This invention relates to small metallic containers and more particularly to vanity cases.

Vanity cases are commonly designed to contain an article such as a powder or rouge compact, which should be removable to facilitate replacement when the powder or rouge supply has been exhausted, and also an article such as a mirror that may be permanently or momentarily secured in the case. The case being frequently carried about the person as an article of jewelry should be designed to occupy a minimum amount of space and to present a neat and pleasing appearance. In order to conserve space and weight the number of parts required to make the complete assembly should be as small as possible.

The vanity case constructed in accordance with this invention comprises a cover section composed of an annular frame member and a central compact container removably secured therein, the compact container and the frame member each forming a portion of the outer wall of the cover. By utilizing the container as a part of the outer wall of the cover the total thickness of the cover may be reduced to that of one piece of metal and the size of the case correspondingly reduced.

A novel pintle wire construction is employed by means of which, in addition to passing through the hinge knuckles and serving to secure the cover sections together, the wire is extended to carry a projecting lip which forms a catch for the cover sections and a finger hold for opening the case.

This construction provides a simplified means for forming portions of the cover of different materials or for plating different portions of the cover with different metals and by reducing the number of parts required to form the complete case to a minimum a small, light and compact assembly is obtained.

The invention still further relates to a vanity case of simplified and improved construction as hereinafter set forth and more fully described.

Although the novel features which are believed to be characteristic of this invention will be pointed out with particularity in the claims appended hereto, the invention itself, as to its objects and advantages, the manner of its construction and the mode of its operation may be better understood by referring to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part thereof in which:

- Fig. 1 is a plan view of the vanity case partly open position.
- Fig. 2 is a section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.
- Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.
- Fig. 4 is an elevation, partly in section, of the case in closed position.
- Fig. 5 is an enlarged section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1 but with the case closed.
- Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 showing the catch released.
- Fig. 7 is a section taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 1.
- Fig. 8 is a detail view of the pintle wire and catch.
- Fig. 9 is a broken sectional view of the frame member.
- Fig. 10 is a detail view of the retaining ring.
- Fig. 11 is a perspective view of the compact container, and
- Fig. 12 is a perspective view of the mirror section.

Referring to the drawings more in detail the vanity case comprises a pair of cover sections, 15, 16 herein called the lower cover section and upper cover section respectively for clearness and simplicity in description. Lower cover section 15 includes a frame member 17 and a central compact container 18 which together form the outer surface of the cover. Frame member 17 is provided with a peripheral beading 19 terminating in an upturned flange 20 forming a meeting surface (Fig. 9). Ring 21 is firmly secured by solder, or other suitable means, to the inner side of the frame 17 and overflies the interior opening therein to provide a seat for the compact container 18.

Compact container 18, preferably dish shaped, is provided with an upturned flange 22 of suitable diameter to enter ring 21 of the frame member 17. The bottom portion of the container projects beyond flange 22 and is of suitable size and shape to seat in the interior opening of the frame member and form in connection with the frame a continuous outer surface. Flange 22 in addition to providing means for seating the compact container in the frame member also serves as a retaining means for the powder compact.
After the compact container 18 is inserted in the frame member it may be secured in place by ring 23 which is designed to fit snugly over flange 22 and contact with ring 21 of the frame member. The compact container may be readily removed by lifting ring 23 which then allows the container to be withdrawn from frame member 17.

Upper cover section 16 comprises a frame member 30 and an inner member 31 which may contain a mirror or other suitable article. Frame member 30 is provided with a peripheral beading similar to that on lower cover section 15. The inturned portion of the beading is adapted to form a meeting edge and to seat over flange 20 on frame member 17. Ring 32 is firmly secured to the interior of member 36 and serves the same function as ring 21 on member 17.

The mirror section 31 comprises a dished member 33 and an upturned flange member 34 (Fig. 12). Mirror 35 fits within flange 34 and may be frictionally secured therein. Inasmuch as the mirror is not removable it may be permanently secured in place in the frame member by crimping flange 34 over ring 32 as shown on Fig. 3, or it may be soldered in place if desired. The crimping or soldering should preferably be completed before placing the mirror in member 31 in order to avoid damage thereto. The crimping of flange 34 over ring 32 may be carried out so that part of the flange may overhang the mirror 35 to hold the mirror in place. Furthermore the mirror may be provided with projections 36 which may cut into the overhanging part of flange 34 when the mirror is snapped into position.

Frame member 30 is provided with a hinge knuckle 40 which may be formed integral therewith by providing a tongue bent back upon itself. Beading 19 and flange 20 on cover section 15 are cut away at 41 to provide space for the hinge knuckle when the two members are secured together. Pintle wire 42 is passed through hinge knuckle 40 and may be resiliently retained in beading 19. One end of pintle wire 42 is provided with a tongue member 43 (Fig. 8) which is bent to surround the wire and provided with an integral latch section 44. The tongue member may be conveniently made by cutting a flat piece of metal and bending it to the shape shown in Fig. 8. It may be fastened to wire 42 by soldering or may be retained by friction.

Flange 20 on frame member 17 may be provided with a T-shaped slot at a point diametrically opposite hinge knuckle 40 into which member 43 may be inserted. When in place (Figs. 5 and 6) the tongue member 43 projects through this slot and provides a finger hold and projecting portion 44 overlying the inside of the beading on frame member 30 and forms a catch. The case may be closed by pressing frame member 30 past projection 44, the pintle wire providing the necessary resiliency. To open the case the catch may be released by pressing on tongue 43 thereby springing the pintle wire, and member 44 attached thereto, to the position shown in Fig. 6.

By constructing the case as above described so that the compact container forms a part of the outer surface of the cover the total thickness of the cover is reduced to that of one piece of metal and the size of the case may be correspondingly reduced. The above arrangement also provides convenient means for constructing different portions of the case of different materials so that such a procedure may be desirable for reasons of economy or design. Should it be desirable to construct the case of a relatively cheap base metal and plate the same with a precious metal such as gold or silver, the center portions may be plated separately with a different material from that used on the frame member. As the compact container is to be discarded when the powder supply has been exhausted it may be desirable to construct the central portion of a cheaper material than the permanent frame member. The above construction provides a simple means for doing this and removably securing the part in place.

By utilizing the pintle wire as a part of the catch, the case itself may be made strong and unyielding and a spring catch provided without the addition of extra parts. A saving in materials and labor is therefore effected over that required to provide a separate catch member. The pintle wire in addition to forming part of the hinge and carrying a catch member also serves as a reinforcing means for the edge of the case.

The case has been described as including a powder compact and mirror; however, the two cover sections may be of similar construction and other toilet articles such as rouge compacts may be employed if desired. Both sections may be secured by friction rings so as to be readily removable should the nature of the article carried require this expedient to facilitate replacement.

Although the invention has been shown and described as applied to a particular form and construction of vanity case, its scope is not to be limited thereto but is defined by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A vanity box comprising a pair of cover sections separatively connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member and a central compact container, and means including a removable retaining ring surrounding said compact container to removably secure the container to the frame member, said frame member and said compact container each forming a portion of the outer surface of the cover.
2. A vanity box comprising a pair of cover sections separably connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member and a central compact container having a convex dished base member and an upturned flange member secured thereto, and a removable retaining ring surrounding said flange to removably secure said container in said frame member.

3. A vanity box comprising a pair of cover sections separably connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member and a central compact container having a convex dished base member and an upturned flange member secured thereto, said base member extending beyond said flange to form a seat, and a removable ring member surrounding said flange to secure removably said container in said frame member.

4. A container comprising a pair of cover sections separably connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member and a central member, said frame member having an interior opening and an internal ring overhanging said opening to provide a seat, said central member having a base portion and an upturned flange portion adapted to enter said ring, said base portion being adapted to enter the interior opening in said frame and to form in connection with the frame a continuous outer surface, and a removable ring member surrounding said flange and co-operating with the internal ring to removably secure the central member in the frame.

5. A vanity case comprising a pair of cover sections separably connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member and a central member and a mirror seated in said central member, the frame member and central member each forming a portion of the outer surface of the cover, said central member having means for holding said mirror.

6. A vanity case comprising a pair of cover sections separably connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member, and a central member comprising a base portion and an upturned flange portion, and a mirror secured by said flange portion, said flange being crimped over said frame member to secure the central member therein, the frame member and central member each forming a portion of the outer surface of the cover.

7. A vanity case comprising a pair of cover sections separably connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member having an interior opening and a ring firmly secured therein and overhanging said opening to form a seat and a central member comprising a base portion adapted to seat in said opening and an upturned flange portion adapted to enter said ring, said flange being crimped over said ring to firmly secure the central member to the frame member and a mirror frictionally secured in said central member by said flange.

8. A vanity case comprising a plurality of cover sections separably connected together, one of said sections being comprised of a ring wall and an inner central wall, said inner wall having an upstanding annular flange fitting into and bent over onto said ring wall, said flange forming a seat, and a toilet article in said seat.

9. A vanity case comprising a plurality of cover sections separably connected together, one of said sections being comprised of a ring wall and an inner central wall, said inner wall having an upstanding annular flange fitting into said ring wall, a ring removably secured to and surrounding said annular flange to hold said inner wall and ring wall in assembled relation, and a toilet article within said annular flange.

10. A box comprising a section having an annular frame member, said frame member having a seat, a central member seated in said seat and removable from the outside, and means for removably securing said central member to said seat, said frame member and central member forming the outside wall of the section, said central member being convex and having compacted therein a cosmetic compact.

11. A box comprising a section having an annular frame member, said frame member having an inwardly extending, overhanging flange forming a seat, a central member seated in said seat and removable from the outside, and means for removably securing said central member to said seat, said frame member and central member each being convex, fitting substantially flush and forming the outside wall of the section, and a compact molded in said central member.

12. A box comprising a section having a ring wall and an inner central wall, and means for securing said walls together, including an upstanding flange on said central wall fitting into said ring wall and bent over onto said ring wall.

13. A box comprising a pair of cover sections detachably connected together, one of said cover sections comprising a frame member and a central member, and means including a removable retaining ring surrounding said central member to removably secure said members together.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

CHARLES N. CORYELL.