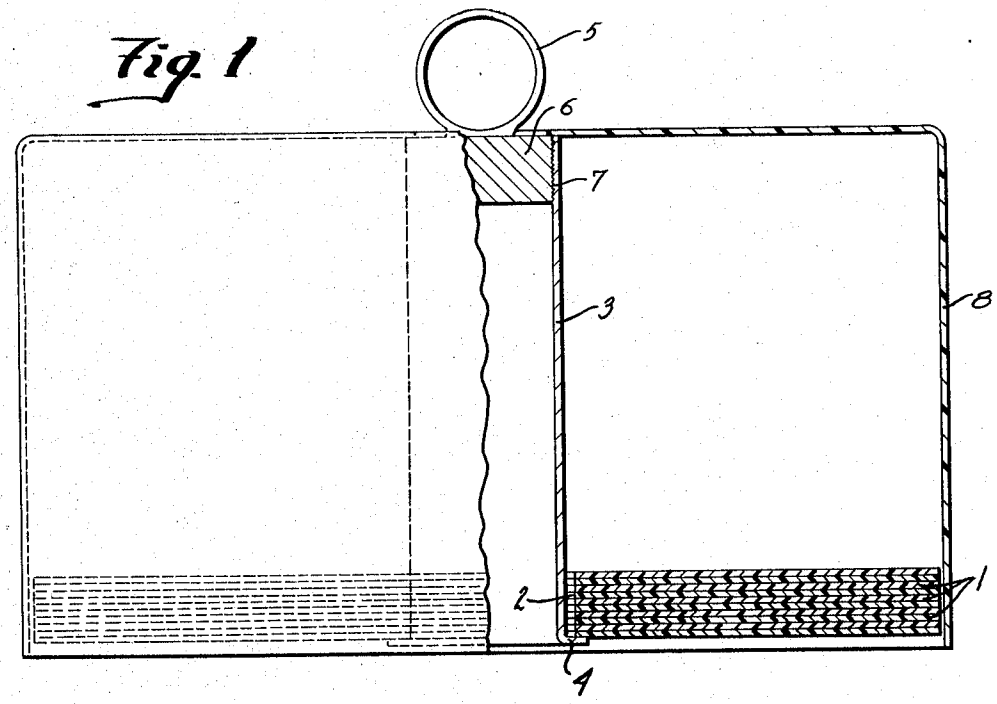
Jan. 31, 1967 G. H. HALVERSON 3,301,451

PHONOGRAPH RECORD CARRIER

Filed Dec. 14, 1964

Fig. 1



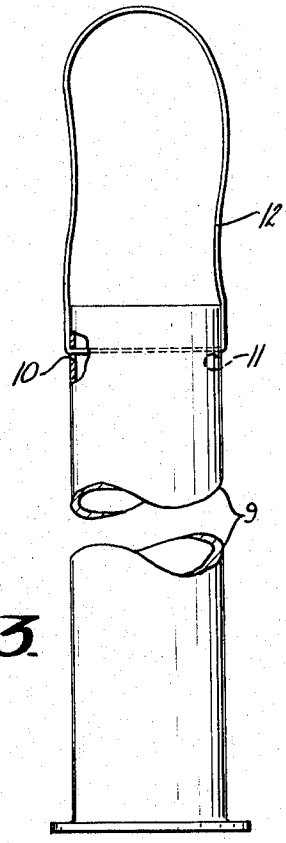


Fig. 3.

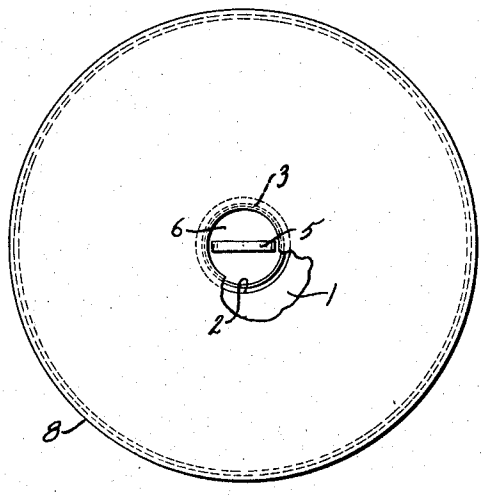


Fig. 2.

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United States Patent Office 3,301,451 Patented Jan. 31, 1967

3,301,451

PHONOGRAPH RECORD CARRIER

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Filed Dec. 14, 1964, Ser. No. 417,881
3 Claims. (Cl. 224—45)

This invention relates to a phonograph record carrier and particularly to such a carrier for conveniently storing and transporting a plurality of disc records in a superimposed stacked relationship.

Phonographs employing centrally apertured disc records are common household items. Individual children, particularly teen-agers, often have their own record players with popular records peculiarly adapted to their own interests and desires. New records are being continuously made and the individuals acquire a substantial number of records. With the substantial mobility of the teen-agers, it is often that one takes his records to another's home to play them.

Although many various forms of record holders have been proposed, such as the conventional elongated slotted unit wherein the records are held in individual slots and the like, all of them have certain disadvantages from the standpoint of simplicity, maintenance, convenience and cost.

The present invention is directed to an exceedingly simple and inexpensive record carrier for the usual phonograph disc record having a central phonograph post opening which will provide for reliable storage of a substantial number of records and permit convenient transporting of the records from one place to another.

Generally, in accordance with the present invention, a simple tubular member having an exterior diameter substantially corresponding to but slightly less than the internal diameter of the record post opening is provided with a lower outwardly extending radial flange. A carrying handle is provided at the opposite or top end and is constructed to allow ready movement of the records over the tube member, without removal of the handle, into stacked relation upon the flange. This provides an exceedingly simple and reliable means for both storing of the records and for transporting of the records when desired. The records are stored in superimposed flat relation which is generally considered a highly desirable position. Generally, popular records are such that there is no substantial danger that the interengagement of adjacent records will cause any serious damage. However, if desired, spacer members can be provided therebetween to protect the face of adjacent records from each other.

Preferably, the handle structure is constructed such that the records can be placed directly on the tube without removal of the handle. For example, a small ring member may be secured to the top in any suitable manner or a string or other strap member might be passed through appropriate opposed openings in opposite sides of the top end of the tube. Additionally, to protect the records from dust, or rain while being transported outdoors, a plastic cover can be provided having a central opening somewhat less than the diameter of the tube such that it will rest on the tube and extend downwardly over the records.

The present invention thus provides a highly improved record carrier which can be manufactured at a very minimum cost, while maintaining reliable storage and transporting functions.

The drawing furnished herewith illustrates a preferred construction of the present invention clearly disclosing the above advantages and features as well as others which will be clear to those skilled in the art from the following discussion and description thereof.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of the record carrier constructed in accordance with the present invention with parts broken away and sectioned to clearly illustrate the construction;

FIG. 2 is a top view of the invention shown in FIG. 1; and

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary illustration showing an alternative handle structure which can be employed in accordance with the present invention.

Referring to the drawings and particularly to FIG. 1, the illustrated record carrier is shown adapted to support a plurality of disc-like records **1**, shown as conventional 45 r.p.m. phonograph records, having a central record post opening **2** of a diameter of about one and one-half inches. The records **1** are stacked on an annular carrier tube **3** having an external diameter slightly less than the internal diameter of the record post opening **2**. The tube is formed of any suitable material such as aluminum or plastic and the lower end of the tube **3** is provided with an integral radially outwardly extending flange **4**. The flange **4** defines a supporting surface upon which the records rest for transportation and storage and which for 45 r.p.m. records need only extend for about one-half inch, or about one-third the outside tube diameter and substantially less than the periphery of the records.

To provide convenient transportation, a rigid ring holder **5** is provided at the upper end of the tube **3**. In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the ring **5** is welded or otherwise secured to a plug member **6** which is threadedly fixedly secured to the tube **3** by a threaded connection within the internal top portion of the tube **3** as at **7**. The threaded connection **7** provides a firm reliable interconnection such that a substantial number of records can be carried without removal of the ring **5** and plug member **6** from tube **3**. Ring **5** must have a dimension no greater than the tube's outside diameter in a direction transverse to the tube's longitudinal extent to permit passing of records thereover. If desired, any other suitable connection such as a bonded or press fit connection can be employed.

Additionally, the present invention preferably includes a suitable outer impervious cover **8** which is formed of a plastic or other suitable material to protect the records from surrounding environment including dirt, rain and the like. Thus, if the records **1** are being transported outdoors, it is highly desirable to protect them from rain or other similar conditions. In accordance with the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the cover **8** is generally an inverted cup-shaped member having a central base opening of a greatest dimension or diameter somewhat greater than the outer ring diameter but less than the diameter of the tube **3** such that it can pass over the ring **5** and rest on the upper end of the tube **3**. This will prevent the cover from dropping substantially below the lower flange **4** when only a few records **1** are being stored or transported.

The present invention thus provides the simplest possible construction and consequently the most inexpensive type of carrier. The device is peculiarly adapted to low cost, mass production and is therefore particularly practical for popular records of the 45 r.p.m. variety. This is of significance in that they form a group which is used by teen-agers and consequently are moved from one place to another. Because of the substantial accumulation of such records, a low cost and small, compact storage system is required.

If it is desired to even further reduce the cost of such item, an alternative construction is shown in FIG. 3. A tubular carrier **9** similar to that of FIGS. 1 and 2 is

provided at its upper end with a pair of opposed openings **10** and **11** through which a carrying strap **12** or the like is passed to provide a very simple means for conveniently carrying of the records. The strap **12** can be a conventional shoestring or other suitable flexible member having sufficient strength to support the weight of the records on the tube member.

The present invention thus provides a very inexpensive construction for a record carrier having a cost which is minimized to a point where it would appear impossible to have any further economies.

Various modes of carrying out the invention are contemplated as being within the scope of the following claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which is regarded as the invention.

I claim:

1. A record storage and transporting device for disc-like records having a central phonograph post opening of the order of one and one-half inches, comprising

a cylindrical tube having a diameter slightly less than one and one-half inches and having an integral radial flange extending outwardly from the lower end of the tube to provide a support surface for a plurality of superimposed records disposed on the tube and resting in stacked relation on the flange, said flange having a periphery which is adapted to be less than the periphery of the records to be supported thereon,

a plug member secured within the upper end of the tube, an upstanding ring peripherally secured to the outer face of the plug to provide a convenient finger support for carrying of the device, said ring having an outer diameter slightly less than the outer diameter of the tube, and

a protective cup-shaped cover having a central opening having its greatest dimension greater than the outer ring diameter and less than the tube diameter so that said cover fits over the ring and rests upon the upper end of the tube whereby the cover is adapted to be assembled in record covering relationship with the ring passed through said central opening, the top of said tube being adapted to provide the sole support for said cover.

2. A record storage and transporting device for disc-like records having a central phonograph post opening of the order of one and one-half inches, comprising

a tube having a diameter slightly less than one and one-half inches,

a flange extending outwardly from the lower end of the tube to provide a support surface for a plurality of superimposed records disposed on the tube, said flange having a periphery which is adapted to be less than the periphery of the records to be supported thereon,

a plug member secured within the upper end of the tube by a threaded connection,

an upstanding ring peripherally secured to the outer face of the plug to provide a convenient finger support for carrying of the device, said ring having an outer diameter slightly less than the outer diameter of the tube, and

a protective cup-shaped cover having a central opening of a diameter generally intermediate the outer diameter of the tube and the outer diameter of the ring whereby the cover is adapted to be assembled in record covering relationship with the ring passed through said central opening and with said tube providing the sole support for said cover.

3. A record storage and transporting device for disc-like records having a central generally circular phonograph post opening, comprising

a cylindrical tube having an outside diameter slightly less than the post opening,

flange means extending radially outwardly from the lower end of the tube a distance less than the diameter of said tube to provide a support surface for a plurality of superimposed records stacked on the flange means,

a loop type handle attached to diametrical opposite portions of the upper end of said tube, said handle means providing for ready impaling of records thereover and upon said tube and ready removal of records thereover as the records are removed from said tube, and said flange means having a periphery which is substantially less than the periphery of records supported thereon, and

a protective cup shaped cover having a central opening with a diameter less than that of the tube diameter whereby the cover rests upon the upper end of the tube so that the cover is assembled in record covering relationship with the loop handle passed through the cover opening for carrying purposes, the top of said tube being the sole support for said cover.

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