March 13, 1951 M. W. KENNEY 2,545,362

INDEX FOR SELECTIVE AUTOMATIC PHONOGRAPHS

Filed Oct. 31, 1945

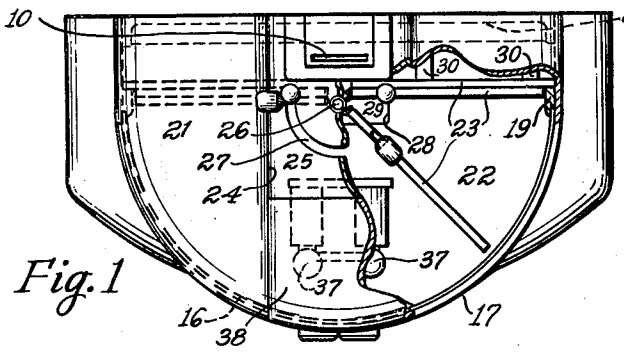



Fig. 1

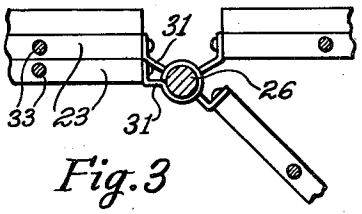



Fig. 3

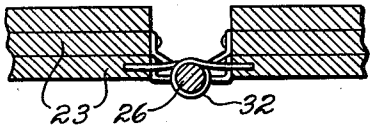



Fig. 4

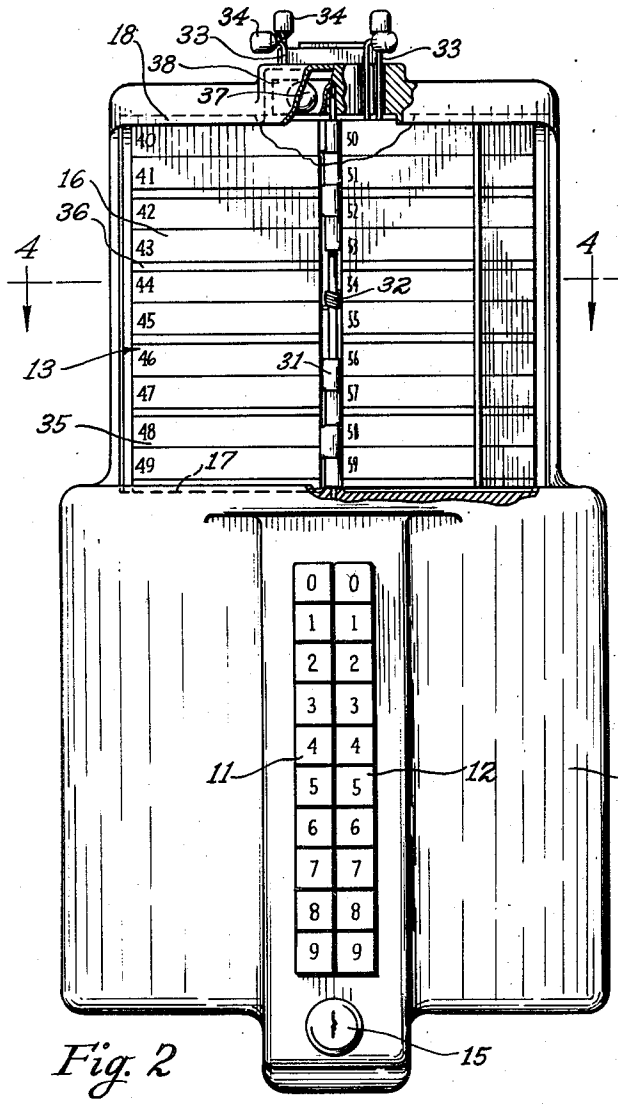



Fig. 2

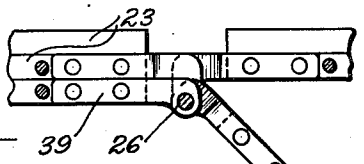



Fig. 5

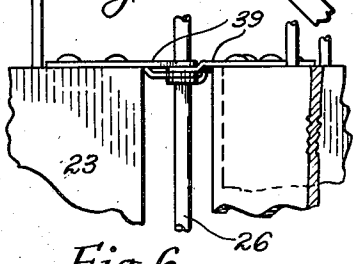



Fig. 6

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## INDEX FOR SELECTIVE AUTOMATIC PHONOGRAPHS

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5 Claims. (Cl. 40—102)

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This invention relates to an index for selective automatic phonographs and has for its principal object to provide such an index which is capable of accommodating a large number of recording titles in a relatively small space.

The coin controlled automatic phonographs and remote control boxes therefor widely in use at the present time provide for around twenty or twenty-four recordings which may be selected by a patron. It is customary to provide on such phonographs and in remote control boxes therefor an array of recording titles with associated numbers so that a patron can select which recording or recordings he desires to have reproduced and obtain the rendition of such recordings by inserting the appropriate coins and actuating selector mechanisms in accordance with the numbers of the recordings. The titles are normally carried on replaceable cards and since they must bear the title of the recording usually the name of the artist and frequently the name of the record maker, these cards need a fair sized area for their display.

For a phonograph intended for a large number of recordings, for example one hundred recordings, the display area for the title cards is excessive in the case of the phonograph itself and is prohibitive in the case of a remote control box. Even if it were possible to spread the title cards out it would be difficult for the patron to scrutinize the title cards for the purpose of finding the titles he desires.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a relatively small and compact index for a large number of recording titles.

Other objects, advantages and capabilities of the invention will appear from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a remote control box provided with my improved index;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary plan view of the panels which carry the title cards;

Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view, the section being taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary plan view of the panels showing a different type of hinge; and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary elevational view of the panels shown in Fig. 5.

Referring to the drawings my improved index is shown associated with a remote control box of the type described and claimed in copending application Serial No. 561,984, filed November

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4, 1944, by Herman G. Jensen, now Patent No. 2,489,782, patented November 29, 1949. In this box a coin of suitable value is inserted in a coin slot 10 and the selection is completed by pressing one of each of two series of buttons 11 and 12. Thus to select recording No. 48 the left-hand button 11 bearing the No. 4 and the right-hand button 12 bearing the No. 8 are pressed in. In this way any selection from 00 to 99 can be made, that is one hundred selections in all.

The index indicated generally by the reference numeral 13 is located on top of the remote control box which is indicated generally by the reference numeral 14. The whole device is closed by a removable housing which is secured to the chassis of the wall box by a lock 15 in known manner. The upper part of the housing includes a transparent wall 16 which is suitably of semi-cylindrical form. This transparent wall which may be of glass or of a suitable transparent plastic material is seated in the housing bearing against lower and upper flanges 17 and 18 respectively and is secured in place by means of removable strips 19.

The wall box and the index are mounted upon a wall by means of a flanged plate 20 which conforms to the marginal shape of the housing in manner that the flanges extend into the margin of the cover when the cover is locked in mounted position. The housing comprises a top wall 21 and an intermediate horizontal wall 22. The top wall 21 and the intermediate wall 22 together with the transparent wall 16 constitute a compartment for a plurality of index panels 23. The intermediate wall 22 is illuminated as hereinafter described and serves as a suitable display surface for the operating instructions. The top wall 21 is provided with a cut-out 24 into which fits a plate 25 carried by the plate 20. The plate 25 carries the coin slot 10, serves as an upper support for a vertical rod 26 and is provided with a semi-circular slot 27.

The intermediate wall 22 is provided with a cut-out 28 into which extends a complementary horizontal plate 29 which serves as a lower support for the vertical rod 26. The two extreme panels 23 are mounted on the plate 20 by means of spacing supports 30. A coin chute (not shown) extends downwardly from the coin slot 10 between the stationary panels 23 and the plate 20 so that an inserted coin drops down into the coin actuated mechanism in the wall box.

The other panels 23, four in number, carry cylindrical bearing elements 31 which are located around the rod 26 so that all of these four pan-

els may be swung through substantially one-hundred and eighty degrees from superimposed relation with respect to the left-hand and right-hand stationary panels **23**. A coil spring **32** mounted on the rod **26** extends into the two central panels so that one of these panels is biassed into superimposed relation with respect to the left-hand stationary panel **23** and the other is biassed into superimposed relation with the right-hand stationary panel. When the movable panels are free they assume the relation illustrated in Fig. 4, the second and fifth panels being carried into this position by the third and fourth panels respectively. Each of the movable panels carries at its upper end a rod **33** which extends upwardly through the arcuate slot **27** and carries at its upper end a suitable nob or manipulating handle **34** whereby the four movable panels may be moved to the left or to the right so as to enable the patron to scrutinize either side of any of the movable panels. These six panels consequently provide ten sides to serve as display surfaces for cards **35** which bear the numbers of the selections and have applied thereto legends indicating the titles of the recordings and such other data as is deemed desirable. These cards may be secured to the display sides of the panels in any suitable manner. The display sides of the panels may carry card retaining members **36** between which the cards may be slid into mounted position.

The index housing may be illuminated by means of bulbs **37** carried by the top plate **25**. These bulbs are located near the forward side of the index housing so that they effectively illuminate the panels and the intermediate wall **22**. In order to shield the patron's eyes from the glare of the bulbs they are preferably located in an upwardly arched formation **38** in the upper wall **21** above the flange **18**.

It will readily be understood that when the handles **34** are not engaged by the patron's hand the adjacent sides of the third and fourth panel are presented for the patron's inspection. Consequently it is preferred to arrange the recordings so that those which are currently most popular correspond to the numbers **40** to **59**. To locate the other selections it is necessary for the patron to engage the handles **34** and to swing one or two of the movable panels from their normal position. In this way the patron is able to scrutinize all of the ten display sides of all of the panels.

In Figs. 5 and 6 I have illustrated another form of hinge **39**. The hinge **39** is made of flat stock provided with an eye through which the rod **26** extends. These hinge elements are secured to the upper and lower extremities of the movable panels.

Although the invention has been described in connection with the specific details of preferred embodiments thereof, it must be understood that such details are not intended to be limitative of the invention except in so far as they are set forth in the accompanying claims.

Having thus described my invention, I declare that what I claim is:

1. In a selector for automatic phonographs, an index comprising a housing including a transparent wall, a plurality of movable panels having on both sides indicia indicating recordings which may be selected, adjacents means pivotally supporting the movable panels within the housing, a manually actuable element carried by each panel and extending to the exterior of the housing whereby the movable panel may be swung about its pivotal axis into superimposed relation to the other panels, whereby all the indicia on the panels can be inspected through said transparent wall, spring means biassing two of said panels in opposite direction, and abutment means arresting said two panels substantially in a plane whereby the indicia on adjacent sides thereof are normally presented for inspection.

2. In a selector for automatic phonographs, an index comprising a housing including a transparent wall, a pair of aligned stationary panels, each adapted to support indicia indicating recordings which may be selected, a movable panel having on both sides indicia indicating recordings which may be selected, means pivotally supporting the movable panel adjacent the center of the stationary panels, spring means normally biassing the movable panel into superimposed relation to one of said stationary panels, and a manually actuable element carried by the movable panel and extending to the exterior of the housing whereby the movable panel may be swung into superimposed relation to the other stationary panel.

3. In a selector for automatic phonographs, an index comprising a housing including a transparent wall, a pair of aligned stationary panels, each adapted to support indicia indicating recordings which may be selected, a plurality of movable panels, each having on both sides indicia indicating recordings which may be selected, means pivotally supporting the movable panels adjacent the center of the stationary panels, manually actuable means carried by each movable panel and extending to the exterior of the housing whereby the movable panels may be swung about their pivotal axes into superimposed relation to either of said stationary panels, whereby all the indicia on the panels can be inspected through said transparent wall, and spring means biassing two adjacent movable panels into superimposed relation to the stationary panels whereby the adjacent sides of said two movable panels are always normally presented for inspection.

4. In a selector for automatic phonographs, an index comprising a housing having a substantially semi-cylindrical transparent wall, a plurality of movable panels, each adapted to support on both sides indicia indicating recordings which may be selected, means pivotally supporting the movable panels adjacent the axis of revolution of said semi-cylindrical wall, whereby each movable panel may be swung into superimposed relation to the other panels, a manually actuable element carried by each panel and extending to the exterior of the housing whereby the panels may be moved about their pivotal axes to permit all the indicia on the panels to be inspected through said transparent wall, spring means biassing two of said panels in opposite directions, and abutment means arresting said two panels substantially in diametrical relation to the transparent wall, whereby the indicia on adjacent sides thereof are normally presented for inspection.

5. In a selector for automatic phonographs, an index comprising a housing having a substantially semi-cylindrical transparent wall, a pair of aligned stationary panels in substantially diametric relation to said wall, each panel being adapted to support indicia indicating recordings which may be selected, a plurality of movable panels, each adapted to support on both sides in-

dicia indicating recordings which may be selected, means pivotally supporting the movable panels adjacent the axis of revolution of said semi-cylindrical wall, manually actuable means carried by each movable panel and extending to the exterior of the housing whereby each movable panel may be swung into superimposed relation to each stationary panel, and spring means biassing only the two central movable panels apart, thereby normally locating some of the movable panels in superimposed relation to each stationary panel and generally in diametric relation to the semi-cylindrical wall, whereby the adjacent faces of the two central panels are normally presented for inspection.

MAHLON W. KENNEY.




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