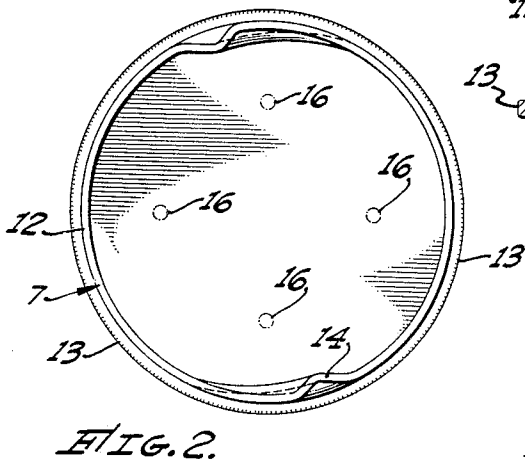
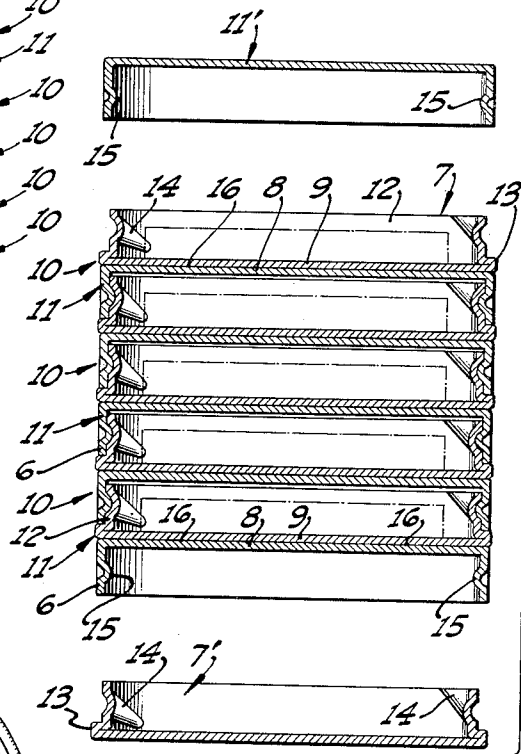
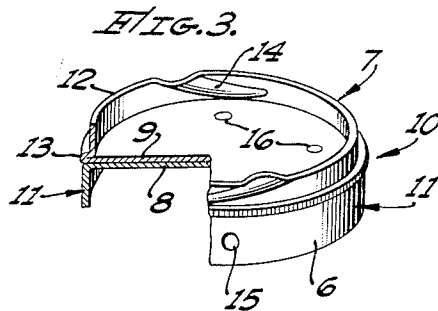
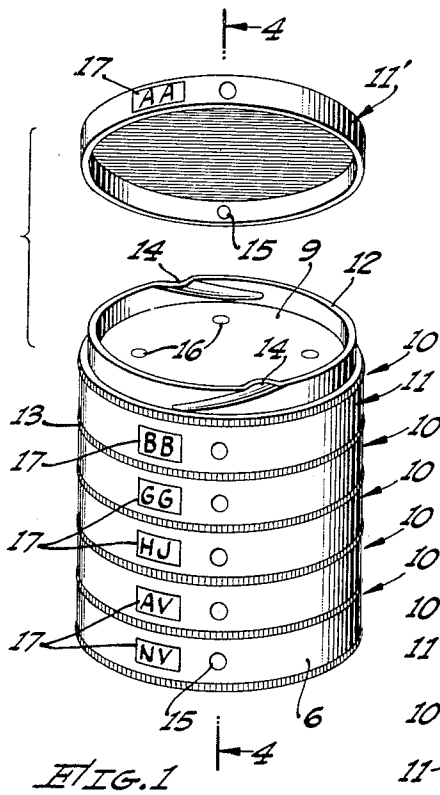


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W. H. HARRISON  
MULTIPLE UNIT CONTAINER

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By    
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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## MULTIPLE UNIT CONTAINER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 220-4)

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My invention relates generally to multiple unit containers, and more particularly to such containers adapted to contain articles which are normally provided in sets, such as photographic filters, and the like.

It is a major object of my invention to provide a multiple unit container of the class described which is comprised of a plurality of identical sections so as to make possible the assembling of multiple unit containers having any desired number of compartments.

It is another object of my invention to provide a container of the class described in which it is possible to open any one of several compartments while leaving the balance of the compartments closed.

It is a still further object of my invention to provide a container for a relatively flat disc-shaped object, or a plurality of small objects such as nuts, washers, etc., which container is compactly arranged so as not to enclose any waste space.

The foregoing and other objects and advantages of my invention will become apparent from the following description taken in connection with the attached drawings.

Briefly, the container embodying my invention is comprised of a number of integral, generally circular sections, each section including a box-like member having a telescoping cover secured to its under surface. While the presently illustrated container is of circular cross-section, the invention is obviously not limited to such, but may be applied with equal effect to square, rectangular or other shaped containers. The arrangement of the sections is such that when they are secured one above the other, each box portion is closed by the cover integrally attached to the next uppermost section. Furthermore, any multiple container assembled from the sections just described includes a separate top for the uppermost of the sections and a separate box to be engaged with the lowermost cover portion. Cooperative means are provided in the boxes and covers whereby they are removably secured together when the container is assembled.

For a more detailed description of a multiple unit container embodying my invention, reference should now be had to the attached drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a container embodying my invention with the uppermost lid separated therefrom;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the container shown in Figure 1 with the lid removed;

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Figure 3 is a perspective view of one section of the container illustrated in Figure 1 with a quadrant shaped section cut away to show the method of assembly thereof; and,

Figure 4 is an elevational section taken on the line 4-4 in Figure 1 but with the lowermost box portion separated from the container.

Referring first to Figure 3, it will be seen that each of the sections 10 of the container includes a box portion 7 having an upstanding cylindrical wall 12, a flat circular bottom 9 and an extending knurled flange 13. Secured to the under surface of the bottom 9 of the box, is a lid portion 11 which is formed with a flat circular top 8 and a depending cylindrical wall 6. As is best seen in Figure 3, the box and lid portions of the section 10 are secured together with the top 8 of the lid 11 against the under surface of the bottom 9 of the box 7. Various attachment means may be used to secure the two portions of the sections together and in the present illustration I have shown spot welds 16 for this purpose.

The container of my invention may be fabricated from various materials such as metals; thermo-setting or thermo-plastic resins, and the like. The presently illustrated embodiment is made of aluminum, a particularly suitable material.

The diameter of the knurled flange 13 is slightly larger than the outer diameter of the lid 11 in order that the sections may be readily grasped in the fingers for the purpose of assembling or disassembling them.

As is most readily seen in Figure 4, the external diameter of the box wall 12 is substantially equal to the internal diameter of the lid wall 6. Thus, each lid 11 is adapted to slide over any box 12 forming a substantially dust-tight seal. In order to further secure the lids and boxes together, I have formed these members with cooperative securing means comprising a pair of diametrically opposed indentations in the lid which produce a pair of detent lugs 15 on the inner surface of the lid adapted to enter a pair of helical-shaped grooves 14 formed in the upstanding wall 12 of the box. Thus if any lid is placed on any box and rotated clockwise with respect thereto, the lugs 15 enter the slots 14, engage the same in screw thread fashion and force the lid downwardly onto the box, bringing the lower edge of the cylindrical wall 6 of the lid in tight contact with the flange 13, and adding to the effectiveness of the seal.

When the desired number of sections have been assembled in the manner just described,

a separate lid 11' is used to enclose the uppermost section, and a separate box 7' is secured into the lowermost lid.

Thus it will be seen that the multiple container assembled from the sections according to my invention is such that each and every one of the compartments therein is independently accessible while leaving the others closed. Access to any compartment is obtained by grasping the flange 13 immediately below such compartment and unscrewing the lid portion immediately thereabove. It should be noted further that the contents of each compartment may be identified by markings placed on the cylindrical wall of the lid enclosing the same. Such marking is indicated by the numeral 17 in Figure 1.

While the container shown and described herein is fully capable of achieving the objects and providing the advantages hereinbefore stated, it is to be regarded as merely illustrative of a presently preferred form. Since many modifications and changes are possible within the scope of the invention, I do not mean to be limited to the form shown, but rather to the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A multiple compartment container comprising: a plurality of substantially identical boxes having flat circular bottoms and upstanding walls; a plurality of substantially identical lids having flat circular tops and depending walls adapted for telescoping closure over said box walls, said depending walls at least as great in height as said box walls whereby to completely cover said box walls the relative internal and external diameters of said lid and box walls respectively being substantially identical to provide a snug telescoping fit between any box and lid requiring relative twisting motion to release, and said bottom being slightly greater in diameter than said lid walls whereby to provide a flange on each section for applying said twisting motion; and all but one of said boxes and one of said lids being permanently secured together in pairs comprising a box superimposed on a lid.

2. A multiple compartment container comprising: a plurality of substantially identical super-

imposed sections, each having a pair of flat circular bases permanently secured together in face-to-face coaxial superposition, the upper of said bases being greater in diameter than the lower base and knurled on its periphery, a depending cylindrical wall formed in said lower base substantially at its periphery, an upstanding cylindrical wall formed in said upper base spaced inwardly from said knurled periphery by an amount at least equal to the thickness of said depending wall for telescoping engagement thereof with one of said dependent walls, the inside diameter of said depending wall being sufficiently close to the outside diameter of said upstanding wall as to require relative twisting of said walls to manually separate the same from said telescoping engagement, said walls being substantially equal in height whereby said depending wall completely covers said upstanding wall when telescoped as aforesaid; a telescoping cap having a circular top and a depending cylindrical wall of sufficient height and internal diameter to snugly and completely cover the uppermost upstanding wall of said sections; and a box having a circular and peripherally knurled base substantially identical to said lower section bases and an upstanding cylindrical wall of sufficient diameter to snugly telescope within the lowermost of said depending walls.

WILLIAM HARTLEY HARRISON.

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