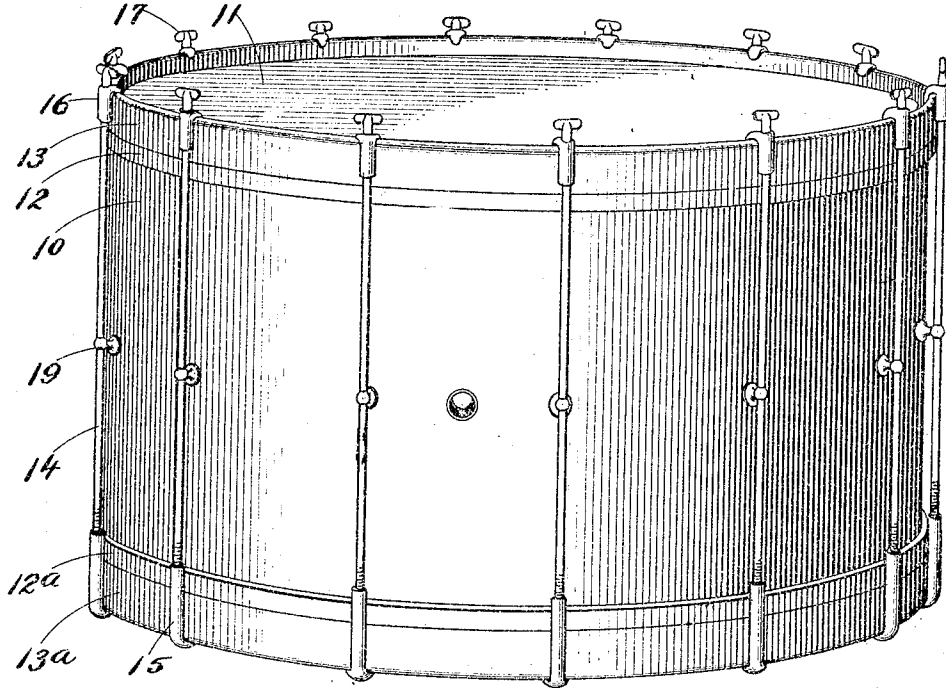


Fig. 1.

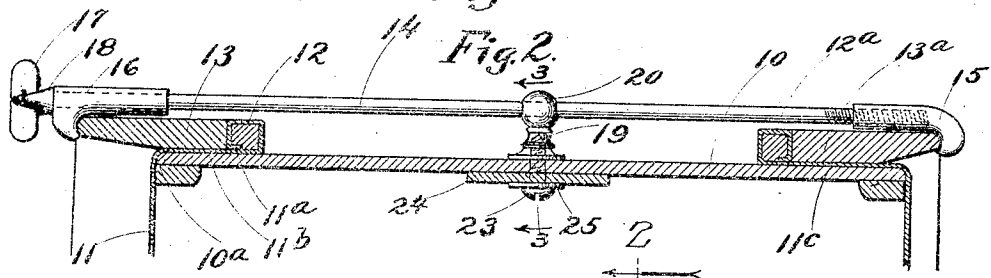


Fig. 2.

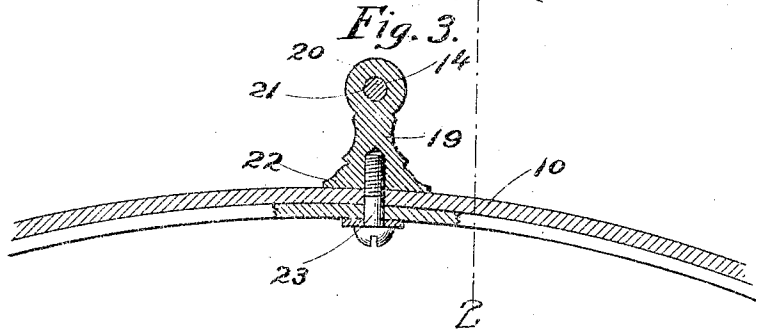


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TOM WILSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

DRUM-ROD SUPPORT.

1,014,109.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 2, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TOM WILSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Drum-Rod Supports, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the tension devices for drums, in which the membranes or heads of said drums are given the desired degree of tension by adjusting the length of said rods. Heretofore it has been the practice to use small rods for this purpose with hooks at the end of said rods, said hooks being adapted to engage the hoops that produce the tension in the drum heads. These hoops are commonly known as "counter hoops" and bear upon other hoops known as "flesh hoops" to which the membrane is attached at its periphery. The said hoops are loosely attached to the rods, and are provided with threaded connections, whereby the hoops may be drawn up by the rods. In this manner the counter hoops are caused to move toward each other, thereby causing a movement of the flesh hoops, and hence a movement of the peripheral portions of the flexible drum head over the edges of the shell.

The rods in large drums are necessarily of considerable length, and being very light are easily bent or damaged by accidental causes. When thus damaged the action of the rods when they are being adjusted is interfered with. Their appearance is also greatly injured.

The principal object of my invention is to provide means whereby the middle portion of each rod is supported. For this purpose I provide a post for each rod, which is fixed to the shell of the drum adjacent the middle portion of the rod. The said posts are uniformly spaced about the circumference of the drum, and thereby serve to hold the rods in the proper spaced relation. The supporting posts are given a pleasing form and add greatly to the ornamental appearance of the drum. I also add a strengthening hoop within the outer shell of the drum and directly beneath the row of posts.

Other objects and advantages of my improvements will be made greatly apparent in the following specifications and claim, taken in connection with the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a drum

with a supporting post attached to each tension rod. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of a portion of the drum, taken at right angles to the circumferential wall of the shell, and showing the exact location of the supporting post with relation to the adjacent parts. Fig. 3 is a sectional view at right angles to the view shown in Fig. 2 along the line 3, 3.

The same reference letters refer to similar parts in the different figures.

As commonly constructed, the drums to which my invention is applied are composed of a hollow cylindrical shell 10 having rounded outer edges 10^a over which the flexible membrane 11 is drawn. The peripheral portions 11^a of said membrane are folded around a hoop 12 which is commonly called a "flesh hoop." The hoop 12 is adapted to slide loosely along the outer surface of the cylindrical shell 10. A similar hoop 12^a is provided for the membrane at the other head or end of the shell. The hoops 12 and 12^a are moved along the shell by means of counter hoops 13 and 13^a which bear upon said hoops 12 and 12^a, and are also loosely mounted upon the shell 10, exterior to the overturned portions 11^b and 11^c of the membrane. Bearing upon the outer edges of the counter hoops 13 and 13^a are hooks 15 and 16. The hook 15 is provided with a threaded connection with the tension rod 14, and the hook 16 loosely fits said rod. The rod 14 is provided with a head 18 shouldered against the sleeve portion of the hook 16 and is provided with wings 17 by which the rod 14 may be rotated by the hand.

At or near the middle of the length of the rod 14 I attach a small post or support 19. This post 19 is provided with a head which is preferably of spherical form and through which a hole 21 is provided for the insertion of the rod 14. The post 19 is provided with a broad base 22 which bears upon the shell 10 of the drum. A screw 23 is threaded into the post 19 and is inserted therein through the wall of the shell 10 and into the base of the post from the inside of the shell.

In order to give the shell greater strength at its middle portion where the posts are attached, I provide a reinforcing hoop 24 which is preferably a thin strip of suitable material. I attach this hoop 24 to the inner wall of the shell and the screws 23 are passed through this hoop 24 as well as through the wall of the shell 10. A washer

25 may be inserted between the head 23 of the screw and the said strengthening hoop 24. The screws 23 will, therefore, be seen to serve the purpose of holding the posts 19 in their desired positions as well as to hold the strengthening hoop 24 in position.

The use and advantages of my improvement are very apparent, and it will be seen that the post 19 is very effective in supporting and holding the middle portion of the rod rigidly in position and preventing any accidental cause from bending it. It is apparent that more than one post can be used for each rod, if desired or found necessary. The tendency of the hooks 15 and 16 to become displaced or moved from positions equally spaced about the circumference of the drum is prevented by the posts 19.

While I have described more or less precisely the details of construction, it is understood that I do not wish to be limited thereto, as I desire to reserve the privilege of making changes in form, proportioning the device, or substituting equivalents as circumstances may suggest or render expedient

without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim:

In a drum a cylindrical shell, membranes covering the open ends thereof, hoops surrounding the ends of said shell and engaging said membranes, hooks engaging said hoops, said hooks being arranged in pairs, one hook of each pair having an aperture extending therethrough and the other having a screw threaded opening therein, a perforated support fixed to the shell between the hooks of each pair, a rod extending through each of said apertured hooks and the coacting support and having a screw threaded end engaging the screw threaded opening in the opposite hook of the pair, each of said rods having a shouldered head bearing against the coacting apertured hook.

In testimony whereof, I have subscribed my name.

TOM WILSON.

Witnesses:

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WM. BUSANDT.