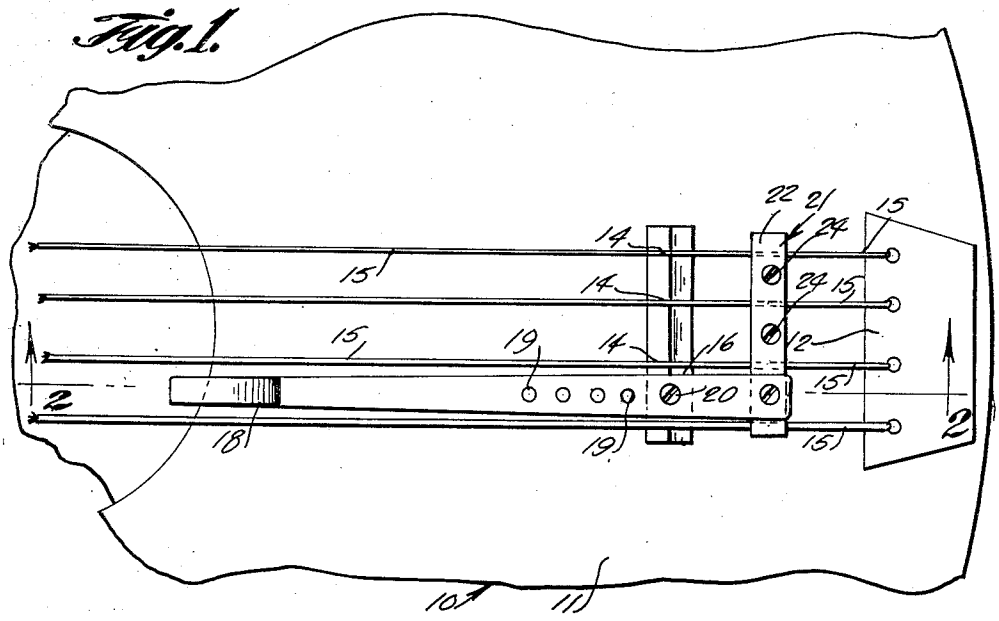
March 4, 1958 S. WITT 2,825,257

TONE VIBRATOR

Filed Sept. 11, 1956

Fig. 1.



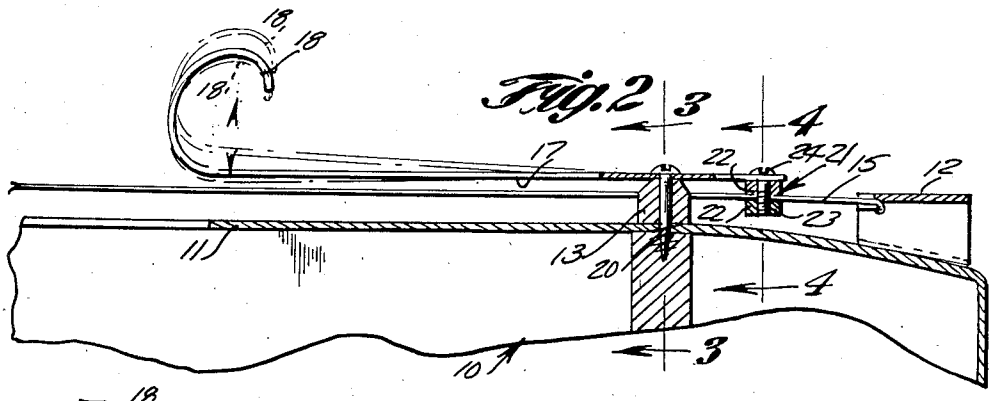


Fig. 3.

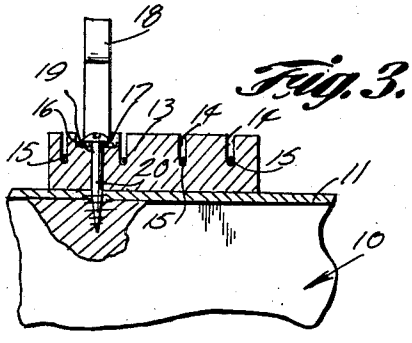
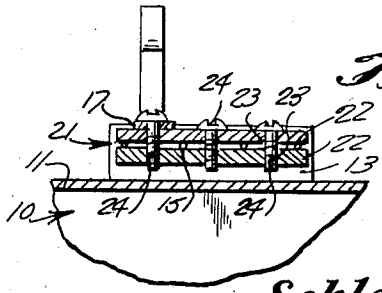


Fig. 4.



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TONE VIBRATOR

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Application September 11, 1956, Serial No. 609,179

3 Claims. (Cl. 84—313)

This invention relates to a musical instrument, and more particularly to a tone vibrator for a musical instrument.

The object of the invention is to provide a tone vibrator for use with a musical instrument of the stringed type whereby the device can be manually operated to set-up vibrations in the instrument.

Another object of the invention is to provide a tone vibrator for a musical instrument of the stringed type, the tone vibrator including a lever which is adapted to be manually moved whereby a clamp which is arranged in engagement with the strings of the instrument will set-up vibrations so as to permit the user of the device to produce the desired tone or sounds.

A further object of the invention is to provide a musical instrument tone vibrator which is extremely simple and inexpensive to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this application, and in which like numerals are used to designate like parts throughout the same:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a musical instrument showing the tone vibrator of the present invention mounted thereon, and with parts broken away and in section.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the numeral **10** designates a portion of a musical instrument such as a guitar, banjo or the like, and the instrument **10** includes a body **11** which has the usual tail piece **12** secured to an end thereof, Figure 1.

The musical instrument **10** further includes a bridge **13** which is spaced from the tail piece **12**, and the bridge **13** may be secured to the body **11** in any suitable manner. The bridge **13** is provided with a plurality of cuts or slits **14** through which extend the strings **15**, the strings **15** having an end secured to the tail piece **12**. The bridge **13** is further provided with a slot or cutout **16** for a purpose to be later described.

The present invention is directed to a manually operable tone vibrator which can be used for setting up vibrations in the strings **15** so as to provide the desired tone or sound as the musical instrument is played. The tone vibrator of the present invention includes a lever **17** which has one end thereof curved as at **18** so as to define a finger grip whereby the lever **17** can be moved so that the vibrations can be set-up. The lever **17** is provided with a plurality of spaced apart openings or apertures **19**, the lever **17** extending through the slot **16** in the bridge **13**. There is further provided a suitable securing element such as the screw **20** which extends through one of the openings **19** and through the bridge **13** and into engagement with the body **11** as shown in Figure 3.

The tone vibrator of the present invention further includes a clamp which is indicated generally by the numeral **21**, and the clamp **21** includes a pair of spaced apart bars or plates **22** which are arranged on opposite sides of the strings **15**. The plates **22** are each provided with a plurality of registering openings **23**, Figure 4, and suitable securing elements such as the bolts **24** extend through the openings **23** for maintaining the plates **22** connected together. One of the bolts **24** serves to connect the clamp **21** to an end of the lever **17**, the clamp **21** being arranged at right angles with respect to the lever **17**. Thus, by manually engaging the portion **18** of the lever **17**, the lever **17** can be vibrated or moved since the lever **17** will pivot about the bridge **13** and this will cause similar vibrations to be set-up in the clamp **21** so that the vibrating effect can be imparted to the plurality of strings **15** whereby the desired sound or effect can be produced or provided.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that there has been provided a tone vibrator for use with a musical instrument such as the instrument **10**. In use the parts are arranged in the drawings so that the clamp **21** is positioned between the bridge **13** and the tail piece **12**. The claimp **21** includes the pair of plates **22** which are arranged on opposite sides of the strings **15**, and the plates **22** are connected together by means of the bolts **24**. The clamp **21** is arranged at right angles with respect to the lever **17**, and one of the bolts **24** connects an end of the lever **17** to an end of the clamp. The lever **17** is also secured in the slot **16** in the bridge **13** by means of the screw **20**. Then, when the instrument is being played, the user can manually engage the curved portion **18** of the lever **17** so as to set-up vibrations in the lever **17** as shown in Figure 2. These vibrations will be transmitted to the clamp **21** so that the vibrating clamp **21** will cause the strings **15** to have the desired vibrations whereby the necessary or desired tone can be produced. Thus, different types of tones can be provided and will increase the versatility of the musical instrument.

Furthermore, due to the position of the plurality of openings **19**, the screw **20** can be extended through different of the openings **19** so that the clamp **21** can be moved or adjusted to different positions between the bridge **13** and the tail piece **12**. The plurality of bolts **24** serve to maintain the pair of plates **22** in clamping relation with respect to the strings **15** of the instrument.

Thus, it will be seen that there has been provided a tone vibrator which includes the lever **17** and the clamp **21**, the clamp **21** being connected to the strings **15** of the instrument, and wherein the clamp is positioned between the bridge and the tail piece of the instrument. The curved portion **18** of the lever may fit in the palm of the hand when the hand is in playing position so that by moving the portion **18** the desired vibrations in the strings are brought out. The device of the present invention can be used on various types of stringed instruments such as guitars, banjos and the like, and the device can be made of any suitable material and in any desired shape or size. The clamp **21** is spaced above the body **11** of the instrument as shown in Figure 2 so that the clamp does not touch with body of the instrument. The clamp **21** can be moved or adjusted to different positions between the bridge **13** and tail piece **12** so as to bring out the desired effects.

I claim:

1. In a musical instrument, a body, a tail piece secured to said body, a bridge spaced from said tail piece and secured to said body and said bridge being provided with a plurality of spaced parallel slits, a plurality of spaced parallel strings each having an end secured to said tail piece and said strings extending through said slits, there being a slot in said bridge, a tone vibrator including a

lever extending through the slot in said bridge, a securing element extending through said lever and into engagement with said bridge, and a clamp connected to said lever and arranged in engagement with that portion of the strings between the tail piece and the bridge.

2. In a musical instrument, a body, a tail piece secured to said body, a bridge spaced from said tail piece and secured to said body and said bridge being provided with a plurality of spaced parallel slits, a plurality of spaced parallel strings each having an end secured to said tail piece and said strings extending through said slits, there being a slot in said bridge, a tone vibrator including a lever extending through the slot in said bridge, a securing element extending through said lever and into engagement with said bridge, a clamp connected to said lever and arranged in engagement with that portion of the strings between the tail piece and the bridge, said clamp including a pair of spaced parallel plates arranged on opposite sides of said strings, there being registering apertures in said plates, and securing elements extending through said apertures, said plates being arranged at right angles with

respect to the longitudinal axis of said lever and secured thereto, an end of said lever being curved to provide a finger engaging portion.

3. In a musical instrument having a body and a tail piece secured thereto, a bridge secured to said body and spaced from said tail piece, said bridge being provided with a plurality of slits, a plurality of strings secured to said tail piece and extending through said slits, said bridge having a slot therein, a tone vibrator extending through the slot in said bridge, a securing element extending through said tone vibrator and into engagement with said bridge, and means connected to said tone vibrator and arranged so that it is in engagement with that portion of the strings between the tail piece and the bridge.

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