

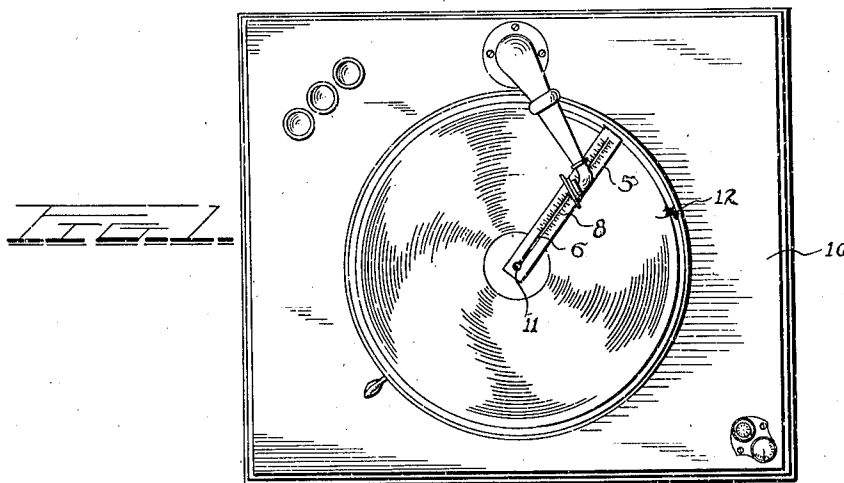
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1,688,824

W. O. MIESSNER

THEME FINDER

Filed April 5, 1926



**MUSICAL FEATURES**

| MEASURE NUMBER | REVOLUTION NUMBER | LIST FEATURES FOR OBSERVATION IF DRAMATIC, SKETCH THE STORY |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10             |                   |                                                             |
| 20             |                   |                                                             |
| 30             |                   |                                                             |
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| 120            |                   |                                                             |
| 130            |                   |                                                             |
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| 180            |                   |                                                             |
| 190            |                   |                                                             |
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| 210            |                   |                                                             |
| 220            |                   |                                                             |
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| 360            |                   |                                                             |
| 370            |                   |                                                             |
| 380            |                   |                                                             |
| 390            |                   |                                                             |
| 400            |                   |                                                             |

**TWELVE INCH RECORDS**

REVOLUTION NUMBERS

|     |     |
|-----|-----|
| 10  | 20  |
| 30  | 40  |
| 50  | 60  |
| 70  | 80  |
| 90  | 100 |
| 110 | 120 |
| 130 | 140 |
| 150 | 160 |
| 170 | 180 |
| 190 | 200 |
| 210 | 220 |
| 230 | 240 |
| 250 | 260 |
| 270 | 280 |
| 290 | 300 |
| 310 | 320 |
| 330 | 340 |
| 350 | 360 |
| 370 | 380 |
| 390 | 400 |

INVENTOR.  
W. Otto Miessner,

BY  
Morsell, Kenney & Morsell  
ATTORNEYS

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM OTTO MIESSNER, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## THEME FINDER.

Application filed April 5, 1926. Serial No. 99,942.

This invention relates to improvements in theme finders, particularly adapted for use with phonographs to quickly locate and chart particular themes in musical compositions.

5 In the instruction of music in many schools phonographs and records are used and in many of the records the instructor desires to point out portions of the theme of the composition or certain other features. It is a  
10 great advantage for the instructor to know the exact portion of the record where the desired portion is to be found so it will not be necessary to play the record from the beginning to find the specific theme desired.

15 With the above in mind, therefore, the present invention contemplates a device which will locate the exact portion on a phonograph record where a certain theme is to be found so that the location may be charted  
20 for future reference. Also, the device assists in the setting of the phonograph needle at a specific predetermined point on a record in order to play any theme charted.

25 A further object of the invention is to provide a theme finder which is readily adapted for use with any form of phonograph and does not in any manner interfere with the efficient use of the machine.

30 A further object of the invention is to provide a phonograph record theme finder which may be quickly attached to or removed from a phonograph.

35 A further object of the invention is to provide a theme finder which fits in with the library system now in use in the cataloguing of records and themes for musical instruction.

40 A further object of the invention is to provide a theme finder which is of very simple construction, is inexpensive to manufacture, is simple in operation, and is well adapted for the purposes described.

45 With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of the improved theme finder and its parts and combinations as set forth in the claims and all equivalents thereof.

In the accompanying drawing in which the same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the views:

50 Fig. 1 is a plan view of a phonograph equipped with the improved theme finder;

Fig. 2 is a view of a chart for use with the theme finder; and

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the theme finder, proper.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, especially Fig. 3 thereof, it will appear that the theme finder proper, designated by the numeral 5 is in the form of an  
60 elongated rectangular card formed of pasteboard, celluloid, or any other suitable material and is formed with a longitudinally extending slot 6, one end of which is enlarged and rounded, as at 7. One surface of the member 5, adjacent the slot 6, is provided  
65 with scale markings 8 and numbers 9 placed at predetermined positions to indicate phonograph record revolutions.

In operation the member 5 is placed on a  
70 phonograph 10 so that the post 11 extends through the enlarged portion 7 of the slot 6 and overlying the playing surface of a phonograph record 12. The phonograph  
75 needle is positioned so as to operate within the slot 6 and as the record revolves the needle will travel inwardly within the slot and the exact number of revolutions which the record has made at any time will be indicated by the scale markings adjacent the position  
80 of the needle.

In Fig. 2 is illustrated a chart used in connection with the theme finder for logging themes or musical features. The chart 13 is divided into a plurality of columns, one of which as 14, is headed "Measure number".  
85 The next column is headed "Revolution number" and contains numbers 15 arranged in sequence to correspond with the revolution numbers appearing on the member 5. The last column 16 is headed "List features for  
90 observation—If dramatic, sketch the story".

Assuming that the theme desired for study commences at a point in a record indicated by the position of the needle in Fig. 1 the scale marking on the member 5 will be consulted  
95 and will be found to be 190, for instance. The data with reference thereto is then written on the chart 13 opposite the number "190" by which means it is preserved for future reference. If at a future time it is desired to  
100 have that specific portion of the record reproduced it is merely necessary to set the phonograph needle at the revolution number indicated.

It is obvious that the improved theme finder  
105 may be made any desired length and the scale

markings placed accordingly to fit any size record. Also the theme finder is of very simple and novel construction and is well adapted for the systems used in the instruction of music.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A theme finder consisting of a member provided with a longitudinally extending straight phonograph needle guiding slot and graduations adjacent said slot, said slot being enlarged at one end portion to revolubly receive a phonograph post.

2. A theme finder consisting of an elongated member of less size than a phonograph record and provided with an intermediate longi-

tudinally extending phonograph needle receiving slot, and graduations delineated on said member adjacent said slot at predetermined positions to indicate revolutions of a phonograph record, said slot being enlarged at one end to revolubly receive a phonograph post.

3. A theme finder, consisting of a member provided with a longitudinally extending phonograph needle receiving slot, enlarged at one end to receive a phonograph post, and graduations delineated on said member adjacent said slot.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.  
W. OTTO MIESSNER.