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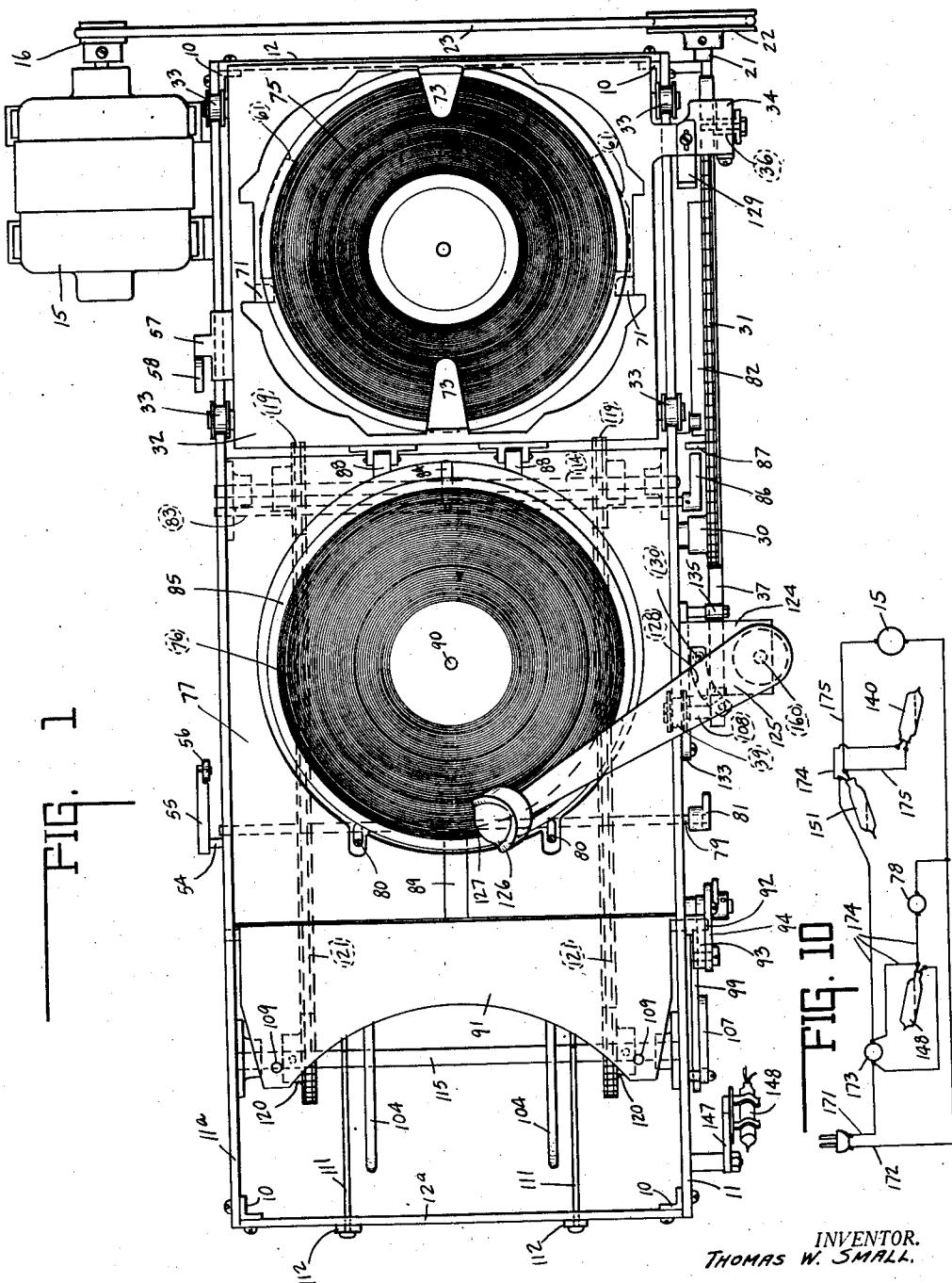
T. W. SMALL

1,854,960

AUTOMATIC PHONOGRAPH

Filed July 21, 1930

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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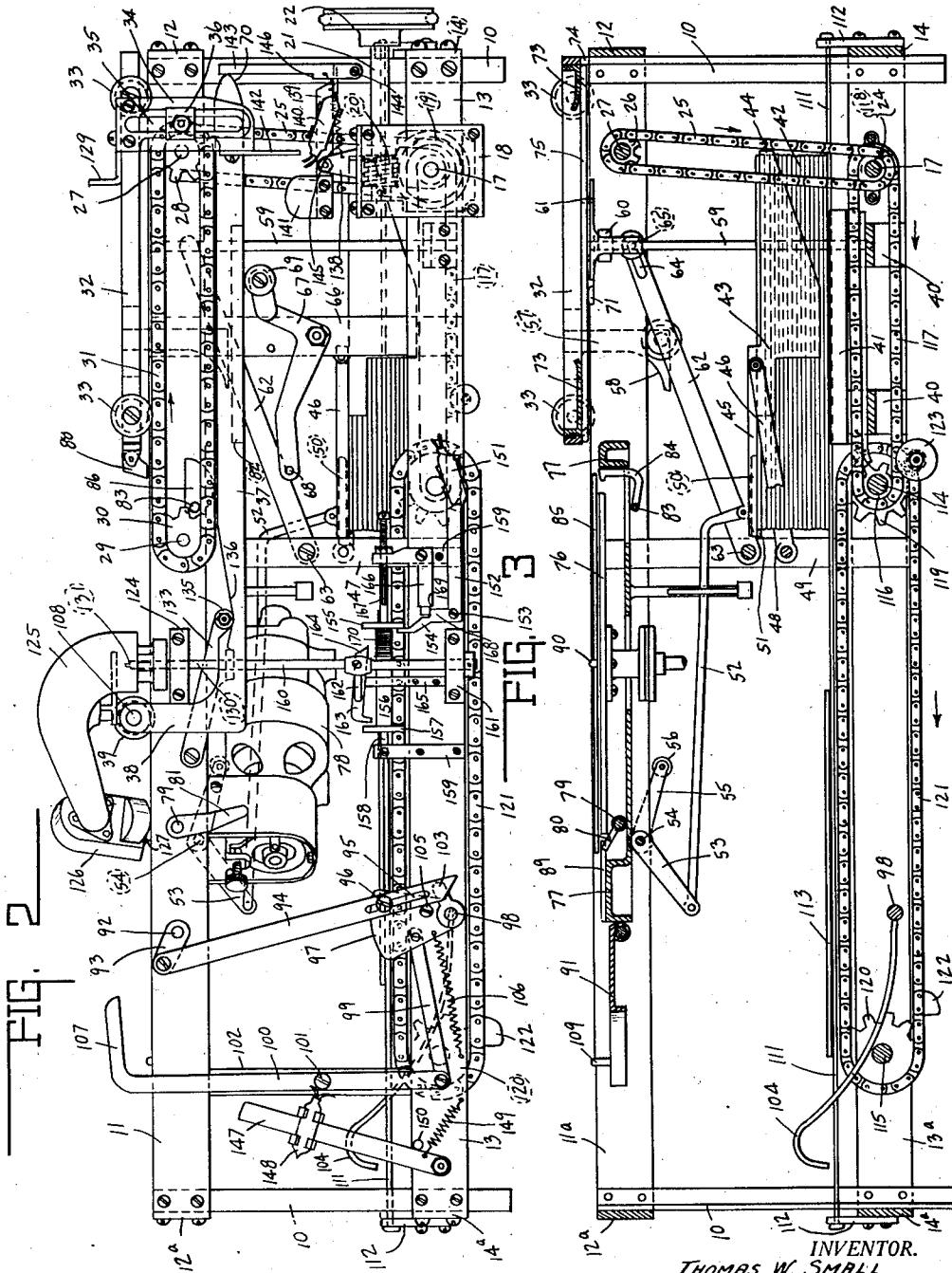
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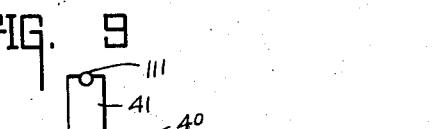
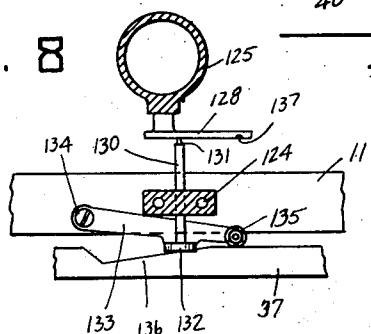
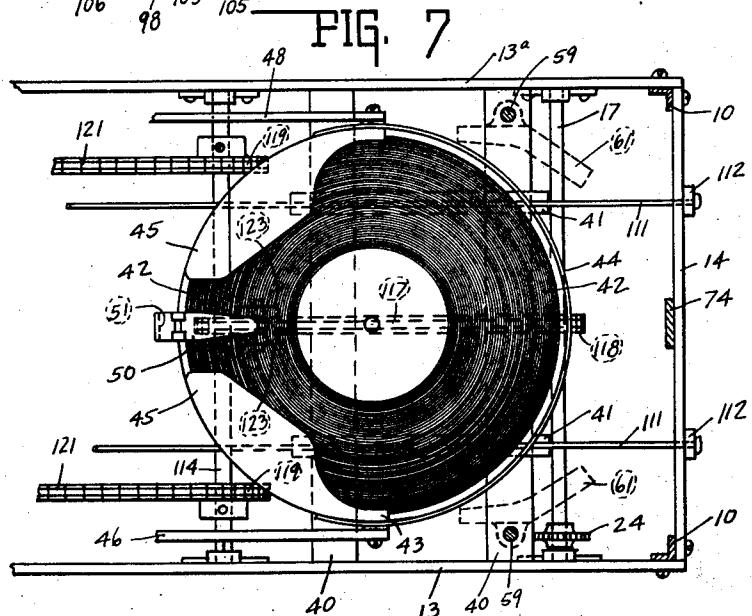
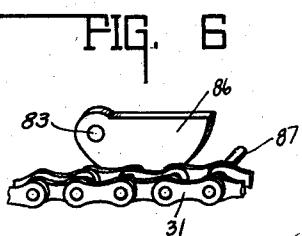
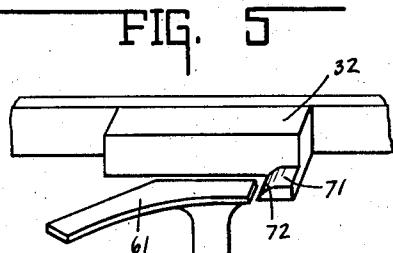
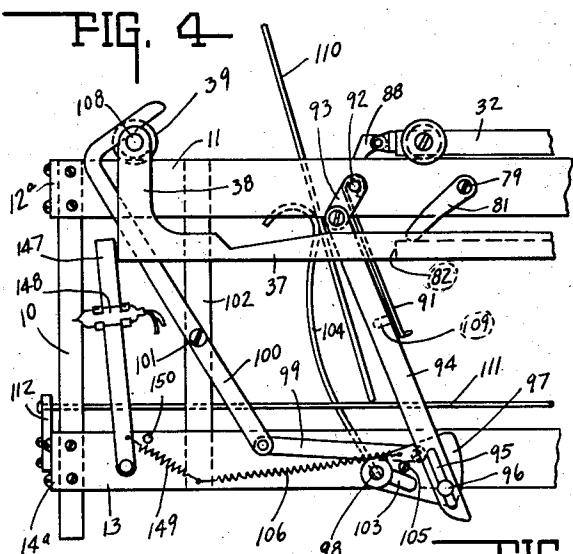
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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AUTOMATIC PHONOGRAPH

Application filed July 21, 1930. Serial No. 469,502.

This invention relates to an automatic phonograph of the type wherein a plurality of disc records are carried in a storage magazine and are successively removed to a turn table for playing and, when played, are returned to said storage magazine.

The principal object of the invention is to provide means whereby the record-changing functions may be performed by mechanism having a small number of moving parts and adapted to be assembled in a compact unit occupying small space.

Another object of the invention is to provide such a phonograph wherein a small or large number of records may be placed in the machine at any one time without interfering in any way with the operation thereof.

Another object of the invention is to provide improvements in the mechanism for performing the various functions of an automatic phonograph.

One feature of the invention resides in the novel form of apparatus used for placing the records in the storage magazine and removing the same therefrom. This mechanism is such that the stack of records in the magazine may be supported in such manner that the lowermost record is not distorted by the weight of the records above and is such that a large or small number of records may be carried in the magazine without interfering with the operation of the mechanism.

Another feature of the invention resides in a novel form of carriage mechanism for transporting the records to the turn table for playing. By means of this mechanism, the records are carried to the turn table rather than being pushed thereto over a supporting surface.

Another feature of the invention resides in the novel means of removing the records from the carriage mechanism when they have been delivered to the turn table.

Another feature of the invention resides in the novel mechanism used for removing a record from the turn table after playing.

Certain features of the apparatus herein disclosed but not claimed are shown and claimed in my copending applications, Serial No. 291,221, filed July 9, 1928; Serial No.

330,879, filed January 4, 1929; Serial No. 363,776, filed May 17, 1929; Serial No. 386,609, filed August 17, 1929 and Serial No. 443,946, filed April 14, 1930.

Other objects and features of the invention will be apparent from the accompanying drawings and the following description and claims:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of an automatic phonograph embodying the invention with parts in the position for playing a record. Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of the same. Fig. 3 is a similar elevational view with parts removed and parts shown in section to show other parts in detail. Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of a portion of the mechanism shown in Fig. 2 with the parts thereof in the position assumed at a different point in the record-changing cycle. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of several of the parts used in placing a record upon the carriage mechanism. Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing certain parts used in the removal of a record from the turn table. Fig. 7 is a plan view of the record-storage magazine and parts adjacent thereto. Fig. 8 is an elevational view partly in section illustrating apparatus used for manipulation of the tone arm during a change of records. Fig. 9 is an elevational view of one of the supports for the records in the storage magazine. Fig. 10 is a wiring diagram of electrical connections for operating the record-changing and turn table motors.

Frame

The frame work of the machine includes vertical frame members 10 on the four corners thereof, a pair of upper longitudinal frame members 11 and 11a and a pair of upper transverse frame members 12 and 12a fastened to said corner members 10 adjacent the upper ends thereof. A pair of lower longitudinal frame members 13 and 13a and a pair of lower transverse frame members 14 and 14a are connected to the corner members 10 adjacent their lower ends.

Power mechanism

An electric motor 15 is bolted to the rear side of the frame and carries a driving pul-

ley 16. A shaft 17 extends laterally through the machine and is journaled upon the frame members 13 and 13a. The said shaft extends into a gear housing 18 bolted to the frame member 13 and containing a worm gear 19 carried by said shaft and a worm 20 engaging therewith. The worm 20 is carried upon a shaft 21 upon which is mounted a pulley 22. A belt 23 is trained about the pulleys 16 and 22. By this means, the shaft 17 is rotatable by operation of the motor 15.

Carriage moving mechanism

The shaft 17 carries a sprocket 24 about which is trained a sprocket chain 25 also trained about a sprocket 26 carried by a stub shaft 27. The stub shaft 27 is supported upon a suitable bearing carried by the frame member 11 and has fastened thereto a sprocket 28. A similar stub shaft 29 is also carried upon the frame member 11 and in turn carries a sprocket 30. A chain 31 is trained about the sprockets 28 and 30. Thus rotation of shaft 17 by the motor 15 causes movement of the chains 25 and 31 and this movement is in the direction of the arrows in Figs. 2 and 3. A movable carriage 32 is supported by means of flanged rollers 33 upon the frame members 11 and 11a. The carriage 32 has a downwardly-extending portion 34 having a slotted opening 35 therein. A rectangular block 36 is pivotally carried by one of the links of chain 31 and is adapted to engage the slotted opening 35. By this means, continuous movement of the chain 31 in the direction of the arrow causes reciprocating movement of the carriage 32 upon the frame members 11 and 11a. A bar 37 is fastened to the downwardly-extending portion 34 of the carriage 32 and is formed with an upwardly-extending end portion 38 having a roller 39 attached thereto. The roller 39 is also adapted to travel upon the frame member 11. In the operation of changing records, the carriage 32 and bar 37 move from the position indicated in Fig. 2 a predetermined distance to the left, determined by the travel of the block 36 upon chain 31 and are then returned to the position of Fig. 2. In this travel, certain portions of the carriage 32 and bar 37 engage and actuate certain of the record-manipulating mechanisms, as will be more fully described hereinafter. The mechanism for starting and stopping the motor 15 to cause the carriage travel will also be hereinafter described in detail.

Mechanism for moving record from storage magazine to turn table

60 A pair of transverse supports 40 are fastened to frame members 13 and 13a and carry longitudinal supports 41 in turn carrying a stack of records 42. A retaining member 43 has a semi-circular retaining portion 44 extending about one side of the stack

of records and has a pair of gauge portions 45 resting upon the uppermost record in the stack. The said gauge portions support the retaining member 43 upon the stack in such position that the upper edge of the retaining portion 44 engages the edge of the second highest record in the stack so that the highest record may be pushed from the stack over the edge of the said retaining portion while the remainder of the records are retained in the stack. A link 46 is pivotally connected at one end to the retaining member 43 and at the opposite end to a vertical member 47 fastened to the frame members 11 and 13. A similar link 48 is pivotally attached to the retaining member 43 at the opposite side and is pivotally attached at its opposite end to a vertical member 49 fastened to the frame members 11a and 13a. By means of these links, the retaining member 43 may be freely moved in a substantially vertical direction but lateral movement thereof is prevented. Thus the retaining member 43 may perform its function whether there is a small or large number of records in the stack.

For removing the uppermost record from the stack, a record-engaging shoe 50 is provided normally resting upon the uppermost surface of the uppermost record and having a portion 51 extending downwardly and engaging the rim of the said record. A link 52 is pivotally attached to the said shoe and is in turn pivotally connected at its opposite end to an arm 53 in turn carried upon a stub shaft 54. The link 52 is relatively long and is substantially horizontally disposed so that vertical movement of the shoe 50 is possible without material change in its lateral position. The shoe 50 is, therefore, adapted to rest upon the uppermost record in the stack at substantially the same lateral position whether there is a small or large number of records in the stack. The stub shaft 54 is suitably supported upon the frame member 11a and carries an arm 55 in turn carrying a roller 56 upon its outer end. The roller 56 extends into the path of travel of a downwardly-extending portion 57 of the carriage 32. The downwardly-extending portion 57 is formed with a curved surface 58 adapted to engage the roller 56 at the proper time in the cycle of movement of carriage 32. By means of this engagement, the roller 56 is elevated, thereby rocking the stub shaft 54 and arm 53 carried thereby to propel the shoe 50 to the right, referring to Fig. 3. In this movement of the shoe 50, the topmost record of the stack is moved upon the stack a sufficient distance to bring the leading edge thereof beyond the retaining portion 44 of the retaining member 43 and to slip the said record from beneath the gauge members 45. A pair of vertical rods 59 are fastened at their lower ends to one of the transverse supports 40 and at their upper ends to brack-

ets 60 carried by the frame members 11 and 11a. An elevator member 61 is associated with each of said rods and is free to slide vertically thereon. A pair of levers 62 are fastened at one end to a shaft 63 journaled upon the vertical members 47 and 49. Each of the levers 62 is fitted at its other end with a slotted opening 64 engaging a pin 65 upon one of the elevator members 61. A vertical frame member 66 is fastened to the frame members 11 and 13 and pivotally supports a bell crank 67 carrying a pin 68 adapted to engage the lower edge of one of the levers 62. The opposite arm of the bell crank 67 carries a roller 69 adapted to engage the lower edge of the bar 37. In the movement of the carriage 32, the bar 37 travels to the left a sufficient distance to clear the roller 69 which is thus free to move upwardly. The weight of the elevator members 61 and the levers 62 acting upon the pin 68 rocks the bell crank 67 about its pivotal mounting, causing the roller 69 to move upwardly and permitting the elevator members 61 to be dropped to a position beside the stack of records indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 7. In the return of the carriage 32, a bevelled end portion 70 of the bar 37 engages the roller 69, forcing the same downward and causing the elevator members 61 to be upwardly moved to the position indicated in Fig. 3. The movement of the elevator 61 is so timed with the movement of the shoe 50 that the elevator members are first lowered, the shoe 50 is then moved to the right and retracted, bringing the uppermost record in the stack to a position above the elevator members 61 and the elevator members are then raised to carry the record upward.

The carriage 32 is fitted with a pair of inwardly-extending record-supporting portions 71, the upper surfaces of which are at a slightly higher elevation than the upper surfaces of the elevator members 61 at their highest point. The record-supporting members 71 are formed with bevelled portions 72. The elevation of the record by the elevators 61 takes place before the completion of the return movement of the carriage 32. In the continued movement of the carriage, the bevelled portions 72 of the members 71 engage the edge of the record and the record is lifted thereby from the elevators 61 and brought to rest upon the members 71. In this action, the upper surface of the record is engaged by a pair of inwardly-extending tongues 73 carried by the carriage 32 so that tilting and dropping of the record is impossible. At the same time, the edge of the record engages the upper end of a stationary guide member 74 fastened to the frame members 12 and 14 so that lateral movement of the record is also impossible. When the return movement of the carriage is complete, the parts are brought to the position shown

in Fig. 3 in which the record 75 is supported upon the members 71 free of the elevator members 61 and is steadied by the tongues 73.

In the next succeeding movement of the carriage 32, the record 75 is carried thereby to a position above a playing turn table 76 suitably supported upon a casting 77 in turn carried by the frame members 11 and 11a. The turn table is rotatable by means of a motor 78 in a well known manner. Adjacent the turn table 76 a transverse shaft 79 is journaled upon the frame members 11 and 11a and carries a pair of stop members 80. An arm 81 is also carried upon the shaft 79. The arm 81 extends into the path of a block 82 carried by the bar 37. When the carriage 32 has brought the record into position above the turn table 76, the block 82 engages the arm 81, as illustrated in Fig. 4, thus bringing the stop members 80 into an upright position into the path of the record. The record is thereby prevented from further movement during further travel of the carriage 32 so that the support members 71 are slipped from beneath the record and the record is allowed to drop upon the turn table in proper position for playing. In the return of the carriage, the support members 71 pass above the record upon the turn table.

Mechanism for returning record from turn table to storage magazine

Adjacent the turn table 76, a transverse shaft 83 is journaled upon the frame members 11 and 11a and carries an L-shaped member 84 having its upper end normally positioned beneath the edge of the record 85 upon the turn table. The shaft 83 also carries a cam 86 extending into the path of travel of a pin 87 carried by one of the links of the chain 31. The carriage 32 carries pivotally-mounted lugs 88 adapted to engage the edge of the record 85 in the movement of the carriage 32 for removing the said record from the turn table. At the start of the movement of carriage 32 after playing of a record, the pin 87 engages the cam 86, causing the member 84 to be elevated to tilt the edge of the record 85 upwardly. In this tilting movement, the opposite edge of the record rests upon a support member 89 carried by the casting 77 and the tilting is sufficient to free the record from contact with the turn table and to clear the centering pin 90 of the turn table.

When the record has reached its tilted position, it is engaged by the lugs 88 and is pushed from the turn table thereby. At a point near the end of the left hand movement of the carriage 32, the record is deposited upon a tiltable apron 91 carried by a shaft 92 journaled upon the frame members 11 and 11a. The shaft 92 also carries an arm 93, to the outer end of which is pivotally connected a downwardly-extending link 94. The link 94 is fitted at its lower end with a slotted

opening 95 engaging a pin 96 carried upon a segmentally-shaped lever 97. The lever 97 is freely rotatable upon a shaft 98 journaled upon the frame members 13 and 13a. A link 99 is pivotally connected at one end to the lever 97 and at the opposite end to the lower end of a lever 100. The lever 100 is pivotally mounted by means of a pin 101 upon a vertical member 102 extending between the frame members 11 and 13. The shaft 98 fixedly carries an arm 103 and a pair of fingers 104. A pin 105 is carried by the lever 97 and is adapted to engage the arm 103. A tension spring 106 is fastened at one end to the lever 97 and at the opposite end to the frame member 13 and serves normally to maintain the parts in the position illustrated in Fig. 2 with the apron 91 in the horizontal position illustrated in Fig. 3. The lever 100 is formed at its upper end with a backwardly extending portion 107 extending into the path of travel of the pin 108 upon which the roller 39 is mounted.

In the travel of the carriage 32, after a record has been placed upon the apron 91, the pin 108 engages the lever 100, moving the parts to the position illustrated in Fig. 4. In this movement, the apron 91 is downwardly tilted and the record engages stop pins 109 carried thereby and is thus prevented from slipping during the tilting. It will be noticed that the pin 105 does not engage the arm 103 until the lever 100 has been moved a predetermined distance. When this takes place, the fingers 104 are upwardly moved to engage the record 110, thus preventing the record from falling backward as the apron 91 assumes a nearly vertical position. After the apron 91 swings beyond a vertical position, the edge of the record 110 comes to rest upon a pair of wires 111 strung between brackets 112 carried by the frame members 14 and 14a. As the carriage commences its return movement, the parts are returned to the position shown in Figs. 2 and 3 by the action of spring 106 and the record is brought to rest upon the wires 111 in the position indicated by the numeral 113 in Fig. 3. In this position, the face of the record which was uppermost during the playing is now lowermost so that, in the next playing of the record, the opposite face will be presented for playing.

A pair of transverse shafts 114 and 115 are journaled upon suitable bearings carried by frame members 13 and 13a. The shaft 114 carries a sprocket 116 about which is trained a chain 117 also trained about a sprocket 118 carried by the shaft 17. The shaft 114 also carries a pair of sprockets 119 and the shaft 115 carries a similar pair of sprockets 120. A pair of chains 121 are trained about the sprockets 119 and 120. The chains 117 and 121 are, therefore, moved in the direction of the arrows in Fig. 3 by the rotation of the

shaft 17. It will be noticed that the sprockets 116 and 118 are smaller than the sprockets 119 and 120 so that the chain 121 travels at a higher speed than the chain 117. The sizes of the said sprockets and the number of links in each chain are chosen so that each chain makes a complete revolution for each complete revolution of the chain 31. Each of the chains 121 carries an attachment 122 adapted to engage the record when in the position 113 and to propel the record toward the stack 42. The chain 117 carries a pair of rollers 123 adapted to engage the lowermost record in the stack and to thereby tilt the stack to permit entrance of the record there beneath. In the movement of the chains 117 and 121, the rollers 123 travel across the face of the lowermost record in the stack and the record 113 is moved by the attachments 122 in the wake of the rollers 123 and is thereby placed in position beneath the stack. As shown in Fig. 9, the wires 111 are fitted in grooves in the upper surface of the support members 41. Thus the wires and the members 41 form a continuous support for the stack of records and this support is so positioned that there is no tendency for distortion of the lowermost record by the weight of the remainder of the records in the stack.

Mechanism for tone arm manipulation

A bracket 124 is fastened to the frame member 11 and universally supports a tone arm 125. The tone arm 125 extends over the record 85 upon the playing turn table in the usual manner and carries a sound box 126 and a stylus 127 adapted to engage the record. The sound box is preferably of the electric type connected by suitable wiring to an amplifier and reproducer, not shown. The tone arm has fastened to the underside thereof of an arcuate support member 128 extending into the path of an adjustably-positioned member 129 carried by the carriage 32. A vertical pin 130 is guided in a suitable opening in bracket 124 and has a reduced portion 131 upon its upper end adapted to engage the lower surface of the arcuate member 128. The lower end of the pin 130 is supported upon a bracket 132 carried upon a lever 133. The lever 133 is pivotally mounted by means of a pin 134 upon the frame member 11 and carries at its outer end a roller 135 adapted to ride upon the upper surface of the bar 37. During the playing of a record, the roller 135 engages a depressed portion 136 of the bar 37 as shown in Fig. 2. In this position, the pin 130 is in its lowermost position and the upper end of the said pin is out of engagement with the arcuate support member 128. The stylus 127 is, therefore, allowed to rest upon the record for playing and is moved toward the center of the record by the record groove in the usual manner.

Upon the completion of playing of a rec-

ord, the travel of carriage 32 is initiated, as will be hereinafter described. The bar 37, in its movement to the left, elevates the roller 135, bringing the stem 130 into engagement with the arcuate support member 128 to elevate the tone arm sufficiently to clear the carriage 32. As the carriage 32 approaches the end of its left hand travel, the member 129 engages the arcuate member 128, moving the tone arm outwardly toward the edge of the record. The position of the member 129 is so adjusted that, at the completion of the left hand travel of the carriage 32, the arcuate member 128 has been moved to bring a groove or recess 137 in the under surface thereof into engagement with the reduced upper end 131 of the pin 130. By means of this engagement, the tone arm is maintained in the proper position above the point for starting the playing of the record. Upon the return of the carriage 32, the bar 37 is moved to bring the depressed portion 136 thereof again into engagement with the roller 135, permitting the tone arm to be gently lowered into record-engaging position.

Electrical connections for actuation of record-changing motor and turn table motor

50 A bracket 138 carried by the gear housing 18 pivotally supports a lever 139 carrying a mercury switch 140. The lever 139 carries at one end an upwardly-extending member 141 adapted to engage a downwardly-extending flexible member 142 carried by the portion 34 of carriage 32. A lever 143 is pivotally mounted by means of a pin 144 upon the adjacent frame member 10 and is normally urged toward the left (Fig. 2) by a tension spring 145. The lever 143 is formed with a shoulder 146 thereon and the upper end of said lever is adapted to engage the beveled end 70 of the bar 37. In the movement of the carriage 32 to the left, the flexible member 45 142 engages the member 141, thus tilting the lever 139 so that the right hand end thereof reaches a higher level than the shoulder 146. Since the bar 37 has moved from its engagement with the upper end of lever 143, the said lever is moved to the left by the spring 145, permitting the end of lever 139 to come to rest upon the shoulder 146. In this position, the mercury switch 140 is in the closed circuit position. Upon the return of the carriage 32 the bar 37 engages lever 143, moving the same to the right and permitting the lever 139 to drop to the position shown in Fig. 2, in which position the mercury switch 140 is in the open circuit position. Thus the mercury switch 140 is in open circuit position only when the carriage 32 has completed its return to the initial position and for a short portion of the travel of the said carriage to the left.

60 A lever 147 is pivotally mounted upon the frame member 13 and carries a mercury switch 148. A spring 149 normally urges the lever 147 to the right against a stop pin 150 carried by the frame member 13. The upper end of the lever 147 is in the path of travel of the bar 37 and is engaged thereby 70 near the completion of the travel of the carriage 32 to the left. The mercury switch 148 is normally in the closed circuit position when the lever 147 is moved by engagement with the bar 37. Thus the switch 148 is in the 75 open circuit position only when the carriage is near the left hand limit of its travel.

65 A mercury switch 151 is carried upon the outer end of a lever 152 pivotally carried by means of a pin 153 upon the frame member 80 13. The lever 152 has an upwardly-extending portion 154 extending into the path of travel of a slidable collar 155. The collar 155 is fastened to a barrel 156 having a similar collar 157 upon the opposite end thereof. 85 The collars 155 and 157 and the barrel 156 are slidable upon a horizontal rod 158 carried by brackets 159 attached to the frame member 13. A vertical stem 160 is rotatably supported by a bracket 161 fastened to the frame member 13 and extends through the bracket 124. The said stem is fastened to the tone arm 125 and is rotatable by the said tone arm as it passes over the surface of the record. The stem 160 carries a projecting arm 162 upon which is pivotally carried a dog 163. The dog 163 has a rearwardly-extending portion adapted to engage the collar 157 and a forwardly-extending pointed portion 164 adapted to engage the collar 155. The 90 dog rides upon a stationary support member 165 fastened to the frame member 13. A bell crank 166 is pivotally mounted on one of the brackets 159 and carries on its vertical arm an adjustable pin 167 adapted to engage the collar 155. The horizontal arm of the bell crank 166 rests upon a shoulder 168 upon the upwardly-extending portion 154 of lever 152. The said bell crank arm is formed with a shoulder 169 normally engaging the said 100 portion of lever 152.

105 In the operation of the apparatus, at the start of playing a record, the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 2. As the playing of the record progresses, the tone arm moves over the surface thereof rotating the stem 160 and moving the dog 163 to the right. In this movement, the dog 163 is supported by the stationary support 165 preventing the forwardly-extending portion 164 from engaging the barrel 156 until it has progressed to the collar 155 or nearly to that position. Further travel of the tone arm upon the record causes the dog 163 to move the collar 155, barrel 156 and collar 157 to the right. 110 In this action, movement of the lever 152 is prevented by the engagement of portion 154 thereof with the shoulder 169. When the collar 155 is moved a sufficient distance to engage the pin 167, the bell crank 166 is rocked 115

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- thereby, lifting the horizontal arm thereof and permitting the lever 152 to drop, bringing the mercury switch 151 into closed circuit position. If the record being played is 5 of the type having a spiral braking groove, the movement of the mercury switch 151 takes place only when the tone arm has reached the inner end of the braking groove at a point close to the center of the record.
- 10 If the record is of the type having an eccentric braking groove which oscillates the tone arm at the completion of playing of a record, the dog 163 is oscillated with the tone arm and the outer end 164 thereof engages threads 15 170 on the barrel 156, thereby moving the said barrel and the collar 155 to actuate the mercury switch 151. Upon the return of the tone arm 125 to the position for the commencement of playing, the dog 163 is brought 20 into engagement with the collar 157. The said collar, the barrel 156, and the collar 155 are thereby returned to their initial positions. In this action, the collar 155 engages 25 the upwardly-extending portion 154, moving the same to its initial position and permitting the bell crank 166 to drop into its initial position. By this mechanism, therefore, the mercury switch 151 is moved to closed circuit 30 position at the completion of playing of a record and is maintained in that position until the carriage 32 has moved a sufficient distance to bring the tone arm to its initial playing position.
- 35 A pair of wires 171 and 172 (Fig. 10) are connected to any suitable source of electric current. The wire 171 leads to one terminal of a switch 173 which may be a manually-operated snap switch or a coin-controlled switch as desired. The wire 171 also leads to 40 one terminal of the switch 148. The opposite terminals of the switches 173 and 148 are connected by a wire 174 with one terminal of each of the switches 151 and 140 and with one terminal of the turn table motor 78. The 45 opposite terminals of each of the switches 140 and 151 are connected by a wire 175 with one terminal of the record-changing motor 15. The wire 172 is connected to the opposite terminals of the motors 78 and 15.
- 50 During the playing of a record, the switches are in the position illustrated in Fig. 10 and the snap switch 173 is normally in closed circuit position. At the completion of playing of a record, the switch 151 is tilted to 55 closed circuit position, actuating the motor 15 by means of the following circuit: 171, 173 or 148, 174, 151, 175, 15, 172. The travel of the carriage 32 and the movement of the remainder of the record-changing mechanism is thereby started. When the said travel has 60 progressed a short distance, the switch 140 is tilted to closed circuit position by the engagement of members 142 and 141 and since this switch is in parallel with switch 151, the 65 circuit is maintained even after switch 151

has been moved to open circuit position by the return of the tone arm to initial playing position. Upon the return of carriage 32 to initial position, mercury switch 140 is tilted to open circuit position by engagement 70 of bar 37 with lever 143. The circuit is thereby broken and the motor is stopped during the playing of the next record. The turn table motor is continually operated by a circuit 171, 173 or 148, 174, 78, 172. 75

If at any time during the playing of a record the switch 173 is opened, the turn table motor continues to function since switch 148 is in its normal closed circuit position. At the completion of playing of a record, the 80 record-changing motor 15 is also actuated since the switch 148 also supplies the connection for this motor. At the completion of the left hand travel of the carriage 32, however, the switch 148 is moved to open 85 circuit position by the engagement of bar 37 with lever 147. The circuits for both motors are thereby broken, the motors are stopped and the machine comes to rest. When the switch 173 is again moved to closed 90 circuit position, the record-changing cycle is resumed.

The invention claimed is:

1. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, 95 a member adapted to engage the undersurface of the lowermost record for tilting said stack to permit entrance of a record therebeneath, and means for sliding a record beneath said stack when so tilted. 100

2. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, a movable member adapted to travel beneath said stack, means for moving said member to engage the undersurface of the lowermost 105 record for tilting said stack to permit entrance of a record therebeneath and for moving said member from the path of said last-mentioned record, and means for sliding a record beneath said stack when so tilted. 110

3. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, a member engageable with the undersurface of the lowermost record and movable across said surface for lifting said stack, means for so moving said member, and means for sliding a record beneath said stack in the wake of the movement of said member. 115

4. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, a 120 chain movable beneath said stack, a roller carried thereby and adapted to engage the undersurface of the lowermost record and adapted to travel across said surface for lifting said stack, and means for sliding a record beneath said stack in the wake of the movement of said roller.

5. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, 125 a retaining member adapted to be supported 130

by the uppermost record in the stack and having a portion adapted to engage all of the records therein except the uppermost for preventing the removal thereof from the stack, and means for sliding the uppermost record from the stack.

6. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, a retaining member having a retaining portion adjacent one side of said stack and having a gauge portion adapted to rest upon the uppermost record in the stack for supporting said member at the proper height for the upper edge of the retaining portion thereof to engage the edge of the second highest record in the stack, and means for sliding said uppermost record from the stack over said retaining portion.

7. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a support for a stack of records, a retaining member having a gauge portion adapted to engage the upper surface of the uppermost record in the stack and having a retaining portion positioned to prevent removal from the stack of all but said uppermost record, a substantially horizontally-disposed link having one end pivotally connected to said retaining member and the opposite end pivotally connected to said frame for preventing lateral movement of said retaining member while permitting substantially vertical movement thereof, and means for sliding the uppermost record from the stack.

8. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a support for a stack of records, a retaining member having a retaining portion adjacent one side of said stack and having a gauge portion adapted to rest upon the uppermost record in the stack for supporting said member at the proper height for the upper edge of the retaining portion thereof to engage the edge of the second highest record in the stack, a substantially horizontally-disposed link having one end pivotally connected to said retaining member and the opposite end pivotally connected to said frame for preventing lateral movement of said retaining member while permitting substantially vertical movement thereof, and means for sliding said uppermost record from the stack over said retaining portion.

9. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, a retainer adapted to prevent removal of all but the uppermost of said records from the stack, an elevator, means for sliding the uppermost record of the stack to a position above said elevator, a movable carriage, mechanism for moving said elevator to lift said record to a position to be engaged by said carriage, a playing turn table, and mechanism for moving said carriage to engage said record and move the same to said turn table.

10. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records,

a retaining member having a gauge portion adapted to engage the upper surface of the uppermost record in the stack and having a retaining portion positioned to prevent removal from the stack of all but said uppermost record, an elevator positioned immediately adjacent said stack, means for sliding the uppermost record upon said stack a sufficient distance to clear the gauge portion of said retaining member and to bring a portion of said record above said elevator, a movable carriage, mechanism for moving said elevator to lift said record to a position to be engaged by said carriage, a playing turn table, and mechanism for moving said carriage to engage said record and move the same to said turn table.

11. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a support for a stack of records, a retaining member having a gauge portion adapted to engage the upper surface of the uppermost record in the stack and having a retaining portion positioned to prevent removal from the stack of all but said uppermost record, an elevator having a pair of oppositely-positioned record-supporting portions having arcuate inner edges adapted to be positioned close to said stack, means for sliding the uppermost record upon said stack a sufficient distance to clear the gauge portion of said retaining member and to bring a portion of said record above said elevator, a movable carriage, mechanism for moving said elevator to lift said record to a position to be engaged by said carriage, a playing turn table, and mechanism for moving said carriage to engage said record and move the same to said turn table.

12. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a carriage movable upon said frame, an elevator adapted to lift a record to a predetermined level, record-supporting members carried by said carriage, the record-supporting surfaces thereof being slightly higher than said predetermined level and said members having bevelled portions adapted to engage a record upon said elevator in the movement of said carriage and to lift the same to rest upon said members, a stop member adapted to engage the record for preventing lateral motion thereof during said lifting, a playing turn table, and means for moving said carriage to bring said record-supporting members into engagement with said record and to thereafter transport said record to said turn table.

13. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a carriage movable upon said frame, an elevator adapted to lift a record to a predetermined level, record-supporting members carried by said carriage, the record-supporting surfaces thereof being slightly higher than said predetermined level and said members having bevelled portions adapted to engage a record upon said elevator

in the movement of said carriage and to lift the same to rest upon said members, a stop member adapted to engage the record for preventing lateral motion thereof during said lifting, a playing turn table, means for moving said carriage to bring said record-supporting members into engagement with said record and to thereafter transport said record to said turn table, and members carried by said carriage adapted to engage the upper surface of said record for steadyng the same during transportation thereof.

14. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a carriage movable thereon, record-supporting members carried by said carriage, a playing turn table, means for moving said carriage to bring a record carried thereby to a position above said turn table, stop members adapted to engage said record when said position has been reached to prevent further movement thereof, whereby further movement of said carriage slides said supporting members from beneath said record allowing the same to drop upon said turn table, members carried by said carriage for pushing said record from the turn table upon the next succeeding movement of said carriage, and means for retaining said stop members in record-stopping position when a record is moved to the turn table, said means being inoperative when a record is removed from the turn table.

15. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a playing turn table, a movable carriage, record-supporting members carried by said carriage, record-pushing members carried by said carriage, means for moving said carriage to bring said pushing members into engagement with a record on said turn table to move said record from said turn table and to bring a second record carried by said record-supporting members into position above said turn table, stop members in the path of said records and normally freely movable from said path when engaged by the record, whereby removal of the record from the turn table is not impeded, and mechanism operable at a predetermined point in the travel of said carriage to retain said stop members in said path to engage the record being moved to said turn table, whereby further movement of said carriage slides said supporting members from beneath said record allowing the same to drop upon said turn table.

16. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a playing turn table, a movable carriage, record-supporting members carried by said carriage, record-pushing members carried by said carriage, means for moving said carriage to bring said pushing members into engagement with a record on said turn table to move said record from said turn table and to bring a second record carried by said record-supporting members into position

above said turn table, and stop members movable from the path of said records during the removal of a record from the turn table and movable into the path of said records to engage the record being moved to the turn table, whereby further movement of said carriage slides said supporting members from beneath said record allowing the same to drop upon said turn table.

17. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a playing turn table, a movable carriage, record-supporting members carried by said carriage, record-pushing members carried by said carriage, means for moving said carriage to bring said pushing members into engagement with a record on said turn table to move said record from said turn table and to bring a second record carried by said record-supporting members into position above said turn table, stop members in the path of said records and normally freely movable from said path when engaged by the record, whereby removal of the record from the turn table is not impeded, an operating arm connected to said stop members, and a member carried by said carriage and engageable with said operating arm at a predetermined point in the travel of said carriage to retain said stop members in position to engage the record being moved to the turn table, whereby further movement of said carriage slides said supporting members from beneath said record allowing the same to drop upon said turn table.

18. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a playing turn table having a record-centering pin, a movable carriage having record-engaging members, a record-tilting member adapted to engage the undersurface of a record upon said turn table at a point adjacent one edge thereof, means for moving said carriage to bring said record-engaging members into engagement with said record for removing the same from the turn table, and mechanism operable in timed relation with the movement of said carriage for elevating said tilting member to tilt the record sufficiently to clear said centering pin for removal of the record.

19. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a playing turn table having a record-centering pin, a movable carriage having record-engaging members, means for moving said carriage to bring said record-engaging members into engagement with said record for removing the same from the turn table, a record-tilting member adapted to engage the undersurface of a record upon said turn table at a point adjacent one edge thereof, a stationary support member carried by said frame beneath said record adjacent the opposite edge thereof, and means operable in timed relation with the movement of said carriage for elevating said tilting member to tilt said record to bring

the opposite edge to rest upon said stationary support member, said elevation being sufficient to remove said record from contact with said turn table and to clear said centering pin for removal of the record.

20. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a tone arm universally mounted upon said frame, a support member carried by said tone arm, said member

10 having a substantially horizontal undersurface, a vertical stem slidably guided upon a portion of said frame, a lever pivotally supported upon said frame and having a portion adapted to engage the lower end of said stem

15 for supporting the same, a playing turn table, a movable carriage for moving records to said turn table for playing, an irregularly shaped member movable with said carriage and adapted to engage said lever at a predetermined position in its travel and to thereby lift said lever to elevate said stem to bring the upper end thereof into engagement with the undersurface of said support member for elevating said tone arm, and means carried

20 by said carriage for moving said tone arm and support member when so elevated to slide said support member upon the upper end of said stem to bring said tone arm into position above the point for start of playing

25 of a record on said turn table.

21. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a frame, a tone arm universally mounted upon said frame, a support member fastened to said tone arm, said member

30 having a substantially horizontal undersurface having a recess therein, a vertical stem slidably guided upon a portion of said frame, a lever pivotally supported upon said frame and having a portion adapted to engage the lower end of said stem for supporting the same, a playing turn table, a movable carriage for moving records to said turn table for playing, an irregularly-shaped member movable with said carriage and adapted to

35 engage said lever at a predetermined position in its travel and to thereby lift said lever to elevate said stem to bring the upper end thereof into engagement with the undersurface of said support member for elevating said tone arm, and an element carried by said carriage adapted to move said tone arm and support member when so elevated to slide said support member upon the upper end of said stem

40 to bring said recess into engagement with the upper end of said stem, the parts being so proportioned that said engagement takes place when the tone arm has reached a position above the point for start of playing of a record on said turn table.

45 22. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a tone arm, a dog, means operatively connecting said dog and tone arm for movement of said dog by the movement of said tone arm in the playing of a record, electrically operated record changing and tone

50 arm returning mechanism, a switch device for initiating the actuation of said mechanism, an axially slideable barrel adapted to engage and actuate said switch device, said barrel having a collar at 70 each end, one of said collars being engageable by said dog for moving said barrel to engage and actuate said switch device and the other of said collars being engageable by said dog for returning said barrel to initial position upon the return of said tone arm to initial position, said collars being spaced apart a greater distance than the length of said dog so that a predetermined initial movement of said tone arm in either direction is required 75 before movement of said barrel takes place, threads formed on said barrel between said collars and engageable by said dog for moving said barrel to actuate said switch device, and means for preventing engagement of said dog and threads during the initial part of the tone arm travel in the playing of a record, whereby said engagement can only be made by oscillation of the tone arm and dog during the final part of said travel.

55 23. In an automatic phonograph, the combination of a tone arm, a dog, means operatively connecting said dog and tone arm for movement of said dog by the movement of said tone arm in the playing of a record, record changing and tone arm returning mechanism, a device for initiating the action of said mechanism, a movable member adapted to engage and actuate said device, said member having a portion engageable by said dog 80 for movement thereof for actuating said device and another portion engageable for returning said member to initial position upon the return of said tone arm to initial position, said portions being so spaced that a predetermined initial movement of the tone arm in either direction is required before engagement thereof, another portion formed on said movable member engageable by said dog for moving said member to actuate said device, and means for preventing said last mentioned engagement during the initial part of the tone arm travel in the playing of a record, whereby said engagement can only be made by oscillation of said tone arm and dog 85 during the final part of said travel.

60 In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature.

THOMAS W. SMALL.

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