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\multispan ⟨*number*⟩

This command tells TEX that the following ⟨*number*⟩ columns in a row of a horizontal alignment, or ⟨*number*⟩ rows in a column of a vertical alignment, should be combined into a single column or row (as with \span) and that their templates should be omitted (as with \omit).

Example:
```
  \tabskip = 13pt\halign{%
     \hfil\it#\hfil&\hfil#\hfil&#&\hfil\$#\cr
     United States&Washington&dollar&1.00\cr
     France&Paris&franc&0.174\cr
     Israel&Jerusalem &
        \multispan 2 \hfil\it(no information)\hfil \cr
     Japan&Tokyo&yen&0.0829\cr}
```
produces:

United States	Washington	dollar	$1.00
France	Paris	franc	$0.174
Israel	Jerusalem	*(no information)*	
Japan	Tokyo	yen	$0.0829

Example:
```
  {\hsize=1.2in \parindent=0pt
  \valign{(#)\strut&(#)\strut&(#)\strut&(#)\strut\cr
     bernaise&curry&hoisin&hollandaise\cr
     \multispan 3$$\left\{{{\rm ketchup}\atop{\rm marinara}}
        \right\}$$&mustard\cr
     rarebit&tartar\cr}}
```
produces:

(bernaise)   (rarebit)

(curry) $\left\{ {\text{ketchup} \atop \text{marinara}} \right\}$ (tartar)

(hoisin)

(hollandaise)   (mustard)