Jan. 18, 1949. J. F. SKOLD 2,459,247

COMBINED CONTAINER AND HOLDER FOR BLOCK-LIKE ARTICLES

Filed Sept. 10, 1947

Fig. 1

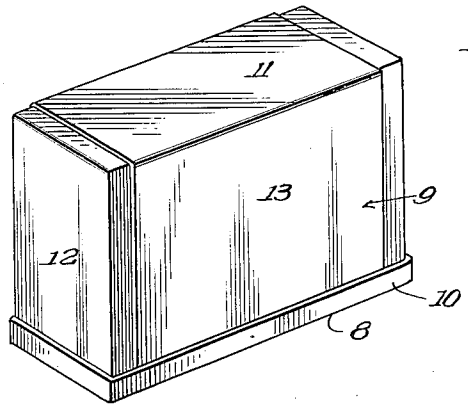


Fig. 4

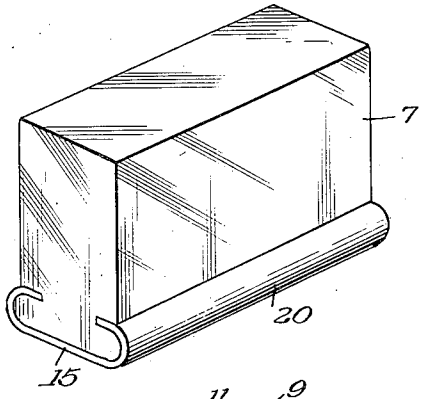


Fig. 2

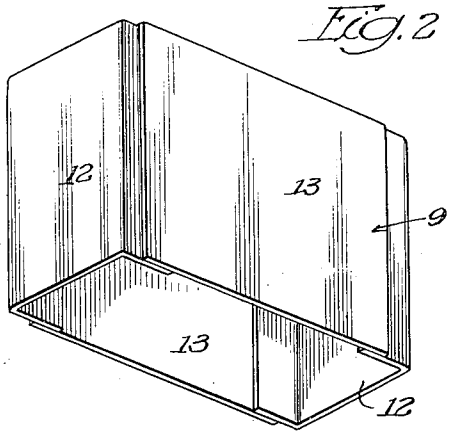


Fig. 5

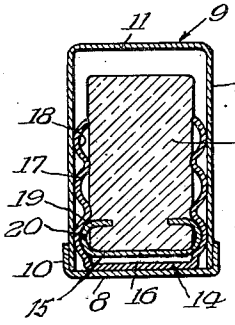


Fig. 3

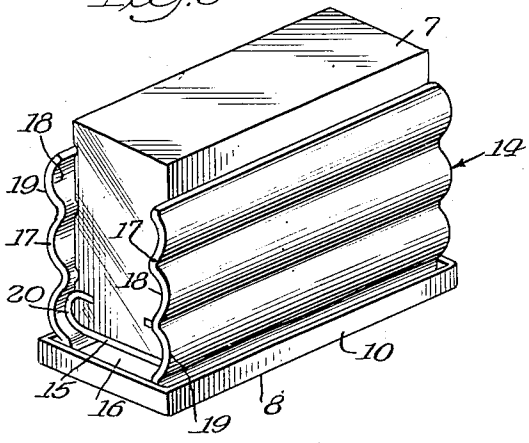
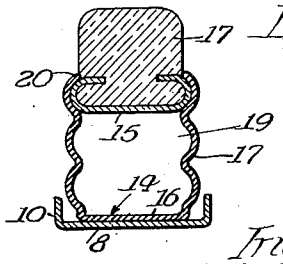


Fig. 6



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COMBINED CONTAINER AND HOLDER FOR BLOCKLIKE ARTICLES

John F. Skold, Chicago, Ill.

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6 Claims. (Cl. 206—56)

1

The present invention relates generally to combined containers and holders. More particularly the invention relates to that type of combined container and holder which is adapted for use in connection with a useable block-like article, such as a block of hair fixative or shoe cleaner, is capable of being carried in the user's pocket or purse, and as its components comprises a container in the form of a rectangular bottom part and a box-like open bottom cover part, and a holder which is mounted on the bottom part of the container and carries the article in such manner that it is housed and protected by the cover part when the latter is in its closed position and is exposed when the cover part of the container is in its open position.

One object of the invention is to provide a combined container or holder of this type which is an improvement upon, and has certain inherent advantages over, previously designed combined containers and holders of the same general character and is characterized by simplicity of design or construction and the fact that it may be manipulated with facility.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combined container and holder of the type under consideration in which the holder for the article consists of two coacting or complemental pieces, one of which is U-shaped, has the bottom thereof mounted fixedly on the bottom part of the container and embodies in each of its sides a vertical series of horizontally extending, full length, open ended, inwardly facing grooves, and the other of which is shaped to grip the bottom part of the block-like article and is so proportioned and designed that it may be slid longitudinally into seated relation with any pair of opposed grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece to the end that as the article is progressively worn away in connection with use it may be moved outwards from the bottom of the U-shaped piece in order to compensate for wear and retain the article in a proper exposed position for use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a combined container and holder of the last mentioned character in which the inwardly facing grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece of the holder are formed by corrugations, the outer ribs of which are adapted when the cover part of the container is in its closed position with respect to the bottom part to engage the side walls of the cover part with spring pressure in order frictionally and yieldingly to hold the cover part in place.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a combined container and holder which is of generaly new and improved construction and is capable of being manufactured or fabricated at an extremely low cost.

2

Other objects of the invention and the various advantages and characteristics of the present combined container and holder will be apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description.

The invention consists in the several novel features which are hereinafter set forth and are more particularly defined by claims at the conclusion hereof.

In the drawing which accompanies and forms a part of this specification or disclosure and in which like numerals of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a top perspective of a combined container and holder embodying the invention;

Figure 2 is a bottom perspective of the cover part of the container;

Figure 3 is a top perspective showing the bottom part of the container without the cover part and also showing the slide piece of the holder in seated or operative relation with the U-shaped piece;

Figure 4 is a top perspective of the slide piece which constitutes one of the two elements of the holder and is adapted to grip and retain the block-like article with which the combined container and holder is used;

Figure 5 is a vertical transverse section showing the slide piece in the lowermost pair of grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece of the holder and illustrating in detail the manner in which the external ribs on the sides of the U-shaped piece engage the side walls of the cover part of the container with spring pressure and serve releasably or yieldingly to hold the cover part in its closed position; and

Figure 6 is a vertical transverse section showing the slide piece of the holder in seated relation with the uppermost pair of grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece in order that it serves properly to expose the block-like article after material use and resultant wearing away thereof.

The combined container and holder which is shown in the drawing constitutes the preferred form or embodiment of the invention. It is designed or adapted for use in connection with a block-like article 7 of the type that is applied to a surface by a rubbing action. As heretofore indicated, the article may be a block of hair fixative or shoe cleaner or any other like item.

As its components the combined container and holder comprises a two-part container and a two-piece holder.

The two-part container consists of a bottom part 8 and a cover part 9 and each of these is preferably in the form of a one-piece sheet metal stamping. The bottom part 8 is rectangular and flat and has a continuous, upstanding flange 10. The flange is formed as an integral part of the bottom part and consists of spaced apart, parallel end portions and spaced apart, parallel side portions that extend between, and are disposed at right angles to, the end portions. The cover part 9 of the holder is of box-like character and consists of a flat rectangular top wall 11, a pair of opposed, spaced apart, depending end walls 12 and a pair of opposed, spaced apart, depending side walls 13. The bottom of the cover part is open. The side walls 13 are joined to, and extend between, the side margins of the end walls 12 and are the same in height as the end walls. The cover part is shiftable into an open position with respect to the bottom part by raising it and is shiftable into a closed position with respect to the bottom part by shifting it downwards. When the cover part is in its closed position the lower margins of the end and side walls thereof fit respectively within the end and side portions of the upstanding marginal flange 10 of the bottom part. The cover part is of greater height than the article 7 and serves when in its closed position to house the two-piece holder and the article, as best shown in Figure 5.

The two-piece holder of the combined container and holder consists of a U-shaped piece 14 and a coacting or interfitting slide piece 15. Preferably each of these pieces is in the form of a one-piece sheet metal stamping. The U-shaped piece 14 is mounted on the bottom part 8 of the container and consists of a flat rectangular bottom 16 and a pair of opposed, spaced apart, upstanding sides 17. The bottom 16 of the U-shaped piece is slightly smaller in size than the bottom part 8 and rests in a centered position on, and is spot welded or otherwise fixedly secured to, the bottom part. The sides 17 are the same in length as the bottom 16 and of slightly less height than the cover part 11 of the container. Each side 17 is longitudinally corrugated in such manner as to form a vertical series of horizontally extending, full length, open ended, inwardly facing grooves 18 and a corresponding vertical series of horizontally extending, full length, outwardly facing or external ribs 19. The grooves 18 in one side 17 are aligned with the grooves in the other side in order that the two sides have a vertical series of pairs of opposed grooves. The sides 17 of the U-shaped piece 14 are so spaced apart that the outwardly extending or external ribs 19 engage with spring pressure the side walls 13 of the cover part 9 when the latter is in its closed position and thus serve frictionally and yieldingly to hold the cover part in such position. Each side 17 of the U-shaped piece 14 is shown as having three inwardly facing grooves 18, although it is to be understood that more or less grooves may be formed in each of the sides. The outermost portions of the ribs 19 are spaced inwardly with respect to the side portions of the marginal flange 10 a sufficient distance to facilitate ready downward sliding of the cover part 11 into its closed position with respect to the bottom part 8 of the container. The slide piece 15 of the holder is rectangular and has the side margins thereof bent upwards and inwards to form opposed, full length, substantially semi-cylindrical flanges 20. It is of slightly less length than the U-shaped piece 14 and is connected to the bottom part of the block-like article 7 by way of the semi-cylindrical flanges 20. As best shown in Figures 3 to 6, inclusive, the upper, inwardly extending margins of the flanges are embedded in the adjacent portions of the article 7 with the result that the article is fixedly mounted on the slide piece 15 of the holder. The flanges 20 are shaped conformably to, and are spaced apart approximately the same distance as, the inwardly facing grooves 18 in the sides 17 of the U-shaped piece 14, and are adapted, as shown in the drawing, to be seated within any pair of opposed grooves by sliding the slide piece 15 longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece after first aligning the flanges with the selected pair of opposed grooves. When the flanges 20 are in seated relation with any one pair of opposed grooves (see Figure 3) the slide piece 15 is interlocked against transverse displacement with respect to the U-shaped piece 14 and serves to hold the block-like article 7 in a position wherein it is in readiness for use upon removal of the cover part 9 from the bottom part 10. It is contemplated that when the article 7 is unworn or unused the flanges of the slide piece will be seated in the lowermost pair of grooves, as shown in Figure 3 of the drawing. When the slide piece is, in effect, carried by the lowermost pair of grooves the article 7 is positioned so that the upper part thereof is disposed above the upper margins of the sides 17 of the U-shaped piece 14. When the upper part of the article becomes worn away due to use the slide piece 15 is slid longitudinally out of interlocked relation with the U-shaped piece and is then slid into seated or interlocked relation with the next uppermost pair of opposed grooves in order to bring the remaining upper part of the article 7 into a useable position wherein it is disposed above the upper margins of the sides of the U-shaped piece. When the upper part of the article 7 is again worn down the slide piece is removed by sliding it longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece and is then slid back into the next uppermost pair of opposed grooves. By positioning the slide piece 15 progressively outwards with respect to the U-shaped piece the user of the combined container and holder may readily compensate for progressive wear so far as the block-like article 7 is concerned. It is contemplated that when the slide piece 15 is in interlocked relation with the U-shaped piece the sides of the U-shaped piece will grip the flanges 20 with inward pressure in order to retain the slide piece in place while at the same time permitting it, in connection with adjustment or positioning thereof, to be slid away from or out of engagement with the U-shaped piece. Gripping of the flanges 20 in the sides of the U-shaped piece is attributable to the normal resiliency of the sheet metal of which the U-shaped piece is made and the fact that the sides 17 are bent inwards to a slight extent.

When it is desired to use the article 7 the cover part 9 is slid upwards relatively to the bottom part 8 in order to expose the article. After use of the article the cover is slid downwards into its closed position wherein, as previously pointed out, it serves to house the article together with the holder therefor. When the cover part is in its closed position the ribs 19 engage the side walls 13 of the cover part frictionally and

with outward spring pressure and hence serve firmly but releasably to hold the cover part in place. As the article 7 is worn away in connection with repeated use thereof it is progressively adjusted or shifted outwards with respect to the bottom part 8 by successively repositioning the slide piece 15 in different pairs of opposed grooves as hereinbefore recited.

The herein described combined container and holder effectively and efficiently fulfills its intended purpose and is so designed or constructed that it may be produced at an exteremely low cost. By reason of the fact that the holder consists of the U-shaped piece 14 and the slide piece 15 it is possible quickly and readily to adjust the article outwards or upwards in order to compensate for wearing away of the top of the article.

The invention is not to be understood as restricted to the details set forth since these may be modified within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

Having thus described the invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by letters patent is:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a holder adapted for use with a block-like article and comprising a U-shaped piece embodying a pair of upstanding, spaced apart, substantially parallel sides, each with a vertical series of horizontally extending, open ended, inwardly facing grooves in alignment with the grooves in the other side, and a rectangular slide piece positioned under the article and having at the sides thereof a pair of upwardly and inwardly extending flanges arranged in gripping relation with the lower portions of the sides of the article, spaced laterally apart and shaped substantially conformably to the grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece, and adapted to be brought into and out of seated relation with any one pair of opposed grooves by sliding the slide piece longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a holder adapted for use with a block-like article and comprising a U-shaped piece embodying a pair of upstanding, substantially parallel sides, each with a vertical series of horizontally extending, open ended, substantially semi-cylindrical, inwardly facing grooves in alignment with the grooves in the other side, and a rectangular one-piece slide piece positioned under the article and having at the sides thereof a pair of integral, upwardly and inwardly extending, substantially semi-cylindrical flanges arranged so that the upper margins thereof are embedded in the lower portions of the sides of the article, spaced laterally apart and shaped substantially conformably to the grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece, and adapted to be brought into and out of seated relation with any one pair of opposed grooves by sliding the slide piece longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a holder adapted for use with a block-like article and comprising a U-shaped piece having a pair of upwardly extending, spaced apart, substantially parallel sides, each with horizontal, open ended corrugations in alignment with the corrugations in the other side, and a rectangular slide piece positioned under the article and having at the sides thereof a pair of upstanding flanges arranged in gripping relation with the lower portion of the article, spaced laterally apart and shaped substantially conformably to the corrugations in the sides of the U-shaped piece, and adapted to be brought into and out of seated relation with any one pair of opposed corrugations by sliding the slide piece longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a holder adapted for use with a block-like article and comprising a U-shaped piece formed of a one-piece sheet metal stamping and having a pair of upwardly extending, spaced apart, substantially parallel sides, each with horizontal, full length, open ended corrugations in alignment with the corrugations in the other side, and a rectangular slide piece positioned under the article and having at the sides a pair of upstanding flanges arranged in gripping relation with the lower portion of the article, spaced laterally apart and shaped substantially conformably to the corrugations in the sides of the U-shaped piece, and adapted to be brought into and out of seater relation with any one pair of opposed corrugations by sliding the slide piece longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece, the sides of the U-shaped piece being so laterally resilient and inwardly bent that when the slide piece is in seated relation with respect to said U-shaped piece they engage the flanges with inward spring pressure.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a combined container and holder adapted for use with a block-like article and comprising a two-part container consisting of a rectangular bottom part and a box-like cover part having an open bottom, embodying two pairs of opposed depending walls and adapted to be shifted back and forth between an open position wherein it is wholly removed from the bottom part and a closed position wherein it directly overlies said bottom part, and a two-piece holder consisting of a U-shaped piece embodying a flat bottom mounted on, and attached to, the bottom part, and a pair of upstanding, spaced apart, substantially parallel sides extending at right angles to the end margins of the bottom part and similarly horizontally corrugated from bottom to top in such manner as to provide open ended, inwardly facing grooves and complemental, outwardly facing ribs, and a rectangular slide piece positioned under the article and having at the sides thereof a pair of upwardly and inwardly extending flanges arranged in gripping relation with the lower portion of the article, spaced laterally apart and shaped substantially conformably to the grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece, and adapted when the cover part is in its open position to be brought into and out of seated relation with any one pair of opposed grooves by sliding the slide piece longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece, the outwardly facing ribs on the sides of the U-shaped piece being so arranged and designed that when the cover part of the container is in its closed position they grip frictionally and with outward spring pressure the adjacent opposed depending walls of said cover part and serve releasably to hold said cover part in its closed position.

6. As a new article of manufacture, a combined container and holder adapted for use with a block-like article and comprising a two-part container consisting of a rectangular bottom part with an upwardly extending, continuous, marginal flange and a box-like cover part having an open bottom, embodying two pairs of opposed depending walls and adapted to be shifted back and forth between an open position wherein it is

wholly removed from the bottom part and a closed position wherein it directly overlies said bottom part and the bottom margins of the depending walls thereof are in lapped relation with said flange, and a two-piece holder consisting of a U-shaped piece embodying a flat bottom mounted on, and attached to, the bottom part, and a pair of upstanding, spaced apart, substantially parallel sides extending at right angles to the end margins of the bottom part and similarly horizontally corrugated from bottom to top in such manner as to provide open ended, inwardly facing grooves and complemental, outwardly facing ribs, and a rectangular slide piece positioned under the article and having at the sides thereof a pair of upwardly and inwardly extending flanges arranged in gripping relation with the lower portion of the article, spaced laterally

apart and shaped substantially conformably to the grooves in the sides of the U-shaped piece, and adapted when the cover part is in its open position to be brought into and out of seated relation with any one pair of opposed grooves by sliding the slide piece longitudinally relatively to the U-shaped piece, the outwardly facing ribs on the sides of the U-shaped piece being so arranged and designed that when the cover part of the container is in its closed position they grip frictionally and with outward spring pressure the adjacent opposed depending walls of said cover part and serve releasably to hold said cover part in its closed position.

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No references cited.