Aug. 16, 1966 D. C. SEFTON 3,266,688

PHONOGRAPH RECORD STORAGE CARRIER

Filed June 7, 1965

Fig. 1.

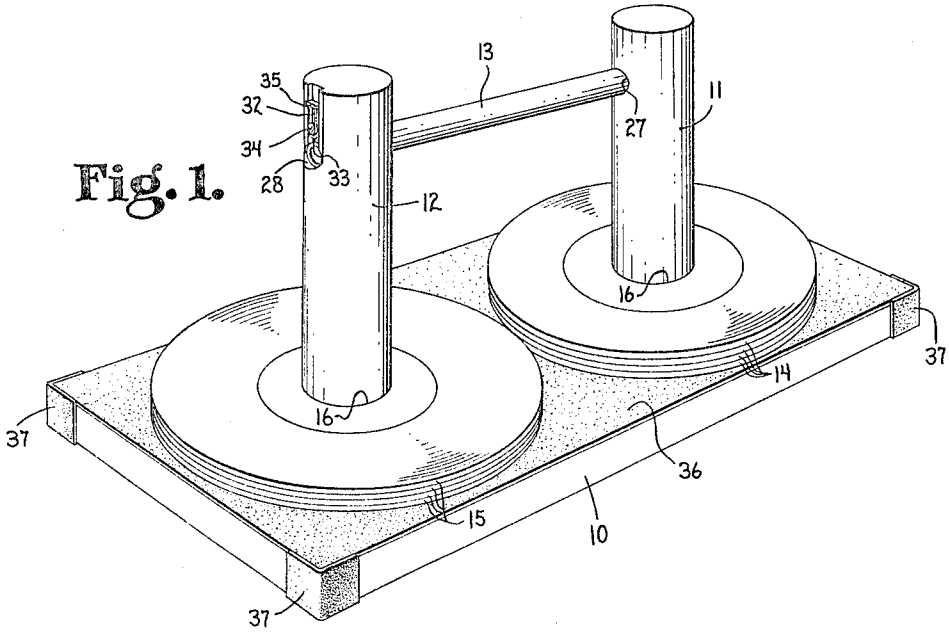


Fig. 2.

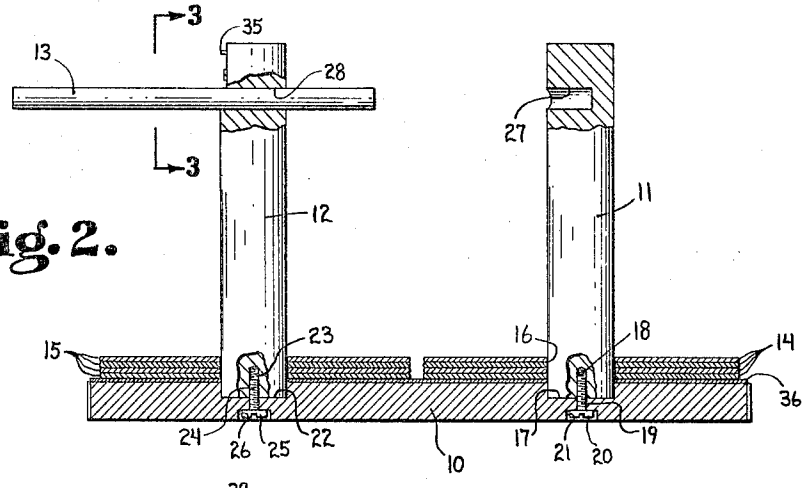


Fig. 3.

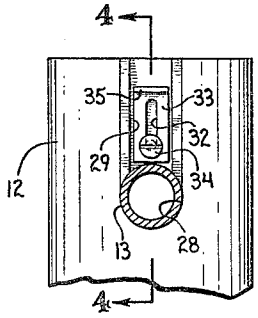
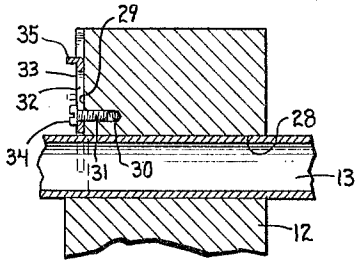


Fig. 4.



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PHONOGRAPH RECORD STORAGE CARRIER

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The present invention relates to a storage carrier, primarily intended for facilitating the storage and facile transportation of phonograph records, though it will be apparent as the disclosure proceeds that the device is equally well adapted for storage and transportation of other types of perforated, discoid elements.

Informal "record parties" are an established phenomenon of present-day, teen-age life. Most adolescents have record players and collections of records, and it is not uncommon for a group to gather, with their respective collections, at one home and to spend hours dancing to, or merely listening to, the favorite records of each member of the group. Unless some means is provided for maintaining segregation, it is often difficult, after such a party, for each individual to gather together his own records to take home with him.

Even at home, neat storage of a collection of records becomes a problem unless a specific and particularly-designed cabinet, rack or the like is available.

Transportation of a plurality of phonograph records, even between houses in a common neighborhood, without damage to the records is difficult. If a number of records are placed in a box which does not accurately fit them, they will slide in contact as the box is being carried, with resultant damage to the grooved surfaces. If they are carried loosely in the hand, in a bag or the like, they are likely to be spilled with resultant damage.

The primary object of the present invention, then, is to provide a rack whereon a plurality of such records may be retained in neat stacks, will be held against spillage or loss and will be retained against significant relative movement, even during transportation. A further object of the invention is to provide, in such a rack, readily manipulatable means whereby the records will be retained against dislodgment but may be released for removal or replacement.

A still further object of the invention is to provide, in such a rack, retaining means which will serve, as well, as a handle whereby the rack may conveniently be carried.

Further objects of the invention will appear as the description proceeds.

To the accomplishment of the above and related objects, my invention may be embodied in the form illustrated in the accompanying drawings, attention being called to the fact, however, that the drawings are illustrative only, and that change may be made in the specific construction illustrated and described, so long as the scope of the appended claims is not violated.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a rack constructed in accordance with the present invention, illustrating the manner in which phonograph records or similar perforated, discoid elements may be stored thereon for ready transportation;

FIG. 2 is a side elevation of the same, drawn to a somewhat reduced scale, showing the retainer means shifted to a position to release one stack of elements, parts being illustrated in section for clarity;

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary section, drawn to an enlarged scale, taken substantially on the line 3—3 of FIG. 2; and

FIG. 4 is a similar section taken substantially on the line 4—4 of FIG. 3.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, it will be seen that I have illustrated a base **10** which may be a

block of wood, metal, plastic or the like and from which are supported two upstanding, parallel, laterally spaced posts **11** and **12** spanned near their upper ends by a cross bar **13**. The post **11** is adapted to receive a plurality of discoid elements **14** and the post **12** is adapted to receive a similar plurality of discoid elements **15**, each post being cylindrical in horizontal cross section and having a diameter substantially conforming to the diameter of the perforation **16** through each of the elements **14** or **15**. It will be apparent that the center distance between the posts **11** and **12** slightly exceeds the diameter of each of the elements **14** or **15** so that a stack of such elements may be arranged on each of the posts without interference.

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the base **10** is formed with an upwardly opening socket **17** which snugly receives the proximal end of the post **11**. Said post end is centrally formed with a threaded socket **18** receiving a screw **19** whose head **20** is disposed in a counterbore or cavity **21** in the lower surface of the base **10**, whereby the post **11** is firmly secured to the base. Similarly, a second socket **22** is formed in the upper surface of the base at a suitable distance from the socket **17**, said socket **22** receiving the proximal end of the post **12** which is formed with a threaded socket **23** receiving a screw **24** whose head **25** is disposed in a counterbore or cavity **26** in the lower surface of the base **10**.

Near its distal end, the post **11** is formed with a radial, blind socket **27** opening toward the post **12**; and the post **12** is formed with a straight-through, diametrical bore **28** axially aligned with the socket **27**. The socket **27** and bore **28** are proportioned and designed snugly to receive the cross bar **13**. As shown, said cross bar is a tubular element; but it will be understood that it could be a dowell and that it may be made from any suitable material of reasonable strength, such as steel, aluminum, plastic, wood or the like.

On its surface remote from the post **11**, the post **12** is formed with a flattened recess **29** intersecting the bore **28**. A threaded socket **30** opens through the flat **29** immediately above the bore **28** to receive a screw **31** which penetrates a vertical slot **32** in a slidable latch member **33**, the screw head **34** overlapping the slot to retain the latch member in place in the recess **29**. The latch member is so proportioned and designed that, when in its illustrated, retracted position, it will not interfere with withdrawal of the cross bar **13** to or beyond the position of FIG. 2. The cross bar **13** is of such length that, when its righthand end as viewed in FIG. 2 is fully seated in socket **27**, its lefthand end will be positioned slightly to the right of the flat **29**. The latch member **33** is provided with an outturned tongue **35** whereby, when the cross bar is so positioned, said latch member may be moved downwardly to overlie the lefthand end of the cross bar, thus locking said cross bar in the position of FIG. 1.

It will be apparent that, when the cross bar is in the position of FIG. 2, records may be added to, or removed from, the stack which is threaded on the post **11**, but records which are mounted on the post **12** are retained against removal. When the cross bar **13** is fully withdrawn from the bore **28**, of course records may be freely added to or removed from the stack on the post **12**. When, however, the cross bar is in the position of FIG. 1, records are retained against removal from both stacks. Since the cross bar, when in the latter position, is centered over the base **10**, it serves as a convenient handle whereby the loaded rack may be carried from place to place without fear of damage to the records stacked on the respective posts.

Preferably, a cover pad **36** of felt or similar material

will be secured to the upper surface of the base **10** to protect the bottom record on each post and desirably additional corner pads **37** will be provided to protect other furniture from damage if bumped by the rack. If desired, a further protective covering (not shown) may be applied to the bottom surface of the base **10**.

I claim as my invention:

1. A storage carrier for centrally-perforated discoid elements comprising a base, a pair of posts rigidly supported from said base and upstanding therefrom in a common direction in substantially parallel relation, at least one of said posts having a diameter conforming to that of the perforation in such an element, one of said posts being formed near its distal end with a radial socket, the other of said posts being formed with a diametral bore therethrough coaxial with said socket, and a cross bar having one end seated in said socket and having its other end received in said bore, said cross bar being withdrawable through said bore.

2. A storage carrier for centrally-perforated discoid elements comprising a base, a pair of posts rigidly supported from said base and upstanding therefrom in a common direction in substantially parallel relation, at least one of said posts having a diameter conforming to that of the perforation in such an element, one of said posts being formed near its distal end with a radial socket, the other of said posts being formed with a diametral bore therethrough coaxial with said socket, a cross bar having one end seated in said socket and having its other end received in said bore, said cross bar being withdrawable through said bore, and a retractable latch member cooperable with said bar and with one of said posts at times to prevent such withdrawal.

3. A storage carrier for centrally-perforated discoid elements comprising a base, a pair of posts rigidly supported from said base and upstanding therefrom in a common direction in substantially parallel relation, at least one of said posts having a diameter conforming to that of the perforation in such an element, one of said posts being formed near its distal end with a radial socket, the other of said posts being formed with a diametral bore therethrough coaxial with said socket, a cross bar having one end seated in said socket and having its other end received in said bore, said cross bar being withdrawable through said bore, and a latch piece movably carried by said other post and shiftable into and out of a position overlying that end of said bore remote from said one post.

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