



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COMPARTMENT BOX.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS K. P. HAINES, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Compartment Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain improvements in compartment boxes of the type used as a sewing box for containing spools and other notions.

The object of my invention is to provide the box with one or more trays—one or two of which can be turned independently of the bottom tray so that access may be had to the bottom tray without removing the upper tray, or trays.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved compartment box with the lid removed;

Fig. 2 is a plan view;

Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view illustrating a modification of the invention;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of another modification; and

Fig. 6 is a view showing one means of holding the trays in the box.

Referring to the drawings, 1 is the body of the box made of metal in the present instance and having a bead 2. 3 is the metallic lid of the box. The flange of the cover rests on the bead 2, as shown in Fig. 3. The box is circular in cross section, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, but it may be rectangular, as in Fig. 5, or of other shapes, if desired. Located in the box are two trays 4 and 5. Each tray is in the form of a ring so as to provide an open center of the full depth of the box to receive the work, or articles too large for the compartments of the trays. The lower tray 4 is divided into a series of compartments 7 by radial partitions 8 and the bottoms of the compartments are rounded, as shown. These compartments are intended primarily to contain spools and by rounding the bottoms, the spools will turn readily and will be held in a central position so that they can be easily and quickly removed from a compartment when necessary. As the bot-

tom tray is not fastened to the box, it can be removed when desired.

The upper tray 5 is similar in shape to the lower tray and has a series of compartments 9 separated by radial partitions 10. In the bottom of the upper tray is an elongated opening 11 of such a size that access may be had to the compartments of the lower tray without removing the upper tray, and, as the upper tray is free to turn on the lower tray, the opening 11 can be located above any compartment in the lower tray. The upper tray can also be removed when desired.

When the cover 3 is attached to the box, all of the articles in the compartments of the trays are held in place.

In Fig. 4 of the drawings, a modification is shown, in which three trays 4<sup>a</sup>, 5<sup>a</sup> and 12 are used. The trays 5<sup>a</sup> and 12 have openings, which, when in register, allow access to the compartments of the bottom tray.

In some cases, the bottom tray may be permanently secured to the box, as shown in Fig. 4, or the trays may be detachably secured in position, as shown in Fig. 6. In this instance, each tray has an annular groove 13 and on the box are spring tongues 14 cut from the body of the box. These tongues extend into the annular grooves so that, while the trays are held in position, they can be turned in respect to each other.

While my invention is particularly adapted for use as a sewing box, it will be understood that it can be used for any purpose when a number of small articles are necessary, which should be kept in a compact container.

In Fig. 4 I have shown the central compartment of the lower section provided with a rounded bottom and this section may have partitions in the central compartment if desired.

I claim:

1. The combination in a compartment box, of a circular body portion; a lid therefor; two trays located in the body portion, each tray being in the form of a ring, providing an open center for the box, each tray having a series of radial partitions forming compartments, each compartment having

a rounded bottom, the upper tray having an opening through which access may be had to the compartments of the lower tray.

2. The combination in a compartment  
5 box, of a circular body portion of metal; a lid therefor; two trays located in the body portion, each tray being in the form of a ring and having a series of compartments,

the upper tray having an opening in its bottom through which access may be had to the compartments of the lower tray; and means for detachably securing the upper tray to the body of the box, said means allowing it to turn freely on the lower tray. 10

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