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A. E. NEELY

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ASSORTMENT DISPENSING CONTAINER

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Fig. 1.

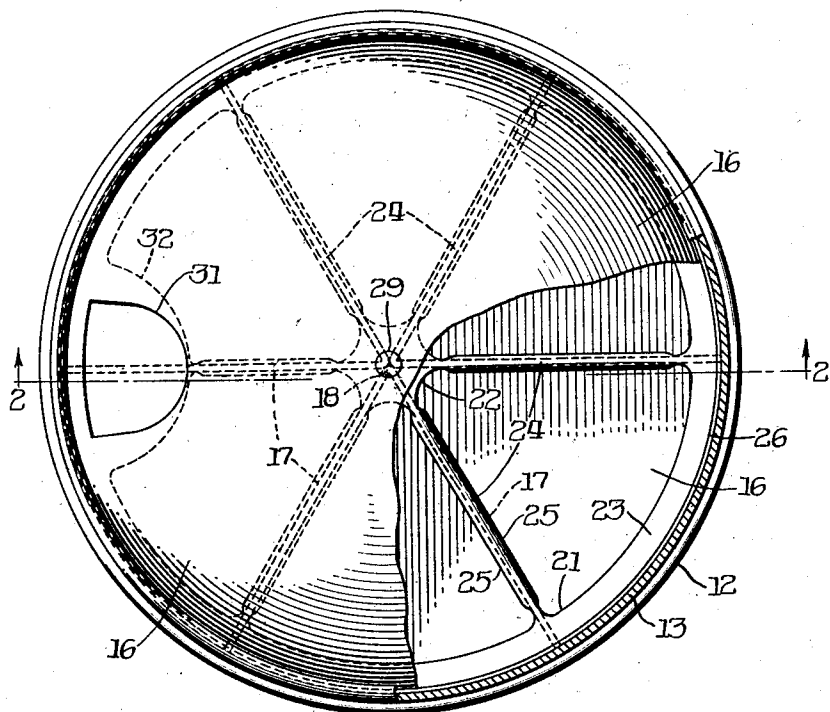


Fig. 2.

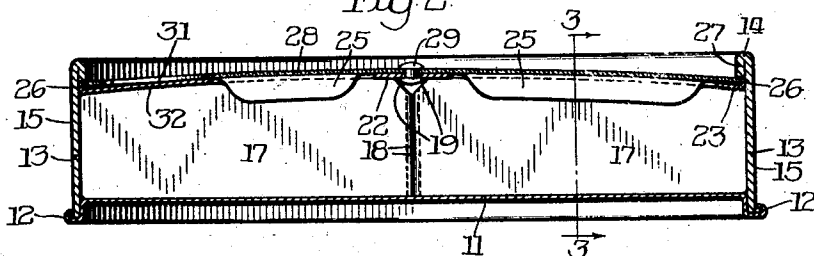


Fig. 4.

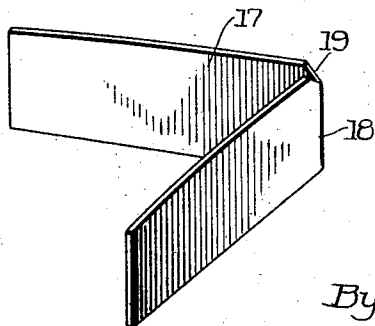
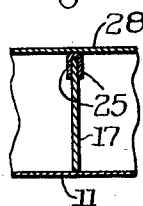


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ASSORTMENT DISPENSING CONTAINER

Application filed February 8, 1932. Serial No. 591,623.

My invention relates to boxes or containers adapted to hold an assortment of articles, such as buttons, in a divided or chambered receptacle from any compartment of which one or more of the bodies may be readily removed or dispensed.

An aim of the invention is to provide a depository of this character in which all of the groups of buttons or other bodies may be readily seen so that the desired one may be easily selected for use.

An added purpose of the invention is to supply a box of this type or style from which the buttons or other members will not be unintentionally discharged and in which there is no danger of the buttons in one compartment finding access to another chamber in which they do not belong.

Also, it is an object of the invention to provide a construction having these and other valuable structural and functional characteristics, which can be manufactured at a relatively small cost and yet which will effectively and efficiently perform in a manner for the attainment of the desired results.

To enable those acquainted with this art to understand the invention, in the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, a present, preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated in detail, and, for the sake of simplicity, like reference numerals have been employed throughout the several views to designate the same parts.

In this drawing:—

Figure 1 is a face or top view of the assortment dispensing container with a portion of the transparent cover cut away;

Figure 2 is a vertical cross-section on line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary, vertical section on line 3—3 of Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a perspective view of one of the paste-board or other elements, several of which are employed to divide the container into individual compartments.

Referring to this drawing, it will be perceived that the box or receptacle, desirably of round shape, has a bottom 11, preferably, but not necessarily, of metal, to which, by a

seam or joint 12, is fastened a pasteboard or other circular rim or wall 13 bent over inwardly at its top edge at 14 to provide a suitable, smooth margin and finish at such point, the member 13 being usually concealed by an attractive paper or other cover 15.

The interior of this round or circular receptacle or container is divided into a number of separate compartments 16, 16 of sector shape, six such chambers being shown in the present instance, but, of course, the precise or exact number is of minor importance and it may be greater or less, as occasion or desire dictates.

Such compartments or storage spaces are designed and adapted to receive and hold an assortment of different buttons or other bodies with those of one form or style only in one of the chambers, and these compartments are formed by bent or V-shaped pasteboard or other partition walls 17, one of which pasteboard elements is depicted in perspective in Figure 4, whereby only three of such members are required to provide the six compartments.

As is shown, the spaced, outer ends of parts 17 bear against and reinforce the inner surface of the wall 13, their apexes 18 being at the center of the structure, as portrayed in the drawing, and the top part of each bent section 18 is beveled or cut off at 19 to provide space for the head of a rivet referred to hereinafter.

In order to keep these partition walls properly arranged and associated together and insured against dislodgement or displacement, an apertured, thin, sheet-metal frame 21 is used, which has a central or flat hub portion 22 directly above the common center of the division walls, an outer, ring section 23 inside of, bearing against and stiffening the wall 13, and six radiating arms or fins 24, 24 in register with the radial walls 17 and connecting the parts 22 and 23.

Arms 24 are used not only to position the radiating walls 17, but also to strengthen and to stiffen them, and, to this end, each such arm has two, parallel, downturned flanges 25, 25 at, and in contact with, the opposite sides of the companion or correlated wall 17.

To provide a suitable and unchangeable space or circular groove between the lower edge of the downturned part 27 of the upper portion of wall 13 and the top surface of ring 5 23, the margin of the latter has an upstanding, circular flange 26 whose top edge is in contact with the specified lower edge of the inturned section 27 of the outer wall.

From what precedes it will be readily understood that this metal frame can be made 10 from a single sheet of thin metal by suitable punching and bending operations.

As is clearly shown in Figure 2, the top edges of the partition walls 17 and the thin, 15 metal frame 21 arch upwardly from the wall 13 to the center of the box.

A similarly arched or slightly dome-shaped, round, celluloid or analogous transparent plate or disc 28 bears on the parts 22, 20 24, and 23, with its center held in place and adapted to turn on a rivet 29 extended through aligned holes in the members 28 and 22 and with its circular margin accommodated in the annular groove between the members 23 and 27, the flange 26 assuring that 25 such edge portion of the disc will not bind in the groove and may turn relatively freely therein.

From the foregoing, it should be apparent 30 that the arched, top surface of the metal member 21 keeps the revoluble celluloid cover in the same form and under slight strain or tension so that it will not turn unintentionally, and by its certain contact with the arms 35 24, the buttons are effectively prevented from sliding under it from one compartment, where they belong, into a next chamber to which they should not have access.

The transparent, top, rotatable disc 28, at 40 one point near its edge, has an aperture 31 which, by the turning of the disc by hand, may be shifted into register with any one of the several compartments 16 for the discharge therethrough of one or more of the buttons 45 contained in such compartment.

In order that the aperture or delivery opening 31 may be closed in one position of the revoluble cover, the metal frame has an unapertured section 32 slightly larger than the 50 delivery opening 31, and when this aperture is in register with such flat plate portion 32, as shown in Figure 1, none of the buttons will be delivered.

To have access to any one of the compartments 16, it is merely necessary for the operator to turn the transparent cover to bring the opening 31 over such compartment, whereupon by tilting the whole container one or more buttons will fall out, and when the 60 desired number has been secured, the cover may be turned to again bring the opening over the plate section 32.

Those skilled in this art will readily understand that the invention is not necessarily 65 limited and restricted to the particular em-

bodiment shown, and that many changes and modifications may be incorporated therein without departure from the heart and essence of the invention as presented in the appended claims and without the loss or sacrifice of any 70 of its material benefits or advantages.

I claim:

1. In an assortment dispensing container, the combination of a round receptacle having a bottom-wall and a circular side-wall 75 the upper portion of which is turned over inwardly of the receptacle, V-shaped partition walls dividing said receptacle into separate compartments, said partition-walls having their apexes at the center of the receptacle and their free ends at the inner surface of said side-wall, the top edges of said partition-walls sloping upwardly from said side-wall to the center of the receptacle, a slightly dome-shaped bent metal frame overlying said partition-walls and having a central 80 section at the center of the receptacle, an outer ring section at the inner surface of said side-wall and radiating arms connecting said central and ring sections and in register with said partition-walls, each of said arms having depending flanges on opposite sides of the corresponding partition-wall and maintaining it in position, the margin of 85 said outer ring section having an upstanding circular flange below the inturned section of said side-wall, a transparent round disc cover overlying said frame with its margin in the circular groove between said frame and said inturned side-wall section, and 90 means revolubly connecting the central part of said disc to the central section of said frame, said cover having a delivery aperture adapted by the turning of the cover to be brought into register with any one of said 95 compartments, said frame having a blank portion with which said cover aperture may register when the cover is in non-delivering position.

2. In an assortment dispensing container, 110 the combination of a round receptacle having a bottom-wall and a circular side-wall the upper portion of which is turned over inwardly of the receptacle, partition-walls dividing said receptacle into separate com- 115 partments, the top edges of said partition-walls sloping upwardly from said side-wall to the center of the receptacle, a slightly dome-shaped metal frame overlying said partition-walls and having a central section at the center of the receptacle, an outer ring section at the inner surface of said side-wall and radiating arms connecting said central and ring sections and in register with said 120 partition-walls, each of said arms having depending flanges on opposite sides of the corresponding partition-wall and maintaining it in position, a transparent round disc cover overlying said frame with its margin in the circular groove between said frame and said 125 130

inturned side-wall section, and means revolvably connecting the central part of said disc to the central section of said frame, said cover having a delivery aperture adapted by the turning of the cover to be brought into register with any one of said compartments, said frame having a blank portion with which said cover aperture may register when the cover is in non-delivering position.

3. In an assortment dispensing container, the combination of a round receptacle having a bottom-wall and a circular side-wall the upper portion of which is turned over inwardly, partition-walls dividing said receptacle into separate compartments, a metal frame overlying said partition-walls and having a central section at the center of the receptacle, an outer ring section at the inner surface of said side-wall and radiating arms connecting said central and ring sections and in register with said partition-walls, each of said arms having depending flanges on opposite sides of the corresponding partition-wall and maintaining it in position, and a revoluble transparent round disc cover overlying said frame with its margin in the circular groove between said frame and said inturned side-wall section, said cover having a delivery aperture adapted by the turning of the cover to be brought into register with any one of said compartments, said frame having a blank portion with which said cover aperture may register when the cover is in non-delivering position.

4. In an assortment dispensing container, the combination of a round receptacle having a bottom-wall and a circular side-wall, independent V-shaped partition-walls having their apexes at the center of the receptacle and dividing said receptacle into separate compartments, a metal frame separate from the receptacle walls and overlying said partition-walls and having radiating arms in register with said partition-walls, each of said arms having depending flanges on opposite sides of the corresponding partition-wall and maintaining it in position, and a revoluble transparent round disc cover overlying said frame, said cover having a delivery aperture adapted by the turning of the cover to be brought into register with any one of said compartments, said frame having a blank portion with which said cover aperture may register when the cover is in non-delivering position.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

ALBERT E. NEELY.