

[1936]

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF AMERICA

AUDITORIUM

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY
220 EAST 42D STREET, NEW YORK CITY

COMMUNICATIONS

WILLIAM J. LANE, SECRETARY-TREAS.
123 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK CITY

Ira W. Martin
10 East 71st Street
New York City

My dear Miss Gilpin—

It's nearly a month since I received your letter and have been looking for a good, 11x14 view camera but have not located one yet. I spoke too quick about the one we have because I forgot we use its back on the photostat machine. It an old Century and I can't get another back. If I could I would do so and let you use the camera. I will keep it in mind and if I run across one will let you know. In the meantime, why don't you order a 11x14 view camera back & holder (film or plate) and have a wooden box made. You will probably use but one lens and that could be mounted at infinity or in a focusing tube or mount. But best to have it fixed at infinity like an aerial camera. You will probably want to use a pretty short lens, say 12" or 14" which would not make a big box. Percy Byron, here, used such an 11x14 camera to photograph ocean liners from a small boat, holding it in his hand, as I think of it, it would be better to make the back like this sketch so it would be more light proof.

The reason for all this is that a new 11x14 view
lists for \$1.25⁰⁰ and any cabinet shop can build this
for pretty quick if they have a small table saw.

The Photographers Association is professional
and I can't see where there's much advantage to
you to join them. They are chiefly cut and dried
studio photographers. Then you probably know about
the would be "American Royal", the Photographic
Society of Am. Louis Brehm resigned from the P.P.A. to
reorganize the P.S.A., so he could be "The Father" of it
as he boasts being of the Assoc. C.C.G.A., which
he turned into the P.S.A. & expected the P.P.A. to
pass over its membership, which it has not. The P.P.A.
is still an organization member of the A.C.C.G.A., which
is now part of the P.S.A. So the Professional P.P.A. should
not be confused with the P.S.A.

I shall look up the July Architectural Forum
and see your picture of your new Yin at Center. I guess
it's pretty fine & I'm sure glad you have it.

Please let me know how you get on and
how you make out with the camera.

With best regards, I —,

Cordially you

Frank Martin

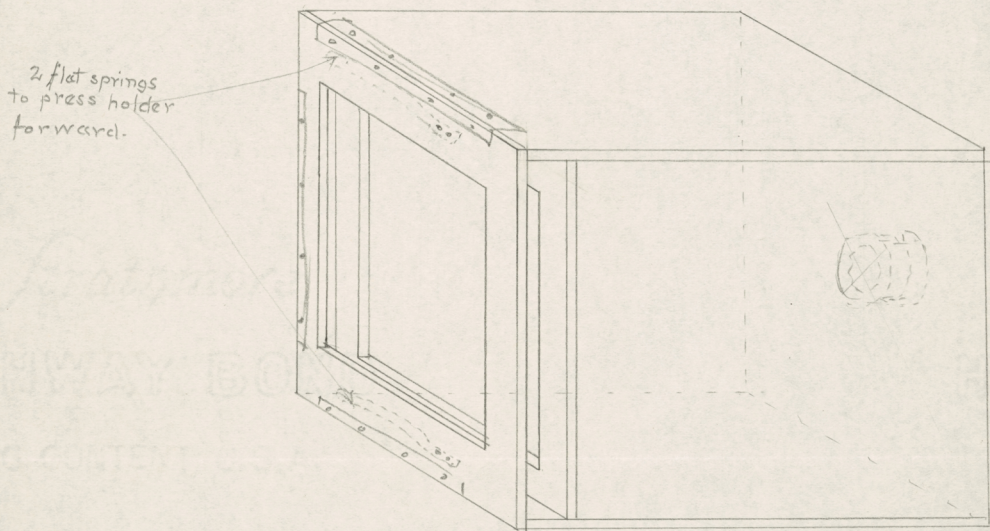
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Buy a holder and lens. Make back of box to fit holder. Make frame for groundglass so ground surface and emulsion surface come in exact position when in place in camera. Make length of box slightly shorter, say $\frac{1}{4}$ ", than exact position of lens at infinity and shim out to exact position, by trial, with rings of cardboard and paper. Box can be made of 3 ply, $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick veneer board. If more than one lens is to be used the front could be made as indicated (over).

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