

first closing and maintaining the cover 31 closed by the arm 132, with the three keys operated by the first, second and third fingers of the right hand, and then depressing the key 4—L. In this case, the lever 129 rocks on the pivot 130 as a fulcrum as the arm 125 moves away from the lug 124 of the arm 123 and toward the horn body.

The whole of the mechanism just described is a unit with a single spring to provide a new means for the opening and closing of the tone hole cover 31 by pressure on the key 4—L, or by depressing the keys operated by the first, second and third fingers of the right hand.

Having thus described one embodiment of the invention, but without limiting myself thereto, what I claim, and desire by Letters Patent, to secure is:

1. In a wind instrument of the reed type, such as a saxophone, the combination of a tube provided with a tone hole, a cover for said hole, and operating mechanism including a key, a spring, and mechanism operated by said spring normally to maintain said cover depressed and said key elevated, and to elevate said cover when said key is depressed.

2. In a wind instrument of the reed type, such as a saxophone, the combination of a tube provided with a tone hole, a cover for said hole, and operating mechanism including a key, a floating lever, a spring connected to said lever, and mechanism connecting said lever, on the one

hand to said key and on the other hand to said cover, to cause said spring to act through said lever normally to maintain said cover depressed and said key elevated, and to elevate said cover when said key is depressed.

3. In a wind instrument of the reed type, such as a saxophone, the combination of a tube provided with a tone hole, a cover for said hole, and operating mechanism including a key, a floating lever having intermediate its ends a fulcrum which is carried by said key, a spring engaging one end of said lever, an arm to which the other end of said lever is pivoted, and a lost-motion connection between said arm and said key, said spring acting through said lever normally to maintain said cover depressed and said key elevated, and to elevate said cover when said key is depressed.

4. In a wind instrument of the reed type, such as a saxophone, the combination of a tube provided with a tone hole, a cover for said hole, operating mechanism including a key, a spring, means operated by said spring normally to maintain said cover depressed and said key elevated and to elevate said cover when said key is depressed, and independent operating mechanism for depressing said cover and maintaining said cover depressed, the first-mentioned mechanism including means to enable the second-mentioned mechanism to depress said cover while said key remains depressed.

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