

INVENTION

Patents of the Week

Two devices that will give pilots direct readings about their takeoff performances and which are expected to greatly cut takeoff accidents were granted patents.

► DEVICES that, for the first time, will give pilots direct readings about their takeoff performances have earned patents 3,077,109 and 3,077,110 for Theodore Gold of the Sperry Rand Corporation, Great Neck, N. Y., to which rights were assigned.

The first patent gives the pilot one direct reading for forward acceleration, air speed and pitch. By merely glancing at the indicator to see that it is in a safe zone, the pilot can instantly tell whether his takeoff is, at all times, proceeding safely.

Up to now a change in pitch has not been measured by takeoff measuring devices. A gyroscope measures the pitch and makes the necessary adjustment so that the right information is fed into the indicator.

The second patent of Mr. Gold is a more sophisticated version of the original idea. Essentially, it measures the distance remaining for takeoff, starting at any one point in the takeoff, and tells the speed necessary at that point. Instead of measuring acceleration directly as in his first invention, the second system measures speed and distance and tells whether takeoff is proceeding safely.

The inventions are expected to have a major effect in cutting the accident rates of aircraft during takeoff.

Copying Colored Negatives

An invention that will simplify the copying of colored negatives and originals earned patent 3,077,140 for Alfred Simmon, Garden City, N. Y., and Louis L. Weisglass, New York.

Their invention simplifies the filter arrangement for copying and enlarging apparatus by reducing the number of correction filters required. It does this by collecting light from a copying lamp by means of a light-collecting reflector, then conducting the light through a color filter arrangement.

Rights to the patent were assigned to Simmon Brothers Inc., New York.

Boat House Drydock

A boat house built with particular consideration for storing the boat out of water was granted patent 3,077,742. Philip Brown, Keegan, Maine, designed the boat house so that it is readily transportable for use wherever there are water sites.

Other Patents

Other patents include:

A double-ended ball point pen, for which Jerome P. Vogel of Los Angeles, Calif., has assigned rights to patent 3,077,184 to the Lindy Pen Co., Inc., Culver City, Calif.

A folding chair with fishing pole holder and tackle box, all in one piece. Three Iowans, Glenn L. Batie and Virgil U. Speed, both of Orient, and Edmund C. Fuerst Sr. of Lenox, won patent 3,077,327.

A wheel-type of parking apparatus that is mounted on rollers stemming from a center point. Ezra M. Foster of Tarzana, Calif., assigned the major portion of rights to patent 3,077,994 to himself and Alice E. Foster.

A coin machine to sell cut fruit, with an invention providing a new way to package the fruit so that it is sealed against air, for which Donald E. MacDonald of Leavenworth, Wash., was granted patent 3,078,008.

An invention that allows vehicles to be wholly or partly supported on the surface of water by a cushion of pressurized air beneath the vehicle. Christopher Sydney Cockerell of Lymington, England, who earned patent 3,077,174, assigned rights to Hovercraft Development Limited, London, England.

• Science News Letter, 83:159 March 9, 1963

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