S. HOLSTEIN.

PHONOGRAPH AND GRAPHOPHONE DISK HOLDING CABINET.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL HOLSTEIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, county of New York, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Phonograph and Graphophone Disk Holding Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to phonograph and graphophone disk holding cabinets.

My object is to provide a cabinet holder or filing case, for phonograph or graphophone disks which will be of very simple and inexpensive construction, while light, strong and durable and which will not be subject to the warping action usually found in these cabinets where wood is commonly employed. It will be understood that cabinets of the character set forth have compartments whose walls are quite close together, for economy of space, on account of the thinness of the graphophone disks adapted to be contained therein. Where wood is employed, as has heretofore been common, the thin walls of the compartments warp and by their distortion interfere with the insertion and removal of the graphophone disks and, where disk ejecting mechanism is employed, prevent the operation thereof or decrease its efficiency.

My invention overcomes the foregoing defects and it consists, first, of a plurality of suspended compartments, as distinguished from compartments whose walls are anchored at all points; second, of suspended compartments combined with tensioning means to keep the walls thereof in proper position; third, a cabinet whose partitions are of paper or its equivalent, combined with spacing devices for said compartments and connecting or stringing means for fastening the walls of the partitions and the spacing devices together; fourth, in improved selective ejector mechanism and guiding means; fifth, in the particular tensioning, spacing and hanging means employed; and finally, in the general combination of parts which comprises the complete cabinet, holder or filing case.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a front elevation; Fig. 2, a cross section adjacent the end of the cabinet; Fig. 3, a view of one of the partitions; Fig. 4, a detail of a spacing strip or member; Fig. 5, a similar view of a stringer; Fig. 6, a side view of the cap; Fig. 7, a detail of one of the lower tension clamps; and Fig. 8, a detail showing one of the ejectors, the manner in which it is operated by the removable push rod and its cooperation with a graphophone disk.

The case may be of wood, metal or other material having suitable rigidity and strength.

My suspended holder is designated, generally, 2 and is contained within and suspended from the upper part of a cabinet 1 which may be inserted in any suitable outer cabinet 15. The entire disk holding and ejecting means are carried, self-contained, in case 1 and may be fitted into any desired ornamental cabinet or wholly removed therefrom at will. Case 1 may be fastened inside cabinet 1 or merely positioned thereon. The holder is composed of paper or cardboard walls or partitions 3 which have openings 4 in their upper portions and other openings 5 in their lower portions (Fig. 3). Interposed between the partitions 3 are spacers 6 consisting of strips of heavy cardboard which have openings 7 corresponding in number and alignment with the openings 4 and 5, respectively. The spacing strips 6 are arranged horizontally at the top and bottom of the partitions 3 and extend from the front to the rear edges of the latter, or substantially so. These spacing strips 6 are of such thickness as to define, with the partitions 3, compartments 8 which have parallel walls and are of a width adapting them to easily receive the graphophone or phonograph disks or tablets. The partitions 3 and spacing strips 6 are strung upon metal strips or bars 9 (Fig. 5), said bars passing through the holes 4 and 7 at the tops of the partitions and through the holes 5 and 7 at the bottoms thereof. The lower set of strips 9 are not connected to the sides of the case 1, but the upper strips or stringers 9 have their ends engaged with the walls of the case 1, and in consequence, the entire holder is suspended from the upper part of the case 1, but is not attached to the lower part thereof save by the tensioning devices (Fig. 7). These tensioning devices consist of U-shaped metallic clips 10 having openings 11 through which the lower stringers 9 pass. Screwed into the clips 10 are the screws 12 whose shanks pass through the bottom 15 of the case and whose heads are 110
outside the bottom of said case and are adapted to be turned to pull downwardly on the stringers 9 and on the lower parts of the partitions 3 to thereby tension the suspended partitions and bring them to such degree of tautness as will maintain their walls in substantial parallelism. The upper faces of the lower strips 6 constitute the bottoms of the compartments 8 on which the graphophone disks rest.

To keep the lower strips 6 spaced from the upper strips 6, I provide as many screws 14 as may be necessary. These screws have their ends screw-threaded into sockets 15 carried by the stringers 9, 9′. By turning the screws, the stringers 9, 9′, are forced away from each other and the tension is imparted vertically to the partitions 3.

20 Referring to Figs. 6 and 8, in each compartment 8 is a single ejector 16 of slightly less width than the compartment and loosely strung on a metal or wooden pivot pin or hanger 17 which extends through all of the partitions 3 and has its ends supported by the case 1. The ejector, being pivoted at its upper part, tends to restore itself to normal upright position when it is released, but I preferably employ a single very flexible resilient wire or small rod 18 whose ends are secured to case 1 and whose intermediate part bears against the upper ends of all the ejectors 16 and keeps them in normal upright position. Each ejector constitutes a movable back for the compartment 8 which keeps the graphophone disk from rolling out backward, sufficient space being left between the rear edges of the partitions 3 and the back of the case 1 to permit the play of the upper part of the ejector necessary for the ejection of the graphophone disk.

Surmounting the partitions is a sheet metal cap 19 whose sides 20 overlap and are secured to the end partitions by screws or fastenings 21 which enter the spacing strips 6. The cap has alternating guide grooves 22 and walls 23, the latter receiving and being crimped tightly against the upper ends of the paper partitions 3. The sides 20 have slots 24 through which the stringers 9′ pass. I employ a removable push rod 25 which can be inserted in any one of the guide grooves 22 and pushed against the upper end of the ejector 16 of the compartment corresponding to the given groove 22, for the purpose of ejecting the graphophone disk in said compartment. By this means I obviate the necessity of using a separate push rod for each ejector 16 and greatly simplify and cheapen the construction. I do not, however, except when so stated in the claims, intend to limit myself to a single push rod as several may be used, or, a separate one for each groove 22. Other means than the tensioning devices 10 can be used for tensioning the partitions, such, for instance, as a weight in the shape of a metallic plate connected to the lower ends of the partitions. The weight of the graphophone disk may sometimes be sufficient, without employing any tensioning means whatever.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, the combination with a support, of a plurality of partitions forming intervening compartments suspended from said support, and graphophone disk ejecting means carried wholly by said suspended partitions.

2. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, the combination with a support, of a plurality of partitions forming intervening compartments suspended from said support, and means for exerting tension on the lower part of said partitions.

3. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, the combination with a support, of a plurality of partitions forming intervening compartments suspended from said support, and means cooperating with said support and with the lower part of said partitions adapted for tensioning said partitions.

4. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, the combination with a support, of partitions of flexible material forming intervening compartments suspended from said support, and means for tensioning said partitions.

5. A filing case composed of flexible partitions, with intervening compartments, and tensioning means carried partly by said partitions adapted for tensioning them.

6. A filing case composed of flexible partitions, with intervening compartments, and screws cooperating with the end parts of said partitions adapted for tensioning them.

7. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, the combination of flexible partitions, spacing strips therebetween, stringers extending through the end portions of the partitions and through the spacing strips, and means for keeping the stringers tensioned in relation to each other.

8. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, the combination with a support, of flexible partitions, spacing strips therebetween at top and bottom thereof, stringers connecting the upper spacing strips and partitions to the support, whereby they are suspended therefrom, stringers connecting the spacing strips and partitions at the lower parts of the latter, and tension screw clamps connecting the lower stringers to the support.

9. In a filing case for phonograph or
graphophone disks, the combination with a support, of flexible partitions, spacing strips therebetween at top and bottom thereof, stringers connecting the upper spacing strips and partitions to the support, whereby they are suspended therefrom, stringers connecting the spacing strips and partitions at the lower parts of the latter, tension screw clamps connecting the lower stringers to the support, and tension screws interposed between the upper and lower stringers and carried by them.

10. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, having a plurality of disk holding compartments, the combination with independent disk ejecting means for the several compartments, of a single selective operating device adapted to cooperate with one disk ejecting means at a time and to be shifted at will for selective cooperation with any one of said disk ejecting means.

11. In a filing case for phonograph or graphophone disks, having a plurality of disk holding compartments, the combination with independent disk ejecting means for the several compartments, of independent guides for the respective compartments, and a bodily removable selective actuator adapted to be selectively positioned at will in any one of said guides and to be moved from one guide to another and thereby arranged to cooperate with the disk ejecting means of the corresponding compartment.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL HOLSTEIN.

Witnesses:
CHARLES O. DAVIS,
JOHN W. E. ROBERTSON.