CONTAINER FOR FILM SLIDES

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This invention relates to a new and improved container for thirty-five millimeter film slides, and more particularly to one that provides a safe storage medium for the slides when they are not in use and a removal or "feed" accelerating medium when in use.

As is well known, film such as thirty-five millimeter film slides adapted for use in a projector, are returned by the developer or processor company in loose form in a box. In use, such slides are taken from the box and inserted in the projector in dimly lighted rooms. Because of the necessity of relying more on the sense of touch than the sense of sight under such circumstances, the conventional boxes for the slides are not satisfactory. This is because it is so difficult to remove individual slides from them, and to return the slides to them in the desired sequence and order.

This last mentioned point, i.e., the return of the slides in proper sequence is known to be of great significance for when the slides are not next used it enables the graphic "story" to be unfolded to view in harmony with the narrative or word story. Conventional slide containers or boxes have made this most difficult, and the slide frequently appear out of turn or sequence.

It is, therefore, the primary object of this invention to provide a container which will facilitate the insertion and removal respectively of the slides with a minimum of effort.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a container which will safely store and house the slides. It is well recognized that such slides are of great value, particularly sentimental value, and that their loss, destruction or damage can be in the nature of a "calamity" since they are irreplaceable.

It is a still further object of the present invention to provide a lightweight, inexpensive container of a material such by way of example as aluminum which through the process of sandblasting may be attractively finished and colored as desired.

It is a still further object of the present invention to provide a container of such a character and construction that it may be formed from a one piece blank. In so doing the number of fabricating steps is reduced, and the total cost of manufacture is correspondingly lessened.

It Is a still further object of the present invention to provide a container which will fit in the drawers of conventional slide cabinets, and thus substantially increase their storage capacity.

A still further object is to provide a container that will reduce appreciably the danger of slide breakage when the container is inadvertently dropped on hard surfaces.

The full nature of the invention will be understood from the accompanying drawings and the following description and claim.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the invention showing particularly the front end thereof. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing particularly the rear end of the invention.

Fig. 3 is a front elevation view.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section view taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 3 in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 5 is an end elevation view.

In the drawings, the container is shown to comprise a one piece blank formed into a generally U shape. Side walls 10 and 11, and back wall 12, are formed at right angles relative to each other as the blank is run through a set of dies.

The upper, lower and end edge portions of the respective walls are bent inwardly at right angles to form top, bottom and front flanges 13, 14 and 15. These flanges partially close the otherwise open top, bottom and front of the container.

In actually forming the container the blank will be notched prior to its being sent through the set of forming dies. Notch 16 will be formed in what becomes the lower portion of the back wall and the adjacent bottom flange. This notch is sized to enable one to manually propel the lowermost slide out of the container by finger. It is thus a finger ejecting notch or opening.

Opposite this notch is the pair of openings 17 which are formed by notching out the lower extremities of the front flanges so that their bottom edges are in slightly spaced relation from the bottom flanges. These openings are sized to permit a single slide, i.e., the bottom or lowermost slide of the moment, to be ejected therethrough as a result of finger pressure, through notch 16, upon the opposite end of the slide.

In order to facilitate the reintroduction or insertion of the slides after use, into the container, an opening 18 is formed by notching out the front end portions of two of the top flanges. More particularly, the two top flanges that are extensions of the side walls as distinguished from the back wall, are notched out so that their front end edges are in slightly spaced relation from the top edges of the front flanges. This opening is sized to enable one to push the slides back in the container effortlessly and with ease.

In use, the container may be clasped between the thumb and third finger of one hand with the index finger of the same hand exerting ejecting pressure through opening 16 upon the lowermost of the gravity fed slides. When a sufficient portion of the opposite end of that slide has passed through openings 17, it may be grasped by the other hand and pulled completely out and placed in the projector. Then the slide just shown, may be taken out of the projector and reintroduced into the container through openings 18. In this manner the proper order and sequence of the slides will be maintained.

While the invention has been illustrated and described in detail in the drawings and foregoing description, the same is to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only the preferred embodiment has been shown and described and that all changes and modifications that come within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the claim are also desired to be protected.

The invention claimed is:

A container for still-picture slides comprising a one-piece blank formed into a generally U shape and having opposed side walls and a connecting back wall, said walls each having inwardly directed top and bottom flanges formed at their upper and lower ends, said side walls also having inwardly directed flanges formed along a part of their free ends to form a partial front wall, the said last mentioned flanges being vertically spaced from the adjacent bottom flanges of said side walls to define a slide ejection opening, the top flanges of said side walls extending only a part of the distance along the upper ends of said side walls whereby the end edges of said last mentioned flanges are spaced inwardly from the flanges forming said partial front wall, and said back wall and its adjacent bottom flange having an opening formed there-
in for accommodating the finger of a hand, whereby upon exercise of finger pressure a still-slide may be moved out through said ejection opening.

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