United States Patent

[11] **3,599,799**

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[54] **RACK FOR PHONOGRAPH ALBUMS**
2 Claims, 4 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **211/40,** 312/10, 312/50
[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47b 81/06**
[50] **Field of Search** ..... 211/40, 41; 312/10, 20, 50, 8, 12; 206/62 PR; 220/31 SR; D87/1.4; D9/224; 281/20

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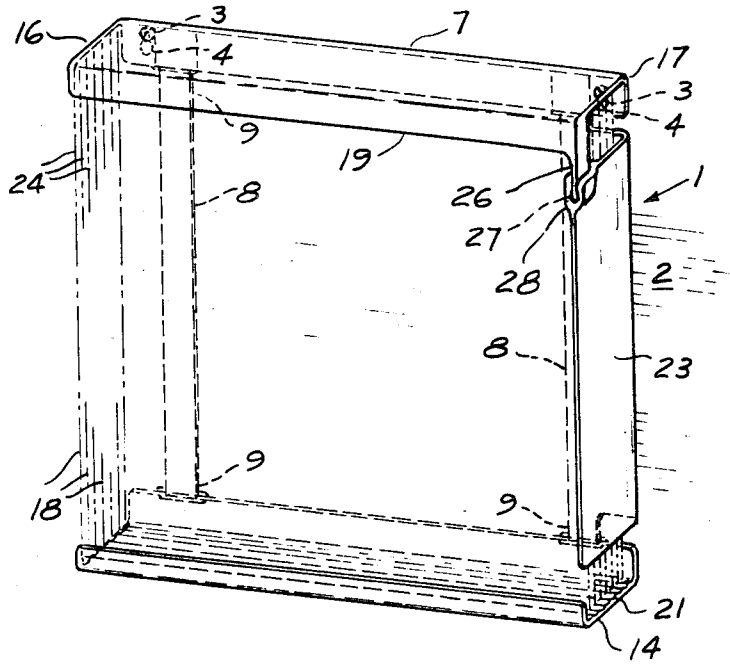
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ABSTRACT: This disclosure teaches a rack for storage of phonograph records in jackets, which jackets can be mounted conveniently on a wall or like vertical surface for display. A lower channel projects outward from the wall and receives edge-mounted record jackets therein. A hinged upper channel retains the record jackets in the lower channel. To keep records from rolling out of their jackets a side member is provided. The upper channel can be connected hingedly by means of a reduced section and a clasp serves to retain the upper channel in its closed position.



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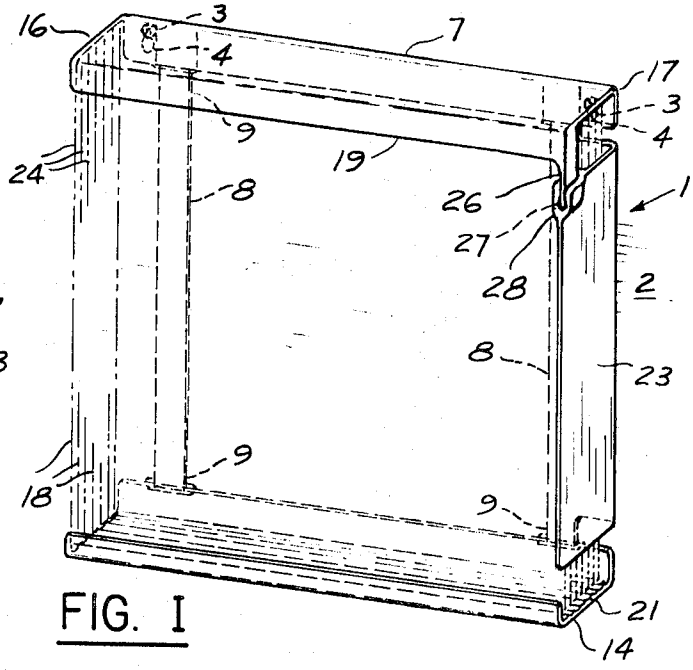


FIG. I

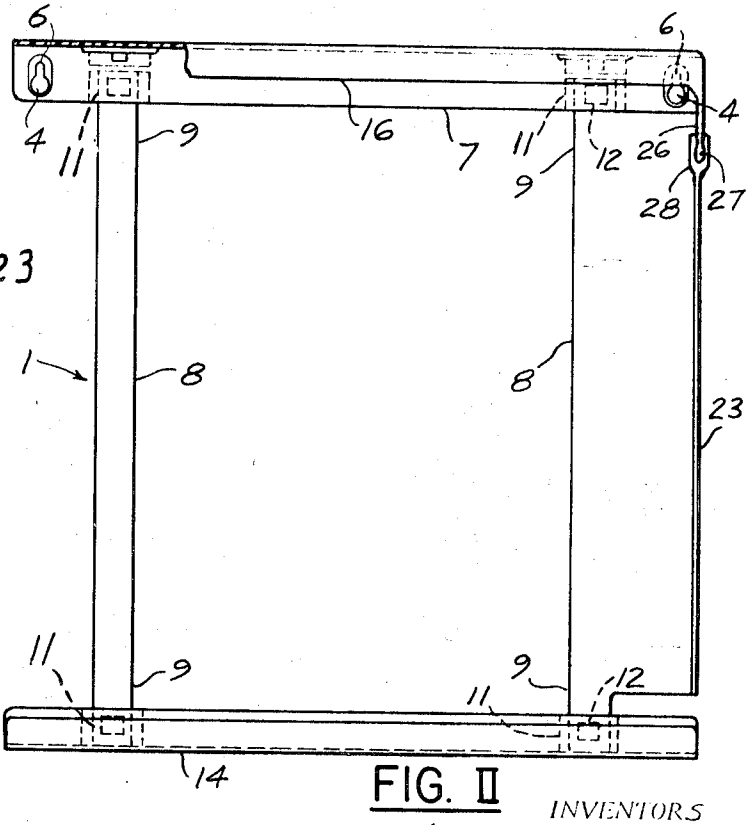


FIG. II

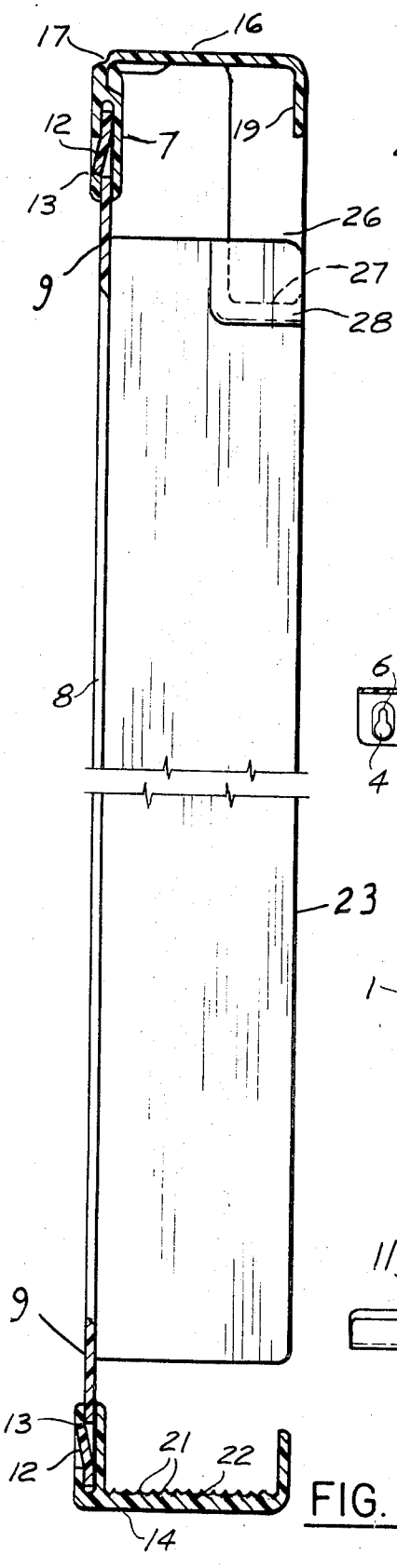


FIG. III

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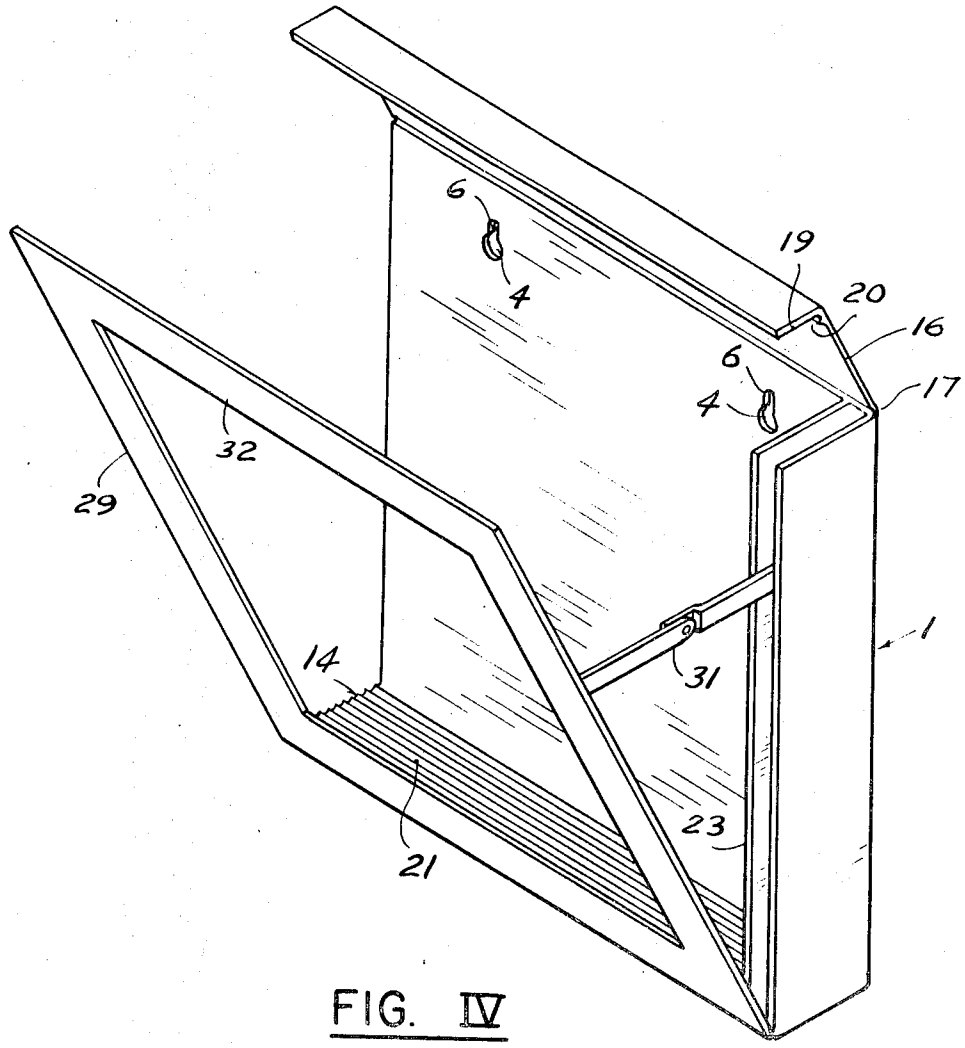


FIG. IV

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RACK FOR PHONOGRAPH ALBUMS

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

One object of this invention is to provide a rack, suitable for storage of phonograph records and display of their jackets, which takes up little space.

Another object of this invention is to store records edgewise in a vertical position so that the likelihood of warping or surface damage are reduced.

Another object of this invention is to accommodate positioning a foremost record in the front of the rack even though the rack is not filled with record albums.

Another object of this invention is to store records and jackets where room dust is of minimal concentration.

Another object of this invention is to allow the closed edges of jackets to be exposed side by side, serving as a legend of the record in a rack.

Another object of this invention is to accommodate sorting, insertion and removal of record jackets with a minimum of stress or wear on the records.

Another object of this invention is to provide a decorative element of furniture which is otherwise well suited to its intended functions.

DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other objects will appear more fully from the accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. I is a somewhat idealized view in perspective and depicting a rack for phonograph records jackets according to the present invention and mounted on a wall.

FIG. II is an assembled and partly broken elevation view of the rack.

FIG. III is a sectional side view of the rack showing assembly of the right vertical member in FIG. II.

FIG. IV is a perspective view of a second embodiment of the invention.

PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

As best seen in FIGS. I and II, a rack (generally designated **1**) is mounted on wall **2** by means of screws **3** which are insertable via opening **4** into slots **6**. Top bracket **7** supports vertical members **8**, and top bracket **7** along with vertical members **8** collectively comprise "back means" as specified in the claims. As shown in FIGS. II and III, ends **9** of vertical members **8** are insertable into sockets **11** and deformable leafs **12** bear on abutments **13** to keep ends **9** in sockets **11**. Lower channel **14** depends from vertical members **8** and upper channel **16** is connected hingedly from top bracket **7**. Hinge **17** is here provided by forming a reduced section of plastic with suitable stops in upper channel **16**, although other forms of hinges could be employed.

Record jackets **18** are received on edge in lower channel **14** which, as shown in FIG. I, can be designed to accommodate many of such record jackets **18**. Record jackets **18** are held in their upright position by lip **19** of upper channel **16**. Groove **20** coacts with grooves **21** to permit upright positioning of a single foremost record jacket in the front of the rack, even if the rack is not entirely filled with record jackets. Grooves **21** are fashioned in upper surface **22** of lower channel **14** to permit rotation of record jackets **18** therein, for convenient fanning and sorting in selecting records, as well as to retain the record jackets in their desired positions. Side member **23** depends from right vertical member **8**, as shown in FIG. II and also in FIG. III, and projects outward from the wall to prevent records from rolling out of their jackets and to provide a stop for aligning the left closed ends **24** of the jackets **18** which, as shown in FIG. I, form a legend for the contents of rack **1**. Labels (not shown) may also be applied to the lower side of upper channel **16** so that on opening upper channel **16**, the records contained in the rack would be identified. Clasp **26** is formed from detent **27** which snugly engages in female member **28** so that upper channel **16** is restrained from a normal opening tendency.

The embodiment shown in FIGS. I, II, and III is a particularly convenient way for packaging the rack in a small container; yet it should be obvious to those skilled in the art to which this invention pertains that the entire rack could be injection molded as a single unit. It should also be clear that this rack could be used to package records. In view of the foregoing, it should be appreciated that wide deviations may be made from the shown embodiment without departing from the main theme of invention set forth in the claims. Accordingly another embodiment of the rack is shown in FIG. IV which offers functional and aesthetic advantages over the embodiment set forth in FIGS. I, II and III. The embodiment of FIG. IV includes front **29** which is retained by hinged arm **31** whereby the record jackets are prevented from falling out of the rack if upper channel **16** is opened and whereby selection or record jackets can be accomplished using one hand only. The embodiment of FIG. IV also offers the aesthetic advantage of having border **32** framing the foremost record jacket.

We claim:

1. A rack for at least one phonograph record jacket having a record therein and comprising

back means connectable to a wall,

a lower channel depending from the back means and projecting outward from the wall to receive the record jacket edge mounted therein and substantially parallel to the wall,

an upper channel connected hingedly to the back means and moveable between a closed position wherein the upper channel retains the record jacket and an open position wherein the record jacket can be inserted in the lower channel,

at least one side member depending from the back means and projecting outward from the wall to prevent the record from rolling out of the jacket,

the upper channel connected hingedly to the back means by providing a section of reduced thickness therebetween,

the upper channel defining a groove arranged to receive a single record jacket for positioning said record jacket in the front of the rack and substantially parallel to the wall,

a clasp operatively connected between the side member and the upper channel to retain the upper channel in its closed position,

the back means including a top bracket to which the upper channel is hingedly connected and having means for connection to the wall,

the back means further including a plurality of substantially vertical members connected between the top bracket and the lower channel.

2. The rack of claim **1** with

the substantially vertical members having leaves projecting laterally therefrom,

the top bracket and bottom channel defining sockets with lateral abutments arranged to engage the leaves for connection of the substantially vertical members therein.