

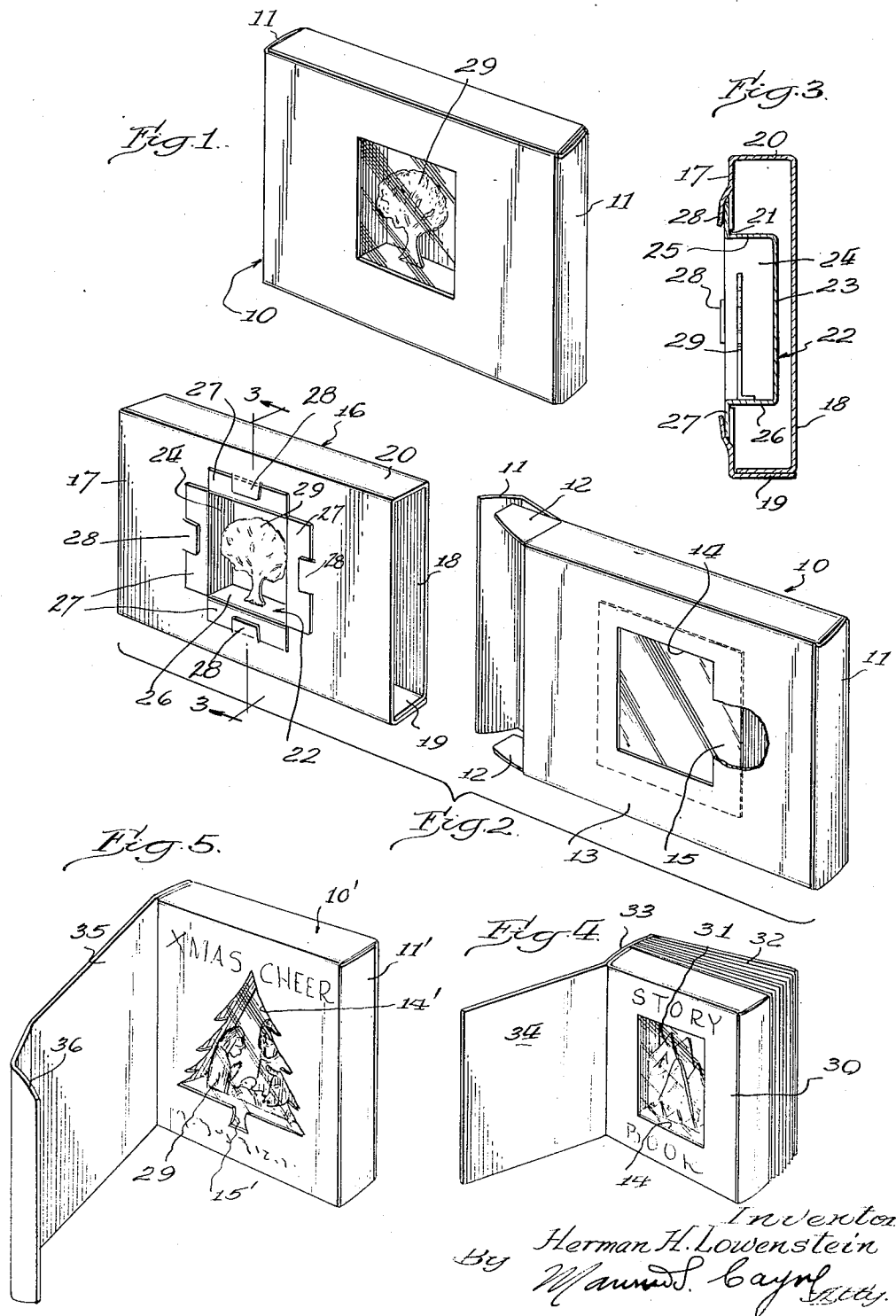
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DIORAMA CONSTRUCTION

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DIORAMA CONSTRUCTION

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5 Claims. (Cl. 35—1)

This invention relates generally to articles having intelligence, such as greetings, educational matter, or advertising matter associated therewith, and more particularly to such articles which have, as a portion of the intelligence a miniature diorama or dioramic representation associated therewith.

The primary object of this invention is to provide an article of the character described having a three dimensional scene or diorama associated therewith to comprise a portion of the intelligence conveyed thereby.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved construction for an article of the character described having a dioramic scene associated therewith.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of the character described which will be constructed in a mode which is economical and simple, and which will result in a sturdy and well formed article capable of being adapted to a variety of forms and attractive designs.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, arrangement and combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of the structure may be made without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

For the purpose of facilitating an understanding of my invention, I have illustrated in the accompanying drawing a preferred embodiment thereof, from an inspection of which, when considered in connection with the following description, my invention, its mode of construction, assembly and operation, and many of its advantages should be readily understood and appreciated.

Referring to the drawing in which the same characters of reference are employed to indicate corresponding or similar parts throughout the several figures of the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an article made in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective exploded view of the article disassembled.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the article taken through the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a book having a frontispiece member made in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a somewhat different embodiment.

The basic elements of my invention comprise a member having a cavity therein within which the diorama is adapted to be formed, said member being adapted to fit into a second member which is provided with a window through which the diorama can be viewed. Features of the invention generally include forming the inner and outer members to removably telescope within one another so that the one strengthens the other to permit mailing and rough handling, providing the article with a cover or protective flap which covers up the window and face of the article to permit mailing without additional wrapping, and forming the article as a frontispiece member for a book.

The reference character 10 designates an outer covering member which I prefer forming from an ordinary knock-down box well known in the trade. As shown in Fig. 2, the outer covering member is provided with a folding extension or flap 11 on each of its ends which cooperates with tabs 12 in the usual manner to permit the ends of the box to be closed.

The front wall 13 of the outer covering member 10 is provided with a window 14 having a transparent member 15 attached to the inner face in registry therewith. The face of the wall 13 is adapted to receive intelligence, such as a greeting message which may cooperate with the window or a scene visible therethrough to convey a message. An example of such message is shown in Fig. 5.

An inner member 16 of any desired form is provided. A simple form might be a sheet member having a cavity, but in the preferred form I propose utilizing a sleeve, as shown in Fig. 2, having front and rear walls 17 and 18, and side walls 19 and 20. The front and rear walls are provided with overlying flaps which are glued together to form one of the side walls 19. The ends of the member 16 are open.

Obviously the inner member could be formed from paper tubes, sleeves, paste-up or knock-down boxes, or any other means adapted to have a cavity formed therein and be capable of association with the outer covering member 10 in the manner described.

The front wall 17 of the member 16 is provided with an opening 21 of the same general configuration as the window 14 with which it is intended to register when the members 10 and 16 are in assembled condition, thereby enabling the cavity formed to be viewed through the window 14.

A dish-like member 22 is inserted into the opening 21 and held in the member 16. In the illustrated embodiment the member 22 is formed from a cardboard blank bent and folded in a well known manner to have a body consisting of a rear wall 23, side walls 24, a top wall 25, and a bottom wall 26. The insertion of the body within the opening 21 forms a compartment in the member 16 having its front side opening to the face of the wall 17. Each of the four side walls of the member 22 has a folded extension or flange 27 which overlies the face of the wall 17 serving to maintain the member 22 in position. If desired, tabs 28 may be provided in the wall 17 to cooperate with the flanges 27 to hold the member 22 in position and also facilitate the assembly of the member 16 within the member 10.

The member 22 forming the compartment is adapted to be provided with objects or scenes by pasting, gluing or clipping said object or scenes in position. The illustrated form of Figs. 1, 2 and 3 is provided with a cardboard tree 29 which is attached by its base to the bottom wall 26 of the compartment forming member 22. The faces of the walls of the compartment may have artistic matter cooperating with the object positioned therein to add to the dioramic effect, and I have found it advantageous to attach a mirror to the rear wall 23 to cause reflections to double the multi-planar effect induced by positioning of objects within the compartment.

From the above description, it will be seen that the device is a sturdily constructed one, and that it can be sent through the mail and roughly handled without danger of breakage or injury. It will further be seen that the article is adapted to a great variety of novel and unique designs and configurations by reason of the construction thereof.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a story book having a frontispiece member 30 constructed in accordance with my invention. A window 14 is provided in the front wall thereof having a transparent member similar to member 15 associated therewith if desired, through which the reader of the book may view a dioramic scene which may depict a scene described within the book or cooperate with intelligence portrayed on the face of the frontispiece member 30. It will be noted that in the illustration I have shown the portrayal of a mountain scene by associating the members 31 intended to represent the various peaks and ranges in different planes within the compartment. The resulting diorama has remarkable depth and is very life-like in appearance.

The bound leaves 32 of the book are fastened together by the member 33 which is of sufficient width to combine the said leaves with the frontispiece member 30 to tie the same together as shown. A cover 34 is hingedly attached to the binding in the usual manner and is adapted to overlie the face of the frontispiece member 30 covering and protecting the diorama associated therewith.

In Fig. 5 I have illustrated a modified form of my invention in which a window 14' is cut in the form of a tree. A scene, designated by the numeral 29, cut from cardboard or formed in any other suitable manner, is provided in a compartment similar to the compartment 22. Obviously three dimensional objects could be substituted for the scene 29. In order to permit the mailing of the article without further wrap-

ping, a hingedly attached cover member 35 is provided having a folding extension or flap 36 which is adapted to be inserted into the open end of the member 10' along with the flap 11' in the same manner as described above. The extension 35 may be blanked from the same cardboard member forming the member 10'. When in a closed position, the flap 35 overlies and protects the front face of the member 10' and the diorama, and also provides address space for mailing same.

It should be apparent that by means of my construction much protective wrapping and the like is eliminated in handling and shipping articles of the character described. It should be further obvious that by means of my invention a diorama may be depicted in a simple and very effective manner.

From the description it should be seen that the construction of greeting folders and the like, in accordance with my invention, makes for a strong, sturdy, and durable device and one which cannot be easily misshapen or destroyed in handling or mailing. Hence, greeting folders and the like will last a considerable length of time and thus be available to convey their messages over extended periods of time. It should further be obvious that the construction of folders and the like in accordance with my invention eliminates the necessity of superfluous containers, protective board, and wrapping as necessary in shipping and handling of ordinary folders of the same type.

It is believed that my invention, its mode of construction and assembly, and many of its advantages should be readily understood from the foregoing without further description, and it should also be manifest that while a preferred embodiment of the invention has been shown and described for illustrative purposes, the structural details are nevertheless capable of wide variation within the purview of my invention as defined in the appended claims.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In a device of the character described, a sleeve member having an opening in the front face thereof, a shallow dish-like member disposed within said opening and having flanged edges overlying the edges of the opening, tabs formed in the said front face of the sleeve member engaging said flanges and holding same flatly against the said face, said dish-like member thereby forming a shallow cavity in the front face of said sleeve member and having a substantially planar bottom wall capable of supporting objects thereon.

2. In a device of the character described, a sleeve member having an opening in the front face thereof, a shallow dish-like member disposed within said opening and having flanged edges overlying the edges of the opening, tabs formed in the said front face of the sleeve member engaging said flanges and holding same flatly against the said face, said dish-like member thereby forming a shallow cavity in the front face of said sleeve member and having a substantially planar bottom wall capable of supporting objects thereon, a box member snugly encompassing said sleeve member whereby said box member is reenforced and stiffened by said sleeve member, said box member having a window formed in the front face registering with said shallow cavity whereby said cavity may be

seen from externally of said box to the exclusion of said flanges, tabs and sleeve member.

3. In a device of the character described, a sleeve member having an opening in the front face thereof, a shallow dish-like member disposed within said opening and having flanged edges overlying the edges of the opening, tabs formed in the said front face of the sleeve member engaging said flanges and holding same flatly against the said face, said dish-like member thereby forming a shallow cavity in the front face of said sleeve member and having a substantially planar bottom wall capable of supporting objects thereon, a box member snugly encompassing said sleeve member whereby said box member is reinforced and stiffened by said sleeve member, said box member having a window formed in the front face registering with said shallow cavity whereby said cavity may be seen from externally of said box to the exclusion of said flanges, tabs and sleeve member, said box member being of the knock-down type and adapted to have the sleeve member removably slid thereinto from one of the ends of said box, said tabs thereby preventing interference between said flanges and the opening edges of said box member.

4. In a device of the character described, a sleeve member having an opening in the front face thereof, a shallow dish-like member disposed within said opening and having flanged edges overlying the edges of the opening, tabs formed in the said front face of the sleeve member engaging said flanges and holding same flatly against the said face, said dish-like member thereby forming a shallow cavity in the front face of said sleeve member and having a substantially planar bottom wall capable of supporting objects thereon, a box member snugly encompassing said sleeve member whereby said box member is reinforced and stiffened by said

sleeve member, said box member having a window formed in the front face registering with said shallow cavity whereby said cavity may be seen from externally of said box to the exclusion of said flanges, tabs and sleeve member, objects supported within said cavity and presenting a three dimensional diorama when viewed through said window, the remainder of the face of said box member being provided with indicia cooperating with said diorama to convey a message to the observer.

5. In a device of the character described, a sleeve member having an opening in the front face thereof, a shallow dish-like member disposed within said opening and having flanged edges overlying the edges of the opening, tabs formed in the said front face of the sleeve member engaging said flanges and holding same flatly against the said face, said dish-like member thereby forming a shallow cavity in the front face of said sleeve member, a box member snugly encompassing said sleeve member whereby said box member is reinforced and stiffened by said sleeve member, said box member having a window formed in the front face registering with said shallow cavity whereby said cavity may be seen from externally of said box to the exclusion of said flanges, tabs and sleeve member, objects provided within said cavity and presenting a three dimensional diorama when viewed through said window, the remainder of the face of said box member being provided with intelligence cooperating with said diorama to convey a message to the observer, and a cover member hingedly attached to said box member and adapted to overlie the front face thereof, thereby concealing and protecting the window and cavity of the device and enabling the entire device to be mailed without further wrapping while at the same time providing address space for said mailing.

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