To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Daniel W. Causey, citizen of the United States, residing at Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Workboxes Suitable as Darning Lasts or the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an accessory or device used in connection with darning hosiery or sewing or knitting in connection with fancy work, or in the repair of articles which can best be accomplished by the aid of a form over which the material to be worked can be stretched and held.

A primary object of the invention is to provide an article of the character referred to which may be economically manufactured and sold, thereby materially enhancing the value of the same from a commercial standpoint.

A further object of the invention is to provide a container including pivotally connected sections, each section being of a contrasting color thereby to provide a device which may be readily used under light or dark material, and thereby avoiding the necessity of having separate articles for that purpose.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a casing or shell having means for storing the thread and other sewing implements, the construction and arrangement being such that the thread may be pulled out of the device as needed, and then readily severed without requiring the use of shears for that purpose.

With the above and other objects in view which will more readily appear as the nature of the invention is understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated and claimed.

A preferred and practical embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved device.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof.

Figure 3 is a vertical cross-sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a detail view of the blank from which the combined spool and needle holder is formed.

Figure 6 is a detail sectional view illustrating the modified form of means for holding the thread or yarn and thimble.

Similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawing.

According to the embodiment of the invention shown in the drawing it is proposed to provide a hollow container or shell consisting of the sections A and B which are preferably of elongated oval formation and are dished, rounded or arched in such a way as to provide a smooth unbroken surface over which the goods being worked may be placed. These sections A and B are preferably made in contrasting colors, for example, black and white, red and blue or the like, and are pivotedly or hingedly connected at one edge as indicated at C. To prevent the sections from accidentally opening or separating, suitable locking means D may be provided, the said locking means, in the preferred instance also constituting means for assisting in supporting the thread and needle holding elements.

One of the novel and distinctive features of the invention resides in the provision of the hingedly connected cover and base sections A and B one of which is formed to permit thread or yarn being withdrawn from a spool within the shell, and also having means for facilitating the cutting or severing of the thread to be used from the main body thereof on the spool. Accordingly, as will be observed from the drawing, the section A has the flange 1 thereof cut away as indicated at 1', thereby to expose the flange portion 2 of the section B which is provided with a plurality of thread outlet openings 3, the same having adjacent thereto a thread cutter 4. In connection with these thread cutters 4 it will be observed that the same are preferably tongues of metal struck out from the flange and disposed toward an adjacent opening 3. These tongues of metal are sharp enough to readily cut the thread when the same is pulled thereagainst, and in that connection it will be observed that the thread cutting operation is always performed with the cutter farthest remote from the opening through which the thread issues. In other words, if the thread
issues from the right hand opening 3, the left hand cutter 4 is used for the severing operation, and vice versa.

To facilitate manufacturing operations, and also enhance the appearance, and strengthen the edge portions of the sections A and B, the same are respectively formed with the beads 5 and 6 which are preferably spaced farther apart or separated as indicated at 5' and 6' to provide a thumb rest to facilitate the thread cutting operation.

In the embodiment shown, the locking means for the sections A and B is designated generally as D and preferably consists of the mating stub-out portions 7 and 8, the said portions 7 constituting interior sockets for receiving the ends of a hollow spool holder and needle carrying cylinder designated generally as 9.

The spools of thread or balls of yarn may be placed within the container without being mounted on the member 9, but for greater convenience it is proposed to use the hollow member 9 for supporting the spools or balls as shown in dotted lines in Figures 2 and 3, and the said hollow member also constituting a needle holder as will be clear from an inspection of Figure 2. The blank from which the member 9 is made is shown in Figure 5, and is designated as 9a. It will be observed that the same includes the offset lugs 10 at the ends thereof and the integral disk 11, whereby when the blank is rolled into cylindrical form the disk will constitute the end of the cylinder and the lugs 10 will project from the ends of the holder whereby to snap into the sockets 7 to support the member 9 in the position shown in Figures 2 and 3. One end of the member 9 is preferably left open and projects slightly above the flange 2 so that the needles may slide out of the hollow member when the cover section A is raised without the necessity of removing the tubular member 9 from its position in the base section B. Obviously, when the cover section A is closed the open end of the tube 9 will also be closed, but when it is raised, the needles will readily fall out by lightly shaking or otherwise manipulating the holder.

By way of illustrating the range of modification of the invention, Figure 6 shows a cover section A' and a base section B', the latter having secured therein a ball or spool holding member E which may be a strip of metal bent into the formation of a double-U, thereby to provide partitions between which the yarn or thread may be held, while at the same time affording convenient means for housing the thimble T.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that the present invention carries forward in a hinged sectional casing construction the idea of a darning device having opposite sides of contrasting color, the line of demarcation being longitudinal of the device, as set forth in my pending application, Serial Number 737,148, filed Sept. 11, 1924. This arrangement has the advantage of providing a greater bearing surface for the work because the curved surface which forms the said bearing surface may be struck on a greater radius than is possible where the line of division of the contrasting colors is transverse to the longitudinal axis of the device. A device made according to the present construction readily fits into the hose to be repaired, at the same time affords a good surface for use in connection with fancy work.

Without further description it is thought that the features and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and it will of course be understood that changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A device of the class described including a pair of ovoidal sections having telescopically interfitting flange portions, hinges for connecting the sections at one edge, and one of the flanges at the edge opposite the hinge connection being cut away and the other being provided with thread outlet and thread cutting means.

2. A device of the class described including a body comprising hinged sections having flange portions adapted to register in telescopic relation, and the flange of one section being cut away to expose a portion of the flange of the other section, the exposed portion of said latter flange being provided with a thread outlet opening and a cutter for the thread.

3. A device of the class described including a body comprising hinged sections having overlapping flange portions, the flange portion of one section being cut away to expose a portion of the flange of the other section therebelow, and the said latter flange being provided with thread outlet and thread cutting means, and means within said body for holding spools of thread or balls of yarn.

4. A device of the class described including a body comprising hinged sections having overlapping flange portions, the flange portion of one section being cut away and the mating portion of the flange of the other section being provided with spaced thread-outlet openings and also with thread cutting elements located between the said openings, the said thread cutting elements being adapted to cooperate with the opening farthest remote therefrom.

5. A device of the class described including a body comprising hinged cover and base
sections one of which has a thread outlet, 
means for holding said sections releasably 
interlocked, said means providing interior 
sockets on the base section, and thread or 
yarn holding means adapted to detachably 
engage with said sockets. 
6. A device of the class described including 
a body comprising relatively arched 
cover and base sections formed with flanges 
adapted to overlap, and beads formed be-
tween the flanges and the body, said beads 
being spaced apart to provide a thumb rest 
at one side of the body, and one of said sec-
tions being provided with thread outlet and 
thread cutting means within the thumb rest 15 
zone defined by the beads. 
In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my 
signature. 

DANIEL W. CAUSEY.