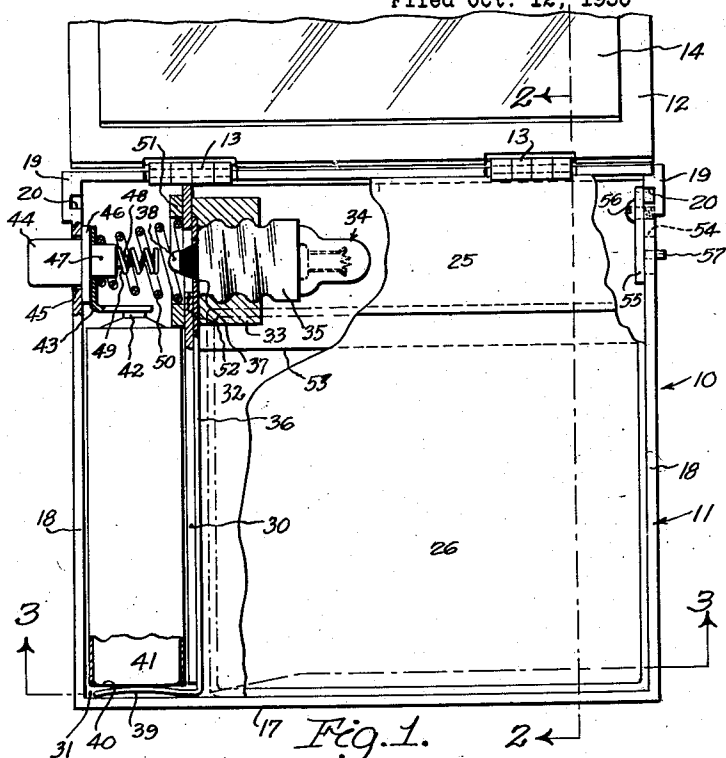
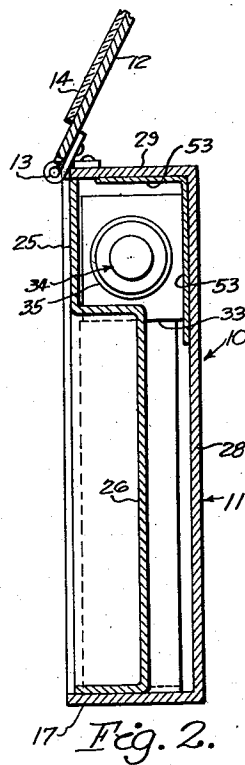
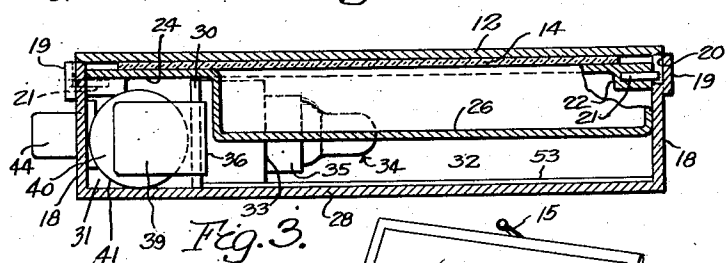
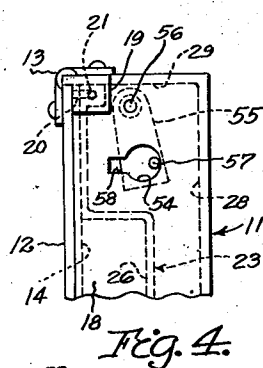
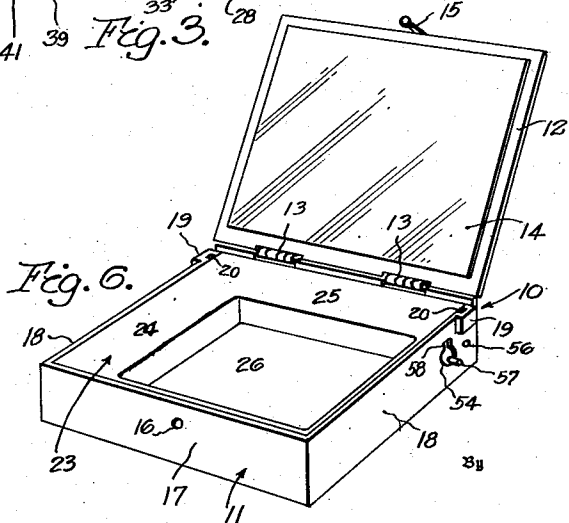
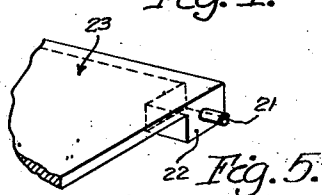


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ILLUMINATED POWDER COMPACT

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ILLUMINATED POWDER COMPACT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 240—6.45)

1

This invention relates to toilet articles and, in particular, to so-called compacts for holding face powder and a powder puff.

One object of this invention is to provide an illuminated compact which will enable the user to see her face in the mirror attached to the compact, even though she is using the compact in the dark, such as in a darkened theater or in an automobile at night.

Another object is to provide an illuminated compact wherein the tray containing the powder is either partially or wholly translucent so that light from the light source passes through the tray to illuminate the face of the user, the tray being optionally of such translucent material as will diffuse the light passing through it.

Another object is to provide an illuminated compact containing an electric light bulb and a battery for providing the illumination, the compact having a shutter or dark slide which may be opened and closed to additionally enable the user to use the compact as a flashlight to examine objects in the dark, such as to read a program in a darkened theater or find the keyhole in an automobile door lock or in a house door lock at night, yet to confine the light to the compact at times when such use as a flashlight is not desired.

Another object is to provide a compact having a recessed tray for receiving the powder and powder puff, this tray being removably mounted in the casing of the compact in order to enable it to be taken out and cleaned.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary top plan view, partly in section, of an illuminated compact, according to one form of the invention, with portions of the tray broken away to show the parts located beneath it;

Figure 2 is a vertical section taken along the line 2—2 in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a vertical section at right angles to the section plane of Figure 2, taken along the line 3—3 in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary right-hand side elevation of the rearward side portion of the compact, showing details of the shutter or dark slide;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of a portion of the powder and powder puff tray, showing details of its pivotal connection with the casing; and

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the illuminated compact as a whole.

Heretofore, it has been inconvenient for a

2

woman to apply make-up to her face in a darkened place, although it is often necessary for her to do so. For example, a woman is usually desirous of checking her make-up before she leaves a theater and, in the case of motion picture theaters, where she has entered after a picture has commenced, she leaves before the picture has ended its subsequent showing and consequently the theater is dark at the time she leaves. Furthermore, when she is in an automobile at night, she also desires to check her make-up immediately before arriving at her destination, and the ordinary compact has no provision for enabling her to do so. Finally, occasions often arise where she wishes light without being forced to carry a bulky flashlight, such as in examining a program in a darkened theater or finding the keyhole in the lock of her automobile or house door. The present invention provides a compact which has self-contained illumination by which the user may not only illuminate the face to check her makeup but also may use the compact as an emergency flashlight for the above-mentioned purposes.

Referring to the drawings in detail, Figures 1 to 6 inclusive show an illuminated compact, generally designated 10, according to one form of the invention as including a box-like casing 11 having a cover 12 hinged thereto as at 13 and carrying a mirror 14 inside the cover 12. A catch 15 engages a recess or keeper 16 in the front wall 17 to releasably hold the cover 12 in a closed position in order to prevent spilling of its contents. The opposite sides 18 are provided with bosses 19 which are notched as at 20 to receive pivot pins 21 in the form of trunnions (Figure 5) which are seated in bosses 22 formed at the rearward corners of a powder tray 23.

The powder tray 23 is formed partially or wholly of translucent material and is provided with border portions 24 and 25 on one side and at the rear of a powder recess 26 in which the powder and powder puff are housed. It is most convenient to form the tray 23 wholly of translucent plastic, although it is sufficient for the purposes of the invention to provide a translucent area in the border portion 25 through which light can pass to the face of the user. This translucent area may even consist of a window or opening in the border portion 25.

Secured to the bottom wall 28 of the casing 11 and preferably molded integral therewith, or optionally connected to either or both of the front and rear sides 17 and 29 respectively (Figures 1 and 2) is a partition 30 which subdivides the

3

interior of the casing 11 into a battery compartment 31 and a powder receptacle compartment 32. Mounted on the partition 30 is an internally threaded socket 33 for a conventional electric light bulb 34 which is threaded therein and has the end of its threaded metal side portion 35 engageable with an L-shaped conductor strip 36, the upper portion of which is seated in the socket 33 (Figure 1). The conductor strip 36 is provided with an aperture 37 through which the insulated central contact 38 of the electric light bulb 34 may project without touching it. The lower arm 39 of the L-shaped conductor strip 36 enters the battery compartment 31 and is bowed or made arcuate in order to yieldingly engage the lower end 40 of a dry cell or other suitable form of battery 41, the central contact 42 of which is slidably engaged by an L-shaped contact arm 43 secured to a push button 44 which projects through a hole 45 in the left-hand side wall 13 of the casing 11. An annular ridge 46 serves to restrain the push button 44 from being pushed outward completely through the opening 45 and also provides a surface to which the contact arm 43 may be secured. The push button 44 has an internal reduced diameter portion 47 of metal or other conducting material electrically connected with the contact arm 43 and carrying a central contact pin 48 and also an inner helical spring 49.

An outer helical spring 50 has one end abutting against the contact arm 43 on the push button 44 and the other end abutting against the partition 30 within an annular member 51 surrounding an aperture 52 in the partition 30 through which the contact 38 projects. A reflector 53 of right-angle cross-section is mounted in the casing 11 adjacent and beneath the rearward tray portion 25 and electric light bulb 34 and serves to reflect the light from the latter through the former into the face of the user. The right-hand end wall 13 is provided with an aperture 54 (Figure 4) behind which is mounted a shutter or dark slide 55 which is pivoted at 56 to swing to and fro across the aperture 54 to open and close the latter, a pin 57 projecting through the aperture 54 to open and close the latter, a pin 57 projecting through the aperture 54 and serving as a handle. When the shutter 55 is in a position completely uncovering the aperture 54, the handle is received in a notch 58 to one side of the aperture 54.

In the use of the invention, the lid is lifted so as to expose the mirror 14, and the push button 44 is pressed inward to close the circuit between the battery 41 and the electric light bulb 34. The light from the electric light bulb 34 shines or is reflected upward through the translucent rearward border portion 25 of the tray 23, illuminating the user's face sufficiently to enable her to apply powder or lipstick or merely to check her makeup. In case she wishes to use the compact as a flashlight, she pulls the pin 57 upward, causing the shutter to uncover the aperture 54. The

4

light from the light bulb 34 then shines directly out through the aperture 54 and illuminates the program, keyhole, or other object which it is desired to illuminate. It is preferable to use an electric light bulb 34 of the type having a lens incorporated in its forward end so as to focus the light and concentrate it properly. Such bulbs are used in so-called fountain-pen flashlights and avoid the necessity of providing an extra lens for this purpose. When the user has finished with the compact, she closes the cover, whereupon the catch 15 engages the recess or keeper 16 and holds the compact closed.

To clean the tray 23 or to install a new battery 41 or bulb 34, the user lifts or pries up the forward edge of the tray 23, swinging it upward to permit it to be grasped in the fingers, thereby enabling it to be lifted out of its recess, withdrawing the pivot pins 21 from the notches 20. When the tray 23 has been cleaned or the battery or bulb installed, the tray is replaced in its previous position by reversing the foregoing procedure.

While the preferred construction of the compact has the powder receptacle 26 integral with the border portions 24 and 25, so that their assembly forms a closure for the lower part of the casing, it is evident that the powder receptacle 26 might be made separate from and independently removable relatively to the border portions 24 and 25.

What I claim is:

An illuminated compact comprising a shallow box having a substantially flat open top, a powder tray of translucent light-diffusing material secured to said top of said box in closing relationship therewith, said tray having a substantially flat border portion and a powder cup portion integral therewith and depending therefrom into the interior of said box, said powder cup portion being spaced apart from at least one edge of said tray to provide a chamber in the interior of said box disposed between one side of said powder cup portion and one side of said box, an electric battery disposed in said chamber, an electric light bulb electrically connected to said battery and disposed beneath said tray border between one side of said cup portion and one side of said box, a lid hingedly attached to said box, and a mirror attached to the inner side of said lid.

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