



PATENT SPECIFICATION

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Guitars and the like.

I, JAROSLAV PRIBYL, of 5, Kollárova, Prague-Vinohrady, Czecho-Slovakia, a citizen of Czecho-Slovakia, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to guitars, lutes and the like of the kind provided with two sets of strings of which one is carried underneath its finger-board so that it can be stopped by the thumb while the other set is stopped by the fingers in the usual manner. In known instruments of this kind the two string sets are carried in juxtaposition, an arrangement which prevents the thumb from reaching the lower strings with sufficient freedom. The nuts moreover, are arranged so that the effective length of both sets of strings is equal.

According to the present invention the two sets of strings are arranged so as to overlap at the head of the instrument whence they diverge towards two tail pieces arranged in juxtaposition on the belly. Owing to the overlapping position of the two sets of strings, the thumb will be able to reach conveniently a greater number of strings, the compass of the instrument being thereby greatly enlarged. This effect is moreover enhanced by arranging the nut for the lower strings so as to increase the effective length of the latter relative to the upper set by one semi-tone, an arrangement which is known *per se* in connection with instruments having two sets of strings carried in juxtaposition at the same side of the finger-board.

Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawings represents a front view of the instrument,

Fig. 2, a side view of the same, and

Fig. 3, a rear view of the neck.

A guitar or lute is fitted with a neck *h* having on the top side a finger-board 1 and on the underside a finger-board 2.

Two sets of strings 3 and 4 are provided, one for each finger-board. The strings are carried from tail pieces 5 and 6, arranged side by side on the belly *b*, to the head *k* where they are connected to pegs *s* in the usual manner and where the two sets of strings overlap, the strings 3 being arranged above the finger-board 1 and the strings 4 below the finger-board 2. The strings 3 are the treble strings and are stopped by the fingers of the left hand, whereas the strings 4 are the bass strings and are stopped by the thumb. The effective length of the bass strings is preferably greater than that of the treble strings, for which purpose the nut 8 for the former is arranged farther away from the tail piece 6 than the nut 7 for the latter from the tail piece 5.

The tail pieces 5 and 6 may be combined into one.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. In a guitar or the like fitted with a neck having two finger-boards, one at the top and the other at the underside, arranging said finger-boards so that the two sets of strings can be carried to an overlapping position on the neck from tail pieces arranged in juxtaposition on the belly, one set above the upper finger-board and the other set below the lower finger-board, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a guitar or the like according to Claim 1, arranging the nuts so that the effective length of the lower set of strings is greater than that of the upper set, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

Dated this 20th day of February, 1923.

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[This Drawing is a full-size reproduction of the Original.]

