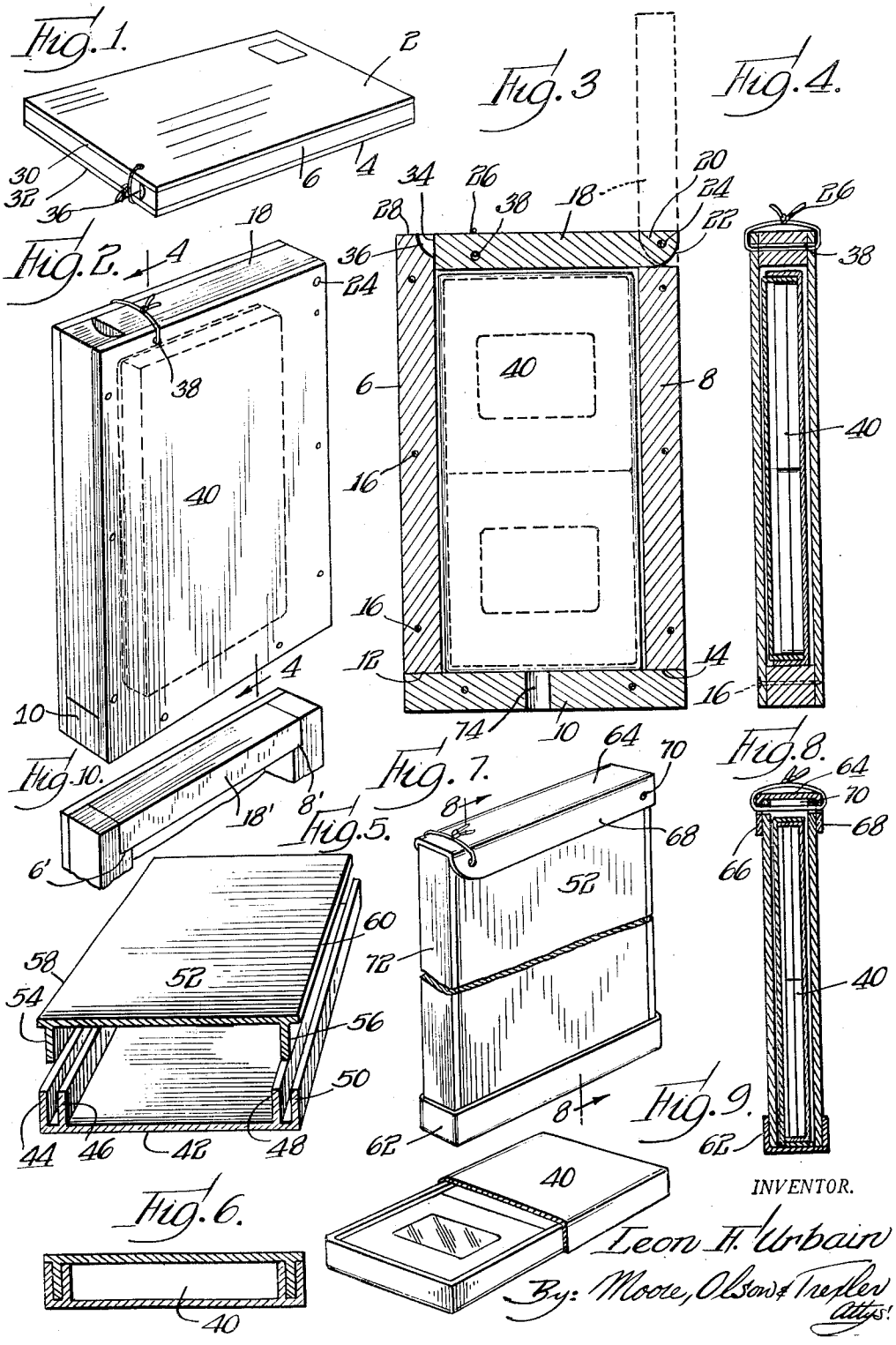
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TRANSPORTATION CONTAINER

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TRANSPORTATION CONTAINER

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6 Claims. (Cl. 217—5)

1

This invention relates to a container for mailing, expressing or otherwise transporting photographic slides or prints or other material which in transportation would be subjected to rough and destructive usage or deterioration.

The invention has been illustrated and will be disclosed in connection with a container for mailing photographic slides, but it will be understood that the invention in an enlarged size is equally applicable to cardboard photographic or other prints, or in fact to any material or commodity which would suffer destruction, impairment or deterioration during transportation. With reference to the mailing of photographic slides, in the United States today there are thousands of photographic "fans" making slides for projection work, as well as making negatives and prints. Substantially every major city puts on one or more contests per year. In the larger shows slides come from all over the world. The contestants are limited to exhibit four such slides and four prints, but there is no practical way of mailing or transporting these exhibits, and therefore the contestants are forced to use all kinds and description of wrappings and packages which are inadequate, so that with respect to many of the prints the corners of the mounts are broken, and with respect to photographic slides many of the glass mountings thereof are broken. In addition, in returning these exhibits to the contestants there is great inconvenience and expense to the clubs or other groups conducting the exhibits, since it is necessary to use this large number of different kinds of wrappings to mail or transport the slides back to the owners.

The object of the present invention is to provide a convenient mailing or transporting packaging device which will be of great advantage to those participating in these contests, and for other commercial uses in transporting copy, photographs and other items between producers, such as advertisers and clients, and vice versa.

Yet another object of the invention resides in providing a very inexpensive yet rugged container of the character described which is simply made of relatively inexpensive materials, quickly assembled, and which may be mailed or transported without further wrapping or packaging, and which when so transported will maintain the contents therein weatherproof, free from breakage and other damage which otherwise would result from rough handling or transportation, and which package may also be remailed by the recipient without alteration other than providing

2

the same with a new address label and postage attached directly thereto.

These and other objects of the invention will be apparent from a perusal of the following specification when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of the improved mailing container;

Figure 2 is an enlarged detail view showing the usual standard film box or container therein;

Figure 3 is a side view of the mailing device showing the lid in dotted line open position;

Figure 4 is a section taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a view of a modified form of container made of plastic material or extruded aluminum;

Figure 6 is a cross sectional view of the same with the parts in assembled relation;

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the same with the end cap and pivoted lid;

Figure 8 is a sectional view thereof taken on the line 8—8 of Figure 7;

Figure 9 is a view of the film box which is one of the articles that is transported in my improved mailing package; and

Figure 10 is a view of a modified construction of the manner in which the closure fits into one end of the box.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, as illustrating at least two forms of the invention, the first form is shown in Figures 1 to 4 inclusive as comprising a relatively flat box or container closed at one end and having the other end hinged thereto to give access to the interior of the box. In the present case the container is made rectangular and flat in order to receive a film box, shown for instance in Figure 9, which holds two inch by two inch slides.

In the present instance I prefer to make the mailing container of a pair of sheet facings 2 and 4, preferably of masonite or any other like plastic material, even including cardboard. These two masonite plates 2 and 4 are spaced apart on two of the sides by means of wooden or plastic strips 6 and 8, and at one end an additional wooden or plastic strip 10 is fitted between the plates 2 and 4 and abuts the ends 12 and 14 of the strips 6 and 8, thus closing the end of the box. The plates 2 and 4 are secured to the wooden strips preferably by small nails or screws 16. The front end member 18 of the box comprises another wooden or plastic strip which at the end 20 is slightly curved as at 22 and is pivoted as at 24 between the two plates 2 and 4 so

that the door or end 18 is free to swing to the dotted outline as shown in Figure 3. In closed position its outer wall 26 lies flush with the end wall 28 of the strip 6 and the end walls 30 and 32 of the end plates 2 and 4. Just opposite the free end 34 of the door 18 there is provided a cut-out 36 in the end 28 of the strip 6 to enable the thumb or finger to catch hold of the end 34 of the door to lift it to outermost position. Registering apertures are formed as at 38 through the two plate members 2 and 4 and also through the door portion 18 to permit a string or wire to be passed through and fastened by tying or by twisting, so as to hold the pivoted door permanently in closed position. It will be noted that the space between the plates 2 and 4 is sufficiently wide snugly to receive the film box 40 and the width of this film box, as shown in Figure 3, also fits snugly between the strips 6 and 8 so that there is practically no loose play of the box within the mailing container when once inserted, so that in shipment or transportation breakage is eliminated substantially completely.

In another form of the invention I make the box of two plastic members which are cast in the form shown in Figure 5. One of these members comprises a plate-like base 42 having at its opposite ends two upstanding spaced apart parallel flanges 44 and 46, 48 and 50, the other plate 52 being provided with a single pair of flanges 54 and 56 which are located with respect to the ends 58 and 60 so that the flanges 54 and 56 fit snugly within the spaces or grooves formed between the flanges 44, 46, 48 and 50. In this position the flanges are united by heat and pressure, or both, to form a unitary plastic box. At the ends a plastic cap 62 is fitted over the ends and united by heat and/or pressure, while at the opposite end a door or closure is provided, the same comprising a channel-shaped plastic piece including an intermediate top wall 64 and two opposed flanges 66 and 68, all formed integrally. These are pivotally united to the body by means of a pivotal pin 70 which passes through the side walls thereof. The flanges 66 and 68 come well down over the sides of the adjacent end of the box and are flush or lie in the plane of the outer wall 72 of the box. The flanges 66 and 68 of the closure 64 are provided with holes which register with another hole formed in the side walls 52 and 42 of the box to permit thread to pass therethrough and be tied, or to permit a clip or wire to be passed therethrough for closing the box.

In certain instances instead of making this particular form of plastic I may make it of extruded aluminum in exactly the same shape as shown in Figure 5, and assemblable in the manner shown in Figure 6, with the flanges spot welded in position and with the bottom cap 62 spot welded in position.

To open the box it is only necessary to remove the thread or wire and press with the thumb on the hinged side of the door so that it will flop open. If by any chance it should stick, there is the thumbnail groove at the end so that it can be opened in that way also. If the box containing the slides shall have been filled with the entry, money, or extra packing, and it sticks in the container, it may be removed by pushing a pencil through the hole 74 formed in that end of the box opposite the pivoted door, thus shoving the container with the slides completely out of the box.

From an inspection of Figure 1 it will be noted that the address of the sender may be placed upon the side of the box and that of the sender in the top left-hand corner, with a postage stamp in the top right-hand corner. In this condition the box may be readily mailed.

In Figure 10 I have shown another type of closure member which differs from the pivoted closure 18. In this figure there is shown a closure strip 18' of rectangular cross section which is rabbeted into the ends of the strips 6 or 8, the construction being such that these ends of the strips are cut away as at 6' and 8' to form shouldered recesses for the reception of the ends of the closure 18'. This rabbeted closure 18' can be held in any desired way, even including nailing through the ends of the side strips 6' and 8', into the ends of the rabbeted piece 18'.

It is to be understood that this container is not limited or restricted to the use for mailing of slides as it must be obvious that by multiplying the size of the container and arranging the door on the side, such for instance as making either of the strips 6 or 8 the door, the device would be adaptable to mailing of anything that is breakable or even to items not breakable. It is understood that the masonite strips have a very smooth exterior surface which may be written on or upon which labels may be easily adhered. This smooth exterior surface makes the mailing device much more durable.

It is apparent that many widely different embodiments of this invention may be made without departing from the spirit and scope thereof, and therefore it is not intended to be limited except as indicated in the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A container comprising a pair of rectangular flat, relatively thin sheets of waterproof, light, durable material having pairs of parallel sides, a pair of nailing strips of shorter length than the size of the material inserted therebetween along two pairs of said parallel sides, an end of said sheet strip inserted between said sheets along another of said sides at one end with one side wall abutting the ends of the first mentioned parallel strips, fastening means engaging the marginal edges of the pair of sheets and said strips to secure the same in assembled relation and to form a hollow, relatively flat, rectangular container, and an additional strip of relatively light, weatherproof and waterproof material pivotally mounted between the ends of said sheets at one corner of that end of the container opposite the closed end, the free end of said last mentioned pivoted strip abutting the inner wall of one of said nailing strips in order to close the container.

2. A container comprising a pair of flat, relatively thin sheets of waterproof, light, durable material having pairs of parallel sides, a pair of nailing strips of shorter length than the size of the material inserted therebetween along two pairs of said parallel sides, an end strip inserted in between said sheets along another of said sides at one end of said sheets with one side wall abutting the ends of the first mentioned parallel strips, fastening means engaging the marginal edges of the pair of sheets and said strips to secure the same in assembled relation and to form a hollow, relatively flat, rectangular container, and an additional strip of relatively light, weatherproof and waterproof material pivotally mounted between the ends of said sheets at one

corner of that end of the container opposite the closed end, the free end of said last mentioned pivoted strip abutting the inner wall of one of said nailing strips in order to close the container, said pivoted strip and the sheets having registering apertures for the reception of a wire or thread for holding the pivoted strip in closed position, said pivoted strip having its inner end at the corner cut away to permit said pivoted strip to swing outwardly into open position.

3. A mailing container comprising a pair of rectangular imperforate sheets, a pair of strips of rectangular cross section disposed between the sides of said rectangular sheets in parallelism with the outer faces of said strips substantially flush with the side edges of said rectangular sheets, and a third strip mounted at one end of said rectangular sheets and between the same and disposed normally to said first two mentioned strips, said strip at its ends abutting the ends of said first mentioned strips, nails passing through the edges of said imperforate sheets and through said three strips to form a box-like container, and a fourth strip of rectangular cross section, said fourth strip having its outer walls substantially flush with the outer walls of the opposite end of said rectangular sheets, and a pivot pin passing through one of the corners of said rectangular sheets and the corner of said last named strip, the inner corner of said last named strip adjacent the pivot being cut away to permit said last named strip to pivot outwardly, the free end of said pivoted strip in closed position abutting against the inner face of that side strip which lies remote from the side strip adjacent which the pivoted strip is pivoted.

4. A container comprising a pair of rectangular imperforate sheets, a pair of strips of rectangular cross section disposed between the sides of said rectangular sheets in parallelism with the outer faces of said strips flush with the side edges of said rectangular sheets, and a third strip mounted at one end of said rectangular sheets and between the same and disposed normally to said first two mentioned strips, said strip at its ends abutting the ends of said first mentioned strips, nails engaging the edges of said imperforate sheets and said three strips to form a box-like container, a fourth strip of rectangular cross section, said fourth strip having its outer walls flush with the outer walls of the end of said rectangular sheets opposite said third strip, and a pivot pin passing through one of the corners of said rectangular sheets and the corner of the last named strip, said inner corner of said last named strip adjacent the pivot being cut away to permit said last named strip to pivot outwardly, the free end of said pivoted strip in closed position abutting against the inner face of that side strip which lies remote from the side strip to which the pivoted strip is pivoted, the marginal portions of one end of said plates and also of said perforated strip having registering apertures for the reception of a wire or a string to fasten said pivoted strip in closed position.

5. A mailing container comprising a pair of rectangular imperforate sheets, a pair of strips of rectangular cross section disposed between the sides of said rectangular sheets in parallelism with the outer faces of said strips flush with the

side edges of said rectangular sheets, a third strip mounted at one end of said rectangular sheets and between the same and disposed normally to said first two mentioned strips, said strip at its ends abutting the ends of said first mentioned strips, nails passing through the edges of said imperforate sheets and through said three strips to form a box-like container, a fourth strip of rectangular cross section, said fourth strip having its outer walls flush with the outer walls of the opposite end of said rectangular sheets, and a pivot pin passing through one of the corners of said rectangular sheets and the corner of said last named strip, inner corner of said last named strip adjacent the pivot being cut away to permit said last named strip to pivot outwardly, the free end of said pivoted strip in closed position abutting against the inner face of that side strip which lies remote from the side strip to which the pivoted strip is pivoted, the marginal portions of one end of said plates and also of said perforated strip having registering apertures for the reception of a wire or a string to fasten said pivoted strip in closed position, the opposite end strip having a hole therethrough.

6. A container comprising a pair of rectangular flat, relatively thin sheets of waterproof, light, durable material having pairs of parallel sides, a pair of nailing strips of shorter length than the size of the material inserted therebetween along two pairs of said parallel sides, an end strip inserted between said sheets along another of said sides at one end of said sheets with one side wall abutting the ends of the first mentioned parallel strips, fastening means engaging the marginal edges of the pair of sheets and said strips to secure the same in assembled relation and to form a hollow, relatively flat, rectangular container, and an additional strip of relatively light, weatherproof and waterproof material pivotally mounted between the ends of said sheets at one corner of that end of the container opposite the closed end, the inner portion of the end wall of said additional strip about its pivot being cut away to permit said strip to swing to open position on its pivot, the free end of said last mentioned pivoted strip abutting the inner wall of one of said nailing strips in order to close the container.

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