March 31, 1931. A. H. METCALF 1,798,620

VANITY CASE

Filed May 6, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

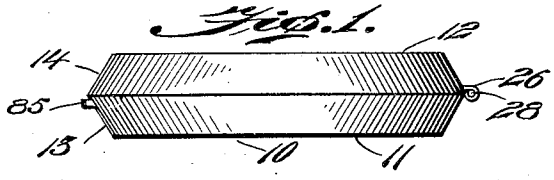

Fig. 2.

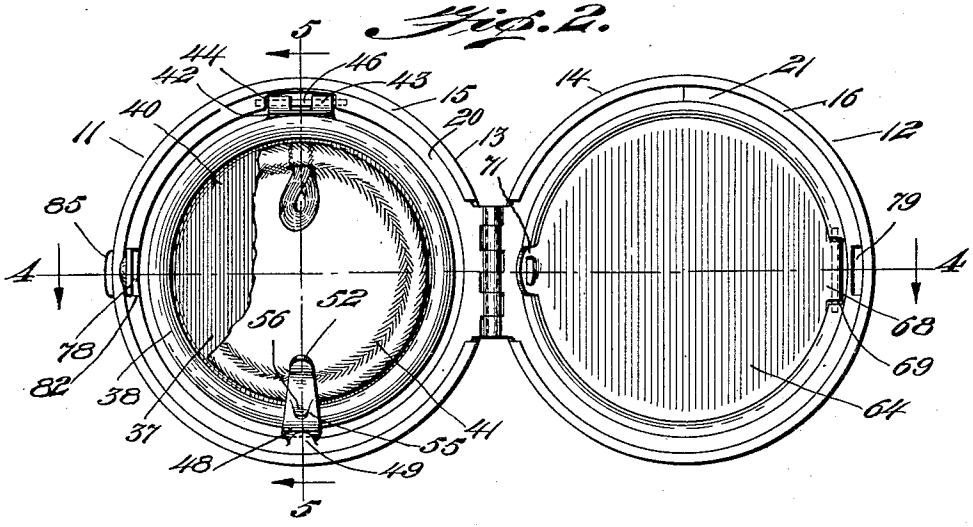

Fig. 3.

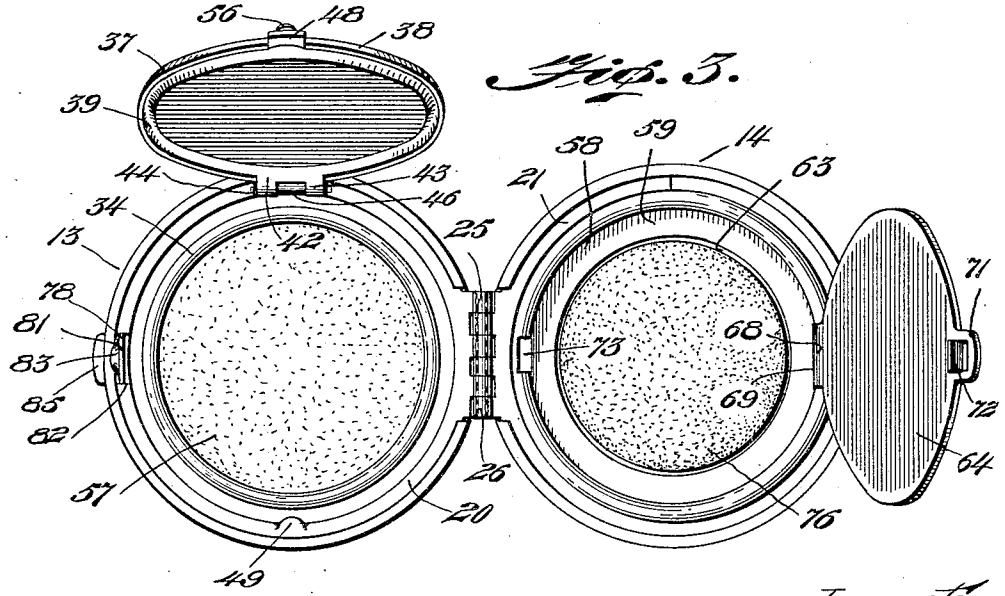

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Fig. 4.

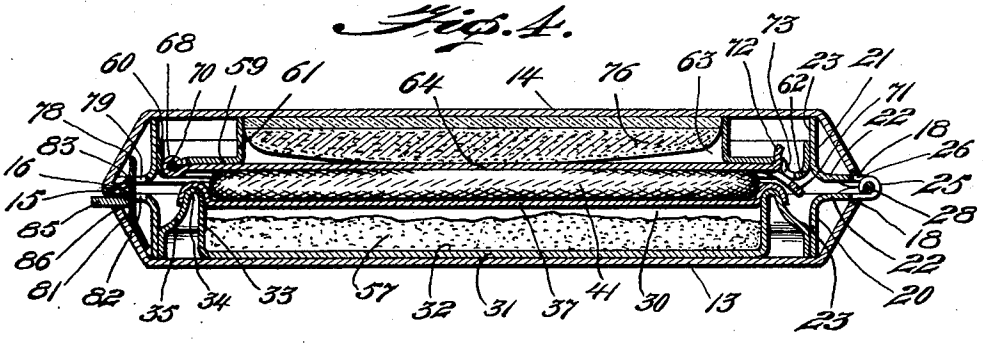


Fig. 5.

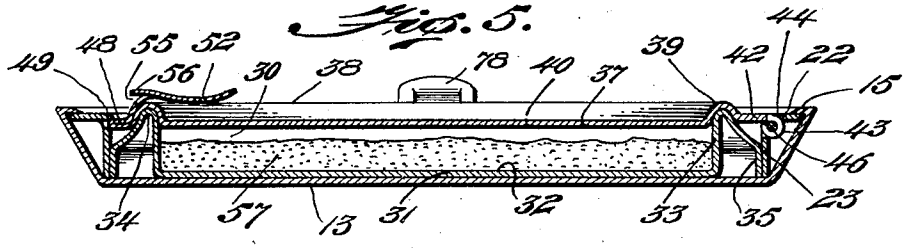


Fig. 6.

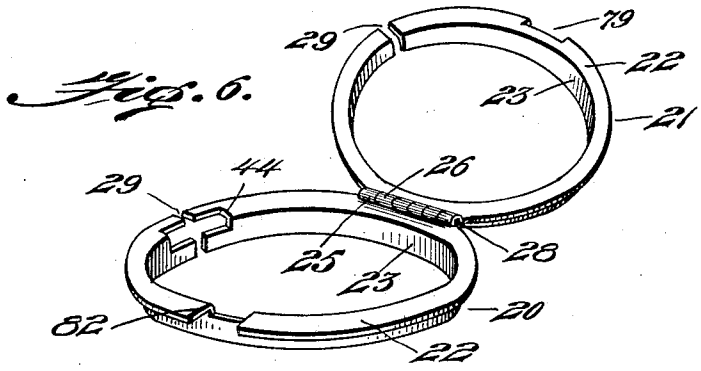
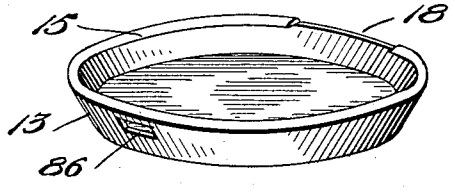


Fig. 7.



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Patented Mar. 31, 1931

1,798,620

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ALPHA H. METCALF, OF ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO SAART BROTHERS COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF RHODE ISLAND

VANITY CASE

Application filed May 6, 1930. Serial No. 450,094.

My invention relates to vanity cases or containers for face powder and compacts, including rouge and other materials for facial application.

The essential objects of my invention are to facilitate, strengthen and cheapen the assemblage of the constituent parts of the case, and to insure the effective sealing or confinement of the powder in its receptacle and thus avoid the escape of particles of powder that has heretofore been a serious annoyance to the user; also to minimize the use of solder throughout the structure. Other and ancillary objects of the invention will appear hereinafter.

To the above ends essentially my invention consists in such parts and in such combinations of parts as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings which form a part of this invention,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a vanity case embodying my invention, closed,

Figure 2, a plan of the same with the wings horizontally distended and the interior compartment covers or lids closed,

Figure 3, a similar plan of the same with the covers or lids elevated,

Figure 4, a diametrical section of the closed case taken on a line corresponding to line 4—4 of Figure 2,

Figure 5, a section taken on line 5—5 of Figure 2, omitting the pad,

Figure 6, a perspective view of the hingedly connected abutment rings, and

Figure 7, a perspective view of one of the shells.

Like reference characters indicate like parts throughout the views.

As herein shown my casing 10 includes lower and upper hingedly supported wings 11 and 12 including respectively marginally tapering circular shells 13 and 14 similar to each other in size and shape, and provided in turn with integral inwardly directed marginal flanges 15 and 16 formed by spinning over the peripheral edges of the shells. The shell 13 performs the function of a body member, and the shell 14, a closure therefor. The periphery and flange of each shell is cut away at an adjacent point to form oblong cavities 18.

A pair of resilient transversely split abutment rings 20 and 21 of similar size and shape are engaged respectively with the shells 13 and 14. Each ring is hollow and transversely rectangular, comprising a horizontal wall 22 and a vertical wall 23. Hinge sleeves 25 and 26 upon the rings 20 and 21 respectively, passing through the cavities 18 of the shells, surround a hinge pin 28 and form a hinged connection for the wings. It will be observed by reference to Figure 6 that prior to engagement with the shells the ends of the compressible resilient split rings are amply spaced from each other as at 29. To assemble, each ring is manually compressed to overlap its ends, and in this position inserted beneath the flange of its adjacent shell, and then released. Whereupon the overlapped ends slidably expand in opposite directions under the expansive impulse of the ring material until the ends thereof abut each other endwise. Thus the horizontal wall 22 of each ring tightly engages and presses against the shell wall and against the overlapping flange 15 or 16 thereof. The lower edge of the vertical wall 23 abuts against the inner face of the shell. This construction, assemblage, and engagement of the rings with the flanged shells avoids defacement and expense resultant upon the use of solder.

A central receptacle 30 is formed in the wing 11 by a cup member 31 comprising a base or bottom 32, a vertical side wall 33 terminating in an annular transversely rounded bead, bearing, or seat 34 integral with which is a radially and downwardly inclined flaring flange 35 whose lower edge, as well as the base 32, rests upon the shell 13. The side of the flange is in tight frictional engagement with the adjacent vertical wall 23 of the ring 20. The intimacy of the engagement is enhanced by the fact that both the cup member 31 including the flange, and the ring 20, are formed of thin sheet metal which affords a measure of resiliency, thus no solder is required. The lid or closure 37 of the receptacle is a circular disk or stamp-

ing of thin metal, and is provided with an annular transversely, rounded marginal shoulder 38 forming an annular groove 39 in which tightly fits the bead 34 of the cup. The central portion of the lid forms a seat 40 for a pad or puff 41. The hinge of the lid in this instance consists of a peripheral lug 42 upon the edge of the shoulder 38 terminating in sleeves 43 extending into a slot 44 in the ring 20 and embracing a hinge pin 46 bearing against the lower face of the wall 22. The lid is firmly pressed upon its seat by a laterally projecting peripheral tongue 48 integral with or fixed to the lid and adapted to snap into engagement with the lower face of a resilient horizontal lip 49 integral with the wall 22 of the ring 20 and projecting into the path of the tongue. The latter is integral with a horizontally disposed resilient clasping finger 52 upon the margin of the lid adapted to overlap and clasp the pad 41. For the purpose of facilitating the elevation of the lid from its engaged position a thumb nail catch 55 is provided consisting of an integral inclined prong 56 cut from the material of the finger 52. In the receptacle or pocket 30 formed by the cup member 31 is a cosmetic material, either a compact or loose powder 57. The bead 34 of the cup member cooperates with the groove 39 of the lid to seal the parts and thus prevents accidental escape of the powder particles.

In the wing 12 is a hollow annulus 58, which is bent from thin sheet metal, comprising a horizontal wall 59 and outer and inner vertical walls 60 and 61 respectively. An annular hollow shoulder 62 upon the outer margin of the wall 59 extends to the horizontal plane of the wall 22 of the abutment ring 21. The free end of the longer of the two vertical walls 61 rests upon the shell 14. The shorter outer wall 60 has tight frictional engagement with the vertical wall of the abutment ring 21. The inner wall 61 forms the side of a well or pocket 63 of which the shell 14 constitutes the floor. A circular metallic mirror plate 64 with polished front and rear faces forms a closure or cover for the well. A hinge sleeve 68 extending from the peripheral edge of the plate 64 extends into a slot 69 in the wall 22 of the abutment ring 21, and embraces a pintle 70 bearing against the concave or lower face of the annulus wall shoulder 62. Diametrically opposite the sleeve upon the plate 64 is an integral outwardly inclined thumb piece 71, and an inwardly disposed spring tongue or catch 72 adapted to register in a hole 73 in the wall 59. The well 63 may contain a compact or other cosmetic 76.

The fastening means for the wings 11 and 12 consist of a spring catch 78, mounted in the shell 13, engaging in a slot 79 the wall 20 of the abutment ring 21. In this instance the catch comprises a vertical resilient plate 81 fixed at its lower end to the shell 13, and which projects through a slot 82 in the ring 20, and is movable through the slot 79. A lip 83 integral with the upper portion of the plate 81 engages the flange 16 of the shell 14. A push lug 85 fixed to an intermediate portion of the plate 81 slides in a slot 86 in the shell 13.

In operation the shell of the case is manually opened by operating the catch 78, and supporting the wing 11 upon the palm of the hand with the fingers of the same hand supporting the wing 12 at an upward incline by the fingers. The lid 37 may now be opened by means of the nail catch 55 to afford access to the powder in the receptacle 30 after removal of the pad 41. If the compact 76 is desired to be used the plate 64 may be raised by means of the thumb piece 71 and be allowed to rest in inclined position with its lower edge abutting against the abutment ring 21. Either the front or back of the plate 64 may be utilized as a mirror according to the preference of the user.

It will be observed that the hinge connections of both the lid 37 and cover 64, and the thumb piece and catch of the latter are inexpensive and novel, and the same is true of the catch 78.

I claim:—

1. In a vanity case, two hollow shells, two hingedly connected abutment rings respectively surrounded by the shells, an annular receptacle in one shell concentric with one ring, a lid for the receptacle pivotally attached to said ring, a hollow annulus in the second shell snugly surrounded by the second ring including an inner wall constituting a well, and a mirror cover pivotally attached to the annulus for closing the well.

2. In a vanity case, a shell, a ring surrounded by the shell and in frictional engagement therewith, an annular receptacle in the shell disposed concentrically of the ring including a vertical wall supported by the shell, a bead upon the top of the wall, and a lid pivotally attached to the ring provided with an annular groove in which the bead is seated.

3. In a vanity case, a shell, a resilient abutment ring seated in the shell, an annular receptacle in the shell including a vertical wall concentric with the ring, a bead upon the top of the wall, and a flange integral with the bead frictionally engaging the ring, a lid pivotally attached to the ring provided with a groove in which the bead is adapted to register, an inwardly directed lip upon the ring, and a tongue upon the lid adapted to engage the lip.

4. In a vanity case, a shell, a split resilient abutment ring seated in the shell, an annular receptacle in the shell including a vertical wall concentric with the ring, a bead upon the top of the wall, and a flange integral with the bead frictionally engaging the ring, a lid pivotally attached to the ring provided with a groove in which the bead is adapted to

register, an inwardly directed lip upon the ring, a horizontally disposed clasping finger supported upon the margin of the lid adapted to overlap a pad, and a thumb nail catch upon the finger.

5. In a vanity case, two hollow shells, peripheral flanges upon the shells, two hingedly connected, hollow, resilient split rings engaging the shells respectively and respectively overlapped by the flanges, one of said rings being provided with a slot, an annular receptacle in one shell abutting against its adjacent ring, a lid resting upon the receptacle, a hinge sleeve upon the rib extending into the slot, a hinge pin in the sleeve within the ring, a hollow annulus seated in the second shell abutting against the second ring and provided with two diametrically oppositely disposed slots, a cover resting upon the annulus, a hinge sleeve upon the cover registering in one of the slots of the annulus, a pin in the last mentioned hinge sleeve within the annulus, a peripheral thumbpiece on the cover, and a catch on the cover adjacent the catch registering in the second slot of the annulus.

6. In a vanity case, two hollow shells, peripheral flanges upon the shells, two hingedly connected hollow resilient split rings comprising horizontal walls overlapped by the flanges and engaging the shells, and vertical walls supported by the shells, the several horizontal walls being respectively provided with slots, and one shell being provided with a slot, an annular receptacle frictionally engaging one wall, an annulus frictionally engaging the other wall, and a catch comprising a vertical resilient plate fixed at its lower end to one of the shells and extending through the slots in the two horizontal walls, a lip upon the upper portion of the plate, and a lateral push lug upon an intermediate portion of the plate slidable through the slot in the shell.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

ALPHA H. METCALF.