F. P. READ.

RECORD FILE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 5, 1917.

1,286,772. Patented Dec. 3, 1918.

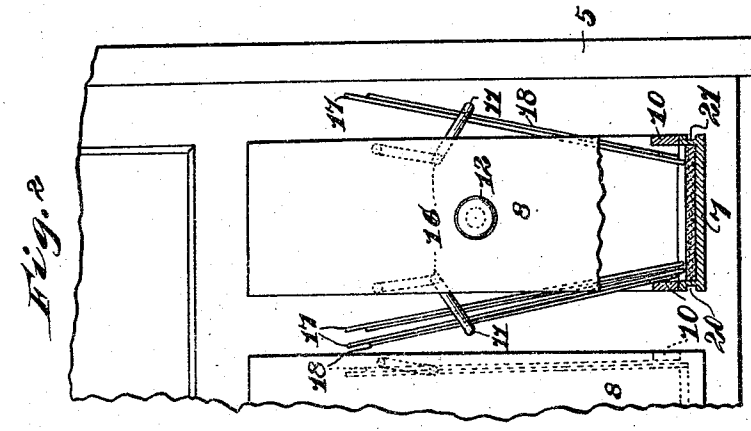


Fig. 2.

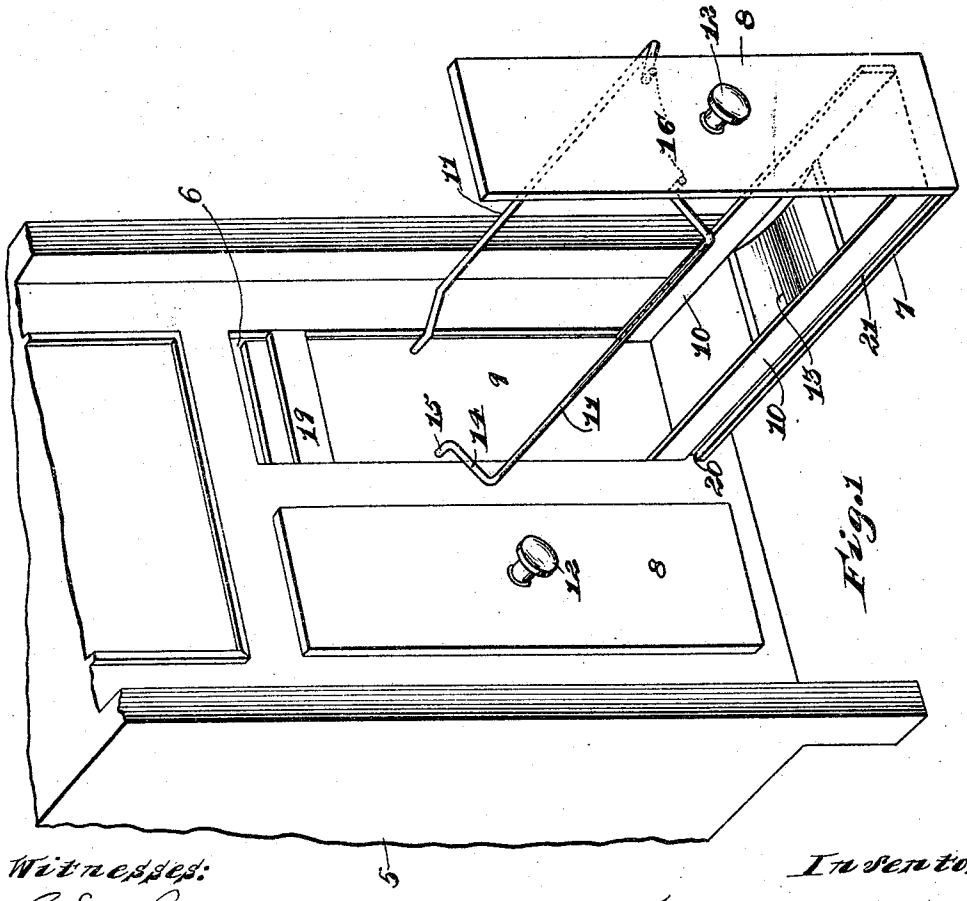


Fig. 1.

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RECORD-FILE.

1,286,772. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 3, 1918.

Application filed February 5, 1917. Serial No. 146,770.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK P. READ, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Chicago, Illinois, have invented a new and useful Record-File, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates particularly to a construction for filing phonograph disk records.

The main object is to provide a simple and inexpensive construction which will enable a number of records to be filed in a relatively small space, and yet will permit individual records to be readily located and withdrawn or replaced, as occasion may require.

Briefly considered, the invention comprises the combination of a cabinet with one or more containers adapted to be inserted and drawn out, and so constructed that the records are held compactly together when the container is in the cabinet, and yet so that the records may be separated at the top when the container is withdrawn from the cabinet.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the fragment of a cabinet with two containers embodying improvements of my invention, one of the containers being shown drawn out from the cabinet.

Fig. 2 is a front view of the fragment of a cabinet embodying improvements of my invention, one of the containers being drawn out and showing the records separated at the top, the lower part of the container being shown in section.

The cabinet 5 may have any number of compartments, such as 6, with containers for holding the records.

Each container consists of a bottom member 7, a front 8, a back 9, lower side members 10 and upper movable side members 11. A suitable form of handle, such as 12, is preferably provided for moving the container in and out of the cabinet. The bottom of the container is preferably recessed and provided with a yielding pad of felt, or other suitable material, for supporting the record disks and preventing injury.

The upper side members in the form shown are rods or wires bent into substantially U-form having arms 14 and pivots or shafts 15 and 16 pivotally supported in bearings in the rear and front members of the container. When the container is drawn out of the cabinet it will be seen that the side members will automatically fall outwardly into the positions indicated in Fig. 2 so that ready access may be had to the desired record. It will be noted that the bails may be swung so as to lie either above or below their pivotal axes in order to bring them within the imaginary planes forming the sides of the container. In either event, the bails will automatically be swung outwardly into the position shown in full lines in Fig. 2 by reason of the tendency of the contents of the container to spread apart as soon as the container is withdrawn from the cabinet. Each record, such as 17, is preferably mounted behind a guide card such as 18, having a necessary index number, letter, or other information for designating the corresponding record.

The container can be readily pushed back into the receptacle by simply drawing the two side rods 11—11 inward so that they will clear the edges of the opening 6. The walls of this opening will hold the rods in their closed position with the rods and guide cards upright.

A cross piece 19 may be provided at the upper portion of the opening to prevent the container from being entirely withdrawn from the cabinet. If desired, the cabinet may have tongues such as 20, and the container corresponding grooves such as 21, so as to support the container in place in the cabinet.

Under ordinary circumstances the weight of the record is sufficient to separate the side rods into the position shown in Fig. 2 as soon as the container is withdrawn from the cabinet. By this construction and method of operation, it is unnecessary to lift the entire contents of the container. This not only avoids trouble in selecting records, but avoids the danger of breakage which is consequent upon handling a large number of records.

I claim:

1. A construction of the class described comprising a cabinet; a container having front and rear walls but open at the sides; and a laterally expanding side member for said container consisting of a rod bent in substantially U-form, the ends of said rod being extended through the front and rear walls of said container to form pivots, said side member being arranged to be normally held by said cabinet but to expand automatically upon withdrawal thereof, substantially as described.

2. A construction of the class described

comprising a cabinet; a container having front and rear walls but open at the sides; and laterally expanding side members for said container consisting of rods bent in substantially U-form, the ends of said rods being extended through the front and rear walls of said container to form pivots, said side members being arranged to be normally held by said cabinet but to expand automatically upon withdrawal thereof, substantially as described.

3. A container open at the sides, bails each pivotally connected at its ends to the front end and rear end of the container at one of the sides of the container, each bail comprising a straight central member and arms extending approximately at right angles thereto and being of a length less than the height of the pivotal axes of the bails above the bottom of the container.

4. A container open at the sides, two parallel rods of approximately the same length as the container arranged one at each side thereof, and means for connecting the ends of each rod to the front and rear ends of the container so as to permit the rods to spread apart a distance greater than the width of the container and to swing back by gravity to the space between the planes bounding the container.

5. A container comprising a bottom, a front end and a rear end; two U-shaped rods each comprising a member approximately as long as the container and short arms arranged at right angles thereto; and means connecting the two rods to the front and rear ends of the container and on opposite sides of the container so as to permit them to swing about axes located at opposite sides of the container and passing through the ends of the arm members of the rods at a height above the bottom of the container greater than the length of said arms.

6. A container open at the sides, two swinging bails each connected at its ends to the front and rear ends of the container in proximity to the corresponding side edges of the latter.

7. A container having a bottom wall and front and rear walls and being open at one side, a bail connecting the front and rear walls together in the vicinity of the plane of said open side and adapted to swing freely outwardly beyond said plane, the bail being short measured in the direction at right angles to its axis of suspension and having said axis so located that every part of the bail lies at a considerable elevation above the bottom of the container in any position which the bail may take.

8. A container having a bottom wall and front and rear walls and open at one side, a bail hung at its ends to the front and rear walls of the container in proximity to the plane of said open side and adapted to swing freely outwardly beyond said plane, the length of the bail being such that when it hangs vertically below its pivotal axis the lowermost portions lie about halfway between the top and the bottom of the container.

9. A container for vertical filing having a bottom wall and front and rear walls and open on one side, and a freely swinging bail hung at said open side and extending from the front wall to the rear wall, the bail being so proportioned and hung at such an elevation that in every position which the bail may assume its lowermost point will be above the center of gravity of the records which the container is designed to hold.

FRANK P. READ.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."