July 29, 1941. P. F. SPERRY 2,251,076

ROLL FILM CONTAINER

Filed May 10, 1939

Fig. 1

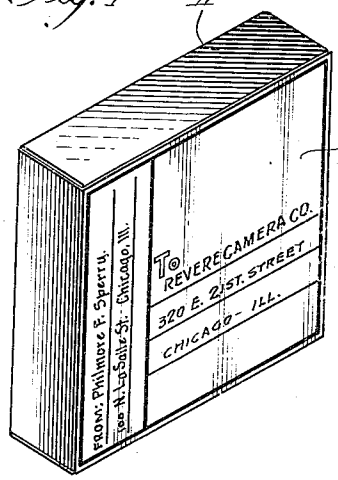



Fig. 2

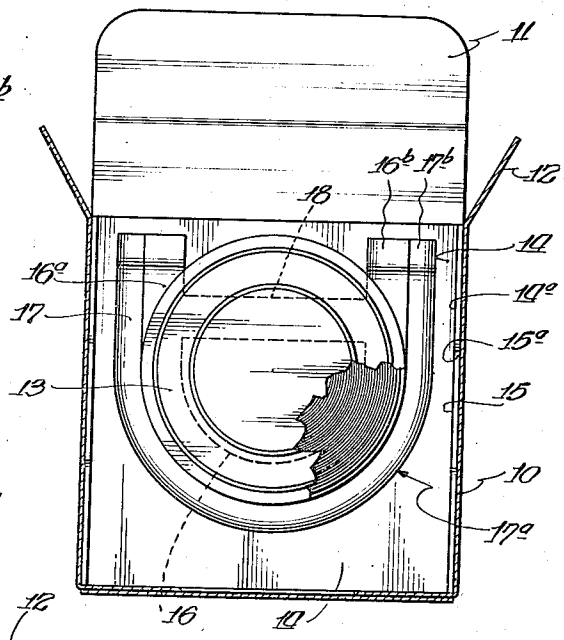



Fig. 3

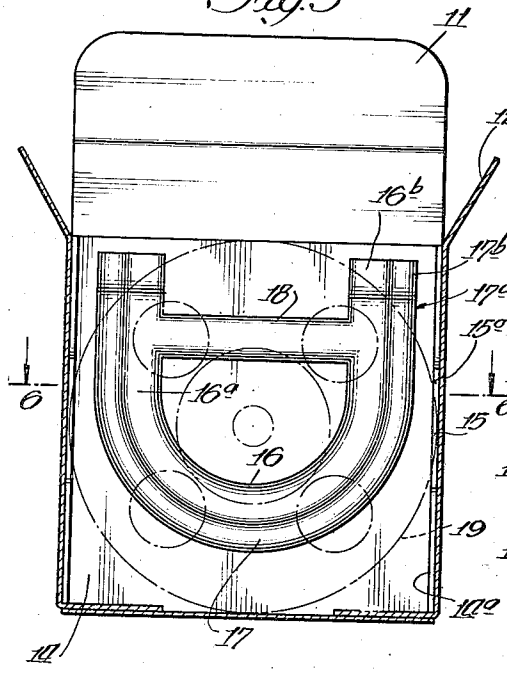



Fig. 4

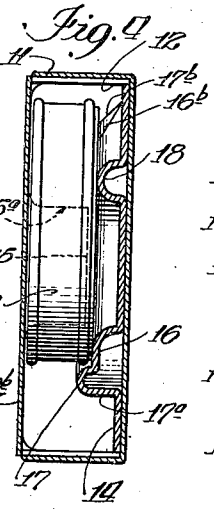



Fig. 5

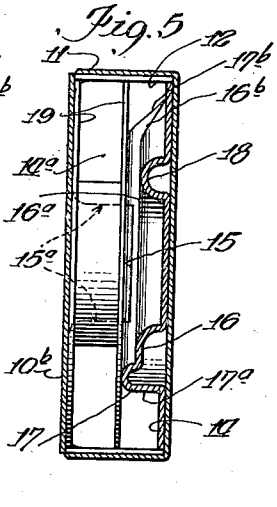
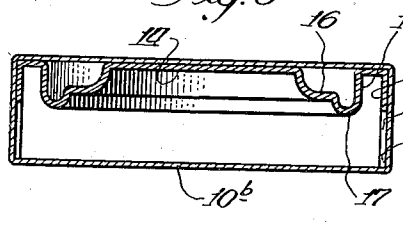



Fig. 6




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,251,076

## ROLL FILM CONTAINER

Philmore F. Sperry, Chicago, Ill.

Application May 10, 1939, Serial No. 272,891

3 Claims. (Cl. 206—52)

My invention relates to containers employed for packaging photographic roll film when sold or sent to be developed, and my main object is to provide a container which is suitable both for the spool of film as sold or exposed and for the reel of the film after it had been developed.

A further object of the invention is to provide a package containing a filler which retains the film spool in the proper position and against vibration or movement in the package.

A further object of the invention is to design the filler aforesaid to facilitate the deposit of the film spool in the package and in a manner to be strong, hold its form, and be of light weight to save transportation and mailing costs.

A still further object of the invention is to design the said filler with means for seating the film reel against movement in the package.

An additional object of the invention is to construct the package simply and on a very economical basis.

With the above objects in view, and any others which may suggest themselves from the description to follow, a better understanding of the invention may be had by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the novel container;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section showing the interior of the container with a film spool deposited therein, the spool being partly broken away;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing the film spool removed and a dot-and-dash line indication of a film reel;

Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section through the center of Fig. 2 with the container closed and with an enclosed film spool positioned therein;

Fig. 5 is a similar section of Fig. 3 but with an open film reel positioned therein; and

Fig. 6 is a horizontal section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

Spools of roll-film as usually sold for amateur motion-picture use are placed in round boxes which are packed in cartons. After the user has exposed the film he replaces the box or spool in the carton and takes or mails the package to the proper agency to have it developed. When this has been done, the film is on a reel which is contained in a package of commensurate size, such package being mailed back to the user or held at the agency until he calls for it. In the novel embodiment I provide a package which is usable both to contain the exposed film and its spool during transport to the developing agency and to contain the developed film and its reel when the same is returned to the user in a form to be mounted in the motion-picture projector.

In accordance with the foregoing, the container is primarily a pasteboard carton 10 of square form and extended with a cover flap 11 and side tabs 12 in the usual manner.

In order that the carton 10 may be adapted for the packaging of the film box 13, a flat filler 14 of relatively thick pasteboard is employed. The filler is of a size to snugly fit the interior of the carton 10 when deposited therein, and has side wings 14*a* to fit in the end portions of the carton, the wings being cut back with medial recesses 15.

The filler 14 is pressed with a D-shaped formation 16 which appears in relief in the channel or hollow of the filler. The formation 16 meets the filler roundedly on its inner side but has an enlargement 17 on its outer side formed as a rim, the outer wall 17*a* of the enlargement meeting the filler 14 at the bottom. The sides 16*a* of the formation 16 first have a bridge 18 between them, the side portions of the bridge meeting the filler 14; then both the sides 16*a* of the formation 16 and the sides 17*a* of the rim 17 take gradual tapers 16*b* and 17*b* to meet the filler evenly near its outer edge.

With the filler 14 inserted in the carton 10 as indicated, it forms not only a reinforcement for the side wall 10*a* of the carton, but the wings 14 form a reinforcement for the end walls thereof. The inner contour or spacing of the rim 17 provides a seat to receive the film box 13; and the formation 16 and bridge 18 provide a substantial seat for one face of the box, as is evident from Figs. 2 and 4. The tapered portion 16*b* of the formation facilitates the insertion of the film box 13 into the package to occupy the position shown. The capacity of the carton 10 is so calculated that the inserted film box is snugly fitted between the formation 16 of the filler and the side wall 10*b* of the carton. The tabs 12 may now be turned in and the cover flap 11 tucked in to close the carton in the usual way. The front of side wall 10*b* of the carton has suitable address data, as indicated in Fig. 1, for the proper delivery or mailing of the package to the developing agency.

When the film has been developed, it is usually wound on a reel 19 suitable to be mounted in the motion picture projector. The reel is usually considerably larger than the original spool and is therefore returned in a different carton of

commensurate size. In the present instance, however, this is unnecessary, as the original carton is of a sufficient size to receive the reel. Figs. 3 and 5 show the reel deposited in the carton. In order to do this, the reel is inserted in the manner of the spool in the previous instance, but is positioned between the rim 17 of the filler 14 and the side wall 10b of the carton. Also, the side portions of the reel are positioned in the recesses 15 of the filler wings 14, the ends 15a of such recesses forming abutments to prevent the reel from rolling or sliding out of the carton should the cover flap 11 be insufficiently closed.

It will be evident from the above description that I have provided a package which renders a complete service for the user of amateur motion picture film. By means of the novel filler 14 the film box may be safely stored in the package or mailed to the user; also, the package affords the user a simple and safe carrier for the delivery or forwarding of the exposed film to the developing agency. Further, the package is handy for use to return the developed film on the larger reel, saving the cost of another package for this purpose. From the viewpoint of economy, the carton 10 is of the conventional, inexpensive type; and the filler 14 is a common grade of pasteboard, stamped and cut in one or two operations by machine, so that the added expense of the filler for the initial package is easily offset by the elimination of the second or return package from the service. Altogether, the improved package is an exceedingly simple, safe and handy medium for a modern and efficient film service in the amateur motion picture field.

While I have described the novel roll film container along specific lines, various minor changes and refinements may be made therein without departing from its principle, and I desire to consider all such changes and refinements as coming within the scope and spirit of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A combined film roll and film reel container, comprising a carton open at the top and having side, end and bottom walls, a reinforcing filler within said container in flat contact with one side wall, said filler having a snug fit between said end walls, an integral inwardly directed U-shaped projection formed on said filler toward the opposite side wall, a second inwardly directed U-shaped projection formed integral with the outer marginal portions of said first projection and projecting inwardly beyond the same towards said opposite side wall, said second projection terminating short of the opposite side wall of said carton to provide a space therebetween, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The structure of claim 1, and a horizontal rib integral with said filler, said rib projecting inwardly towards said opposite side wall, said rib being flush with said first projection and connecting the legs thereof.

3. The structure of claim 1 and the free ends of the legs of both of said projections being beveled towards the open top of said carton.

PHILMORE F. SPERRY.