

G. C. PARSONS.

INDEX.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 11, 1920.

1,404,541.

Patented Jan. 24, 1922.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

d

b

A	RECIATIONS	A
B	COMIC	B
C	WHISTLING	C
D	CHILDREN'S STORIES	D
E	CHILDREN'S SONGS	E
F	PATRIOTIC	F
G	HAWAIIAN	G
H	DANCE	H
I	BAND	I
J	ORCHESTRA	J
K	INSTRUMENTAL	K
L	OVERTURE	L
M	OPERA	M
N	CHORUS	N
O	QUARTETTE	O
P	DUET	P
Q	HYMNS	Q
R	BASS SOLOS	R
S	TENOR SOLOS	S
T	SOPRANO SOLOS	T
U	CONTRALTO SOLOS	U
V	RECORD SUGGESTIONS	V

Fig. 2.

a

d

a

No.	SELECTION	CLASS	PERFORMER
27	<i>Latvian</i>	<i>Latvian</i>	<i>Latvian</i>
61	<i>Latvian</i>	<i>Latvian</i>	<i>Latvian</i>
50	<i>War Songs</i>	<i>War Songs</i>	<i>War Songs</i>
60	<i>Star Spangled Banner</i>	<i>Star Spangled Banner</i>	<i>Star Spangled Banner</i>
61	<i>Bluebird Song</i>	<i>Bluebird Song</i>	<i>Bluebird Song</i>
35	<i>National Anthem</i>	<i>National Anthem</i>	<i>National Anthem</i>
51	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>
56	<i>The Maryland</i>	<i>The Maryland</i>	<i>The Maryland</i>
No.	SELECTION	CLASS	PERFORMER
K	PATRIOTIC	K	
L	HAWAIIAN	L	
M	DANCE	M	
N	BAND	N	
O	ORCHESTRA	O	
P	INSTRUMENTAL	P	
Q	OVERTURE	Q	
R	OPERA	R	
S	CHORUS	S	
T	QUARTETTE	T	
U	DUET	U	
V	HYMNS	V	
W	BASS SOLOS	W	
X	TENOR SOLOS	X	
Y	SOPRANO SOLOS	Y	
Z	CONTRALTO SOLOS	Z	
	RECORD SUGGESTIONS		

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

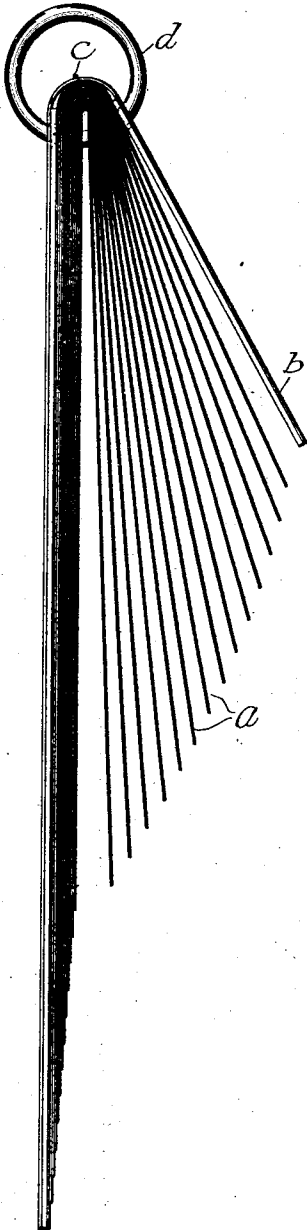


Fig. 3.

[illegible]

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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1,404,541.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. PARSONS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Berwyn, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indexes, of which the following is a full, clear and exact specification.

My invention is concerned with index books, and is designed to produce such a book that shall have a double index system associated with the various pages thereof so that an investigation of its contents can be made more readily than if only a single index system were employed.

To this end, it consists of a novel structure and arrangement of the indexes, which I have illustrated as applied to the index system developed for use in filing phonograph records.

To illustrate my invention, I annex hereto two sheets of drawings, of which—

Fig. 1 is a view of the index book closed;

Fig. 2 is a view of the same opened at the K page;

Fig. 3 is a view of one of the sheets before it has been placed in the book and the selections written thereon; and

Fig. 4 is a side elevation, on an enlarged scale with portions of the sheets spread out to illustrate more clearly the mechanical construction.

In carrying out my invention in its preferred form it is desirable to produce a book in which the sheets going to make up the pages shall be bound at one edge preferably by a binding that will permit of its opening to a flat position and in which the sheets are spread out on another edge so that each sheet has a substantial part of said edge exposed for index purposes. As a convenient means for forming such a book, I take a plurality of ruled sheets *a* of the same length, and then spread them out so that the top and bottom edges of each sheet are offset enough from the sheet below it so as to leave a portion of each sheet exposed at one edge thereof, and then I fold all the sheets thus spread out once, preferably at a point where the turned over edge of the topmost sheet will leave just as much of the lower edge of the same sheet exposed as the edges of the other sheets are exposed, and then secure the folded sheets together, preferably adding a cover *b* and securing them by two or more staples *c* or a ring *d*. It

is of course possible to carry out the main feature of my invention in what I consider a somewhat inferior form by using a plurality of sheets of different lengths and fastening them, unfolded, at one edge, with the shortest one on top and the others graduated down to the longest one at the bottom, so as to leave a uniform amount of the edge of each sheet exposed as before.

Where the invention is used for a phonograph record index, I preferably employ 14 sheets *a*, if they are doubled, or 28, if not doubled. On the top and bottom corners at one side (preferably at both sides) of the upper face of the uppermost sheet when the back is opened and flattened out at its center, I print the index letter N, and on the top of its back and on the top of the front of the sheet below it I print the index letter M, while on the bottom of the back of the uppermost sheet and on the bottom of the front of the second sheet, I print the index letter O. On the top of the back of the second sheet and on the top of the front of the third sheet, I print the index letter L and on the back of the top of the second sheet and on the front of the bottom of the third sheet, I print the index letter P, and so on until the alphabet is exhausted. With this arrangement, when the book is closed, as seen in Fig. 1, the index letters A, B, C, etc., appear in alphabetical order on one or both sides, and when the book is opened up, as at the page indexed K, as seen in Fig. 2, the index letter K appears at the top and bottom.

Each sheet is preferably cross-lined and ruled, as seen, in four columns, and the narrow first column is headed "No." for the number of the selection in the file or rack where they are kept, and the wider second column is headed "Selection" and in this column is written the name of the selection corresponding to the number in the same cross-line. The third column is headed "Class," for the character of the selections, while the fourth column is headed "Performer" for the name of the individual or organization performing in making the record. Of course all selections beginning with a K will be written on the top of the page marked K at the top. On the other pages will be entered similarly the names of the selections beginning with the letters to which the pages are devoted.

In addition to the alphabetical index of

the name of the selection, I include a second index for the character of the selections, which I have for example classified as "Recitations;" "Comic;" "Whistling;" "Children's stories;" "Children's songs;" "Patriotic;" "Hawaiian;" "Dance;" "Band;" "Orchestra;" "Instrumental;" "Overture;" "Opera;" "Chorus;" "Quartette;" "Duet;" "Hymns;" "Bass solos;" "Tenor solos;" "Soprano solos;" and "Contralto solos;" one on the bottom of each exposed edge, and as the selections under this index are written in at the bottom part, as seen in Fig. 2, and the upper pages are the shorter, I have arranged these character classification indexes beginning with the least numerous class at the top and with the most numerous at the bottom, and with the intermediate ones grouped as nearly in their general proportions as they occur in libraries of records as may be. As the bottom of the final sheet has no letter index character, I print "Record suggestions" thereon, so as to write on that page suggestions of good records that are made from time to time by friends.

With a library thus indexed it will be obvious that the presence or absence of any particular record, and its location, can be quickly ascertained by using the alphabetical index, and if the investigator is unfamiliar with the contents and likes certain kinds of records, by opening a page according to the character classification, he can quickly find out what particular records he would like to hear and where they are found.

While I have shown my invention as applied to an index for phonograph records, it will be understood that it is capable of much wider application, and that it may be used to index books, papers, patterns and other articles and records of various characters, and that accordingly I do not desire to be limited in the interpretation of the following claims, except as may be necessitated by the state of the prior art.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In an index, a plurality of sheets secured together at the binding side to form a book and having their edges at another

side stepped so that said edges of all the sheets are exposed, and two different sheet indexes on the exposed portion of each of said edges, and entries under one index on the surface of the page containing the exposed indexes and entries under the other index on the surface of the page adjacent the last mentioned page when the book is closed.

2. In an index, a plurality of sheets secured together at the binding side to form a book and having their edges at another side stepped so that said edges of all the sheets are exposed, and two different sheet indexes on the exposed portion of each of said edges, and column indexes on the surfaces of the pages hidden when the book is closed so that entries may be further classified.

3. In an index, a plurality of sheets secured at the binding side to form a book and having their edges at another side stepped so that said edges of all the sheets are exposed, and two different sheet indexes on the exposed portion of each of said edges, column indexes on the surfaces of the pages hidden when the book is closed so that entries may be further classified, and entries under one index on the surface of the page containing the exposed indexes and entries under the other indexes on the surface of the page adjacent the last mentioned page when the book is closed, said entries being placed in the appropriate columns under the column indexes.

4. In an index, a plurality of sheets secured together at the binding side to form a book, and having their edges at the opposite side stepped so that said edges of all the sheets are exposed, and two different sheet indexes on the exposed portion of each of said edges, and entries under one index on the surface of the page containing the exposed indexes and for the other index on the surface of the page adjacent the last mentioned page when the book is closed.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this sixth day of March, A. D. 1920.

GEORGE C. PARSONS. [L. s.]

Witness:

JOHN HOWARD McELROY.