Oct. 5, 1943. L. L. SCHOCK ET AL 2,331,239

PHONOGRAPH RECORD ALBUM HOLDER

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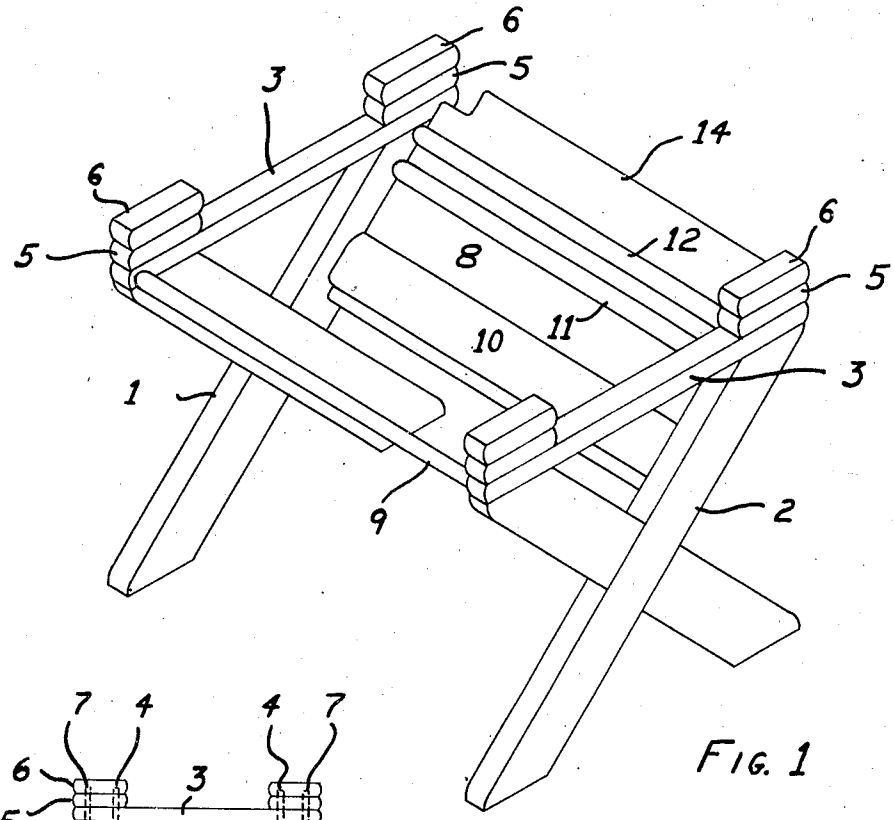


FIG. 1

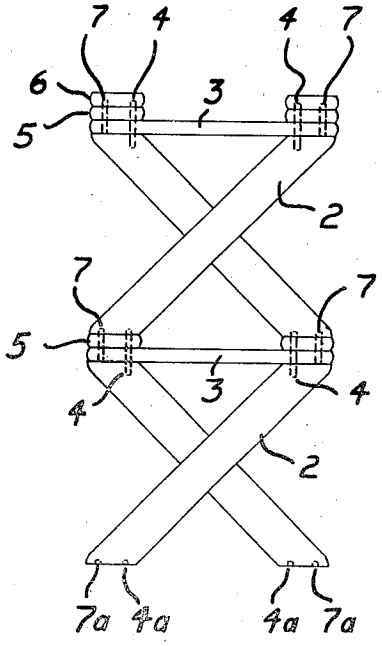


FIG. 4

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FIG. 2

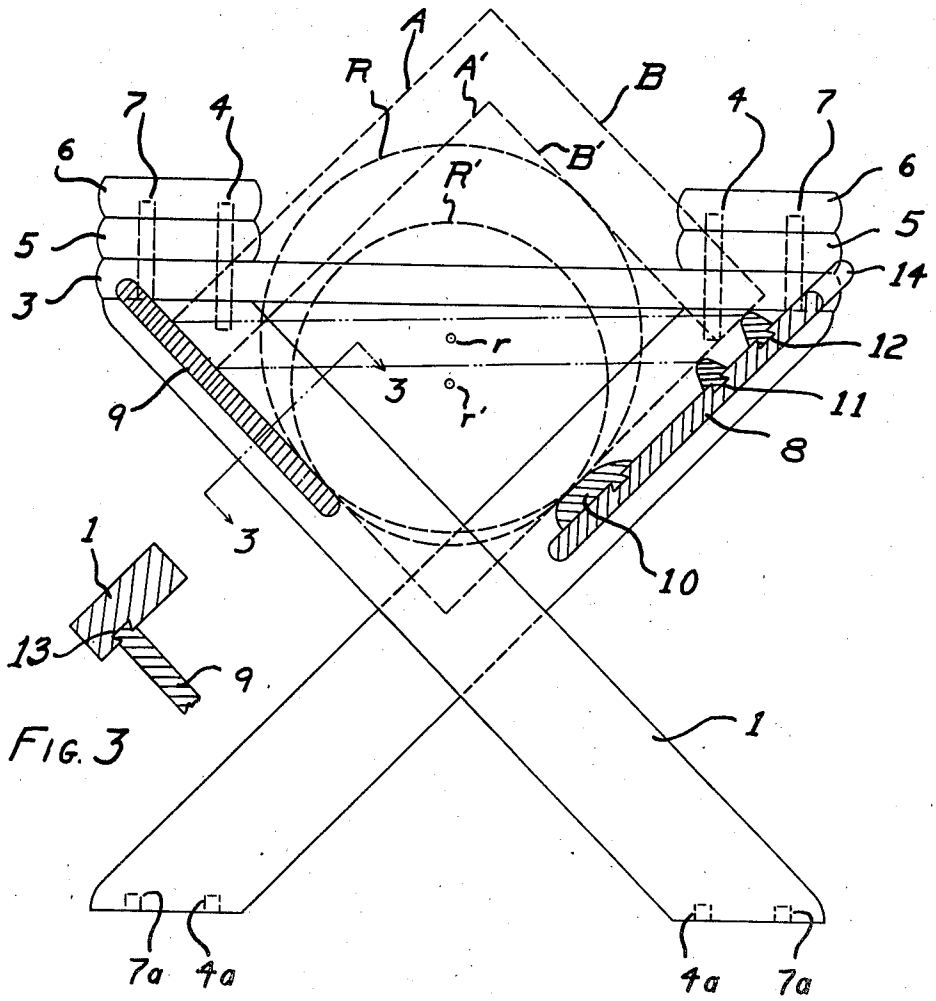


FIG. 3

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PHONOGRAPH RECORD ALBUM HOLDER

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6 Claims. (Cl. 211—40)

This invention is a holder for supporting phonograph record albums.

It is the common practice to keep a number of individual records in albums provided with covers enclosing compartments or pockets for the record. These albums are usually stored when not in use within so-called record cabinets comprising pigeon holes or compartments in which the albums are individually received. These cabinets are expensive and of complicated construction and they are not particularly convenient in use.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple inexpensive and thoroughly efficient article of furniture to hold a plurality of phonograph record albums in a readily accessible manner.

Speaking generally, the holder of the present invention comprises a pair of spaced apart X-shaped supports arranged in parallel vertical planes and rigidly spaced from one another by shelves arranged in the upper diverging portions of these supports at an angle of approximately 45° to the horizontal or any angle closely approaching the same, so as to form between them a V-shaped trough with open top and bottom and with the shelves at approximately 90° to one another.

Extending along the interior of one of the shelves are a plurality of substantially parallel bars, preferably three in number. These bars are so arranged that the lowermost bar cooperates with the other shelf to directly collectively support the weight of the records contained in albums positioned in the trough with the albums arranged in vertical relation, so as to relieve the album structure of the weight of the records. This record supporting bar is wide enough to cooperate efficiently with both 10" and 12" records. The two upper bars are arranged at such distances above the record supporting bar as to cooperate with the other shelf in properly supporting albums appropriate to 10" and 12" records, respectively, in horizontal planes above the centers of gravity of the records contained in such albums, as will hereinafter be more fully explained. The width of the shelves is such that they project above the corresponding edges of the albums and the front shelf is preferably extended upwardly to such elevation as to form a support for the bottom edge of a record album when the latter is removed from the trough and laid open upon the inclined upper surfaces of the albums remaining in the trough.

The holders are so constituted that they may be stacked one above the other in superimposed relation or they may be used separately, as may be desired.

Features of the invention, other than those adverted to, will be apparent from the hereinafter description and claims, when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

The accompanying drawings illustrate one practical embodiment of the invention, but the construction therein shown is to be understood as illustrative, only, and not as defining the limits of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a record album holder embodying the present invention.

Figure 2 is a transverse vertical section of the holder showing both 10" and 12" record albums supported therein.

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 shows two holders of the present invention superimposed with respect to one another.

The holder of this invention comprises two end supports 1 and 2. These supports are identical to one another and are of substantially X-shape. As shown, they are constructed from wooden members secured to one another in half-lap joints intermediate their ends and arranged at 90° to one another to produce the X-shaped configuration shown. Across the top of each X-shaped member is a tie 3, glued in place and firmly anchored to the crossed wooden members by dowels 4 which extend downwardly into the latter.

Seated on the opposite ends of each tie are spacer blocks 5 through which the dowels 4 extend and preferably project a short distance above these blocks, as shown best in Figure 2. Cover caps in the form of cover blocks 6 normally rest on the top of the spacer blocks and are bored to receive the upper ends of the dowels 4. These cover blocks 6, however, are readily removable for reasons presently explained. In addition to the dowels 4 we may use additional dowels 7 which, if desired, may be identical with the dowels 4, although they are shown as extending downwardly only to the top of the X-shaped end supports.

With the construction shown the dowels serve to assist in the glued anchorage of the spacer blocks to the tie 3 and at the same time anchor the tie to the upper ends of the crossed wooden end members in a way to reinforce the half lap joint of these members and preclude spreading of these end supports. The cover blocks 6 are

readily removable to leave the upper ends of the dowels 4 and 7 projecting above the spacer blocks, and the bottom end of each of the crossed wooden members is provided with holes 4a and 7a corresponding to the dowels.

The X-shaped end supports are held in parallel spaced upright relation by interposed shelves 8 and 9. These shelves are shown as wooden boards provided at their opposite ends with dovetails 13 fitted into like joints in the end supports as shown in Figure 3. The shelves are arranged at approximately 90° to one another to form between them a V-shaped trough open at both top and bottom and extending for the full length of the shelves. Into this trough is adapted to be received record albums A and A' adapted to contain, respectively, 12" and 10" records R and R'. Any conventional type of record album may be employed in this connection, but the most common type is the one provided with covers pivoted to an appropriate back and which, when opened, contain compartments for individual records, said compartments being open at the top when the album is held with its back vertical.

With albums of this type, each is received in the trough with the back B in upwardly inclined relation facing the front of the holder and with the top in inclined relation facing the back of the holder.

As shown in Figure 2, the rear shelf 9 has a plane, unobstructed surface and is of somewhat less depth than the front shelf 8. The albums are adapted to be supported in edge abutting relation to the inner surface of the back shelf 9. They are, however, adapted to be spaced from the front shelf 8 by three bars 10, 11 and 12. These three bars are secured to the inner face of the front shelf in any suitable manner, e. g., by means of the dovetail connections shown in Figure 2. The lowermost bar 10 is a record supporting bar. It is somewhat wider than the bars 11 and 12 which are album supporting bars adapted to support, respectively, the albums B' for the 10" records and the albums B for the 12" records. By making the record supporting bar of the width shown it is adapted to support, tangentially, both the 10" and 12" records with equal efficiency and it is so positioned that, when albums containing records are positioned within the holder, the actual weight of the records will be carried by the rear shelf and by the records supporting bar 10, so as to relieve the fatigue on the album compartments which would otherwise result in undue sagging of the walls of these compartments.

The album supporting bar 11 for supporting the 10" record albums is positioned at an elevation higher than the center of the 10" record, indicated at r' in Figure 2, while the suporting bar 12 for the 12" record albums is positioned at an elevation above the center of weight of the 12" records, indicated at r in Figure 2.

Inasmuch as the records will tend to gravitate to the lowest portion of the album compartments, it thus follows that, when an album is placed in the trough, it will automatically assume an upright position and will not tend to tilt sideways in the trough. As a result the albums will remain in proper upstanding position even though the trough is less than full. This is a decided advantage not only for the efficient support of the album and its contents, but also from the standpoint of neatness and appearance. The suppporting bars 10, 11 and 12 also facilitate removal of individual albums by providing space for insertion of the fingers between the inner face of the front shelf and said albums.

It will be observed from Figure 2, that the front shelf 8 has an upward extension 14, so that it projects above the inclined plane of the back B of the 12" record albums. With this arrangement, it is possible, after removing an album from the trough, to lay it in open condition upon the backs of the remaining 12" albums, with the lower edges of such album resting against the extension 14 which forms a lower edge support for the album thus resting in open position.

A holder of the character described may be employed separately as shown in Figures 1 and 2 as a complete construction, but, if desired, a plurality of these holders may be stacked as illustrated in Figure 4. To do this the cover blocks 6 are removed from the lower holders, and placed on the uppermost holder as shown in this Figure 4. When in stacked condition the upwardly projecting positioning portions of the dowels 4 and 7 of each lower holder are received into the holes or sockets 4a and 7a of the next upper holder, so as accurately to position the superimposed holders in proper registration with one another and to preclude inadvertent dislodging of any of the upper holders.

The herein described holder has been referred to as made of wood for the structure shown is well adapted for the use of this material. We wish it understood, however, that it may be made of sheet metal or other material without departing from this invention.

In the drawings, the shelves 8 and 9 have been shown as boards with the supporting bars 10, 11 and 12 on the inner face of the board 8. We may, however, emit the board 8, leaving the bars alone to serve as a front shelf. We may also replace the rear shelf 9 by a plurality of bars similar to the bars 10, 11 and 12, without departing from this invention.

The holder constitutes an attractive article of furniture. It may be made in any appropriate length to hold any predetermined number of record albums in compact condition and by the stacking of a plurality of holders as described, a large number of albums may be stored in convenient positions and in minimum floor space.

The foregoing detailed description sets forth the invention in its preferred practical form, but the invention is to be understood as fully commensurate with the appended claims.

Having thus fully described the invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A record album holder comprising a pair of X-shaped end supports spaced from one another in upstanding parallel relation by inclined shelves extending between and secured to them and arranged in planes approximately 90° to one another to provide between them a V-shaped trough, one of said shelves being provided on its inner face with horizontal supporting bars extending in parallel relation longitudinally of said shelf, one supporting bar being positioned substantially tangent to records positioned vertically in the trough normally to said bar and another of said supporting bars being positioned to engage with the corresponding edges of albums containing such records at an elevation above the centers of gravity of the albums and records therein, to inherently maintain said albums in upstanding position.

2. A record album holder comprising a pair of X-shaped end supports spaced from one another in upstanding parallel relation by inclined shelves extending between and secured to them and arranged in planes approximately 90° to one another to provide between them a V-shaped trough, one of said shelves being provided on its inner face with horizontal supporting bars extending in parallel relation longitudinally of said shelf, one supporting bar being positioned substantially tangent to records positioned vertically in the trough normally to said bar and another of said supporting bars being positioned to engage with the corresponding edges of albums containing such records at an elevation above the centers of gravity of the albums and records therein, to inherently maintain said albums in upstanding position, and positioning dowels extending upwardly from the end supports, the bottoms of said supports being provided with similarly placed sockets adapted to receive the positioning dowels of another like holder during vertical stacking of a plurality of such holders.

3. A record album holder comprising a pair of X-shaped end supports spaced from one another in upstanding parallel relation by inclined shelves extending between and secured to them and arranged in planes approximately 90° to one another to provide between them a V-shaped trough, one of said shelves being provided on its inner face with horizontal supporting bars extending in parallel relation longitudinally of said shelf, one supporting bar being positioned substantially tangent to records positioned vertically in the trough normally to said bar and another of said supporting bars being positioned to engage with the corresponding edges of albums containing such records at an elevation above the centers of gravity of the albums and records therein, to inherently maintain said albums in upstanding position, positioning dowels extending upwardly from the end supports, the bottoms of said supports being provided with similarly placed sockets adapted to receive the positioning dowels of another like holder during vertical stacking of a plurality of such holders, and removable cover caps normally covering and concealing said positioning dowels.

4. A record album holder comprising a pair of X-shaped end supports arranged in upstanding parallel relation, inclined shelves extending between and permanently secured to said supports to form between said shelves a V-shaped trough, the sides of which are approximately 90° to one another, the shelf at the front of the holder being provided on its inner face with horizontal supporting bars extending in parallel relation longitudinally of said shelf, with one supporting bar positioned substantially tangent to records positioned vertically in the trough normally to said bar, and the additional supporting bars being positioned to engage the corresponding edges of albums containing such records at different elevations, the front shelf being also extended above the X-shaped end supports for a sufficient distance to form a lower edge support for an album removed from the trough and resting upon the rearwardly inclined upper face of the albums remaining in the trough.

5. A record album holder comprising a pair of X-shaped end supports, each of which is formed by crossed wooden members intersecting one another intermediate their ends in a half-lap joint, a tie extending across the upper ends of the wooden members of each end support and secured thereto, positioning dowels extending upwardly from said ties, there being similarly spaced dowel receiving sockets in the lower ends of the wooden members, inclined shelves extending between said end supports above the half-lap joints thereof and having dovetail jointed connection with the end supports, said shelves being arranged at approximately 90° to one another to provide between them a V-shaped trough, one of said shelves having a flat, unobstructed upper face and the other of said shelves being provided with a plurality of horizontal supporting bars arranged parallel to one another and extending for the full length of the shelf, one supporting bar being positioned substantially tangent to records positioned vertically in the trough normally to said bar and the other supporting bars being positioned to engage the corresponding edges of albums containing such records at different elevations.

6. A record album holder comprising a pair of end supports spaced from one another in upstanding parallel relation by inclined shelves extending between and secured to them and arranged in planes approximately 90° to one another to provide between them a V-shaped trough, one of said shelves comprising horizontal supporting bars extending in parallel relation to one another and normal to the end supports, one supporting bar being positioned substantially tangent to records positioned vertically in the trough normally to said bar and another of said supporting bars being positioned to engage with the corresponding edges of albums containing such records at an elevation above the centers of gravity of the albums and records therein, to inherently maintain said albums in upstanding position.

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