J. T. SHAWAN.

MUFFLER FOR DRUMS.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 5, 1907.

907,901. Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

Fig. 1.

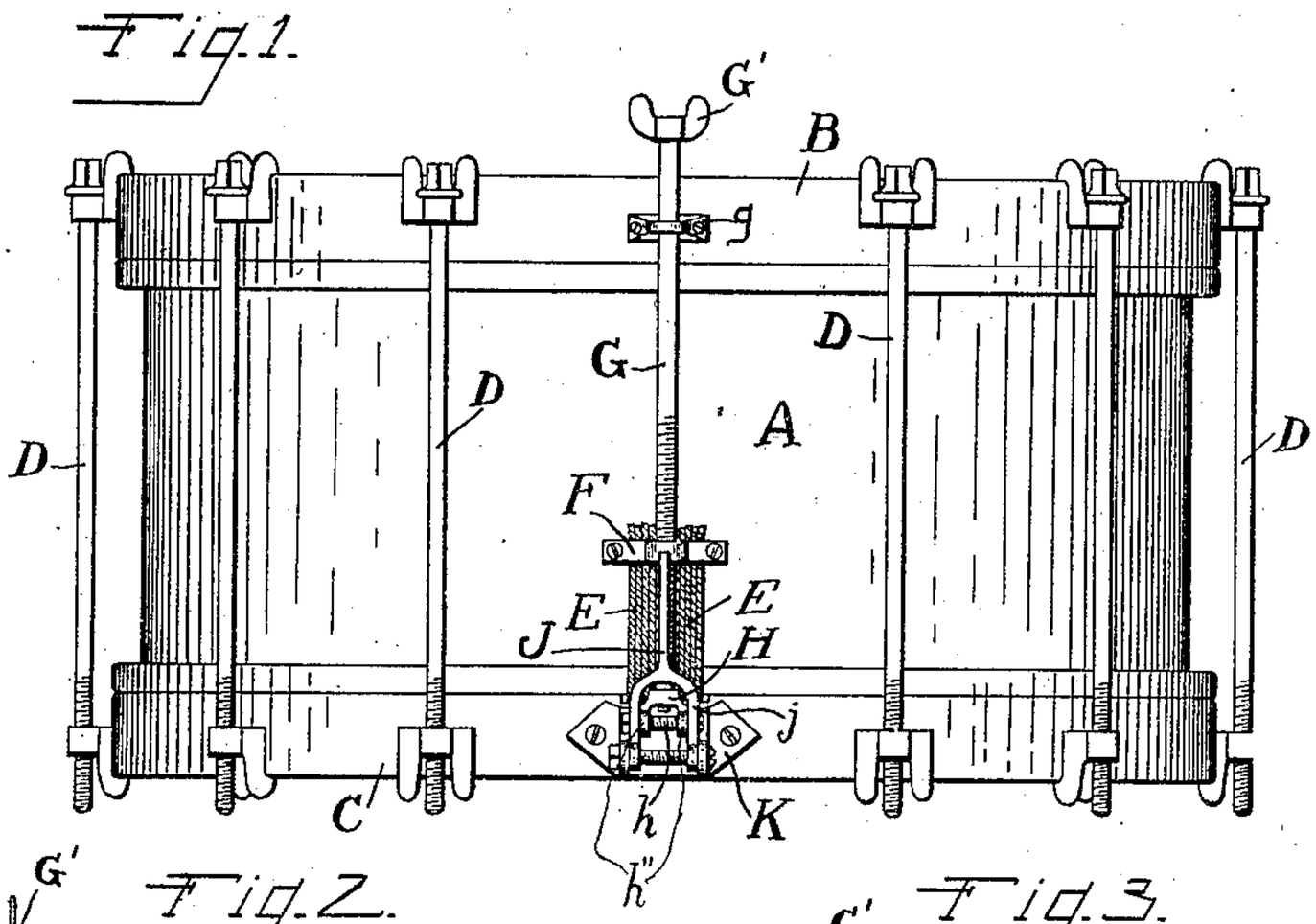


Fig. 2.

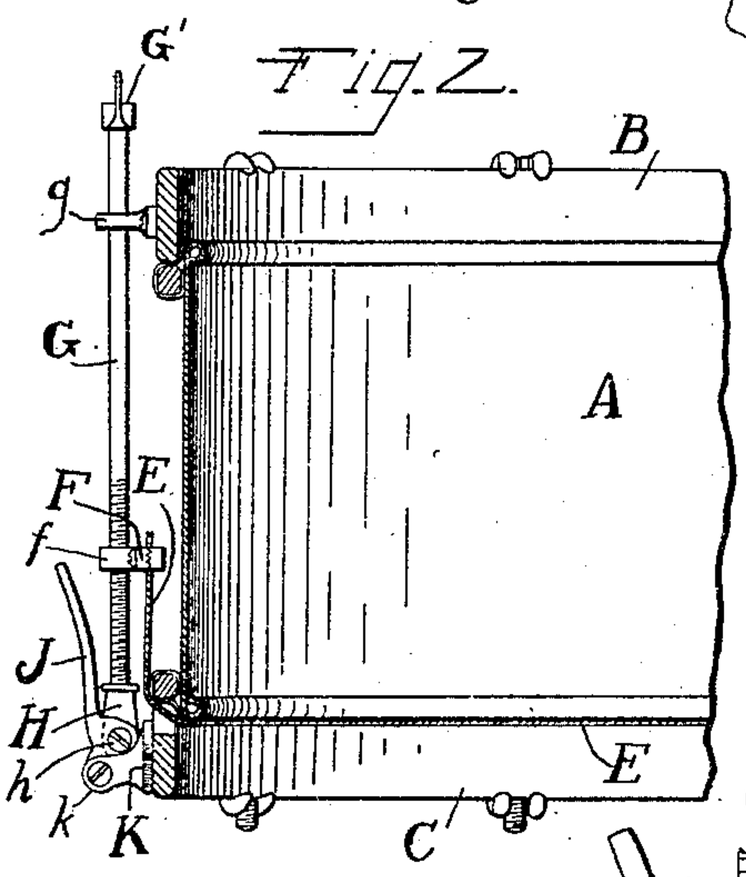


Fig. 3.

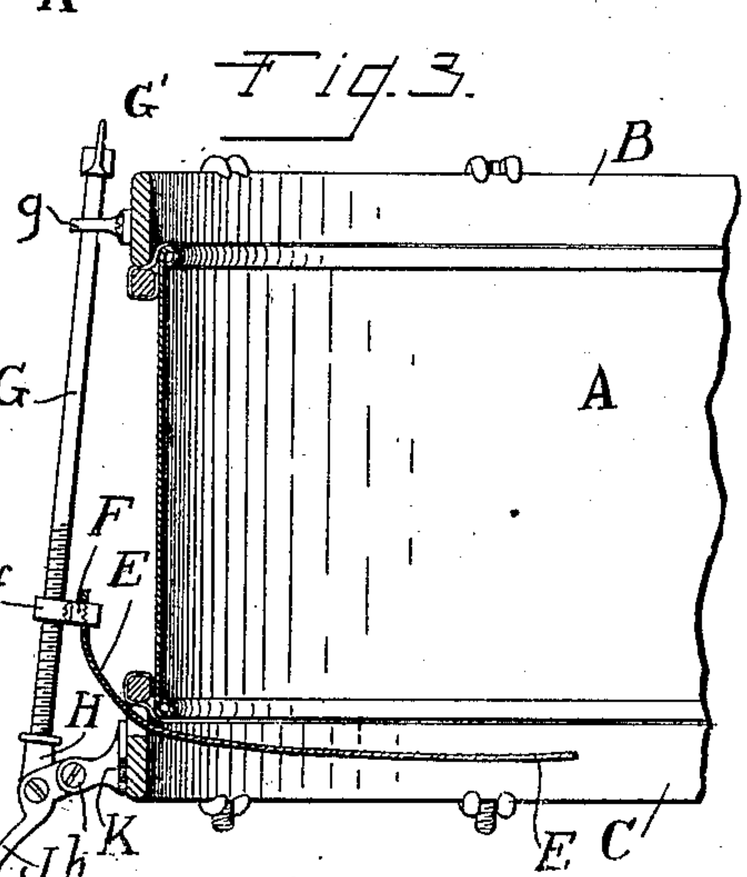
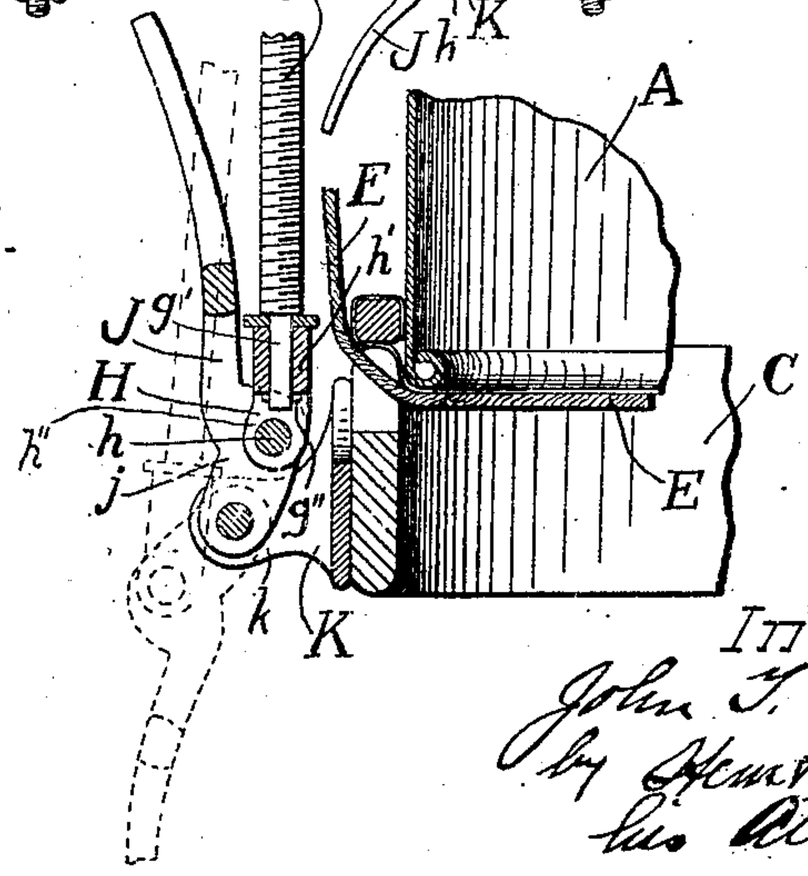


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MUFFLER FOR DRUMS.

No. 907,901. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

Application filed August 5, 1907. Serial No. 387,103.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN T. SHAWAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Mufflers for Drums, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of my specification.

My invention relates to a muffler for drums and the object of my invention is to provide a device of simple and economical construction which may be readily applied to a drum and by the use of which the drum may be efficiently and instantly muffled, and when desired the muffler may with equal rapidity be cut off.

My improved muffler adds little or nothing to the expense of the ordinary attachments of the drum, but at the same time is always ready for use and may be manipulated in a moment's time.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation showing my improved muffler attached to the drum; Fig. 2 is a partial vertical section of the same with the drum not muffled; Fig. 3 is a similar view with the drum muffled; and Fig. 4 is a vertical section through the muffling device on an enlarged scale, showing the muffler in position in full lines when the drum is not muffled and in dotted lines when the drum is muffled.

A is the drum cylinder, B, the batter-head frame, C, the snare-head frame and D D the tension rods adapted to tighten the heads.

E E are the snares permanently attached at one side, and adapted to slide through the other side, of the snare-head frame and up alongside the drum cylinder A in the ordinary manner. The free ends of the snares are secured within a clamping frame or member F, one side of which frame is provided with an internally threaded portion *f*, through which passes the threaded rod G. One end of the rod G is prolonged above the batter-head frame B through an eye *g* which is secured by screws or in any other manner to the batter-head frame. Said end of the rod G is provided with a fly-nut G′ for rotating it. The other end of said rod G is reduced in section at *g′* which part fits loosely within an abutting block H, being secured therein by means of a pin *g″*. The rod G is the tension member by turning which, the snares may be tightened or slackened at will. Said block H is pivotally secured by means of a bolt *h* to a lever J, which lever itself is in turn pivoted in the ears *k* of a fulcrum block K which is bolted or in any other manner secured to the frame of the snare-head of the drum.

As the preferred construction I have illustrated the block H as consisting of a main body portion *h′*, in which is formed the cylindrical opening through which the reduced portion *g′* of the rod G passes, and of projecting ears *h″* through which the pivoting bolt *h* passes. The lever J is preferably bifurcated in construction, having legs *j* which are of sufficient distance apart to embrace the ears *h″* of the block H and to fit within the ears *k* of the fulcrum block K. The ears *k* are formed so as to be struck by the head and nut of the bolt when the device is snapped into its normal position. By this arrangement of the parts, I am enabled to produce a rigid construction with great economy of material.

The operation of the device is apparent from the description. The parts of the device are in normal position as indicated in Figs. 1, 2 and 4. In such case the snares are stretched tightly across the snare-head of the drum. It is to be noted that the fulcrum center of the lever J is slightly beyond the axis of the tension rod G, so that when the lever J is shifted into normal position it is locked in this position, being held there by the tension of the snares.

When it is desired to muffle the drum, the lever J is simply pulled forward away from the body of the drum until the bolt *h* has passed a point vertically above the fulcrum of the lever, which releases the snares and muffles the drum, with the parts in the position indicated in Fig. 3 and in dotted lines in Fig. 4. By the arrangement described, a slight pull on the end of the lever J will muffle the drum and a gentle push will snap it in position so as to tighten the snares.

While I have described and illustrated my preferred construction and one which I consider most efficient for the purpose intended, I do not wish to be limited to the exact details thereof as it is apparent that these may be varied without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What I desire to claim as new and to cover by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a drum, in combination with the

drum heads and the snares, the latter being fixed at one end, a clamping member in which are secured the other ends of said snares, a tension member threaded through said clamping member and slidably mounted at one end, an abutting member to which said tension member is rotatably secured, and a lever to which said abutting member is pivoted, said lever being fulcrumed in a plane beyond the axis of the normal position of said tension member.

2. In a drum, in combination with the drum heads and the snares, the latter being fixed at one end, a clamping member in which are secured the other ends of said snares, a tension member threaded through said clamping member and slidably mounted at one end, an abutting member in which said tension member is rotatably secured, a lever to which said abutting member is pivoted and a fulcrum block in which said lever is journaled, the axis of said fulcrum being beyond the axis of the normal position of said tension member.

3. In a drum, in combination with the drum heads and the snares, the latter being fixed at one end, a clamping member in which are secured the other ends of said snares, a tension member threaded through said clamping member and slidably mounted at one end, an abutting member in which said tension member is rotatably secured, a lever to which said abutting member is pivoted and a fulcrum block in which said lever is journaled and against which it strikes, then brought into normal position, the axis of said fulcrum being beyond the axis of said tension member.

4. In a drum, in combination with the drum heads and snares, the snares being fixed at one end, a clamping member intermediate the planes of the drum heads in which the other ends of the snares are held, a tension member threaded through said clamping member, said tension member adapted to move endwise, and an arm pivotally connected at one end to said tension member at a point below the clamping member, and at the other end fulcrumed on the drum frame at a point beyond the axis of the normal position of the tension member.

5. In a drum, in combination with the drum heads and snares, the snares being fixed at one end, a clamping member intermediate the planes of the drum heads in which the other ends of the snares are held, a tension member threaded through said clamping member, said tension member adapted to move endwise, a fulcrum block secured to the drum frame with its fulcrum point beyond the axis of the tension member when in its normal position and mechanism intermediate said fulcrum block and the tension member adapted to rotate the lower end of the tension member about said fulcrum point.

6. In a drum, in combination with the drum heads and snares, the snares being fixed at one end, a clamping member intermediate the planes of the drum heads in which the other ends of the snares are held, a tension member threaded through said clamping member, said tension member being slidably secured to the drum frame at one end and having its other end movable in a path about a point beyond the axis of its normal position and mechanism to retain said tension member in its normal position.

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Witnesses:
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