Jan. 8, 1952 E. ROVERE 2,581,714

RIDING SADDLE WITH RADIO RECEIVING APPARATUS

Filed July 25, 1949

Fig. 1.

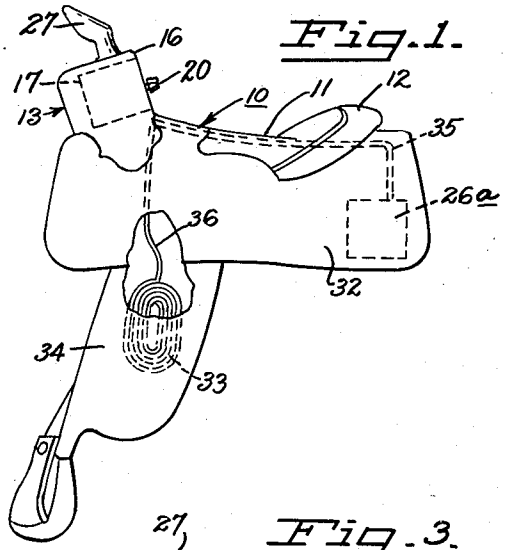


Fig. 2.

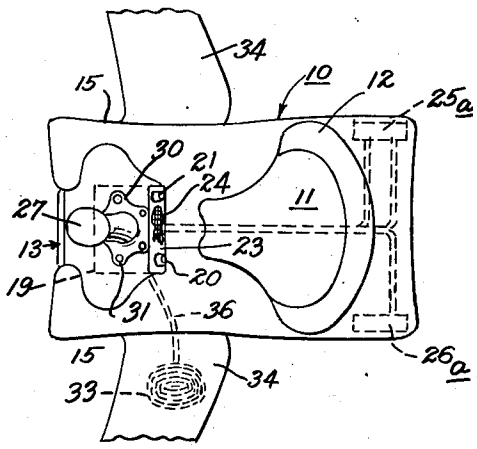
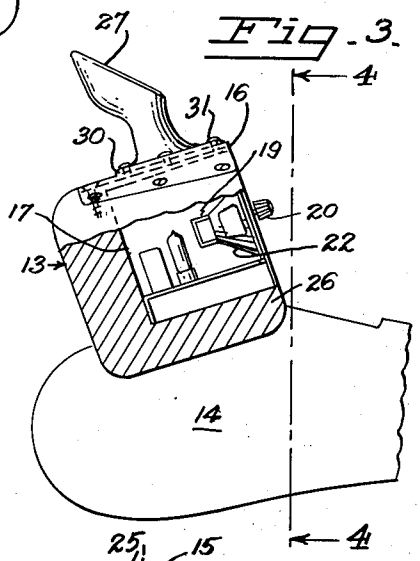


Fig. 3.



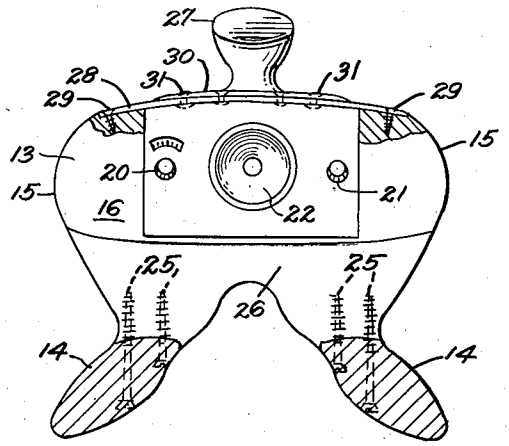


Fig. 4.

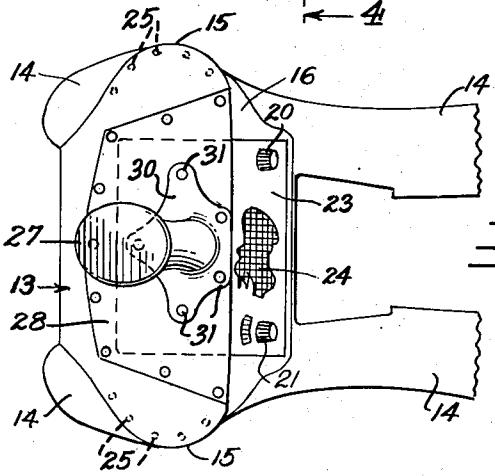


Fig. 5.

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RIDING SADDLE WITH RADIO RECEIVING APPARATUS

Elmer Rovere, San Francisco, Calif.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 54—44)

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This invention relates to riding saddles having radio apparatus mounted in the fork or pommel.

The invention is particularly adapted to a type of riding saddle, commonly known as the western or cowboy type having a fork or pommel as distinguished from another type known as the English type, the latter not having a pommel upraised at its forward end portion.

The western type saddle is characterized by having a seat portion provided with a rearwardly upwardly formed cantle and a forward portion comprising a fork or pommel upraised from the forward end of the seat. In western saddles usually a horn member extends upwardly from the fork or pommel. Therefore, it is manifest that the pommel or fork is forwardly of a person riding in the saddle.

Briefly, the invention consists of mounting by recessing in the pommel or fork a radio apparatus, the loud speaker and tuning dials of which face toward the seat of the saddle and the rider mounted therein, and providing a fork or pommel so constructed as to receive the radio apparatus without weakening of the saddle fork or the mounting of a horn thereon, since the horn is frequently subjected to severe strain by cinching a rope therearound such as in roping cattle or for pulling purposes.

Therefore, the broad object of the invention is to provide a riding saddle having a radio apparatus mounted in the fork or pommel, and providing for carrying an antenna and electric storage batteries.

More specifically stated, an object is to provide a saddle having a pommel or fork with a recess therein for mounting in radio apparatus and reinforcing the pommel to provide the usual strength required in the pommel for mounting a horn thereon if desired.

One form in which the invention may be exemplified and constructed is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view of saddle of the invention showing in dotted lines the mounting of radio apparatus, antenna and batteries.

Fig. 2 is a top view of the saddle of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary view of a portion of Fig. 1, partly in section, showing saddle foundation members.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section on line 4—4 of Fig. 3, partly broken to show detail in section.

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawing in which like reference characters indicate corresponding parts in the several views, 10 indicates generally a type of

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riding saddle commonly called Western or Cowboy type which has a seat 11, a rearward cantle 12 and a forward fork or pommel 13. The seat 11 and cantle 12 may be of any suitable conventional type. The fork 13 has special characteristics adapted to conform to the advantages of the invention.

In the western type saddle the fork 13 is the member which securely connects the forward ends of the parallelly spaced side bars 14 of a saddle, which is the foundation of the saddle. The side bars are connected rearwardly by the cantle 12. When covered with sheet leather the fork becomes the pommel forwardly of the seat portion.

Spaced from the opposite side walls 15 of the fork, the rearward wall 16 which faces the seat is provided with a recess 17 open through the top and rear walls of the fork or pommel, the opening in the rear wall facing the seat and the rider, the recess being of a depth and width sufficient to receive the chassis of a suitable radio receiving apparatus 19, with the dialing and tuning knobs or buttons 20, 21, and also the open end flare of the loud speaker 22, facing the seat and rider. As is well known many radio receiving sets of apparatus have an ornamental front panel incorporated integrally with the casing, and such a radio set may be employed in the present invention by inserting the entire casing and enclosed radio apparatus in the recess 17. But it is preferred that the radio receiving apparatus consists of the usual chassis and radio mechanism mounted thereon with loud speaker and dialing and tuning knobs or buttons be installed in the recess, and that the closure plate for the opening of the recess 17 comprise a closure plate 23 appropriately corresponding with the general design and appearance of the saddle, and provided with a screened port 24 to overlie the loud speaker of the radio set, the dialing and tuning knobs extending through the closure plate so as to be accessible to the rider in the seat.

The lower end of the fork frame of the pommel is fixedly mounted to the side bars 14 by screws 25, and the lower edge of the recess 17 in the fork is spaced from the juncture of the fork with the side bars as at 26, so as to provide ample fork material for strength in connecting the fork to the relatively spaced side bars 14. The recessed rearward wall 16 of the pommel is vertically inclined rearwardly from its top portion toward the side bars and seat and is connected to the side bars at an angle of between 100 degrees and 120 degrees to a horizontal plane, sub-

stantially 110 degrees' incline being preferred to provide a convenient angle for manual operation and sight of the rider in the saddle.

It is preferred that the recess 17 extend to the top of the fork because the height of the fork is necessarily limited for practical purposes, and if a thin, unreinforced body of the fork material, which is usually made of wood, remains as a cover of the recess it is likely to become broken and would not furnish sufficient foundation as a base support for mounting a horn 27, as is usually included in a western type saddle structure. By providing that the recess 17 shall be open at the top of the fork, whereby it provides a recess from the top as well as from the rear wall 16, the opening of the recess in the top of the fork may be closed by a reinforcing plate 28 inset at its edges flush with the surface of the fork, and tightly secured thereto by screws 29. The plate 28 may be shaped to conform to the original contour of the fork. If it is desired to include the usual saddle horn as an appendage to the fork, such horn may be integrally formed with the plate 28 or, as is preferred, may be mounted by means of suitable legs 30 secured by bolts 31 through the plate 28.

Any suitable insulation material may be employed as a liner of the interior of the recess 17, as insulation against both sound and shock.

After the chassis of the radio apparatus and the well known radio receiving elements are mounted in the recess, the closure member 23 is mounted to close the opening of the recess, the screened grill 24 being positioned against the loud speaker of the radio to facilitate sound outlet to a person riding in the saddle.

Electrical energy for operation of the radio apparatus is supplied by the usual portable dry battery cells "A" and "B" batteries 25^a, 26^a which may be positioned at any desired accessible place, and as shown herein, one of said batteries is carried on the underside of the opposed flaps of the saddle skirt 32 on opposite sides of the flanks of the horse; if desired, the batteries may be inserted in recesses at opposite ends of the cantle or rearwardly of the upstanding rear wall of the cantle.

To facilitate reception by the radio, a loop antenna 33 is provided at an accessible portion of the saddle, such as at the underside of one of the sudaderos 34. Obviously, suitable conduits 35 are provided from the batteries to the radio apparatus in the pommel, as well as a suitable lead-in wire 36 from the antenna.

Radio apparatus is of various depths and if unusually shallow in depth it may be possible to provide a suitable recess 17 in a saddle fork of normal thickness. However, if it is desired to install a radio apparatus of greater lateral depth than the normal lateral thickness of the fork, the fork may be increased in lateral thickness longitudinally with relation to the side bars, as shown in the present exemplification, in which event the horn, if employed, is mounted on top of the plate 28 more nearly adjacent the rear wall 16 of the fork at which position it will be easily accessible to a rider.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. A riding saddle having side bars, a seat portion mounted at the rear portion of the side bars and an upstanding fork mounted on the side bars forwardly of such seat portion, said fork having a top and a rear wall, the latter being angularly connected at its base to the side bars and vertically inclined rearwardly from top to base, said rear wall having a recess therein, said recess being open through the top of the fork and open through the rear wall of the fork and towards the seat portion, a grilled ported closure member adapted to close the opening of the rear wall and a reinforcing plate secured to the top of the fork and closing the top opening of the recess.

2. A riding saddle having side bars, a seat portion mounted at the rear portion of the side bars and an upstanding fork mounted on the side bars forwardly of such seat portion, said fork having a top and a rear wall, the latter being angularly connected at its base to the side bars and vertically inclined rearwardly from top to base, said rear wall having a recess therein, said recess being open through the top of the fork and opening through the rear wall of the fork towards the seat portion, and a reinforcing plate secured to the top of the fork and closing the top opening of the recess, said top plate being of greater length and width than said top opening and secured to the fork beyond the limit of said top opening of the recess, and a saddle horn secured to that portion of said top plate overlying the opening of the recess.

ELMER ROVERE.

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

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