Nov. 8, 1966 B. J. PEARLMAN 3,283,431

PICTURE FRAME ASSEMBLY

Filed Oct. 7, 1964

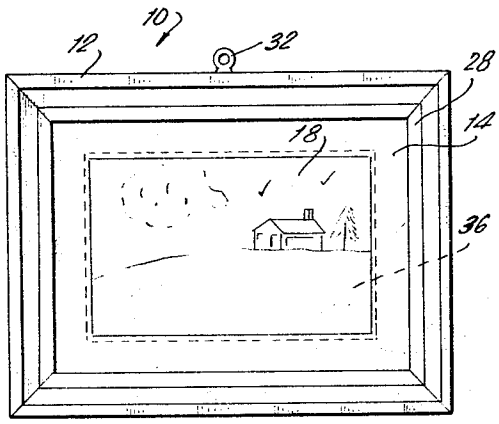
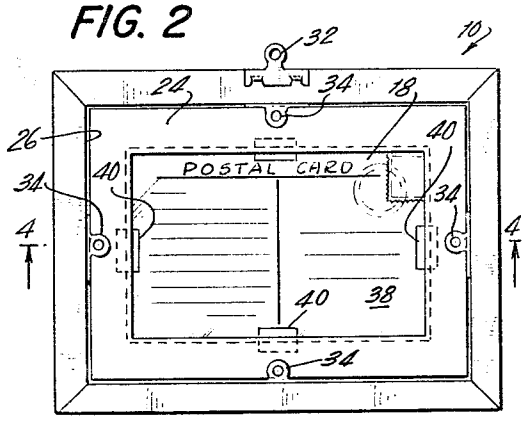


FIG. 1

FIG. 2



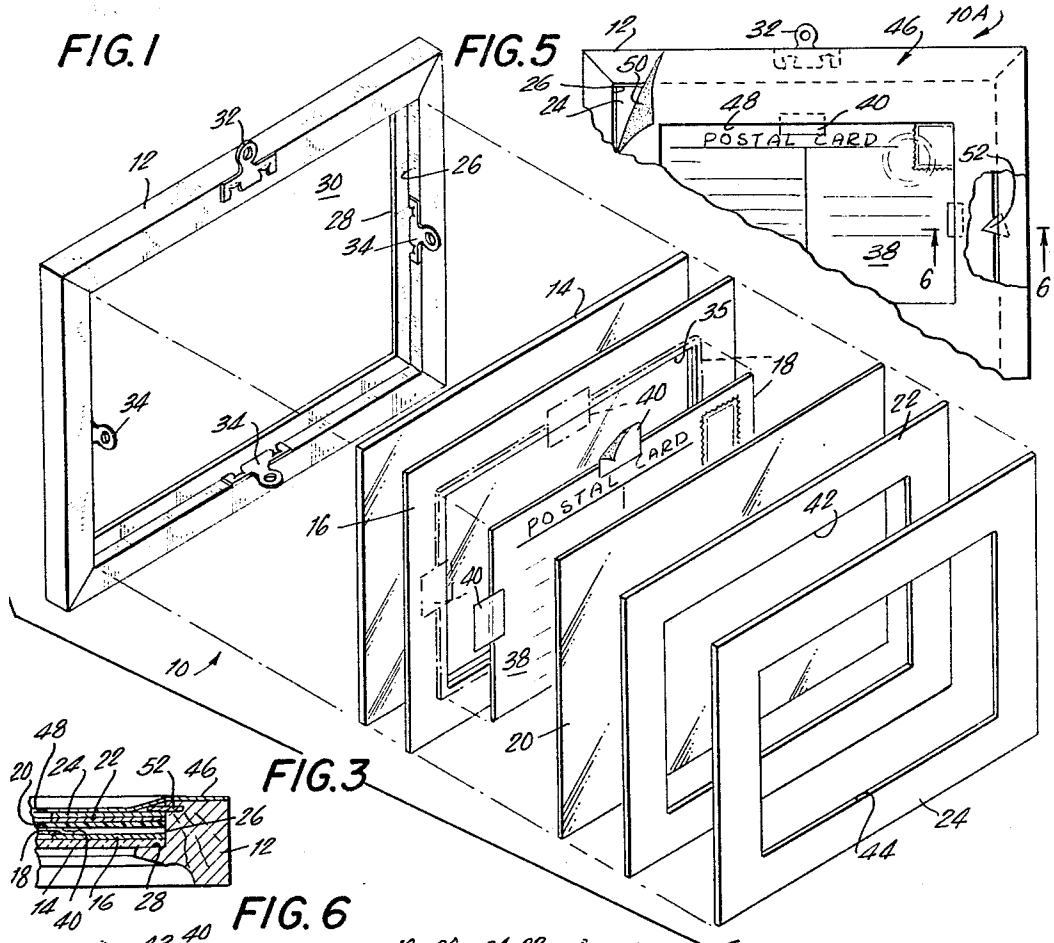


FIG. 3

FIG. 5

FIG. 6

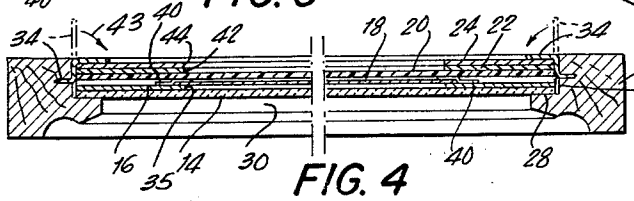


FIG. 4

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PICTURE FRAME ASSEMBLY

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The present invention relates to a dobule-faced picture frame assembly.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a frame assembly whereby both sides or both surfaces of an article within the frame may be visible.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a frame assembly of the described type which can be manufactured and sold at a relatively low cost and which will have a long and useful life.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a frame assembly of novel construction which permits for the observation and examination of both surfaces of a picture postcard or the like.

Other and further objects and advantages of the present invention will be readily apparent to one skilled in the art from a consideration of the following specification taken in connection with the appended drawings.

In the drawings which illustrate the best modes presently contemplated for carrying out the invention:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevation of a picture frame assembly pursuant to the present invention;

FIGURE 2 is a rear elevation view of the picture frame assembly;

FIGURE 3 is an exploded view of the picture frame assembly;

FIGURE 4 is a cross-sectional view on an enlarged scale taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 2;

FIGURE 5 is a fragmentary view similar to FIGURE 4 with portions broken away for purposes of illustration and illustrates a modification; and

FIGURE 6 is a fragmentary sectional view on an enlarged scale taken on the line 6—6 of FIGURE 5.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, there is shown a picture frame assembly **10** pursuant to the present invention. As best shown in FIGURE 3, the picture frame assembly **10** comprises a frame member **12**, a glass panel **14** for the frame member **12**, a mat **16**, a postal card **18**, a transparent plastic panel **20**, a positioning mat **22**, and a finishing mat **24**.

Picture frame **12** is of conventional construction and is provided with the frame recess **26** which is adapted to receive elements **14**, **16**, **18**, **20**, **22** and **24**. The frame **12** is provided with a front retainer **28** which extends about the opening **30** therein. At the rear thereof the frame is provided with a conventional hanger **32**. In addition, bendable mounting tabs **34** are provided within the frame recess **26** and extend laterally therefrom.

The transparent glass panel **14** is a conventional frame panel and is adapted to sit within the recess **26** in abutment with the retainer **28** and fills or closes the frame opening **30**.

The element **16** is a conventional picture frame mat preferably formed of cardboard or paperboard and is provided with mat opening **35**.

As here shown, the article to be framed within the frame assembly **10** is a conventional postal card **18** having the picture **36** on the front surface thereof and having the writing area **38** on the rear surface thereof. The postal card **18** is suitably secured through the mat **16** as by means of adhesive members **40**.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that after the glass panel **14** is inserted into the frame recess **26** in abutment with the frame retainer **28**, the mat **16** on the rear surface of which there is mounted the postal card **18**, is then inserted into the recess **26** in abutment with the glass panel **14** so that the picture surface **36** of the postal

card **18** is visible from the front of the frame **12** through the glass of panel **14**.

The rear surface **38** of the postal card is then covered by means of the transparent panel **20** which is inserted into the recess **26** to overlie the writing surface **38** of the postal card. It is preferable that the transparent panel **20** be formed of a suitable plastic material such as for example and not by way of limitation, a suitable acetate which will have sufficient flexibility to mold itself to the rear surface **38** of the postal card **18** and thus eliminate any bulges or irregularities within the acetate panel **20**.

After the acetate panel **20** has been inserted into the recess **26**, the retainer mat **22** is then inserted into the recess **26** so as to overlie the transparent panel **20**. It will be noted that the retainer mat **22** is provided with an opening **42** which exposes the transparent panel **20** through which the rear surface **38** of the article **18** is visible.

The finishing mat **24** is then inserted into the recess **26** and overlies the retainer mat **22** so as to substantially completely fill the recess **26** as best indicated in FIG. 4.

As best seen in FIG. 4, the securing tabs **34** are embedded into the preferably wooden frame **12** and extend outwardly from the recess **36** defined therein. After the mat **24** has been positioned within the recess **26** in overlying relation relative to the mat **22**, the projecting portion of the three tabs **34** are then bent inwardly or downwardly as indicated by the arrows of **43**. From the broken line position thereof shown in FIG. 6 to the full line position thereof so as to overlie the mat **24** and retain the various elements mounted within the recess **26** in assembled relation.

With the various elements assembled within the frame **12** as described, it will be noted from FIG. 1 that the picture surface **36** of the postal card **18** is readily visible through the glass panel **14**. In addition, the rear surface **38** of the postal card **18** is also visible through the transparent panel **20**. Consequently, it will be apparent that the frame assembly **10** permits for ready observation of both surfaces of the article **10** which is contained within the frame **12**. It will also be noted that the frame assembly **10** comprises a neat and efficient package. From the front thereof, viewing FIG. 1, it appears to be an ordinary picture frame. From the rear thereof, viewing FIG. 2, the rear surface of the article **18** is clearly visible and this is accomplished in a very attractive and neat manner due to the fact that the plastic panel **20** molds to the picture article **18** without any buckling or deformations therein and this results from the fact that the mats **22** and **24** are also retained in firm securement against the transparent panel **20** at four spaced points by the four tabs **34** as best shown in FIG. 2.

Referring now to FIGURES 5 and 6 in detail, there is shown a modified picture frame assembly **10**. It will be noted that the picture frame assembly **10** contains all of the elements of the picture frame assembly **10** with the exception of the finisher mat **24**. It will be understood that all of the elements common to picture frame assembly **10** which are included in picture frame assembly **10A** are assembled and mounted in exactly the same manner as previously described in connection with picture frame assembly **10**. However, in lieu of the finisher mat **24** which is inserted into the recess **26**, the picture frame assembly **10A** is provided with a finishing layer **46** which is preferably formed of paper or other suitable sheet material. The finishing paper layer **46** is similar to the finishing mat **24** only in that like the mat **24** which is provided with an opening **44** through which the transparent panel **20** is visible, the finishing layer **46** is provided also with an opening **48** through which the transparent member **20** is visible. The inner surface of the finishing paper layer **46** is provided with a suitable adhesive which is indicated by the

reference numeral **50** in FIG. 5. By means of the adhesive **40**, the finishing paper layer **46** which has the same dimensions as the frame member **12**, is adhesively secured both to the rear surface of the frame member **12** as well as to the rear or outer surface of the mat **22**, as best shown in FIG. 6. In addition, it will be noted that the frame member **12** is provided with a plurality of preferably metallic securing elements **56** which are urged therein and which project therefrom to overlie the mat **22** at spaced points as best shown in FIG. 6 so as to retain the mat **22** and the elements inserted prior thereto into the recess **26** in assembled relation. Consequently it will be apparent that the finishing paper **46** completely encompasses the rear surface of the frame member **12** and also exposes the transparent panel **20** through which the rear surface **38** of the article **18** is visible.

In view of the forgeoing, it will be apparent that there has been illustrated and described a highly novel picture frame assembly by means of which the opposite surfaces of a post card or other article contained within a picture frame assembly may be observed, the assembly being formed of a series of relatively inexpensive and conventional elements. It will be understood that various changes and modifications may be made within the picture frame assembly of the present invention without however departing from the basic inventive concept thereof as set forth in the appended claim.

I claim:

A picture frame assembly comprising a picture frame having a front opening over a rear recess, a first transparent panel mounted in said recess to close said openings, a first mat mounted in said recess, the front surface of said mat being in abutment with the rear surface of said first panel, a flat article secured to the rear surface of said mat so that the front surface of said article is visible through said first panel, a second transparent panel mounted in said recess in abutment with the rear surface of said article, a second mat mounted in said recess in abutment with the rear surface of said second panel, a plurality of retainer devices mounted by said frame and in abutment with the rear surface of said second mat, and a sheet material member secured to the rear surface of said frame and the rear surface of said second mat, said sheet material member having a cut-out through which the rear surface of said article is visible through said second panel.

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