Aug. 17, 1926. 1,596,790

J. F. BABBITT

VANITY CASE

Filed Jan. 8, 1926

Fig. 1.

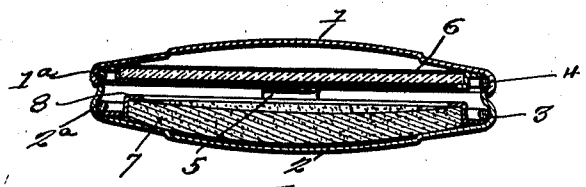


Fig. 2.

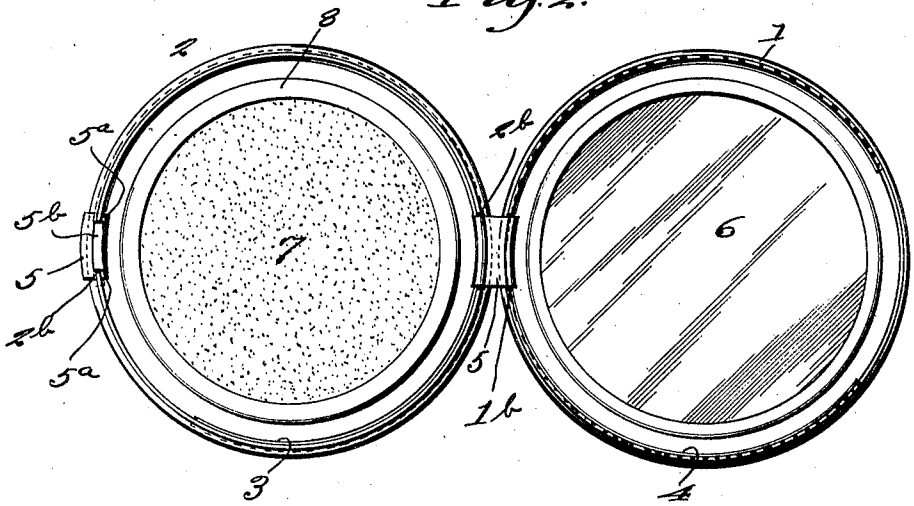
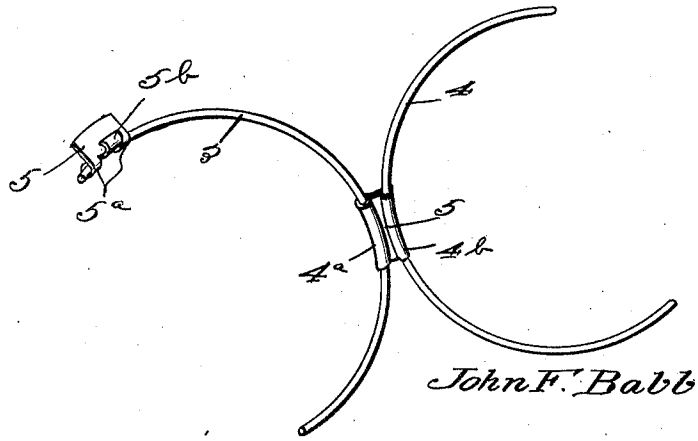


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. BABBITT, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR TO JOHN V. PILCHER, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

VANITY CASE.

Application filed January 8, 1926. Serial No. 80,091.

My present invention relates to improvements in vanity cases of the watch case type and aims to provide an exceedingly simple form of article which can be manufactured and assembled much more readily and economically than those heretofore produced of which I am aware.

The invention includes the novel features of construction and arrangement and combination of parts hereinafter described and particularly defined by the appended claims.

An embodiment of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a transverse sectional view through the case when in closed position.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the case with the sections opened out, and

Fig. 3 is a detail view showing the retaining rings with their connecting hinge and the catch or case fastener, as they appear before being applied to the case sections.

Referring by reference characters to this drawing, the numerals 1 and 2 designate the case sections, which, except as hereinafter specified, are or may be of duplicate form, and be stamped up from sheet metal. Each is provided with an edge turned or curved inwardly sufficiently to form an annular internal groove or channel (1^a and 2^a).

3 and 4 designate a pair of split or interrupted rings of resilient material such as spring wire adapted to be sprung into the grooves or channels in the respective case sections and be held therein by their inherent tendency to expand. These two split rings are connected at points intermediate their ends by a hinge 5 which preferably takes the form of a sheet metal member having its ends bent over to form points to receive the rings, as indicated at 4^a and 4^b. The edge of each case at the appropriate point, is cut away (as indicated at 1^b and 2^b) so as to allow the hinge to stand in a plane approximately perpendicular to the planes of the case sections.

One of the rings, as for example ring 3, has one arm longer than the other so as to extend to or across a point on the corresponding case section diametrically opposite to the hinge and this arm carries adjacent its end, a catch member or locking device for holding the sections together in closed position. Such catch takes the form of a sheet metal clip 5 having its edge provided with slits to form three tongues, two outside tongues 5^a, and an intermediate tongue 5^b which is preferably wider than the outside tongues. The tongues 5^a are bent around the ring so as to hold it thereon, and may if desired, be further secured by soldering or the like, while the intermediate tongue is bent in the opposite direction to form a catch, hook-shaped in cross section, for engaging the overturned edge of the companion case section. The case section to which this particular catch carrying ring is secured is provided with a cut away portion indicated at 2^b, through which the non-slitted edge or portion of the catch projects to serve as a push piece. The case sections are adapted to hold respectively a mirror and a powder pack, or analogous article, the mirror being designated 6 and held in the section 1 by the split ring 3, while the powder pack 7 may be held in place by a removable annular sheet metal retainer 8 which in turn is detachably held in place by the ring 4.

From the above description it will be seen that I provide a very simple, economical and durable device in which the case sections may be readily manufactured and the split rings themselves as easily manufactured, and the hinges and catches readily secured to the springs before these are applied to the casing. The spring assemblies are then readily sprung into engagement with the case sections and all necessity of soldering, riveting or otherwise securing hinge and catch parts to the cases is avoided.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. In a vanity case, a pair of cooperating case sections having internal circumferential channels adjacent their edges, a pair of split expansible rings adapted to detachably engage said channels and be held therein by their inherent expansibility, and hinge means permanently connecting said split rings.

2. The article of claim 1, in which the hinge is formed of a sheet metal clip having end portions engaging the respective rings, and the case sections have cut away portions to receive the hinge.

3. The article of claim 1, in which the free portions of the rings of one case section carries a catch adapted to engage the other section which catch carries a push piece which projects through a cut away portion of the edge of the case section.

4. The article of claim 1, provided with a mirror and a powder compact retainer located in the case sections and detachably held in place by said rings.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

JOHN F. BABBITT.