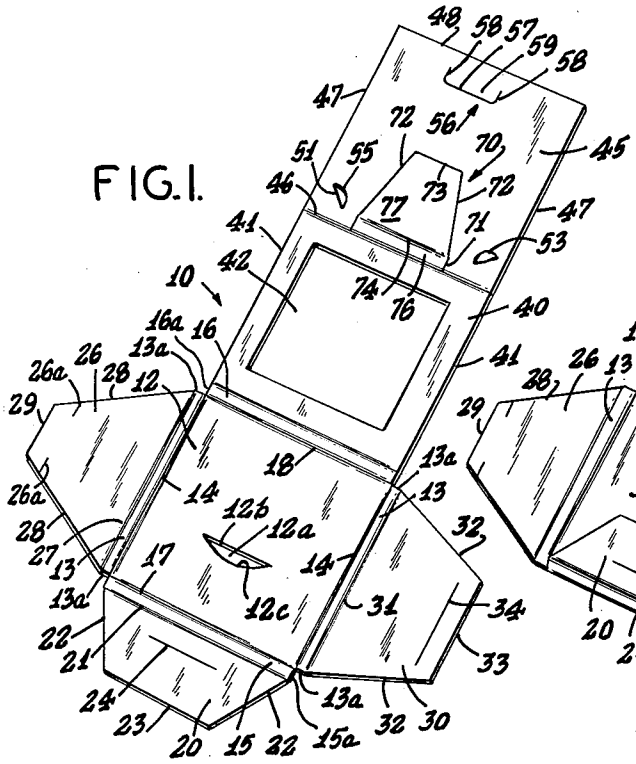
July 11, 1961 E. J. MESSINA 2,991,578

COMBINATION COLLAPSIBLE BOX AND DISPLAY DEVICE

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FIG. 1.



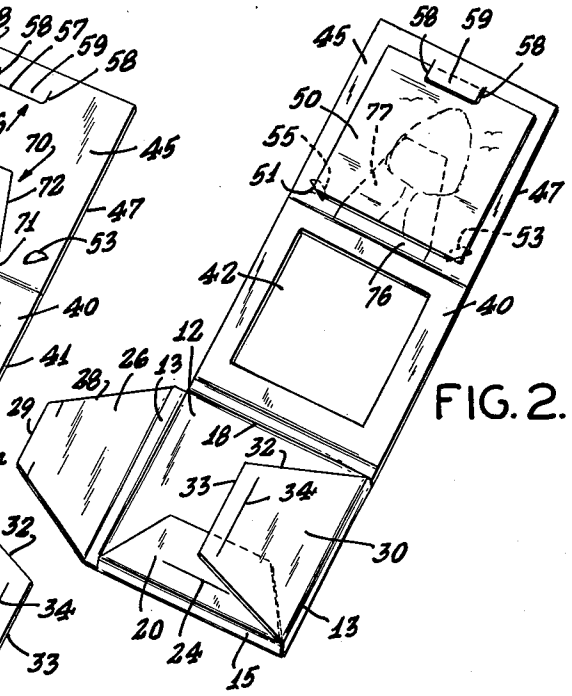


FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

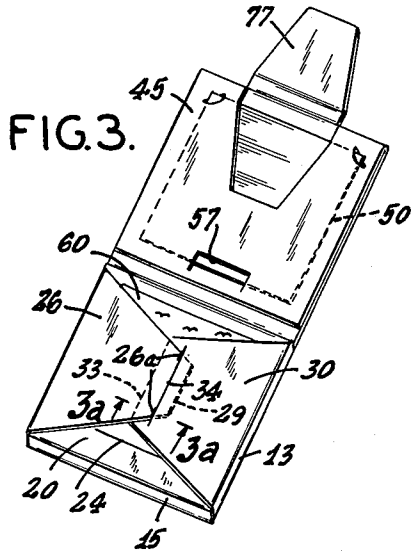


FIG. 4.

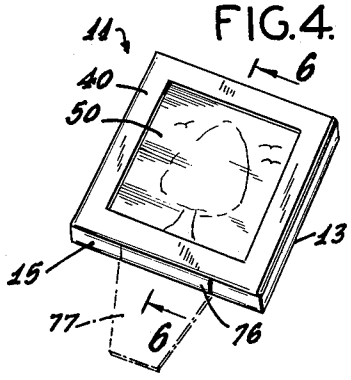
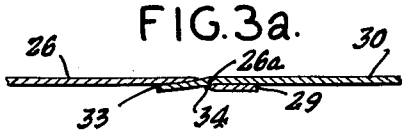


FIG. 3a.



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FIG. 5.

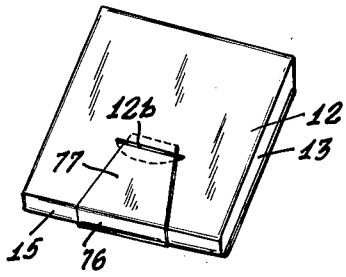


FIG. 6.

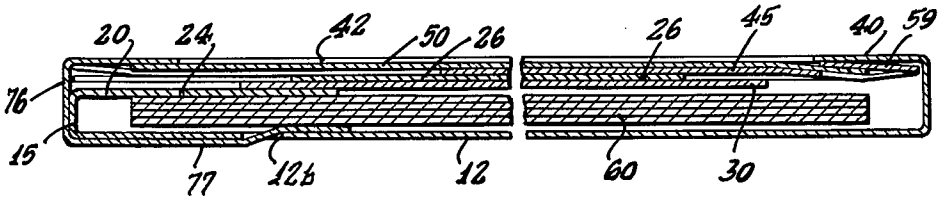


FIG. 7.

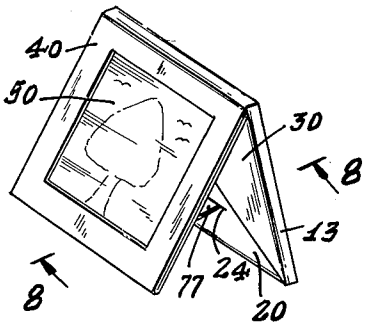
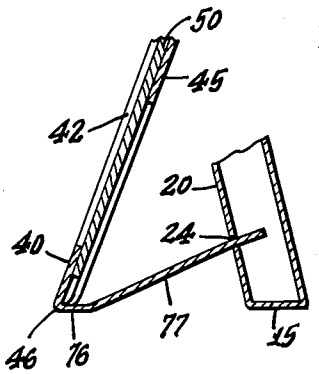


FIG. 8.



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2,991,578
COMBINATION COLLAPSIBLE BOX AND DISPLAY DEVICE

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Filed June 30, 1959, Ser. No. 824,099
11 Claims. (Cl. 40—152.1)

This invention relates to a collapsible combination box and display easel.

An object of this invention is to provide a device of the character described which is made of a single blank of cardboard, or the like material, and which may be folded and locked into a snug, compact box or container for photo prints or the like sheets or other flat articles, and which shall be easy to insert into pocketbook or coat pockets.

A further object of this invention is to provide a device of the character described having means to hold a choice print in place and displayed on a front cover for the box, while holding all the additional prints and negatives or other flat articles within the box, and the back side of the box having space for date and description matter.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a device of the character described having means to permit the device to be set up as an easel to display the print on the cover.

Another object of this invention is to provide a strong and durable device of the character described which shall be relatively inexpensive to manufacture, easy to manipulate, and which shall yet be practical and efficient to a high degree in use.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combination of elements, and arrangement of parts, which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of invention will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawings, in which is shown an illustrative embodiment of this invention,

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a blank for a device embodying the invention;

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the blank of FIG. 1, partially folded and with a print mounted on the cover section;

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the blank, in a further stage of folding;

FIG. 3*a* is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3—3 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 4 is a front perspective view of a box embodying the invention, made from the blank of FIG. 1, with a print on the cover section of the box, and showing the locking tab extended, in dot-dash lines;

FIG. 5 is a rear perspective view of the box of FIG. 4;

FIG. 6 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken on line 6—6 of FIG. 4, with a plurality of prints or other sheets or cards in the box;

FIG. 7 is a front perspective view of the device set up as an easel; and

FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 8—8 of FIG. 7.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, **10** designates a blank for making a box **11** embodying the invention. The blank **10** comprises a bottom or rear rectangular section **12** from the sides of which extend narrow rectangular side sections **13** having end edges **13***a* and being foldable about crease lines **14**. Extending from the ends of said section **12** are narrow rectangular sections **15** and **16** having end edges **15***a* and **16***a*, respectively, foldable about crease lines

17 and **18** respectively. Sections **13**, **15** **16** are of equal width and of the full length of the sides of the bottom section **12** from which they extend. Bottom section **12** is formed with a transverse slot **12***a* having a straight edge **12***b* parallel to crease line **17**, and a convexly turned edge **12***c* extending to the ends of the straight edge.

Extending from section **15** is a flap **20** foldable about crease line **21**. Flap **20** has converging inclined side edges **22** and an outer edge **23** parallel to crease line **21**. Said flap **20** is formed with a centrally located slit **24** parallel to and spaced closer to crease line **21** than to end edge **23** of the flap.

Extending from one section **13** is a flap **26** foldable about crease line **27** and having converging inclined side edges **28** and an end edge **29** parallel to said crease line. The width of flap **26**, from crease line **27** to edge **29**, is greater than half the width of section **12** between crease lines **14**. Flap **26** has aligned slits **26***a* extending inwardly from the side edges **28**, for the purpose hereinafter appearing.

Extending from the other side section **13** is a flap **30** foldable about crease line **31** and having converging side edges **32** and an end edge **33**. Flap **30** has a slit **34** parallel to end edge **33** and terminating short of side edges **32**.

The distance of slits **26***a* to crease line **27** is the same as the distance of slit **34** to crease line **31**, and said distances are each half the distance between crease lines **14**.

Extending from section **16** is a display frame section **40** of the same outer dimensions as bottom section **12**, and having side edges **41** in alignment with crease lines **16***a*, **14** and **15***a*. Section **40** is formed with a central cut-out or window **42** which may be square in shape, as shown, or of any other desired suitable outline.

Extending from section **40** is a cover section **45** having the outer dimensions of sections **12** and **40** and foldable about crease line **46**. Section **45** has side edges **47** which are extensions of side edge **41** of section **40**, and it also has an outer end edge **48** parallel to crease line **46**.

Section **45** is provided with means to carry, support or hold a print **50** or other card or sheet to be displayed through window or cutout **42** in section **40**. To this end, section **45** has, adjacent the covers formed by crease line **46** and side edges **47**, a pair of similar, symmetrically disposed cutouts or slots **53**. Each cutout or slot **53** has a straight edge **54** inclined to crease line **46**, and side edge **47**, and a convexly curved edge **55** extending to the ends of the straight edge.

Said cover section is also formed adjacent its outer edge **48**, with a central U-shaped slit **56** having a slit portion **57** parallel to said edge and slit portions **58** extending from said central portion toward, but terminating short of said end edge. Slit **56** thus forms a tab **59**.

The print **50** to be displayed may be placed on the inside of the cover section **45**, with the display surface of the print facing upwardly (FIG. 2). The upper edge of the print is slipped under tab **59**, and the lower corners of the print are slipped into the cutouts **53** to engage the outer surface of the cover section.

A plurality of additional prints, negatives or other cards or sheets **60** or other articles may be placed on the bottom section **12**. Sections **13** and **15** may be folded to upstanding position, at right angles to the bottom section. Flap **20** is first folded down over the prints, negatives or other cards or sheets **60**. Flap **30** is then folded down over flap **20**, leaving slit **24** exposed, however. Flap **26** is then folded down to overlap the downfolded flap **30**, and the portion of said flap **26** beyond slits **26***a* is passed through slit **34**, so that the ends of said portion hook against an edge of said slit **34** to interlock said flaps.

The cover section **45**, with the print **50** thereon, is then folded about crease line **46** to overlie display frame

section 45, to expose the picture or the print through the cutout or window 42.

Section 16 is then folded up about crease line 18, and the folded together cover and display frame sections are folded together down onto, and over the flaps 26, 30.

Means is provided to lock the folded down cover and display frame sections to the box. To this end, cover section 45 is formed with a slit 70 having parallel spaced portions 71 extending from and at right angles to crease line 46, and equally spaced from the center of the crease line. The length of said slit portions 71 is equal to the height of sections 13, 15, 16. Extending from slit portions 71 are inwardly inclined slit portions 72 connected by a slit portion 73 parallel to crease line 47. The outer ends of slit portions 71 are connected by a crease line 74 dividing the portion of section 45 inside of the slit into a rectangular connector section 76 and a locking tab 77. These extend from one end of the display frame section.

After the folded together sections 40, 45 are folded down on the box, connector section 76 folds down to overlie the central portion of section 15. The locking tab 77 is then folded against the back of bottom section 12, and the outer end thereof is slipped through slot 12*a* and against the upper surface of said bottom section.

The box is compact and may be easily placed in a pocket book, handbag or in a coat pocket.

The device may furthermore be set up as an easel. To do this, the locking tab 77 is slipped out of slot 12*a*, the cover and display sections are swung away from the box, and the outer end of the lock tab is inserted into slit 24 of flap 20. The device may be then placed on a table, as shown in FIGS. 7 and 8, with sections 15 and 76 and crease line 46 on the table. This device is an easel displaying the choice print 50.

It will thus be seen that there is provided an apparatus in which the several objects of this invention are achieved and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawings, is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

1. In combination, a first section, side and end sections extending therefrom and connected thereto by fold lines on which said side and end sections are foldable to positions at right angles to said first section, flaps extending from the side sections and from one of the end sections, and connected thereto by fold lines, on which said flaps are foldable inwardly into positions overlying and spaced above said first section, a display frame section having a window, and extending from the other end section and connected thereto by a fold line connection, and a cover section extending from said display frame section and connected thereto by a fold line connection and formed with means to engage portions of a print placed on the cover section, to be displayed through the window in the display frame section, upon folding the cover section about its fold line connection over the display frame section, and said folded together cover and display frame sections being foldable together about the fold line connection of the display section to the cover section, over the inwardly folded flaps.

2. The combination of claim 1, said cover section being formed with a connector section cut therefrom and extending from the fold line connection of the cover section to the display section, and adapted to overlie a portion of said one of said end sections, and a locking tab also cut from the cover section and extending from said connector section and connected thereto by a fold line.

3. The combination of claim 2, said first section having a slot to receive an end of said locking tab.

4. The combination of claim 2, the flap extending from said one of said end sections, being formed with a slit to receive an end of the locking tab.

5. The combination of claim 3, the flaps extending from said side sections having overlapping portions provided with interengaging interlocking means.

6. The combination of claim 1, the flaps extending from the side sections having overlapping portions formed with interengaging interlocking means.

7. In combination, a first wall, side walls extending up from the first wall and connected thereto by fold lines, end walls extending from the first wall and connected thereto by fold lines, a flap extending from one end wall and connected thereto by fold lines and disposed in spaced parallel position relative to said first wall, a pair of flaps extending from the side walls and connected thereto by fold lines and overlapping the first flap and each other, said pair of flaps having converging side edges, one of said side flaps having aligned slits extending to the side edges thereof, the other side flap having a slit to receive the portion of the first side flap beyond its slits, a display frame wall extending from the other end wall and connected thereto by fold lines, and overlying said overlapping flaps, and formed with a window, and a cover section extending from the display frame section and connected thereto by a fold line, and folded against the inner side of said display frame section.

8. The combination of claim 7, said cover section being formed with inclined corner slots adjacent the display frame section and with a slit forming a tab adjacent the outer end of the cover section whereby a print or like sheet or like member may be mounted on the cover section by inserting corners of the print into said inclined slots and inserting an end of the print under said tab.

9. The combination of claim 8, said cover section having a locking tab cut from the material thereof, and said first wall having a slot to receive an end of said locking tab.

10. The combination of claim 8, said cover section having a locking tab cut from the material thereof, and the flap which extends from said one of said end walls having a slit to receive an end of said locking tab.

11. In combination, a collapsible box comprising a bottom wall, upstanding walls extending from the bottom wall and connected thereto about fold lines, a display frame wall extending from one of said upstanding walls and connected thereto about a fold line, and formed with a window, and a cover wall extending from the outer end of said display frame wall and connected thereto about a fold line, and provided with means to support a sheet like member, and folded under and against said display frame wall to expose a portion of said member through said window, a locking tab extending from the display frame wall on a fold line connection, and folded against the underside of the bottom wall, and said bottom wall having means to receive an end of the locking tab.

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