COMBINATION CARRYING CASE AND ARTICLE CONTAINER

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This invention relates to a combination carrying case and article container and has for an object the provision of a package for articles of merchandise, as, for example, an electric razor, having a separable covering portion in the nature of a carrying case which may be removed to permit attachment of the uncovered container to a wall or other surface for convenient access to its contents. The detachable covering may be preserved for re-attachment during travel use.

A feature of the invention, in one specific embodiment, is the provision of an open-ended carrying case which covers only the longitudinal walls of the container, leaving its ends exposed for decorative purposes as well as to simplify the construction and minimize the cost.

In addition to having the carrying case removable as a unit from the remainder of the container, the invention contemplates, in a modified form, a carrying case portion which also is separable so that, optionally, the top portion of the carrying case alone may be detached from the remainder of the carrying case and its enclosed container.

These embodiments of the invention are shown in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a combination carrying case and container in closed position;
Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;
Fig. 3 is a plan view of the device shown in Fig. 1, but with the cover in open position;
Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of the device with the cover open as in Fig. 3;
Fig. 5 is an isometric view of the container with its detachable carrying case removed;
Fig. 6 is an exploded front elevational view of a modified form of the invention showing a construction wherein the cover is independently removable from the remainder of the carrying case; and
Fig. 7 is a view similar to that of Fig. 6, but with the cover in open but attached position.

As shown in the drawing, the composite device has the outward contour of a generally rectangular box having a top portion which is arcuate in cross-section. It is constituted of an open-top internal container generally indicated at 10, formed of plastic or the like, and an open-ended split sleeve-like enclosing carrying case formed of a bottom section 12 and an arcuate cover section 14 hinged together along a hinge line 16. The cover 14 and bottom 12 are provided at the front of the box with a fastening in the form of a tab 18 connected to the cover 14, the tab 18 bearing one part 20 of a snap fastener, the cooperating part of which is carried by the bottom 12.

The hinged covering case is formed of substantially rigid sheet material, e.g. sheet metal, covered on both sides with a decorative sheeting 24, such as leather, fabric, plastic or the like (Fig. 2), though it is slightly resilient for a purpose to be later described.

The internal container, shown independently in Fig. 5, has a low front wall 30, a higher back wall 32, a pair of still higher end walls 34, and no top. The inner surfaces of end walls 34 are relieved around their marginal top portions in such manner that they provide outwardly extending rim portions 36 defining re-entrant recesses for seating marginal end portions of the outer carrying case so that, as shown in Fig. 1, when the carrying case is attached, the rim portions 36 will extend outwardly beyond the ends of the re-entrant carrying case and retain it against longitudinal movement with respect to the inner container. The front and back walls 30 and 32 and the bottom wall of the internal container 10 are for this reason set in from the edges of the walls 34 by a distance equal to the upper relieved marginal portions of the inner surfaces of walls 34, so that the rim portions 36 extend throughout the peripheral extent of the end wall edges.

The end walls may thus be fluted or provided with other suitable decorations to enhance the attractiveness of the package, and will be exposed to view even when the carrying case enfoldes the remaining portions of the container. An arcuate vertical partition 35 is also shown in the internal container 10 and the back wall is provided with two bayonet slots 37 above the hinge line 18 in order to enable one to hang the internal container upon nails or other fasteners attached to a wall. The back wall 32 is also centrally relieved downwardly so that its top central edge 39 tends to catch under the lower hinge plate 40 to prevent inadvertent separation of the internal container from the carrying case. For this reason, a slight radius is provided along the longitudinal bottom corners of the internal container so that with the cover 14 open, the carrying case can be removed by pulling the carrying case slightly away from the upper top portion of back wall 32 so that the top edge 39 will clear the hinge. The resilience of the metal of the carrying case helps to permit this releasing motion.

The construction shown in Figs. 6 and 7 is essentially the same except that the hinge is a severable hinge of that type which will permit the cover 14 to be independently removed from the bottom portion 12 of the carrying case so that the combination internal container 10 and bottom 12 can be hung on a wall. Thus, the lower hinge plate has spaced apertured extensions 42 while the upper hinge plate carries a series of oblong hinge pins 43, the free ends of which can be simultaneously slid into the extensions 42, in the manner of shutter hinges, by a transverse motion.

Fig. 6 shows the cover 14 slightly offset transversely to the right from the remainder of the package, indicating how the cover is removed from or attached to the bottom portion 12, while Fig. 7 shows the cover in open attached, but detachable, position. It will be understood that in the Fig. 7 form, when the cover is closed, the flanges 36 will prevent dislodgment of the hinges because the flanges 36 prevent longitudinal movement of the cover 14 relative to the bottom 12. The cover 14 may be separated from the bottom 12 only after cover 14 has been fully opened or after the carrying case has been removed from the container 10. In the form shown in Figs. 6 and 7, therefore, the device may be separated into two or three parts depending upon whether it is desired to use the lower part 12 of the carrying case with the inner container 10 or not.

I claim:

1. In combination, an article holder and a detachable carrying case therefor, said article holder comprising a bottom wall, a pair of opposed end walls connected to said bottom wall and a pair of opposed side walls connected to said bottom wall and said end walls, and
an open top, said carrying case comprising a bottom section and a cover section, said bottom section including a bottom wall and opposed side walls connected to said bottom wall and open ends, said cover section being hinged to one of said side walls of said bottom section and having open ends, said carrying case enfolding said bottom wall and side walls of said article holder when said article holder and carrying case are in assembled relation, fastening means on said carrying case for retaining the same in position enfolding said article holder, said cover section of said carrying case being adapted to be hinged open relative to said bottom section to give access to the interior of said article holder enfolded within said bottom section, and said article holder being adapted, upon opening of said cover section, for bodily separation from said carrying case, said end walls of said article holder extending outwardly beyond said side walls of said carrying case to provide outwardly extending rim portions, said bottom section of said carrying case having marginal end portions seated between said rim portions to prevent longitudinal relative movement between said carrying case and article holder.

2. The combination as set forth in claim 1 further characterized in that said cover section when in closed hinged position has marginal end portions seated between said rim portions.

3. The combination as set forth in claim 2 further characterized in that said end walls of said article holder extend beyond said bottom wall of said article holder and said bottom wall of said carrying case having end portions seated between said rim portions.

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