This camera manual library is for reference and historical purposes, all rights reserved. This page is copyright by mike@butkus.org M. Butkus, N.J. This page may not be sold or distributed without the expressed permission of the producer I have no connection with any camera company

If you find this manual useful, how about a donation of \$3 to: M. Butkus, 29 Lake Ave., High Bridge, NJ 08829-1701 and send your E-mail address too so I can thank you. Most other places would charge you \$7.50 for a electronic copy or \$18.00 for a hard to read Xerox copy. These donations allow me to continue to buy new manuals and maintain these pages. It'll make you feel better, won't it?

If you use Pay Pal, use the link below. Use the above address for a check, M.O. or cash. Use the E-mail of butkusmi@ptd.net for PayPal.



back to my "Orphancameras" manuals /flash and light meter site

Only one "donation" needed per manual, not per multiple section of a manual ! The large manuals are split only for easy download size. Under normal light conditions the most favourable camera-setting is f:11 and 1/50 second. For fast moving objects take 1/100 second. For very fast movements as in sports etc. 1/200 resp. 1/250 or 1/400 sec. hereby of course the wider diaphragm 4 or 2.9.

On dull days open the diaphragm to f:8 or f:5.6. On very bright days with sunshine on water or snow, reduce the diaphragm to f:22 or f:32.

Of very good aid are the optical exposure meters as supplied by your dealer.

If stress is laid on particularly exact exposures, or if you must operate under difficult conditions regarding light and surroundings, the employment of an electrical exposure meter is deemed advisable.

Druck: Julius Steager & Co. Bayrouth

How to Use the Solida -Rollfilm-Camera 6x6 21/4 x 21/4 inches

Loading the Camera

The "Solida" is constructed for roll films B II or No. 120. Never use any other films.

Opening of Back of Camera:

Open the back (32) by pushing the button (30) in the direction of the arrow and fold the back (32) downwards in its hinge.

Inserting Film:

Pull out the film winding knob (28) and swing upward the film spool carrier (37) that has the shape of a half cylinder. Place an empty spool in the spool carrier (37), hereby inserting the pin on the left of the spool carrier into the round aperture of the spool. The slotted side of the spool must face the film winding knob (28). Swing out the half cylinder of the lower film chamber (34) and place a new film in it in such a way that the pointed end of



Picture 2

We thank you for the confidence you have bestowed on our products by acquiring the "Solida" camera.

For well-nigh 40 years we have been manufacturing cameras, and our experience in camera construction gained over such a long period will not disappoint you.

Furthermore, your dealer will be glad to assist you with his advisory service so that you will achieve beautiful pictures.

Before you begin operating your camera, kindly read carefully the instructions while practising the several manipulations at leasure. This will save you many a disappointment and annoyance.

Under no circumstances attempt to correct trouble yourself or by force. Almost invariably matters will thus be aggravated. the protective paper (35) points to the upper spool. The black side of the protective paper must face the lens. Break the adhesive strip of the film, pull out somewhat the beginning of the protective paper and swing the spool carrier back into the spool chamber.

Bring up the pointed end of the protective paper (35) into the wider slot (36) of the upper empty spool so that it protrudes from the narrower slot. Fold the upper spool carrier (37) with the empty spool back into the spool chamber; for this purpose it is necessary to pull out the film winding knob (28). Turn this film winding knob (28) in the direction of the arrow until its catch clutches the slot of the empty spool, hereby enabling the film winding knob to spring back into its former position.

Wind 2—3 layers of the protective paper onto the empty spool (36), and mind that the film paper is running absolutely straight without crumpling at the edges of the spool. Now, fold up the back (32) with the lock (29) catching.

Wind the film farther until dots become visible in the film window (33) and now wind cautiously until the number 1 is appearing. Then the film is ready for the first exposure. After taking a picture, it is advisable to move the film at once to the next number.

Removing the Exposed Film:

4

After the last exposure turn the film winding knob (28) until no more of the protective paper is visible through the film window. Then open the back (32), wind the film tight upon the spool and close it with the attached adhesive strip. Pull out the film winding knob (28), swing the spool carrier with the full spool upward and take the film out.

Changing the Empty Spool:

Take the empty spool out of the lower film chamber and insert it into the upper film chamber as described above.

Protective Lid for Panchromatic Films

The sensitiveness of the panchromatic films is so great that the intrusion of light for hours or days through the red film window might possibly make the film hazy. Therefore the camera is equipped with 38 a device to cover the film 33 window. This cover ought to be kept shut all the time and should be opened merely in order to control the numbers while moving the film by



pushing upward the small button (38) on the back of the camera.

www.orphancameras.com



Opening of Camera

After pressing the button (31) the base-board (21) will fly open. Pull down the base-board (21) until both struts (25) click audibly into the notch, or else the base-board will not be fast and the lens is not in the correct distance from the film. This may cause unsharp pictures.

The Lenses

Focussing the lens:

Turn the lens mount so that the stop hand (1) points to ∞ ; thus the camera is focussed for "infinity", that is for distances beyond 50 feet. For objects of a lesser distance the adjustment is effected by setting the mount of the front lens on the desired number of feet.

Judge, or better measure, the distance between the object and the camera, and make the actual number of feet tally with the stop hand (1) on the lens. If the ascertained distance, for instance 7 feet, is not indicated on the mount, then set the front lens in such a way that the hand (1) rests between 6 and 8 feet; or, if possible, change the distance of the object to some such distance as indicated on the front lens (6 resp. 8 feet).



Picture 5

After the exposure, and before closing the camera, always put the front lens back to ∞ otherwise the protruding lens cannot be housed in the case. The strong pressure of the closed base-board on the lens would cause the bending of the lens carrier and unsharp pictures would be the result.

Table of Depth of Focus

In setting a definite distance, say 4 feet not only exactly this point is sharp, but also a certain range before and behind the 4 feet mark. This is the so-called depth of focus. The smaller the diaphragm opening, the greater the depth of focus. On the finder case of the "Solida" there is a small table (26), indicating the appropriate depth of focus for the various distances and diaphragm apertures.

Shutters

Generally, the following shutters are being used in the "Solida" cameras:

Vario Speeds: B = 1/25 = 1/50 = 1/100 second, with flash synchronization

Pronto Speeds: B — 1/25 — 1/50 — 1/100 — 1/200 second,

with built-in self-timer and flash synchronization

Prontor-S Speeds: B = 1 = 1/2 = 1/5 = 1/10 = 1/25 = 1/50 = 1/100 = 1/250 second, with built-in self-timer and flash synchronization

Compur-Rapid Speeds: B - 1 - 1/2 - 1/5 - 1/10 - 1/25 - 1/50 - 1/100 - 1/200 - 1/400second, with built-in self-timer.

Setting of shutter speeds:

The setting of the shutter speeds is effected by turning the rimmed adjustment ring (8) until the indicator (5) shows the desired speed.

For "B" (= indicating time exposures =) the shutter stays open as long as the release is being pressed. "B" is used for any exposure greater than those marked on the shutter.

Cocking the Shutter:

Before any exposure the shutter must be cocked by turning the tension-lever (6) to the right.

Blockage of Shutter:

All shutters have a blocking device against double exposure; that is, the release will work only if the shutter is cocked.

Setting of Diaphragm

As a rule, the shutter boasts the following diaphragm apertures (4):

f: 32 - 22 - 16 - 11 - 8 - 5.6 - 4 - 2.9.

f: 32 is the smallest, f: 2.9 the largest opening.

If the diaphragm is wide open at the moment of exposure, there is more light falling on the film, therefore little time only may be used for exposing. With a small opening, however, correspondingly less light can penetrate, therefore we need more time for the exposure.

9

8

But, the greater the diaphragm aperture the less is the depth of focus, whereas the smaller diaphragms achieve greater depths of focus.

The adjusting of the diaphragm is effected by moving the diaphragm indicator (3) onto the desired diaphragm values (4).

Self-Timer (Delayed-Action Device)

The built-in self-timer (10) permits you to take your own portrait without outside help, even when taking group pictures the photographer may join the group.



Mode of Use: After setting the speed (2) and cocking the shutter (6) the lever (10) on the lower side of the shutter is turned to the left until it stops. The release of the shutter is effected in the customary manner when the delayed-action device will begin to work, releasing the shutter after about 10 seconds. The self-timer can be used for any momentary speed from 1 - 1/250 seconds, but never for "B".

Mode of Use with Compur-Rapid: This shutter has the setting lever for the self-timer on the upper side close to the tension-lever (6). The tension-lever (6) is pulled right up to the stop, then the tiny button found there is pushed back and the tension-lever (6) is farther cocked the full stretch freed in that manner.

11

Flash Synchronizing

The flash synchronizer respect. the connecting nipple (7) is on the right upper part of the shutter. In order to use them it is essential to insert the cable of the flashlight device into the connecting nipple (7) and to screw the flash bulb into the tripod socket of the camera, or to push it into the holder (22) (see picture). When the shutter is released the synchronized flash bulb is automatically ignited.



Body Release

Picture 7

The release of the shutter is effected by easily and evenly pressing upon the body release (24).

T-Equipment on the Camera

As the shutters equipped with a release blockage no longer boast the double time T, we have furnished our camera with this device. When using it, simply move the small plate (23) in the direction of the arrow. If the time adjustment ring of the shutter is set on "B" and the shutter is released, the latter will open up and stay open as long as the plate (23) is not moved back into its old position opposite to the direction of the arrow.

This device is made use of in case of very long exposure times, such as exposures at night, indoor exposures with insufficient light, flash pictures etc.

Holder for Supplementary Equipment

On the left hand side behind the body release (24) there is a holder for supplementary equipment (22), such as a flash bulb, range finder etc. These parts have standard guide plates to be pushed into the holder.

View-Finder

The camera is supplied with the well-tried optical telescop finder (27). When using this finder, bring the small aperture in its rear close to your eye. The view through the front lens gives the picture area.



Picture 8

Taking Pictures

In order to achieve perfect pictures it is essential to hold your camera right. Picture 8 shows the correct way how to hold your camera while taking pictures. Hold camera fast with both hands, bring finder close to eye, and focus your object into the center of the picture area. Then press the body-release (24) slowly and gently right through. For pictures of longer exposure than 1/25 second always use your tripod or something else for a steady support.

Closing of Cameras

Before closing your camera, always turn the front lens (9) back to ∞ . If at all possible, avoid shutter (6) and self-timer (10) being cocked.

Pressure of both thumbs on the two struts (25) folds up the base-board (21) and the lens front retreats automatically into the camera.



Picture 9

Advices on Better Pictures

Always keep the lens clean, wiping it with the lenscloth only. Never use ordinary cloths, for they might scratch the lens.

Do not try to take pictures at distances under 3 feet, as they will be unsharp.

For speeds longer than 1/25 second always use your tripod or some other means of steady support. The camera boasts sockets.