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AUXILIARY SADDLE CONSTRUCTION

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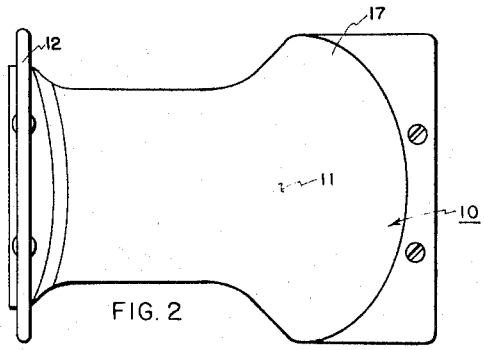


FIG. 2

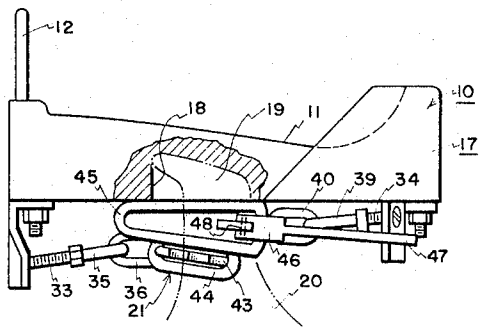


FIG. 1

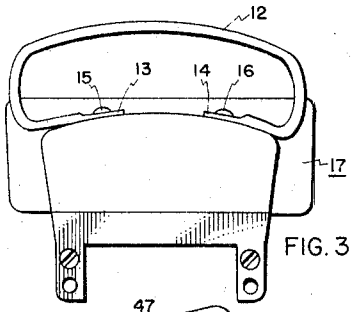


FIG. 3

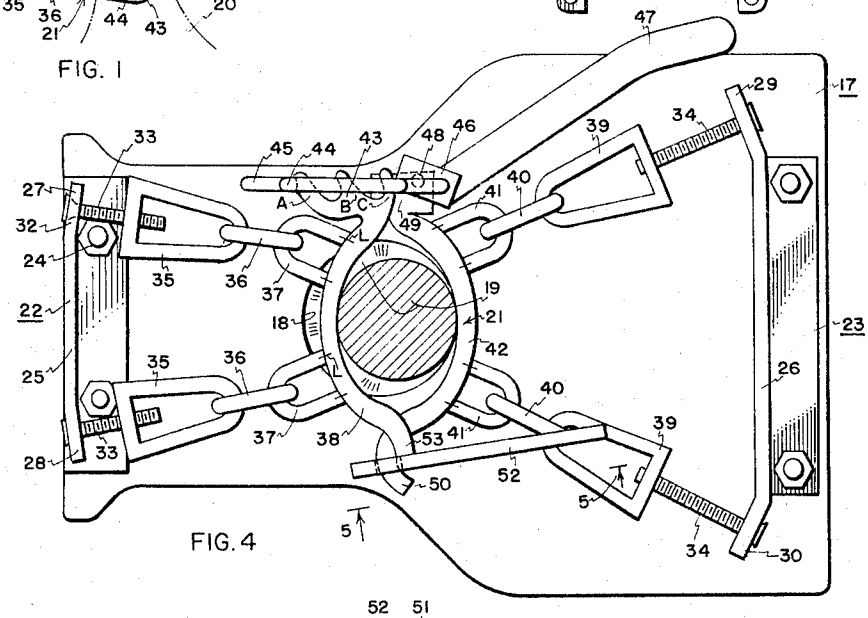


FIG. 4

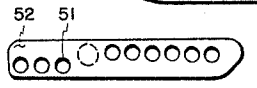


FIG. 5

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AUXILIARY SADDLE CONSTRUCTION

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5 Claims. (Cl. 54—44)

The present invention relates to auxiliary saddles and, more particularly, to a new and improved auxiliary saddle which is intended for mounting to the horn of a primary saddle, this so that small children and other persons may be accommodated without interfering with the seat area of the primary saddle.

In the past a number of different types of saddles have been developed for use with horses and other mounts. Such saddle constructions are well known and utilized both here and abroad. In the past it has been very difficult for an adult or older person to take with him or her a young child for a ride. This is because the seat area of a primary saddle is generally not large enough to accommodate the comfortable seating of two persons. Furthermore, it is not safe for young children to ride behind adults since the latter cannot see the child and since the danger of the youngster falling from the horse or other mount is very real.

Accordingly, a principal object of the present invention is to provide an auxiliary saddle for mounting in front of the main rider. This so that the main rider can observe the younger person using the auxiliary saddle and prevent his falling from the mount if necessary.

A further object is to provide an improved, auxiliary saddle construction for releasable mounting to the horn of a primary saddle.

An additional object is to provide an auxiliary saddle having horn clamping means whereby the auxiliary saddle may be mounted to the horn of a primary saddle without interfering with or obstructing the seat area of the primary saddle.

An additional object is to provide an auxiliary saddle having appropriate gripping means for insuring further the safety of small children using the auxiliary saddle construction.

The features of the present invention which are believed to be novel are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. The present invention, both as to its organization and manner of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIGURE 1 is a side elevation, partially broken away and sectioned for convenience of illustration, of an auxiliary saddle construction employing a first embodiment of the principles of the present invention.

FIGURE 2 is a top plan of the structure shown in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 3 is a front view of the auxiliary saddle shown in FIGURES 1 and 2.

FIGURE 4 is an enlarged, bottom plan of the structure in FIGURE 1, illustrating a preferred clamping mechanism utilized by the auxiliary saddle construction for clamping the same to the horn or a primary saddle.

FIGURE 5 is a view of a transverse member employed in the clamping means shown in FIGURE 4 wherein a multiple hole pattern is used for accommodating different sizes of saddle horns to which the auxiliary saddle is to be clamped.

In FIGURES 1 and 2 auxiliary saddle **10** is shown to include a contoured seat portion **11** and an upstanding gripping means **12** in the form of a gripping loop. As seen in FIGURE 3 the gripping means **12** may include inwardly directed, apertured ears **13** and **14** receiving respective attachment screws **15** and **16** to accomplish

the securement to the saddle member **17**, the principal member of auxiliary saddle **10**. The auxiliary saddle member **17** may be manufactured from wood, metal, plastic, rubber, or other similar material, this so long as the same preserves a rigid or semi-rigid character.

Auxiliary saddle member **17** may include a horn-receiving socket **18** as is shown in FIGURE 1, this for receiving the upper extremity of horn **19** of primary saddle **20**. The latter, of course, mounts to a riding animal in a conventional manner.

Of interest is the clamping means afforded the auxiliary saddle **10** whereby the same may be clamped to the horn **19** of primary saddle **20**.

Reference is now made to FIGURES 4 and 5. It is seen in FIGURE 4 that the horn clamping means **21** provided in the auxiliary saddle member **17**, includes front and rear brackets **22** and **23** which are secured by conventional attachments **24** to the under-side of auxiliary saddle member **17**. The depending flanges **25** and **26** of these brackets **22** and **23** have their ends **27–30** bent inwardly and suitably apertured at respective apertures **32** for receiving front take-up bolts **33** and rear take-up bolts **34**, as shown. Each of the take-up bolts **33** is threaded into respective eye mounts **35** which respectively are secured to links **36**, the latter being secured to respective eyes **37** of clamp half **38**. Correspondingly, threaded take-up bolts **34** are respectively threaded into eye mounts **39**; links **40** intercouple the same with eyes **41**, the latter being welded or otherwise secured to the remaining clamp half **42**. Small lines L in FIGURE 4 indicate fixed attachment of the several eyes to their respective clamp halves **38**, **42**. Clamp half **38** includes an engagement portion extremity **43** which delineates a plurality of engagement hooks A, B, and C which are so constructed and arranged as to provide engagement seats for seating the engagement loop **44**; the latter is integral with lever loop **45** as by welding or other suitable construction means. The lever loop **45** is pivotally secured to portion **46** of overtoggling lever **47**. It is noted that a pivot **48** pivotally attaches portion **46** of lever **47** to the corresponding extremity **49** of clamp half **42**, the remaining extremity thereof being curved at **50** in hook fashion and hooking through a selected aperture **51** of transverse member **52**. It will be seen that the transverse member, see FIGURE 5, includes plural apertures **51** accommodating various sizes of saddle horns as per horn **19**. Corresponding adjustment or various degrees of clamping is enable through the provision of hooks A–C of clamp half **38**. The remaining extremity **53** of clamp half **38** is welded or otherwise secured to transverse member **32** as shown in FIGURE 4.

The clamping structure as shown in FIGURES 1 and 4 operates as follows. Lever **47** in FIGURE 4 is rotationally displaced in a counter-clockwise direction so as to proceed about pivot **48** and thus cause the release of engagement loop **44** with hook portion A of engagement portion **43** of the clamp half **38**. Subsequently, the auxiliary saddle is placed over the horn of the primary saddle as seen in FIGURE 1, the extremity **50** in FIGURE 4 is disposed through the appropriate aperture **51** (in accordance with the thickness of the horn), and the engagement portion **43** of clamp half **38** oriented with respect to engagement loop **44** so as to tightly engage the same in accordance with the thickness of the horn. After the overtoggle lever **47** is rotationally displaced to the right with respect to FIGURE 4 (in a clockwise direction) so as to cinch up the clamping action of the horn clamping means **21** with respect to horn **19**, there occurs an overtoggling of the pivotal engagement of lever loop **45** at its pivotal juncture with portion **46** of lever **47** with respect to pivot **48**. This facilitates the clamping of the auxiliary saddle to the horn of the primary saddle

20. At this time the horseman will sit in the primary saddle **20** and receive his youngster on the auxiliary saddle. The child using the auxiliary saddle merely grips the gripping loop **12** or other suitable gripping means provided so as to ready for a ride on the horse or other riding animal with the older person sitting in the primary saddle. The reins may be placed through the loop **12**, if desired.

It is seen that the clamping device of the present invention accommodates a number of features for adjusting the clamping device to fit any conceivable type of horn. Thus, the take-up bolts **33** and **34** are provided with the transverse blade member **53**, providing aperture plurality **51** and plural hooks for loop seats at A, B and C of clamp half **38**.

Accordingly, it is seen that a removable auxiliary saddle is provided whereby the same can be clamped to the horn of a primary saddle and out of the way of the seat area of the primary saddle, this so that the two riders may be accommodated on one mount.

While particular embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that changes and modifications may be made without departing from this invention in its broader aspects, and, therefore, the aim in the appended claims is to cover all such changes and modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of this invention.

I claim:

1. In combination, a primary saddle having a horn, an auxiliary saddle member, and clamping means secured to the underside of said auxiliary saddle member for supporting the latter upon the horn of said primary saddle.

2. In combination, a primary saddle having an upstanding saddle horn, an auxiliary saddle member and clamping means affixed to the underside of said auxiliary saddle member for releasably and clampingly securing said auxiliary saddle member to said saddle horn.

3. Structure according to claim **2** wherein said clamping means includes a pair of intercooperable clamp halves having mutually cooperable means for releasable intersecurement together and overtoggling lever means for so releasably securing said clamp halves together.

4. Structure according to claim **3** wherein said clamp halves each include adjustable positioning means for regulating the clamp opening of said clamping means when said clamp halves are joined together.

5. Structure according to claim **3** wherein the underside of the auxiliary saddle has a horn receiving socket located centrally thereof.

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