Feb. 25, 1936. T. O. RUEB 2,032,331

DISPLAY CONTAINER FOR WRENCHES

Filed Oct. 28, 1933

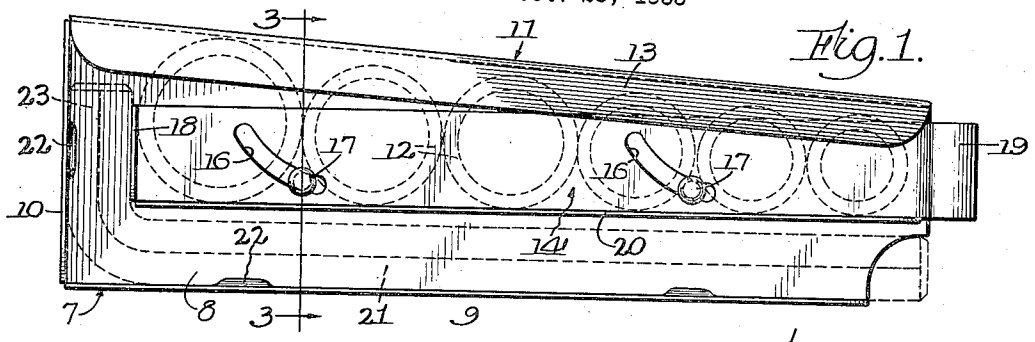


Fig. 1.

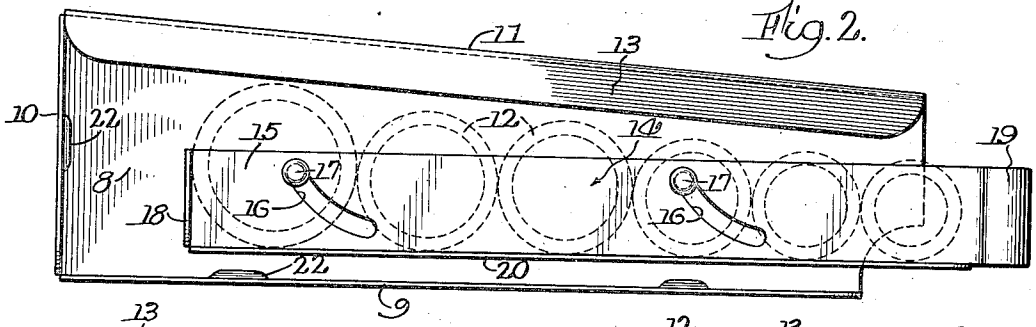


Fig. 2.

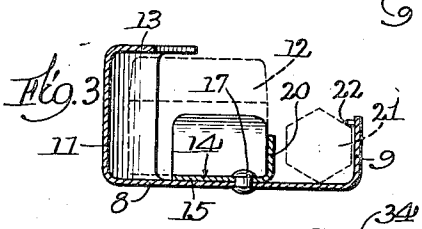


Fig. 3.

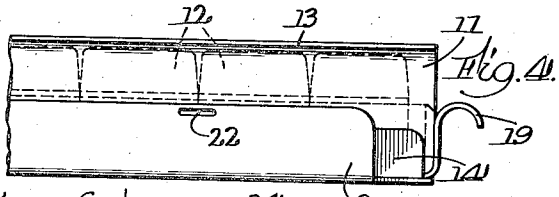


Fig. 4.

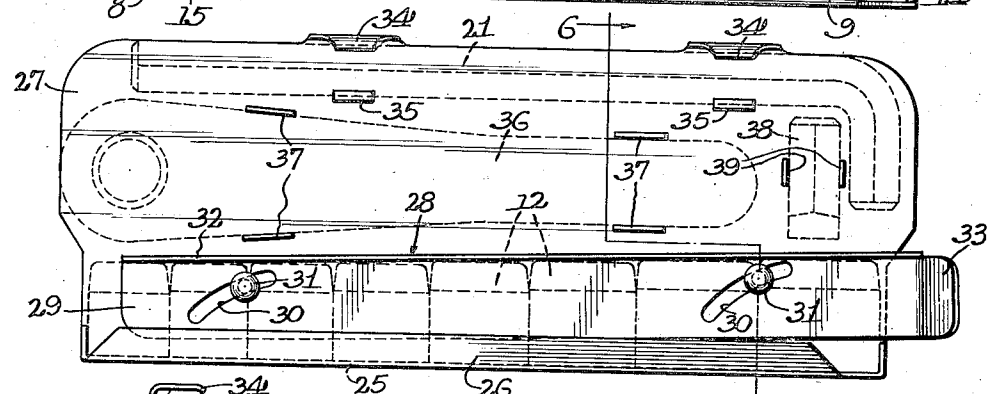


Fig. 5.

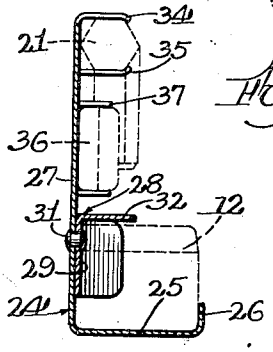


Fig. 6.

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DISPLAY CONTAINER FOR WRENCHES

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Application October 28, 1933, Serial No. 695,563

5 Claims. (Cl. 206—16)

This invention relates to socket wrench sets and boxes or containers for holding the same, such containers being preferably formed so that the sets will be attractively displayed therein. These sets usually comprise one or more handle members and a plurality of sockets and other parts for use with the handles and the present invention is directed to a suitable container for holding such parts in securely assembled relation.

The objects of this invention are to provide an improved box or container for tools; to provide a container for a socket wrench set which will hold the parts securely in position and which may be readily manipulated for removal and replacement of parts; to provide a box having a slidable wall or support for fastening sockets or the like therein; and to provide such other novel features and advantages as will appear more fully hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating this invention;

Figure 1 is a plan view of the container showing a wrench set therein;

Figure 2 is a similar view showing the movable support in retracted position, as for inserting or removing the sockets;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a partial front view showing one end of the container;

Figure 5 is a front view showing a modified form of construction; and

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

In the particular construction shown in Figures 1 to 4 the case or container 7 is preferably formed of a single piece of sheet metal and has a bottom 8, front 9, end 10 and back or rear wall 11. The case or container is preferably narrower at one end than at the other, the rear wall 11 being arranged at an angle in accordance with the variation in the sizes of the sockets 12, which are usually of assorted sizes and increase gradually in diameter. The arrangement is preferably such that the sockets will all be tangent to a line parallel with the front wall 9. The rear wall 11 has a forwardly projecting flange 13 which takes over the tops of the sockets 12 and tends to hold them in the case or container.

The sockets are securely held under the flange 13 by means of a slidable retaining member or clamp piece 14. This retainer comprises a strip 15 of sheet metal or the like, having arcuate or diagonally arranged slots 16 which are slidably engaged by rivets 17 in the bottom of the box 8, these rivets holding the parts together while permitting adjustment of the retaining member. The strip 15 is turned up at one end to provide an abutment 18 and is turned up at the other end to provide a combined abutment and finger-piece 19. The front edge of the strip 15 is also bent upwardly to provide a wall or flange 20 for engagement with the sides of the sockets 12.

By means of this arrangement it will be readily seen that when the retaining member 14 is drawn to the right as shown in Figure 2, or to retracted position, the sockets may be conveniently arranged in position thereon and then when the retaining member is pushed to the left or to fastening position as shown in Figure 1, the sockets will be moved under the flange 13 and will be held securely within the box. It will be noted that the curvature of the slots 16, alone, or together with the friction between the parts, will tend to hold or lock the retainer against any accidental displacement so that the sockets are securely held in position. While I have shown sockets of increasing sizes it will be readily seen that if sockets of uniform size are to be retained, the box could be shaped accordingly.

The wrench handle 21 is shown as of the L-type and fits closely in the front portion of the box as shown in Figure 1. The front and end wall have lugs or projections 22 which are preferably pressed inwardly therefrom for holding the handle and the short end or tool engaging portion 23 is clamped between the end 10 of the box and the end 18 of the retainer. From this description it will be seen that I provide a container of the character set forth in which the wrench parts may be displayed in an attractive manner and the device may also be cheaply made and will be durable and efficient in use.

In the modified form of construction shown in Figures 5 and 6 the box or socket container portion 24 has a bottom 25 with a front flange or wall 26, and a rear wall 27 which is extended upwardly for a considerable distance in order to support the handles or other members. The sockets 12 are held in position by a retainer 28 which in this case moves vertically instead of horizontally. This retainer has a back wall 29 with arcuate or cam shaped grooves 30 which are engaged by rivets 31 in the back 27. The retainer has a forwardly projecting flange 32 which fits over the tops of the sockets as will be readily seen from the drawing. The retainer is also provided at one end with a thumb piece 33 for manipulating the same. In this instance the sockets are held against lateral movement by the

walls of the box and the retainer is raised for removal of the sockets and is lowered to hold them in the container. The handle **21** is removably supported on the back **27** by means of clamps or lugs **34** and **35** which are preferably formed integrally with the back. A ratchet handle **36** is also supported on the back by means of lugs or clamps **37** and a screw driver or other tool **38** is also shown as being supported by lugs or clamps **39**.

While various terms such as "top", "bottom", "sides", etc. have been used herein for convenience in description, it will be understood that the invention resides in the structures as disclosed in the drawing regardless of the relative positioning of the same.

While I have shown two embodiments of my invention which illustrate different arrangements of the retainer, it will also be noted that other modifications or changes may be made within the scope of the invention and therefore I do not wish to be limited to the exact construction herein shown and described except as specified in the following claims, in which I claim:

1. A container of the character set forth, having a bottom and upwardly projecting walls, one of said walls having inwardly projecting means for engagement with sockets or the like, a retainer and means for securing the retainer to the bottom whereby it will move laterally when moved longitudinally, said retainer serving to assist in holding parts in the container.

2. A new article of manufacture comprising a case for socket wrench sets, having a body formed of sheet metal with a bottom and front, end and rear walls, the rear wall having an inwardly projecting flange at the top thereof, a slide having diagonally arranged slots therein, rivets in the bottom engaging with said slots and walls on the slide adapted to coact with the wrench parts for holding the same in position, and projections on the front and end wall of the case which cooperate with the slide to hold the handle therein.

3. A display container for wrench sockets formed of sheet metal and having a longitudinal portion adapted to engage with all of the sockets for partially supporting them in the container and a slide adjustably mounted on one of the walls of the container by means of pins coacting with diagonal slots in the slide to cause the slide to move toward and away from the sockets, said slide having a longitudinal projection adapted to engage with the sockets to fasten them in the container.

4. A display container for socket wrench sets comprising a tray having a relatively low, upwardly extending front wall and a high back wall between which a plurality of sockets are to be supported, a slide having diagonally arranged slots therein, and rivets secured to the back wall and engaging with said slots, said slide having a forwardly projecting flange for engagement with all of the sockets.

5. A container for wrench sockets comprising a case having a longitudinal portion adapted to engage with all of the sockets for partially supporting them in the container, a slide having diagonal slots therein, means on one of the walls of the container engaging with said slots whereby the slide will move toward and away from the sockets when moved longitudinally, said slide having a longitudinal portion adapted to engage with the sockets to fasten them in the container.

THEODORE O. RUEB.