Aug. 10, 1943. T. O. MORARRE 2,326,305

PRACTICE DRUM

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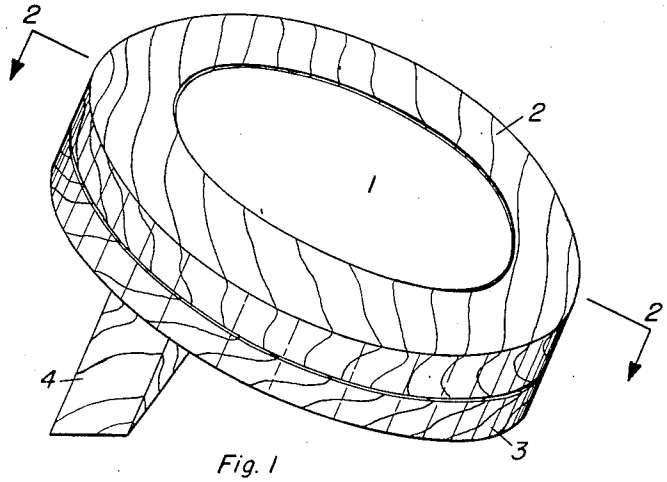


Fig. 1

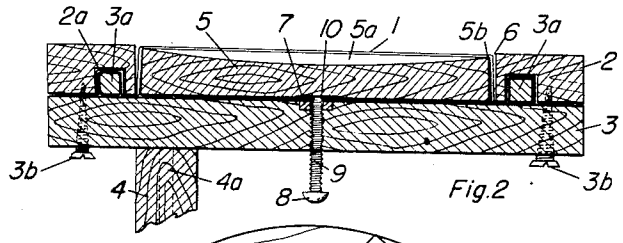


Fig. 2

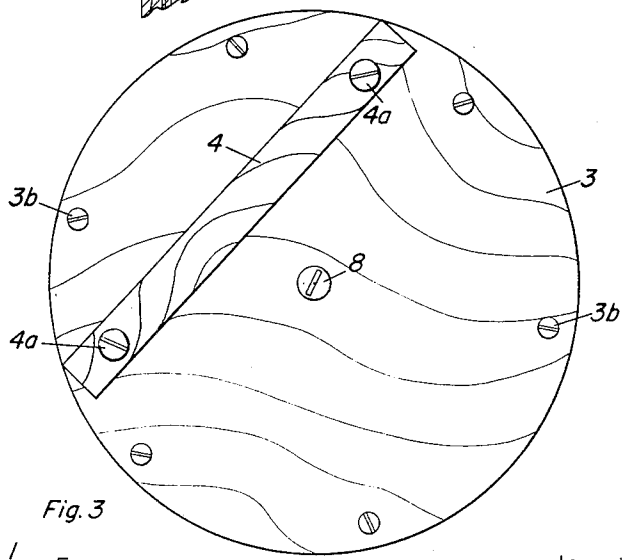


Fig. 3

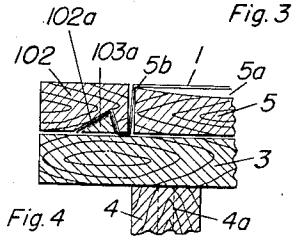


Fig. 4

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PRACTICE DRUM

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6 Claims. (Cl. 84—411)

This invention relates to drums and has particular relation to practice drums.

Practicing on drums which are intended for general or special use in connection with the production of music, is usually objectionable to others who may be in the vicinity. To obviate this objection, practice drums are used. The usual practice drum, while the volume of sound is reduced, often has a more or less flat tone.

It is the primary object of this invention to produce an improved practice drum.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved drum wherein, while the volume of sound is reduced, a good tone is retained.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a practice drum wherein there is an air chamber beneath the head with a single adjusting means for the tension of the head.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a practice drum wherein the head is evenly stretched and evenly gripped throughout its circumference and over a chamber, with a single means for varying the tension on the head after it is in place.

Another and still further object of the invention is the provision of a practice drum wherein the drum head is tightened by means of a continuous groove and a projecting flange or ring which forces the head into the groove.

Other and further objects of the invention will be apparent to one skilled in the art from a reading of the complete specification.

Referring to the drawing wherein I have illustrated an embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view.

Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view.

Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view of a modified form of the head-tightening means.

The reference character 1 designates the head of the practice drum which is held between the base member 3 and the rim member 2. The base member 3 is illustrated as a flat disk of wood upon which the other parts of the practice drum are mounted. The rim member 2 is illustrated as being of a ring shape and having an outer diameter substantially equal to the diameter of the base member 3. The rim member 2 and the base member 3 are illustrated as being made of wood. However, they may be made of any suitable material.

In order to support the practice drum in a position convenient to be played, there is provided a support or stand member 4. This support member 4 is suitably secured to the base member 3 as by the screws 4a.

The interior diameter of the rim member 2 is sufficiently large to provide space for the drum head 1 and also to receive the chambered member 5. This chambered member is provided with a chamber or hollowed portion 5a which preferably has at its outer periphery, a head-contacting edge 5b which is substantially a line and is in a plane. This edge 5b which contacts with the head 1, is the outer limit of the chamber 5a and forms the line on which the head 1 is stretched as the tension of the head is adjusted as will be described.

The rim member 2 and the base member 3 are provided with coacting means for stretching the head over the chambered member 5. These coacting means may be any one of a number of suitable means, two of which are illustrated, respectively, in Figs. 2 and 4. In the form shown in Fig. 2, an annular groove or channel 2a is provided to receive an annular strip 3a. This annular strip 3a may be made in one or more pieces or it may be made integral with the base member 3. As illustrated, the strip 3a is below the outer periphery of the drum head and when the rim 2 and the base 3 are drawn together, the drum head will be stretched over the chambered member 5.

In order to draw the rim member 2 and the base member 3 together, the screws 3b are provided. These are preferably put in from the bottom of the base member as illustrated in Fig. 3.

Between the chambered member 5 and the inner surface of the rim member 2, is an annular space 6 in which the portion of the drum head 1, outward of that over the chamber 5a, is located. This space permits movement of the chambered member 5 for the purpose of varying the tension of the drum head 1 as will be presently described.

Centrally of the space 6 and in the base member 3 is a nut 7 in which is an adjusting screw 8 having a threaded shank 9. The shank portion 9 extends through the base member 3 and has its head exposed for turning by a screw driver. A suitable metal pad 10 is embedded in the inner side of the chambered member 5 for contact with the end of the screw 8.

The insertion of the head will be readily understood by one skilled in the art. After being dampened and with the chambered member 5 and the annular strip 3a in place, the head

is put in place and the rim 2 forced down over the chambered member 5, the screw 8 having been previously withdrawn to permit the chambered member 5 to rest upon the base member 3. As the rim member 2 and the base member 3 are drawn together, the annular strip 3a, binds the drum head and pulls it tightly over the edge 5b.

When it is desired to prepare the drum for playing the screw 8 is adjusted to force the chambered member 5 outwardly until that portion of the head 1, over the chamber 5a, is placed under sufficient tension to produce the desired tone and resiliency. The drum is then ready for use.

In Fig. 4 which is a modified form, the recess 102a of the rim member 102, is of triangular cross section. It will be noted that the annular member 103a is similar in shape to the annular groove or channel 102a. In actual manufacture, the annular member 103a can be cut from the groove or channel 102a when the latter is made. As in the case of the annular member 3a, the member 103a may or may not be one piece or it may be integral with the base member 3. The installation of the head 1 and the adjustment for use is the same in the structure shown in Fig. 4 as for the same part shown in Fig. 2.

While embodiments of the invention have been illustrated and described in detail, it is to be understood that modifications and changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention and within its scope as claimed.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A practice drum comprising a drum head, a relatively thin base member, a rim member, means between the base member and rim member for clamping the drum head, a chambered member beneath the head and adjustable means for pressing the chambered member against the drum head.

2. A practice drum comprising a drum head, a relatively thin base member, a rim member, means coacting with the base member and rim member for stretching and clamping the drum head to the base member, a relatively thin chambered member beneath the head and adjustable means for pressing the chambered member against the drum head.

3. A practice drum comprising a drum head, a relatively thin base member, an annular rim member, means coacting between the rim and base member for stretching the head, a chambered member beneath the head and adjustable means for pressing the chambered member against the drum head.

4. A practice drum comprising a drum head, a relatively thin flat base member, a rim member, means coacting with the rim and base members for stretching the head, a concave block member between the head and base member and means for adjustably pressing the block against the head.

5. A practice drum comprising a drum head, a relatively thin flat base member, an annular rim member, means coacting with the rim and base members for stretching the head, a concave block member beneath the head and having a narrow circular line of contact therewith and means extending through the base member for variably adjusting the pressure of the block against the drum head.

6. A practice drum comprising a drum head, a relatively thin flat base member, an annular rim member, wedge means coacting with the rim and base members for stretching the head, a block member beneath the drum head and having a thickness substantially equal to the rim member, an adjusting screw in the base member, and coacting with the block member to vary the pressure of the block against the head to vary its tension and for holding the head in adjusted tension.

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