Nov. 7, 1950 C. F. CAMERON 2,529,000

COMBINED SPECTACLE AND UTILITY CASE

Filed Sept. 17, 1948

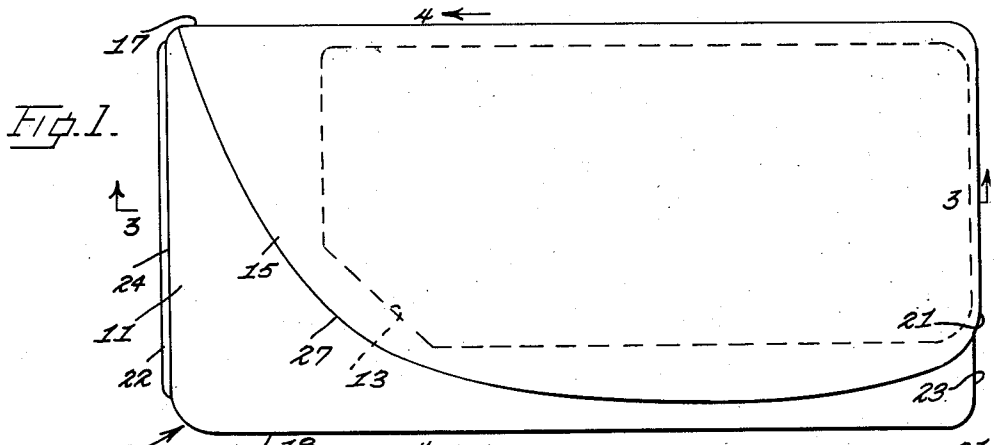


Fig. 1.

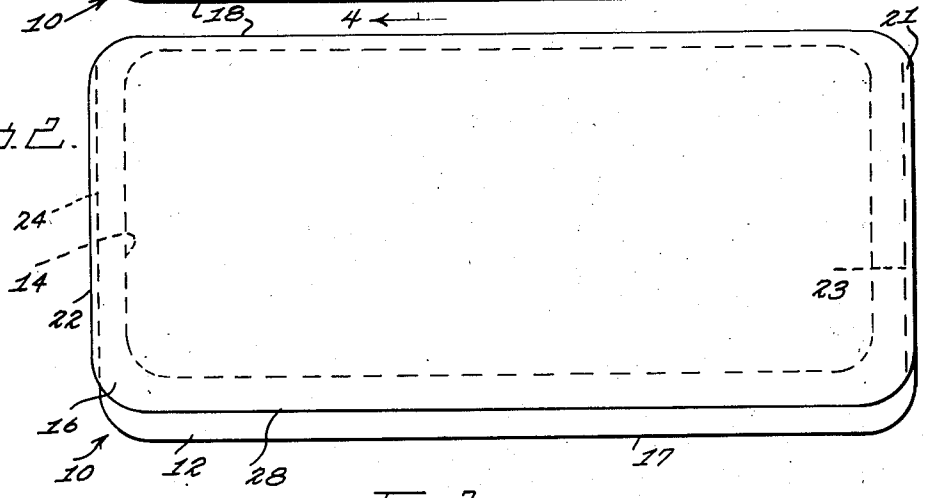


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

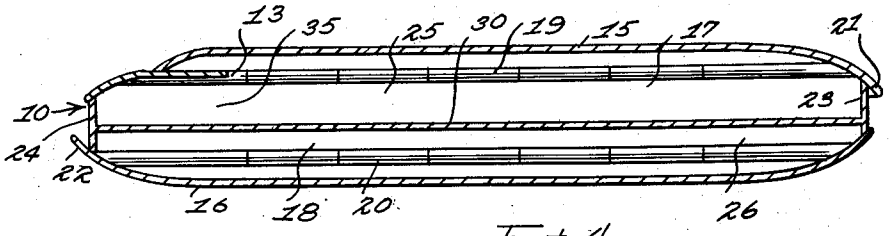
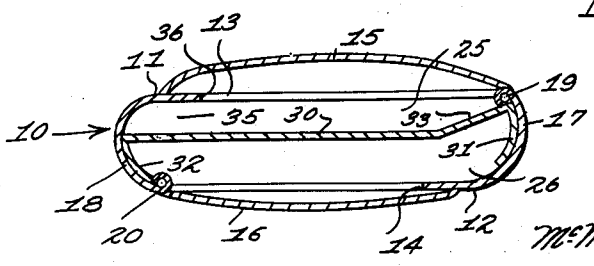


Fig. 4.



INVENTOR.
Carl F. Cameron
BY
McMorrow, Berman & Davidson
ATTORNEYS

Patented Nov. 7, 1950 2,529,000

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,529,000

COMBINED SPECTACLE AND UTILITY CASE

Carl F. Cameron, Marcellus, Mich.

Application September 17, 1948, Serial No. 49,741

2 Claims. (Cl. 206—6)

1

My invention relates to combined spectacle and utility cases, wherein a pair of spectacles may be carried in one compartment of the case and wherein there is provided a second compartment adapted for general utility and for the carrying of small pocket articles.

With the foregoing in view, it is an object of my invention to provide an improved combined spectacle and utility case of the class described.

A further object is to provide an improved combined spectacle and utility case including top and bottom openings closed by separate closures and wherein a substantially horizontally-disposed partition divides the case into upper and lower compartments accessible respectively through the top and bottom openings.

A further object is to provide an improved combined spectacle and utility case such as that last described, and wherein the case is of symmetrical configuration and wherein said closures are of different configuration whereby to distinguish the compartments from each other.

A further object is to provide an improved combined spectacle and utility case including upper and lower compartments accessible through upper and lower openings formed in the case, said openings being closed by upper and lower closures, and wherein novel means are provided for forming finger grips on the closures for facilitating the opening and closing of the same.

A further object is to provide an improved combined spectacle and utility case which includes upper and lower compartments accessible through upper and lower openings closed by upper and lower closures, and wherein one of said openings is of restricted size to prevent the insertion of spectacles therethrough.

Other objects and advantages reside in the particular structure of the invention, combination and arrangement of the several parts thereof, and will be readily understood by those skilled in the art upon reference to the following specification, wherein the invention is shown, described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the case according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view thereof;

Figure 3 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view taken substantially on the plane of the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a transverse vertical sectional view taken substantially on the plane of the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Referring specifically to the drawing, wherein

2

like reference characters have been used throughout the several views to designate like parts, 10 designates generally any symmetrical hollow case which is preferably formed of metal or plastic, or like substantially rigid material, whereby to protect the contents of the case against breakage. In the form illustrated, the case is substantially rectangular in plan and of generally oval configuration in elevation and end view. The case 10 includes a top wall 11, and a bottom wall 12 formed respectively with access openings 13 and 14, which openings are closed by closures 15 and 16, respectively. The closure 15 is hingedly connected to the rear wall 17 of the case by any suitable hinge means, such as the piano hinge 19. In like manner, the closure 16 is hingedly connected to the front wall 18 of the case by any suitable means such as the piano hinge 20. It should be noted, likewise, that the top closure 15 includes a finger piece 21 extending slightly beyond the right-hand end wall 23, while the bottom closure 16 includes an integral finger grip 22 extending slightly beyond the left-hand end wall 24. The case 10 is divided interiorly into upper and lower compartments 25 and 26, respectively, by a horizontal partition 30, and it should be noted that the access openings 13 and 14, respectively, for the upper and lower compartments are of different shapes. Thus, the access opening 13 is of a restricted character to prevent the insertion of a pair of spectacles therein, while the access opening 14 for the lower compartment 26 is substantially large to permit the insertion of a pair of spectacles into the lower compartment. Thus, there is little danger of the spectacles being placed in the wrong compartment, whereby the same may be protected against dust and dirt which would be likely to accumulate in the upper compartment 25 in view of the miscellaneous articles adapted to be contained therein. Likewise, it should be noted that the free edge portion of the upper closure 15 is formed, as at 27, of a different configuration than is the corresponding edge portion 28 of the lower closure 16. Thus, the user of the device, despite the symmetry of the same, can readily distinguish the top from the bottom even in the dark by the configuration of the two closures. The finger grips 21 and 22 provide ready means for opening the closures 15 and 16. In this connection, it is understood that the hinges 19 and 20 are of the type commonly found in rigid spectacle cases whereby they include springs, not shown, holding the closures to both an open and a closed position. As is well known in spectacle cases, such springs operate

past a dead center, whereby to load the closures to either position, after the same have been opened or closed beyond the dead center.

The partition 30 is provided with downwardly-directed free edges 32 and 31 secured to the rear and front walls 17 and 18. Also, it should be noted that the rear edge portion 33 of the partition 30 is upwardly directed so that articles resting thereon will normally be slid downwardly toward the front wall 18 into the pocket 35 formed by the inwardly-directed free edge 36 of the top wall 11.

While I have shown and described a particular shape of the case, together with particular shapes of the covers or closures 15 and 16, it should be understood that the same are susceptible of other forms and expressions. Consequently, I do not limit myself to the precise structures shown and described hereinabove except as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

1. A combined spectacle and utility case comprising a hollow casing of elongated symmetrical shape formed with a relatively small access opening in its top displaced toward one end of said casing and a relatively large opening in its bottom centered with respect to the sides and ends of the case, a partition dividing the interior of said casing into upper and lower compartments reached through said access openings, an upper closure hinged along one side of said casing, said upper closure being relatively small and having a truncated end terminating in spaced relation to the end of said casing from which the top access opening is displaced and exposing a substantial area of the top of said casing, a lower closure hinged along the opposite side of said casing, said lower closure being relatively large and centered with respect to the sides and ends of said casing and substantially covering the bottom of the casing, the end of said upper closure remote from said truncated end projecting beyond the adjacent end of the casing and said lower closure having an end projecting beyond the opposite end of said casing, said projecting closure ends serving as finger grips for selectively opening said closures.

2. A combined spectacle and utility case comprising a hollow casing of elongated symmetrical shape formed with a relatively small access opening in its top displaced toward one end of said casing and a relatively large opening in its bottom centered with respect to the sides and ends of the case, a partition dividing the interior of said casing into upper and lower compartments reached through said access openings, an upper closure hinged along one side of said casing, said upper closure being relatively small and having a truncated end terminating in spaced relation to the end of said casing from which the top access opening is displaced and exposing a substantial area of the top of said casing, a lower closure hinged along the opposite side of said casing, said lower closure being relatively large and centered with respect to the sides and ends of said casing and substantially covering the bottom of the casing, the end of said upper closure remote from said truncated end projecting beyond the adjacent end of the casing and said lower closure having an end projecting beyond the opposite end of said casing, said projecting closure ends serving as finger grips for selectively opening said closures, the area of the casing top exposed at the truncated end of said upper closure and said truncated end of the upper closure serving to distinguish said upper closure from said lower closure, in a manner enabling differentiation of said closures by touch alone.

CARL F. CAMERON.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,004,474	Schnorr	Sept. 26, 1911
1,649,255	Robinson	Nov. 15, 1927
2,057,801	Swanson	Oct. 20, 1036

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
331,441	Great Britain	July 3, 1930
437,025	Great Britain	Oct. 21, 1935