March 14, 1933. F. R. MEGINNISS 1,901,253

CLAMP AND SUPPORT FOR FLASH LIGHTS

Filed Dec. 10, 1930

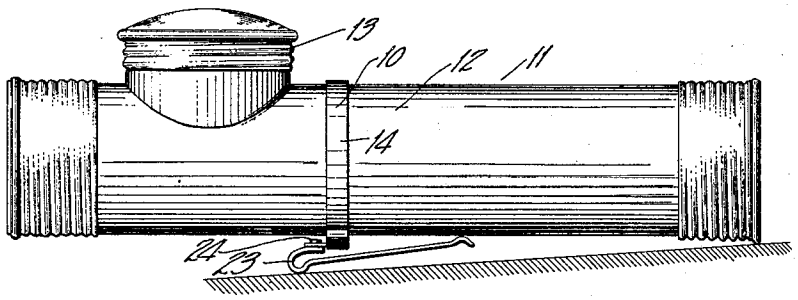


FIG. 1

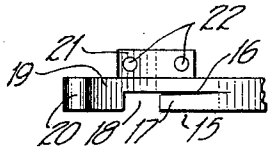


FIG. 4



FIG. 5

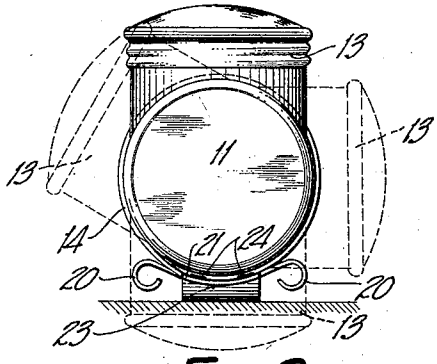


FIG. 2

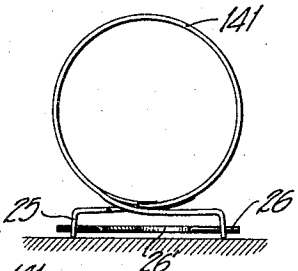


FIG. 7

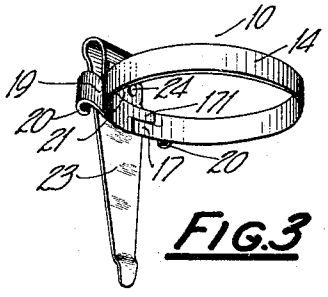


FIG. 3

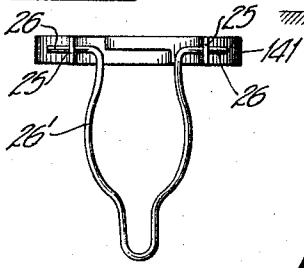


FIG. 6

INVENTOR
Francis R. Meginniss
By Cuddon & Wood
ATTORNEYS

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FRANCIS R. MEGINNISS, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK

CLAMP AND SUPPORT FOR FLASH LIGHTS

Application filed December 10, 1930. Serial No. 501,376.

My invention more particularly relates to a combined clamping member and a support for a flashlight by which the flashlight may normally be frictionally retained in said clamping member and readily adjusted therein and supported by a member attached to the clamping member.

My invention will best be understood by reference to the accompanying drawing in which I have illustrated certain preferred embodiments thereof and in which

Fig. 1 is a side view of a flashlight with the clamping member and support therefor, embodying my invention, attached to the flashlight,

Fig. 2 is an end view of Fig. 1 and illustrating in dotted lines, positions to which the flashlight may be turned without changing the position of the support,

Fig. 3 is a perspective view illustrating the combined clamping member for the flashlight and the support which is attached thereto,

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary plan view of a portion of the clamping member,

Fig. 5 is a side view of Fig. 4,

Fig. 6 is a plan view of a modified form of clamping member and a support attached thereto, embodying my invention, and

Fig. 7 is an end view of Fig. 6.

Like reference characters indicate like parts throughout the drawing.

Referring now to the drawing and first to Figs. 1 to 5, 10 indicates generally a clamping device which may be applied to a flashlight indicated generally at 11, and comprising a casing, 12, and, in the embodiment of my invention illustrated, having a side projection 13.

The clamping member 10 comprises a loop, 14 formed of spring metal, preferably sheet metal, the loop having slitted portions 15, the slits extending circumferentially of the loops, as best shown in Fig. 4. One end of the loop is slitted, as at 16, providing a projecting tongue 17 of metal extending along the slit and bent inwardly with respect to the loop, as indicated in Fig. 5. A portion of the metal is also cut away, as at 18 (see Fig. 4). The other end of the loop is similarly slitted and cut away but reversely to that of the first end of the loop, that is to say, the cut away portion and the projecting tongue at one end of the loop are at the opposite side of the strip from those at the other.

Prior to assembling the clamping member, the one end of the loop is located by the side of the other end thereof. Referring particularly to Fig. 3, the tongue 17 of the metal at one end of the loop would be located at the lower side of the tongue 171, as viewed in Fig. 3. To bring the parts into interfitted relation, the strip of metal, forming the end of the loop on which the tongue 17 is located, is passed through the cut away portion 18 of the opposite end of the loop, so that the tongue 17 drops in behind the tongue 171, remembering that both tongues 17 and 171 are bent inwardly from the remaining portions of the loop. The two ends of the loop are thus brought into registry, and are free to move relatively to each other, the tongue 17 forming a guide for the tongue 171 and, conversely, the tongue 171 forming a guide for the tongue 17. The strip of metal forming the loop also is preferably provided with end portions 19 which extend laterally from the loop and are preferably curved at their ends as at 20 to form convenient pieces which may be grasped by the fingers and by compressing which, the slitted portions of the ends of the loop may be moved away from each other and the loop thereby enlarged.

The strip of metal forming the clamping member is preferably provided with a lateral extension or lug 21 as best shown in Fig. 4, and provided with openings 22, to which extension a clip or support 23 may be secured, preferably rigidly, as by rivets 24 as indicated in Fig. 1. The support 23 in the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 1 and 3 is turned back upon itself and preferably extends generally longitudinally of the axis of the flashlight 11, the support being of sufficient width to hold the flashlight stable and prevent it from rolling. The end of the clip 23 is brought into engagement with the flashlight casing or is closely adjacent

thereto, so that the clip may engage a belt or other article of apparel and furnish a convenient means for supporting the flashlight, a feature which is particularly useful for firemen and others who have occasion to carry a flashlight when both hands are otherwise engaged.

Referring to Fig. 2, it will be seen that the frictional engagement of the clamp with the casing of the flashlight permits ready angular movement thereof with respect to the support. This feature is particularly valuable for mechanics or other workers because it permits the flash light to be placed upon the floor or other support and its beam directed in any desired direction.

In the embodiment of my invention illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, a loop 141 of spring metal similar to that illustrated in Figs. 1 to 5 is provided, but the projecting ends thereof are preferably bent outwardly as indicated at 25 and are provided with openings (not illustrated) in which the bent ends 26 of a bail shaped metallic member, 26^1, constituting a hanger for the flashlight, are received. Obviously, the flashlight may be suspended by the bail or the bail may be turned parallel with the flashlight, as shown in Fig. 7, and the light supported in stable position upon the projecting ends, 25, which perform the same function as the clip, 23, in Figs. 1 and 2.

While I have described my invention in its preferred embodiment, it is to be understood that the words which I have used are words of description rather than of limitation, and that changes within the scope of the accompanying claims may be made without departing from the true scope and spirit of my invention.

What I claim is—

1. In combination, a flashlight provided with a casing, a clamping member comprising a loop formed of resilient material having slitted portions interfitted with each other and movable relatively to each other whereby said loop may frictionally engage said casing, and a support for the flashlight on said loop.

2. In combination, a flashlight provided with a casing, a clamping member comprising a loop formed of resilient material having slitted portions interfitted with each other and movable relatively to each other whereby said loop may frictionally engage said casing, and a member secured to said loop and extending substantially parallel with the axis of the flashlight and extending transversely of the flashlight to a degree sufficient to prevent the flashlight from rolling when resting thereon.

3. In combination, a flashlight provided with a substantially cylindrical casing, a clamping member comprising a metal strip of resilient material having a loop slitted circumferentially at two portions and a part cut away transversely at each portion whereby the two portions may interfit with and move relatively to each other, said strip also being provided with outwardly extending end portions by which the size of said loop may be varied, and means attached to said loop for supporting said flashlight.

4. In combination, a flashlight provided with a substantially cylindrical casing and a clamping member comprising a metal strip formed of resilient material having a loop slitted circumferentially at two portions and a part cut away transversely at each portion, each leaving a metal tongue extending along each of said slitted portions, each of said metal tongues being bent inwardly, whereby the two portions may interfit with and move relatively to each other, means whereby the size of said loop may be varied, and means attached to said clamping member for supporting said flashlight.

5. A flashlight support comprising a band adapted to embrace and frictionally engage said flashlight and having slitted portions interfitted with each other and provided with an offset portion forming a stable support for said flashlight and preventing it from rolling when resting thereon.

6. In a combined clamping member and support for a generally cylindrical member, a strip of spring metal comprising a loop having slitted end portions interfitted with each other and movable relatively to each other whereby the size of said loop may be changed, means for changing the size of said loop, and a support for said cylindrical member on said loop.

7. In combination, a device provided with a substantially cylindrical casing, a clamping member therefor comprising a metal strip formed of resilient material and having a loop slitted circumferentially at two portions and a part cut away transversely at each portion, whereby the two portions may be interfitted with and move relatively to each other, means whereby the size of said loop may be varied, and means attached to said clamping member for supporting said device.

FRANCIS R. MEGINNISS.