

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO CAMERAS

(71) We, FRANKE & HEIDECKE GMBH, a German Body Corporate, trading as ROLLEI-WERKE FRANKE & HEIDECKE, of 106 Salzdhumerstrasse, Braunschweig, Germany do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

The present invention relates to a cinematographic camera, e.g. an 8mm film camera, having an oblong housing with its longitudinal axis parallel to the optical axis of the camera.

Cameras of this type are provided with devices which have to be serviced, devices which are used for setting the camera ready for operation and devices for operating the camera. During the changing of a cassette or spool only some of these devices have to be manipulated or they may not need to be manipulated upon every change of cassette or spool. In order to try and prevent inadvertent movement of the devices which have to be serviced they are preferably arranged so that they cannot be moved when the camera is in use.

According to the present invention there is provided a cinematographic camera having an oblong housing which has its longitudinal axis parallel to the optical axis of the camera, wherein the housing is provided with an upper axially movable part which defines part of the housing.

The space defined by the upper part of the housing is preferably adapted to receive the camera batteries.

The housing is preferably provided with a hinged side wall which can be opened in order to obtain access to the cassette or spool. In order to retain the side wall in the closed position the side wall may be provided with a latching element which co-operates with a latching element of the movable upper part of the housing, the latching elements being arranged so that they co-operate when the upper part is in its

closed position. Preferably the upper part is movable in several steps and for this purpose apertures or depressions are provided with which the latching elements of the upper part co-operate in closed, part open and fully open positions of the upper part. The housing space defined by the upper part may also contain an adjustable lens for a viewfinder and other devices which have to be set or serviced and which only have to be manipulated occasionally.

Devices for adjusting and setting the camera, which are not adjustable when the camera is in use, may be provided in the space defined by the upper part.

The upper part may be provided with a plurality of depressions and there may be provided a projection engageable with one of the depression to retain the upper part in a closed, part open or fully open position.

A constructional embodiment of the present invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawing which shows a perspective view of a camera from the rear and one side.

The housing 1 defines a lower space 2 for a cassette or spool and is provided with a side wall 3 for closing the space 2. The housing includes an upper part 4 comprising a cover plate which defines part of the housing. The upper part 4 is axially movable on rails 5 and in the space defined by the upper part 4 there are arranged driving batteries 5, viewfinder 7 and an adjustable lens 9 for the viewfinder 7. The viewfinder aperture 8 is arranged in a rear wall of the housing 1. In order to obtain access to the adjustable lens 9 the upper part 4 only has to be moved forwardly a short distance whereas it has to be moved forwardly a greater distance to enable the batteries 6 to be changed.

In the rails 5 there are provided a plurality of apertures 11 and in the side wall 3 there is provided an aperture 12. The upper part 4 is provided with a sprung or flexible projection or nose 10 which is urged into

[Price 25p]

Price 75p

one of the apertures 11 or 12 to locate the upper part in a closed, part open or fully open position.

- 5 In a further embodiment (not shown) the nose 10 is fixed relative to the rails 5 so that it lies opposite the aperture 12 and the upper part 4 is provided with a plurality of apertures 11. In this embodiment the co-operating latching elements 10 and 12 are operable in any position of the upper part 4. The side wall 3 is thereby held in its closed position in any one of the latched positions of the upper part 4 and only has to be held closed by hand during movement of the upper part 4, the latch 10 only being lifted during said movement.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A cinematographic camera having an oblong housing which has its longitudinal axis parallel to the optical axis of the camera, wherein the housing is provided with an upper axially movable part which defines part of the housing.
2. A camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the space defined by the upper part of the housing is adapted to receive the camera batteries.
3. A camera as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the housing is provided with a side wall for closing the cassette or spool space and the upper part and side wall are provided with co-operating latching elements whereby the side wall is held in its

closed position when the upper part is in its closed position.

4. A camera as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the upper part is provided with a plurality of apertures or depressions and there is provided a projection engageable with one of the apertures or depressions to retain the upper part in a closed, part open or fully open position.

5. A camera as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the upper part is provided with a sprung or flexible nose or projection engageable with apertures to retain the upper part in the closed, part open or fully open position.

6. A camera as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the space defined by the upper part contains a viewfinder and an adjustable lens for the viewfinder.

7. A camera as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein devices for adjusting and setting the camera which are not adjustable when the camera is in use are provided in the space defined by the upper part.

8. A cinematographic camera substantially as described herein with reference to and as illustrated by the accompanying drawing.

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WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

- 20 1. A cinematographic camera having an oblong housing which has its longitudinal axis parallel to the optical axis of the camera, wherein the housing is provided with an upper axially movable part which defines part of the housing.
- 25 2. A camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the space defined by the upper part of the housing is adapted to receive the camera batteries.
- 30 3. A camera as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the housing is provided with a side wall for closing the cassette or spool space and the upper part and side wall are provided with co-operating latching elements whereby the side wall is held in its

closed position when the upper part is in its closed position.

4. A camera as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the upper part is provided with a plurality of apertures or depressions and there is provided a projection engageable with one of the apertures or depressions to retain the upper part in a closed, part open or fully open position.

5. A camera as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the upper part is provided with a sprung or flexible nose or projection engageable with apertures to retain the upper part in the closed, part open or fully open position.

6. A camera as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the space defined by the upper part contains a viewfinder and an adjustable lens for the viewfinder.

7. A camera as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein devices for adjusting and setting the camera which are not adjustable when the camera is in use are provided in the space defined by the upper part.

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