Oct. 21, 1930. H. POHLMAN 1,779,288

SOUNDING BOARD SUPPORT FOR GRAND AND UPRIGHT PIANOS

Filed Aug. 9, 1929

Fig. 1.

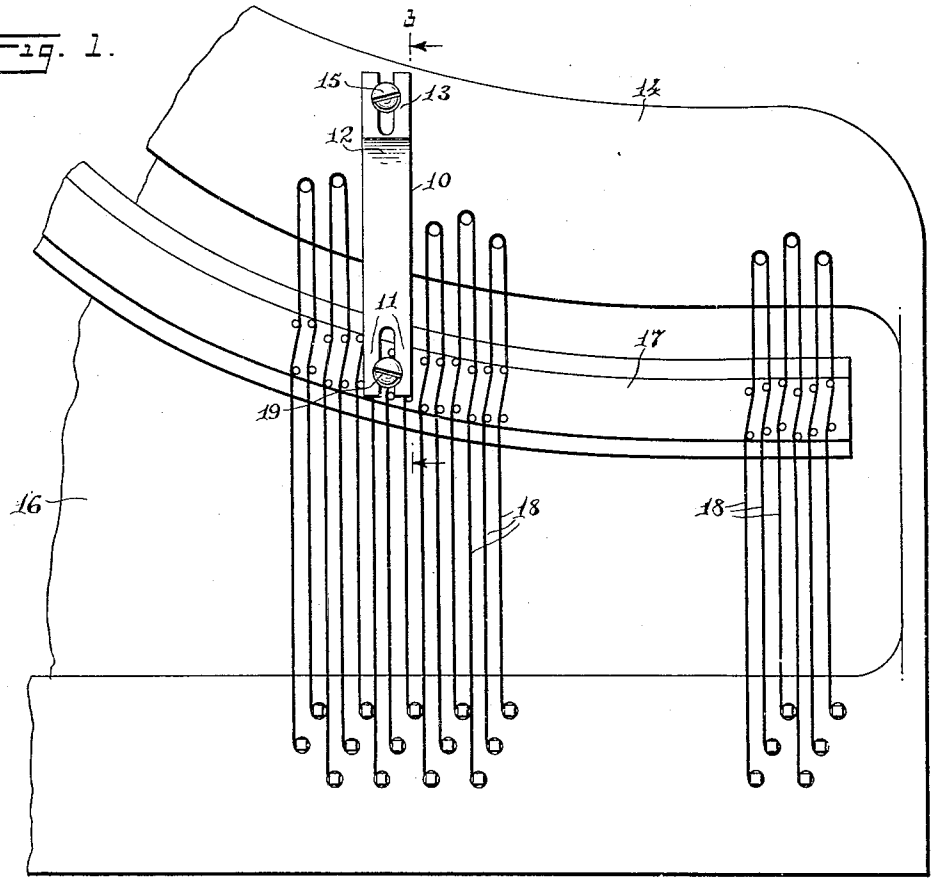


Fig. 2.

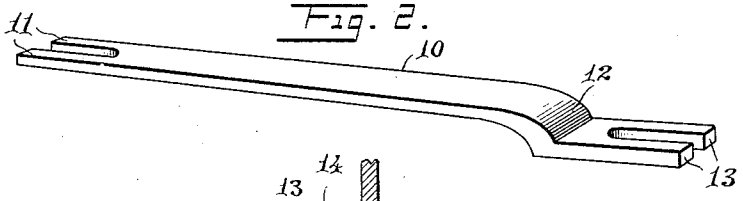
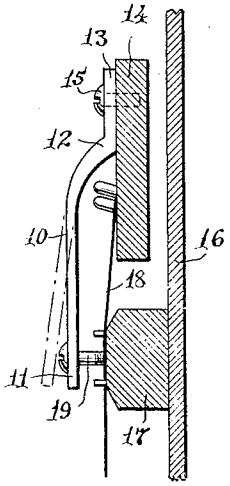


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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SOUNDING-BOARD SUPPORT FOR GRAND AND UPRIGHT PIANOS

Application filed August 9, 1929. Serial No. 384,661.

This invention relates to sounding board supports for grand and upright pianos.

It is among the objects of the present invention to provide a device of the character set forth which is adapted to substantially prevent sagging of a piano sounding board.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel and improved sounding board support for pianos, which may be adjustably associated with the piano to vary the tension applied to the sounding board of the piano.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a piano sounding board support which will resiliently support the piano sounding board to offset the normal sagging tendency of the piano sounding board.

A further object of the present invention is to provide as a new article of manufacture, a simple and efficient adjustable sounding board support.

Other objects and features of the present invention will be apparent from a consideration of the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a plan view of one form of my present invention applied to a piano sounding board;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the present invention, and

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on lines 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, as shown in Fig. 1, the present device comprises an elongated member having a body 10 terminating in bridge-engaging furcations 11, which terminal end lies in the plane of the body 10. The opposite end of the member is turned downwardly as at 12 and terminates in furcations 13, whereby the device may be adjustably secured to the frame of the piano. The support is preferably formed of semi-flexible material, such as tool steel, whereby, as will be hereinafter seen, it will accommodate itself to take up sagging or warping of the sounding board.

Referring more particularly to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, it will be seen that the downwardly extending end of the support is mounted upon the frame 14 of the piano and is adjustably secured thereto by an adjustable bolt 15. The furcations 13 of the support extend on either side of the bolt and the head of the bolt secures the device in adjusted position. By this construction it will be seen that the support may be adjusted for angular relation with respect to the frame 14 and that by adjusting the bolt 15 the support may be tightened to control the tension applied to the sounding board.

The sound board, indicated by the numeral 16, is provided with a conventional bridge 17 upon which the strings 18 bear. For connecting the sound board with the support, the forward furcations 11 are provided, which are adapted to pass on either side of an adjustable bolt 19 carried by the bridge 17 of the sounding board. As shown in Fig. 2, the arrangement is such that the normal resiliency of the support will urge upwardly the bridge 17, and thus by the connection of the bridge with the sounding board, the sounding board will be held against sagging or warping. It will be understood that by adjusting the bolt 19, the tension applied on the sounding board may be readily varied. It will further be seen that by the elongations of the slots between the furcations 11 and 13, the device may be adjusted for various distances between the bolts 15 and 19.

It will be understood that, if desired, a plurality of the supports may be provided. It will be seen that the supports are separately adjustable by adjustment of either the bolts 15 or 19, or both.

In the operation of the device, before tuning the piano, the tuner will adjust the tension applied by the support 10 or will provide a support 10, thereby overcoming the normal sagging of the sounding board. Thus the device insures a proper positioning of the sounding board and a proper contact of the bridge with the strings.

It has been found that the present invention is of value both in rectifying sagging sounding boards and in preventing such sagging, and that the device may be applied to provide the proper tension on the sounding

board thus improving the tone qualities of the instrument.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the present invention provides a simple, efficient and improved supporting means for piano sounding boards.

The device may be used either as an accessory to improve the tone qualities of old pianos or it may be used for new pianos to prevent undue strain and sagging of the pianoforte.

It will further be understood that the invention is not confined to the specific construction and material herein specified, and that numerous changes, modifications and the full use of equivalents may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or scope of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In a piano, the combination with a frame, and a sounding board; of means extending between said frame and sounding board for substantially preventing sagging of the sounding board.

2. In a piano, the combination with a frame and a sounding board; of resilient means extending between said frame and sounding board for substantially preventing sagging of the sounding board.

3. In a piano, the combination with a frame and sounding board; of a resilient adjustable arm carried by said frame and engageable with the sounding board to substantially prevent sagging thereof.

4. In a piano, the combination with a frame and sounding board carrying a bridge; of a support carried by said frame and engageable with said bridge to substantially prevent sagging of the sounding board.

5. In a piano, the combination with a frame and sounding board; of a support extending between said frame and sounding board, comprising an elongated body having one end extending downwardly to engage the frame.

6. In a piano, the combintion with a frame and sound board; of a support extending between said frame and sounding board, comprising an elongated body having one end extending downwardly to engage the frame, said end having furcations adapted to receive therebetween a securing bolt carried by the frame.

7. In a piano, the combination with a frame and sounding board; of a support extending between said frame and sounding board, comprising an elongated body having one end extending downwardly to engage the frame, said end having furcations adapted to receive therebetween a securing bolt carried by the frame, the opposite end including furcations adapted to receive therebetween a bolt carried by the bridge of the sounding board.

8. In a piano, the combination with a frame and sounding board; of a support extending between said frame and sounding board, comprising an elongated body having one end extending downwardly to engage the frame, said end having furcations adapted to receive therebetween a securing bolt carried by the frame, the opposite end including furcations adapted to receive therebetween a bolt carried by the bridge of the sounding board, said body being formed of resilient material to normally maintain a predetermined stress opposed to the normal sagging stress of the sounding board.

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