May 31, 1949. M. KAPLAN 2,471,963

TWO-PART POCKET CASE

Filed Jan. 6, 1949 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

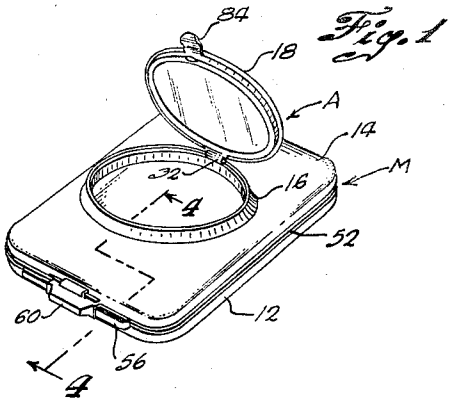


Fig. 1

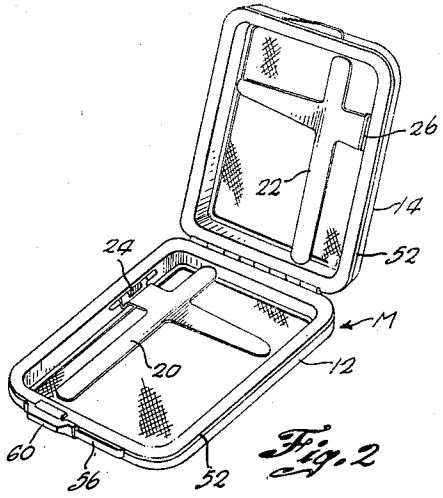


Fig. 2

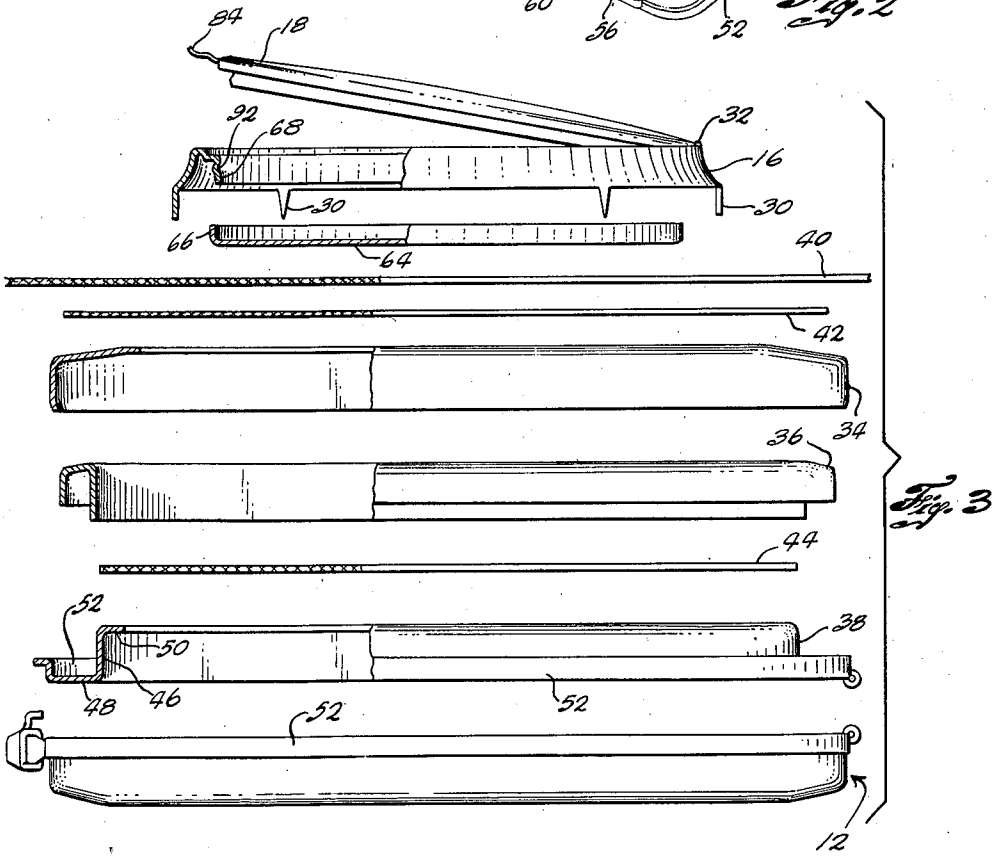


Fig. 3

INVENTOR.
MAX KAPLAN
BY
James and Franklin
ATTORNEYS.

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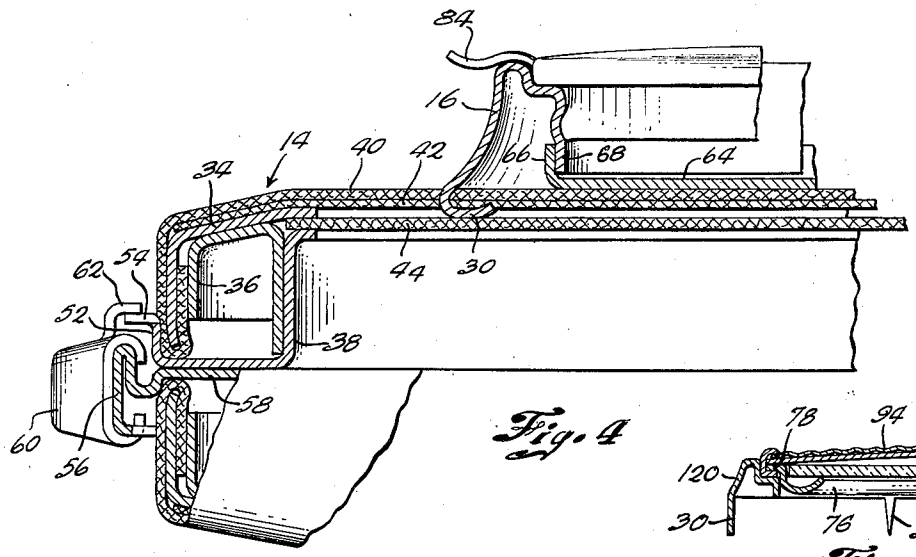


Fig. 4

Fig. 10

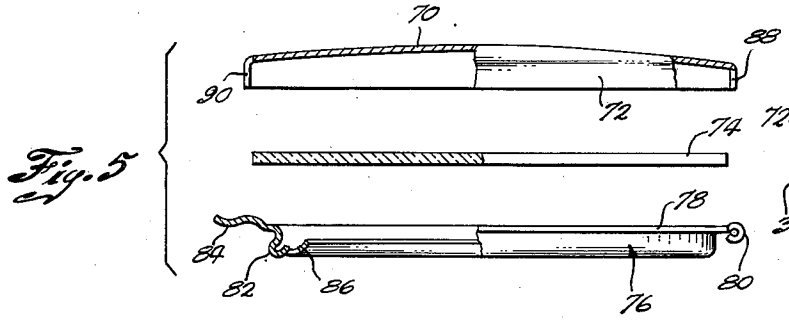


Fig. 5

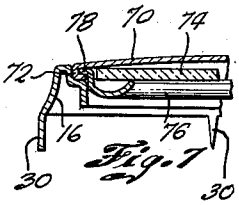


Fig. 7

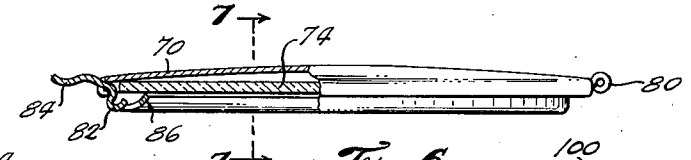


Fig. 6

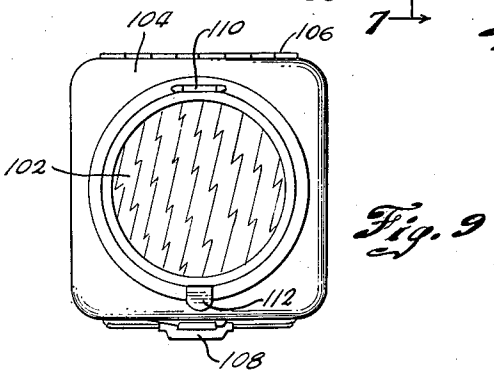


Fig. 9

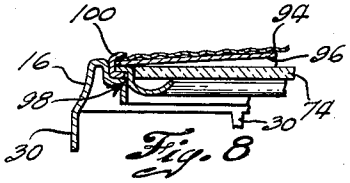


Fig. 8

INVENTOR.
MAX KAPLAN
BY
James and Franklin
ATTORNEYS.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,471,963

TWO-PART POCKET CASE

Max Kaplan, New York, N. Y.

Application January 6, 1949, Serial No. 69,458

7 Claims. (Cl. 132—83)

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This invention relates to pocket cases such as vanity cases and cigarette cases, and in a preferred form relates to a combination of the two.

The general object of the invention is to improve pocket cases. A primary object of the invention is to provide a pocket case having two compartments which are individually accessible independently of one another.

It has already been proposed to combine a cigarette case and a vanity case by using a single pocket case which opens in the middle, and storing cigarettes in one side and vanity articles in the other. However, such a combination suffers from the difficulty that tobacco from the cigarettes tends to get into the vanity compartment, and conversely, face powder from the vanity compartment tends to reach the cigarette compartment. Largely for this reason such a combined case has not proved as popular as might be expected. A further disadvantage has been the reduction of the cigarette capacity of the case to only half the normal capacity. One object of my invention is to overcome the foregoing difficulties and to provide a combined cigarette case and vanity case in which there is no contact between the cigarette compartment and the vanity compartment, and no danger of contamination of the contents of one by the contents of the other.

A popular type of pocket case is one in which the top and bottom are made up of a soft covering spread tautly around rigid metallic frames, which are hinged together. In accordance with a further feature and object of my invention, an auxiliary case is added to a main pocket case of this character, the auxiliary case preferably being different in shape and size and being made of contrasting material, preferably with a polished metal finish which contrasts with and ornaments the soft material of the main pocket case. The main case is preferably square or rectangular, and may be used as a cigarette case, while the auxiliary case is preferably circular, and may be used as a vanity case.

To accomplish the foregoing general objects, and other more specific objects which will hereinafter appear, my invention resides in the pocket case elements and their relation one to another, as are hereinafter more particularly described in the following specification. The specification is accompanied by drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a pocket case embodying features of my invention, with the auxiliary compartment shown open;

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Fig. 2 is a similar perspective view, with the main compartment shown open;

Fig. 3 is a partially sectioned exploded view showing many of the parts in separated condition;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary section drawn to enlarged scale and taken approximately on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a partially sectioned exploded view of an auxiliary cover;

Fig. 6 is a partially sectioned assembly of the same;

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary section similar to Fig. 6 but taken through a normal edge portion, and including a base ring;

Fig. 8 is a section similar to Fig. 7 but showing a modification;

Fig. 9 is a plan view of a combined case of modified shape; and

Fig. 10 shows a modification.

Referring to the drawing, and more particularly to Fig. 1, the combined pocket case comprises a main case M and a superposed auxiliary case A. The main case M has a bottom 12 and a main cover 14 which are made of flexible material spread taut around a rigid frame. The auxiliary case A includes an auxiliary base 16 and a cover 18. It will be evident from a comparison of Figs. 1 and 2 that the auxiliary case A may be opened as shown in Fig. 1, without opening the main case M, and conversely, that the main case may be opened as shown in Fig. 2, without opening the auxiliary case. In the present example, and in preferred form, the main case M acts as a cigarette case which receives layers of cigarettes in the lower and upper portions thereof. The cigarettes are retained in place by any suitable means such as the metal holders 20 and 22, which are hinged at 24 and 26 by means of spring hinges to hold the same against the cigarettes. The particular holders here shown are adapted to hold cigarettes disposed either longitudinally or transversely of the case.

Referring now to Fig. 3, it will be seen that the auxiliary base 16 is provided with a plurality of tangs 30 spaced about its periphery. These tangs are sharp and are adapted to penetrate the material of the main cover. Fig. 4 shows how the tangs 30 are bent flat inside the cover 14, thus securing the auxiliary base to the main cover. The auxiliary cover is hinged on the auxiliary base, as is indicated at 32 in Fig. 1.

The main case is preferably though not necessarily constructed in accordance with the teach-

ings of my Patent 2,425,540 issued August 12, 1947. The construction may be briefly reviewed with reference to Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawing. The frame is made of metal and comprises a spreader ring 34, a clamping ring 36, and a finishing ring 38. The covering material, for example, imitation leather indicated at 40, is spread taut around the spreader ring 34. A layer of stiffening material 42, such as thin cardboard, may be disposed inside the covering material 40. The edges of the covering material are folded downwardly, inwardly, and then upwardly about the spreader ring, whereupon the clamping ring 36 is pressed into position, thereby locking the covering material in taut condition. In accordance with the present invention, the auxiliary case is added at this stage of the assembly. The tangs 30 are forced through the cover material 40 and 42, and are bent flat on the inside. The assembly of the main case is then resumed by inserting a lining material 44 which conceals the bent tangs. The lining may be a rich moire fabric to enhance the appearance of the case. The edges of the lining are concealed when the finishing ring 38 is added. The latter is preferably given a bright polish and is finished with gold or other precious metal. It includes not only an inside wall 46 and a face wall 48, but also an inside flange 50 which bears against the lining, and an outside flange 52 which is pressed against the cover material, all as has been described in detail in my aforesaid Patent 2,425,540.

In Fig. 3 the bottom 12 of the main case is shown in assembled relation. Except for the lock, it corresponds to the cover part of the main case, which is shown with its parts separated in Fig. 3, and assembled in Fig. 4. By referring to Fig. 4 it will be seen how the covering material 40 is folded about the spreader ring 34 and is locked in position by the clamping ring 36. After adding the auxiliary base 16 and the lining 4, the finishing rings 38 is added. This fits tightly within the clamping ring 36, and its outside flange bears tightly against the covering material 40. The particular section shown in Fig. 4 is somewhat complicated by the lock means, the rib 54 being formed integrally with and bent outwardly from the outside flange 52, and the rail 56 being formed integrally with the corresponding flange of the finishing ring 58 of the bottom. A slide 60 is slidable on rail 56, and includes a lip 62 which engages the rib 54 to lock the main case in closed condition.

Reverting to Fig. 3, the auxiliary case comprises a flat metal dish 64, flanged upwardly at 66. The auxiliary base ring 16 is bent downwardly to form a mating flange 68. The dish 64 may be pushed upwardly around the flange 68 to form a sub-assembly, this joined relation being shown in Fig. 4. This is done before adding the base 16 to the main cover.

It will be observed that the base ring 16 has a generally upright peripheral wall and an inwardly extending flange which leads to and joins the dish. In the specific structure shown the ring frictionally engages the dish. The lower edge of the outside peripheral wall bears against and is in direct contact with the top material of the cigarette case. It is this lower edge which is projected at intervals to form the tangs. The base ring is preferably of inverted channel section, and thus may be described as having both outside and inside walls, connected by a top wall. The inside wall has

a depth nearly equal to, though preferably slightly less than, the depth of the outside wall, as will be clear from inspection of Figs. 3 and 4. The top wall is preferably recessed at the inner portion thereof to receive the cover, as will be clear from inspection of Figs. 3, 4, 7, 8 and 10.

The auxiliary cover 18 is shown in assembled form in Fig. 3, but the parts thereof may be described with reference to Fig. 5. There is a main cover 70, preferably formed of sheet metal and downwardly flanged at 72. A mirror 74 is received within the cover. The cover further comprises a ring 76. This is peripherally flanged at 78, the flange being modified at one point to provide a hinge 80 and at a diametrically opposite point to provide a detent 82 and a finger tab 84. The ring is curled inwardly at the bottom, as is indicated at 86, to hold the mirror 74. In assembling the parts the mirror is placed within the ring 76. The cover 70 is placed thereover and the flange 72 of the cover is bent inwardly around the flange 78 of the ring. The flange 72 of the cover is notched or cut away at 88 and 90 to clear the hinge 80 and the finger tab 84 previously referred to.

The nature of the cover assembly may be clearer on reference to Fig. 7, which is a fragmentary section taken at a more normal or random point about the periphery of the cover, instead of at the finger tab, and it will be seen how the flange 72 of the cover 70 is bent around the flange 78 of the ring 76, with the mirror 74 therebetween.

The detent 82 previously referred to cooperates with a mating recess in the auxiliary base ring 16, the said recess being shown at 92 in Fig.3.

I prefer to use a metal top 70 for the auxiliary cover because this may be plated with a precious metal and printed with an ornamental picture, all in sharp contrast to the soft covering material of the main cover. However, it is not essential to employ a metal top for the auxiliary cover, and Fig. 8 illustrates a modification in which a layer of flexible material 94, preferably supported by a backing plate 96, is held in position over a ring 98, the latter being the same as the ring 76 previously described, but the parts being locked together by a channel 100 which is clamped about the peripheral edge of the assembly.

As so far described the vanity case is superimposed on a cigarette case which is rectangular in outline. However, from the standpoint of appearance some prefer that the circular cover be superimposed on a square case, and such a construction is shown in Fig. 9, in which a round auxiliary vanity case 102 is superimposed on a square cigarette case 104, the latter being hinged at 106 and locked at 108, all as was previously described for the rectangular case. The auxiliary cover is preferably hinged at 110, and opened with the aid of a finger tab 112, as previously described.

It is not essential that the main case be a cigarette case. I have also applied the invention to a pocket case in which the main case is itself a vanity case, preferably square in shape, as shown in Fig. 9. The auxiliary cover may be used over an auxiliary compartment, or in some cases, I have used the same solely as a mirror. Such an arrangement is shown in Fig. 10 of the drawing. The main distinction between this arrangement and that shown in Figs. 3 and 4 is that the bottom dish 64 of the auxiliary compart-

ment is omitted, and the auxiliary tanged base ring 120 is preferably minimized in height to just receive the cover. In this way a mirror is provided which is never clouded by face powder, and which may be referred to for a check-up on appearance without opening the main part of the vanity case.

It will be understood that the flexible material of the main cover may be any suitable material including leather, imitation leather such as Koroseal, and fabric such as satin, faille, brocade, or artificial materials. The metal top of the auxiliary cover may be ornamented in various ways, as by engraving or by a process in which the metal is preliminarily plated with a gold plate and afterward printed through a silk screen, the resulting illustration being made with a special ink so treated as to provide a permanent finish which withstands long wear.

It is believed that the method of constructing and assembling my improved pocket case, as well as the advantages thereof, will be apparent from the foregoing detailed description. The pocket case is of great utility and has the important advantage of preventing sifting of the contents from one compartment into the other. The auxiliary compartment is relatively flat, so that the height added to the main case is not excessive. The combination is attractive in appearance, for the auxiliary cover ornaments the main cover, and at the same time the material of the main cover surrounding the auxiliary cover acts as a frame which sets off and improves the appearance of the auxiliary cover. The structure is comparatively simple, and may be made and sold at reasonable cost, with the added advantage that the main case may be of a known and already available construction, while the auxiliary case is added thereto at minimum expense. Main cases made from the same dies may be sold with and without the auxiliary case.

It will be understood that either of the cases may be rectangular, square or round, used with one another in any desired combination, although I prefer a round auxiliary case superposed on a rectangular or on a square case. It will also be understood that the pocket case may be used for any desired purpose, although I have shown a combination of cigarette case and vanity case as a preferred form of the invention. It will therefore be apparent that while I have shown and described my invention in several preferred forms, changes may be made in the structures disclosed without departing from the spirit of the invention as sought to be defined in the following claims. In the claims the reference to "rectangular" is intended to include square as a limiting example of rectangular. The reference to an auxiliary base and cover is intended to apply to such a cover used merely as a mirror, as well as when used to close an auxiliary compartment.

I claim:

1. A pocket case having main and auxiliary portions, the auxiliary portion of said case being somewhat smaller in dimension than the main portion, said main portion comprising a bottom and a main cover, said bottom and main cover each being made of soft flexible imperforate material spread tautly around a rigid frame, and said auxiliary portion comprising an auxiliary base and cover secured on top of and outside of the main cover, said auxiliary base including a metal dish and a surrounding ring having a generally upright peripheral wall and an inwardly extending flange frictionally engaging said dish, the lower edge of the peripheral wall being in direct contact with said material, said lower edge being projected at intervals to form a plurality of tangs spaced about its periphery, said tangs penetrating the soft material of the cover and being bent flat inside the cover, and said auxiliary cover being hinged on said auxiliary base ring, said auxiliary cover being made of metal.

2. A pocket case having main and auxiliary portions, the main portion of said case being rectangular, and the auxiliary portion of said case being circular and somewhat smaller in dimension than the main portion, said main portion comprising a bottom and a main cover, said bottom and main cover each being made of soft flexible imperforate material spread tautly around a rigid rectangular frame, and said auxiliary portion comprising an auxiliary base and cover secured on top of and outside of the main cover, said auxiliary base including a metal dish and a surrounding ring having a generally upright peripheral wall and an inwardly extending flange frictionally engaging said dish, the lower edge of the peripheral wall being in direct contact with said material, said lower edge being projected at intervals to form a plurality of tangs spaced about its periphery, said tangs penetrating the soft material of the cover and being bent flat inside the cover, said cover including lining material concealing the bent tangs, and said auxiliary cover having a mirror on the inside and being hinged on said auxiliary base ring, said auxiliary cover being made of metal finished with an appearance contrasting strongly with the appearance of the flexible material covering the main case portion.

3. A combined cigarette and vanity case, the vanity portion of said case being somewhat smaller in dimension than the cigarette portion, said cigarette portion comprising a bottom and a main cover, said bottom and main cover each being made of soft flexible imperforate material spread tautly around a rigid frame, and said vantiy case portion comprising an auxiliary base and cover secured on top of and outside of the main cover, said auxiliary base including a metal dish and a surrounding ring having a generally upright peripheral wall and an inwardly extending flange leading to and joining said dish, the lower edge of the peripheral wall being in direct contact with said material, said lower edge being projected at intervals to form a plurality of tangs spaced about its periphery, said tangs penetrating the soft material of the main cover and being bent flat inside the cover, and said auxiliary cover being hinged on said auxiliary base ring, said auxiliary cover being made of metal.

4. A combined cigarette and vanity case, the cigarette portion of said case being rectangular, and the vanity portion of said case being circular and somewhat smaller in dimension than the cigarette portion, said cigarette portion comprising a bottom and a main cover, said bottom and main cover each being made of soft flexible imperforate material spread tautly around a rigid rectangular frame, and said vanity case portion comprising an auxiliary base and cover secured on top of and outside of the main cover, said auxiliary base including a metal dish and a surrounding ring having a generally upright peripheral wall and an inwardly extending flange leading to and joining said dish, the lower edge of the peripheral wall being in direct contact with said

material, said lower edge being projected at intervals to form a plurality of tangs spaced about its periphery, said tangs penetrating the soft material of the main cover and being bent flat inside the cover, said main cover including lining material concealing the bent tangs, and said auxiliary cover having a mirror on the inside and being hinged on said auxiliary base ring, said auxiliary cover being made of metal finished with an appearance contrasting strongly with the appearance of the flexible material covering the cigarette case portion.

5. A combined cigarette and vanity case, the vanity portion of said case being smaller in dimension than the cigarette portion, said cigarette portion comprising a bottom and a main cover, said bottom and main cover each being made of soft flexible imperforate material spread tautly around a rigid rectangular frame, and said frames being hinged along one edge of the case, and said vanity case portion comprising an auxiliary base and cover secured on top of and outside of the main cover, said auxiliary base including a metal ring of inverted channel section having outside and inside walls connected by a top wall, said inside wall having a depth substantially equal to said outside wall, said top wall being recessed at the inner portion thereof to receive the cover, said outside wall having a plurality of downwardly directed tangs spaced about its periphery and forming direct extensions of the lower edge of said wall, the aforesaid tangs of the outside wall penetrating the soft material of the main cover and being bent flat inside the cover, said main cover including lining material concealing the bent tangs, and said auxiliary cover having a mirror on the inside and being hinged on said ring, said auxiliary cover being made of metal finished with an appearance contrasting strongly with the appearance of the flexible material covering the cigarette case portion.

6. A combined cigarette and vanity case, the cigarette portion of said case being rectangular, and the vanity portion of said case being circular and somewhat smaller in dimension than the cigarette portion, said cigarette portion comprising a bottom and a main cover, said bottom and main cover each being made of soft flexible imperforate material spread tautly around a rigid rectangular frame, and said frames being hinged along one edge of the case, and said vanity case portion comprising an auxiliary base and cover secured on top of and outside of the main cover, said auxiliary base including a metal ring of inverted channel section having outside and inside walls connected by a top wall, said inside wall having a depth substantially equal to said outside wall and being substantially vertical at its

lower edge, said top wall being recessed at the inner portion thereof to receive the auxiliary cover, and said outside wall having a plurality of downwardly directed tangs spaced about its periphery and forming direct extensions of the lower edge of said wall, said auxiliary base further comprising a circular metal dish flanged upwardly to form a peripheral wall which is received with a tight fit around the lower edge of the aforesaid inside wall of the ring, the aforesaid tangs of the outside wall penetrating the soft material of the main cover and being bent flat inside the cover, said main cover including lining material concealing the bent tangs, and said auxiliary cover having a mirror on the inside and being hinged on said ring, said auxiliary cover being made of metal finished with an appearance contrasting strongly with the appearance of the flexible material covering the cigarette case portion.

7. A combined cigarette and vanity case, the vanity portion of said case being smaller in dimension than the cigarette portion, said cigarette portion comprising a bottom and a main cover, said main cover being made of soft flexible imperforate material spread over a rigid rectangular frame, and said vanity case portion comprising an auxiliary base and cover secured on top of and outside of the main cover, said auxiliary base including a metal ring of inverted channel section having outside and inside walls connected by a top wall, said outside wall having a plurality of downwardly directed tangs spaced about its periphery and forming direct extensions of the lower edge of said wall, and a bottom for said base, the aforesaid tangs of the outside wall penetrating the soft material of the main cover and being bent flat inside the cover, and the lower edge of said wall between said tangs being held tightly against the soft material of the main cover.

MAX KAPLAN.

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