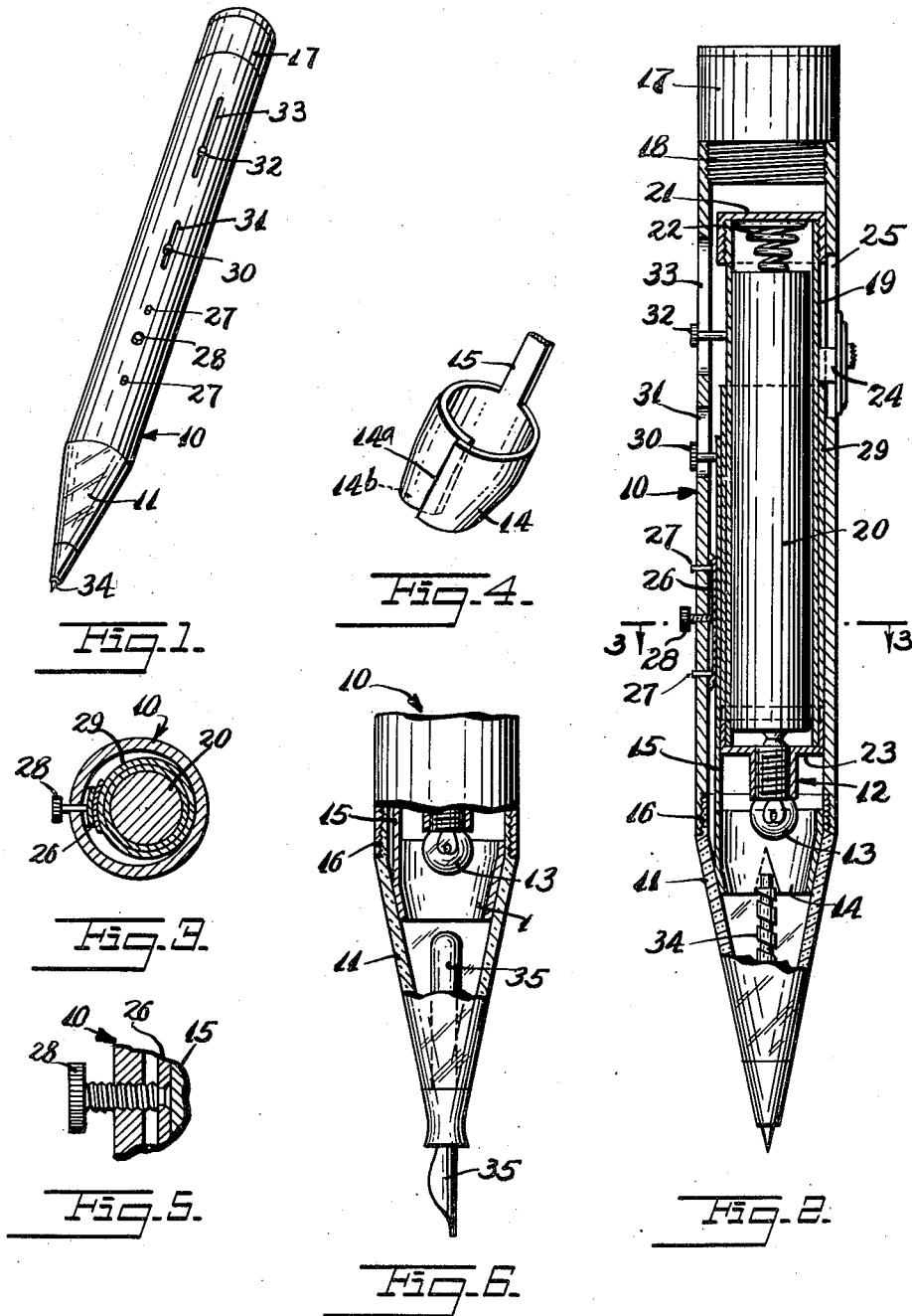


July 13, 1943.

B. ZENO
COMBINED CIGARETTE LIGHTER, FLASHLIGHT,
AND WRITING IMPLEMENT
Filed May 1, 1941

2,323,960



INVENTOR
Benigno Zeno
BY *John H. Black*
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,323,960

COMBINED CIGARETTE LIGHTER, FLASH-
LIGHT, AND WRITING IMPLEMENT

Benigno Zeno, New York, N. Y.

Application May 1, 1941, Serial No. 391,228

4 Claims. (Cl. 240—6.46)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a combined cigarette lighter, flashlight and writing implement.

The invention proposes the construction of an article as mentioned which is characterized by a tubular housing having a light transmitting frusto-conical shaped end portion supporting a writing implement at its lower end. A flashlight is mounted within said housing capable of lighting an area around the writing implement.

Still further the invention proposes to provide a cigarette or cigar lighter upon the top end of the tubular housing.

The invention also contemplates the provision of a light shield mounted within the housing and adjustable to various positions to control the light which is emanating from the frusto-conical shaped end portion so as to more conveniently light a restricted area in the vicinity of the writing implement.

Another object of the invention resides in characterizing the device by the fact that the writing implement may comprise a mechanical pencil or fountain pen.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a combined cigarette lighter, flashlight and writing implement constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged side elevational view of the object shown in Fig. 1, with an outer portion thereof broken away to disclose interior parts.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of the light shield partially shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary enlarged detailed view of a portion of Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary side elevational view of a combined cigarette lighter, flashlight and writing implement constructed in accordance with a modified form of this invention, an outer portion thereof being broken away to disclose interior parts.

The combined cigarette lighter, flashlight, and writing instrument, in accordance with this invention, includes a tubular housing 10 having a light transmitting frusto-conical shaped end por-

tion 11. A flashlight 12 is located within the housing 10 and has a lamp 13 within the said end portion 11. A light shield 14 is disposed within the housing 10 and extends across the upper portion of said end portion 11. This shield 14 is provided with a handle 15 extending longitudinally along one wall of the housing 10. Means is provided for clamping the flashlight 12 and handle 15 in various longitudinal positions within the housing 10 as will become clear as this specification proceeds. The purpose of this arrangement is that the lamp 13 and shield 14 may be relatively moved, longitudinally of the end portion 11 to control the compass of the emitted light.

The frusto-conical shaped end portion 11 of the housing 10 is connected with the main portion of the housing with a threaded section 16. The end portion 11 is made from transparent or translucent composition material, or with other stiff material which transmits rays of light. A cigarette or cigar lighter 17 is removably mounted on the top end of the housing 10. This lighter may be of any design or construction. It is shown provided with a threaded bottom portion 18 which threadably engages into the top portion of the housing 10.

The flashlight 12 includes a tubular fiber body 19 encasing the battery 20. The top end of the tubular body 19 is normally closed with a removable cap 21. A spring 22 is mounted in this end of the tubular body and urges the battery 20 downwards. The tubular body 19 is provided with a bottom end cap 23 into which the lamp 13 is removably mounted. The flashlight 12 is also provided with a switch 24 mounted on one side and extending through an elongated slot 25 formed in the side of the housing 10. The details of the electric circuit of the flashlight 12 will not be given in this specification as it forms no part of this invention, and flashlights of this type are generally known. However, it should be clear that the arrangement is such that the switch 24 may be closed to cause the lamp 13 to light, and may be opened to extinguish the lamp.

The light shield 14 comprises a flexible sheet of metal bent into frusto-conical shape and having its side edge portions 14a and 14b slightly overlapping. The handle 15 extends upwards from on the top of the shield 14. The arrangement is such that when the handle 15 is moved downwards the overlapping areas 14a and 14b will be further forced over each other, contracting the light shield 14 as it engages into lower portions of the tapering end portion 11. When

the handle 15 is raised the light shield 14 automatically expands as it moves upwards into the larger part of the end portion 11.

The means for clamping the flashlight 12 and the handle 15 in various longitudinal positions within the casing includes a clamp strip 26 extended along one side of the housing 10 interiorly thereof. Several pins 27 are mounted upon the ends of the clamp strip 26 and pass through small openings in the housing 10 so as to movably support the clamp strip in position. A screw 28 threadedly passes through the side wall of the housing 10 and is rotatively connected with the clamp strip 26 (see Fig. 5) so as to be capable of moving the clamp strip inwards and outwards as the screw is turned. A tubular casing 29 is mounted over a portion of the tubular body 19 of the flashlight 12, and is fixedly connected therewith with adhesive or other similar material. The handle portion 15 rests against this casing 29. The clamp strip 26 rests against the handle 15.

A headed stud 30 is connected with the top portion of the handle 15 and extends through an elongated slot 31 in the housing 10. Another headed stud 32 is mounted upon the side of the flashlight 12 and extends through an elongated slot 33 in the housing 10.

Replacement of the battery 20 is accomplished by removing the lighter 17 from the housing 10 and the stud 32 is then moved to the upper end of the slot 33 causing the cap 21 to be extended beyond the end of the housing 10 permitting the battery 20 to be removed. Likewise, to replace the lamp 13 the frusto-conical end portion 11 is unscrewed from the end of the housing 10 and the stud 32 is moved to the lower end of the slot 33 causing the lamp to be slightly projected beyond the lower end of the housing 10 to be unscrewed from its socket.

A mechanical pencil 34 is mounted on the bottom of the end portion 11 of the casing. The details of this pencil will not be given in this specification as it forms no part of this invention. In Fig. 6 a modified form of the invention is disclosed in which a fountain pen 35 is mounted upon the bottom of the end portion 11. In other respects this form of the invention is similar to the previous form and like parts are identified by like reference numerals.

The operation of the device is as follows:

The screw 28 may be slightly loosened, and then the headed studs 30 and 32 may be manually moved to correspondingly move the handle 15 and the flashlight 12. It is thus possible to relatively set these parts so that the rays of light which pass out from the light transmitting end portion 11 are suitably directed downwards upon the material upon which the writing implement is being used. After the handle 15 and flashlight 12 have been adjusted to one's convenience the screw 28 is tightened to fixedly hold these parts in position.

The lighter 17 may be used in the conventional way.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the class described having a tubular housing with a light transmitting frusto-conical end portion and a flashlight within said housing having its lamp disposed adjacent said end portion, a circular light shield disposed within said end portion and in face contact with the walls thereof, a handle extending from said shield between the adjacent faces of said flashlight and one wall of said housing, means for longitudinally moving said handle to correspondingly move said shield relative to said lamp and end portion for controlling the quantity of light emanating from said end portion, and means for holding said handle in various fixed positions to correspondingly hold said shield, said latter means, comprising a clamp strip movably mounted between the adjacent faces of said handle and wall of said housing, and a screw threadedly passed through said wall of said housing and having its inner end rotatively attached to said clamp strip to move said clamp strip to secure said handle between said clamp strip and adjacent face of said flashlight when said screw is turned.

2. A device of the class described having a tubular housing with a light transmitting frusto-conical end portion and a flashlight within said housing having its lamp disposed adjacent said end portion, a circular light shield disposed within said end portion and in face contact with the walls thereof, a handle extending from said shield between the adjacent faces of said flashlight and one wall of said housing, means for longitudinally moving said handle to correspondingly move said shield relative to said lamp and end portion for controlling the quantity of light emanating from said end portion, and means for holding said handle in various fixed positions to correspondingly hold said shield, said latter means, comprising a clamp strip movably mounted between the adjacent faces of said handle and wall of said housing, and a screw threadedly passed through said wall of said housing and having its inner end rotatively attached to said clamp strip to move said clamp strip to secure said handle between said clamp strip and adjacent face of said flashlight when said screw is turned, said movable mounting of said clamp strip, comprising a pin mounted on said clamp strip on either side of said screw, said pins being slidably extended through complementary aligned openings formed in said housing.

3. A device of the class described having a tubular housing with a light transmitting frusto-conical end portion and a flashlight within said housing having its lamp disposed adjacent said end portion, a circular light shield disposed within said end portion and in face contact with the walls thereof, a handle extending from said shield between the adjacent faces of said flashlight and one wall of said housing, means for longitudinally moving said handle to correspondingly move said shield relative to said lamp and end portion for controlling the quantity of light emanating from said end portion, and means for holding said handle in various fixed positions to correspondingly hold said shield, said light shield being formed of a strip of flexible metal bent into a circular shape and having its ends overlapped causing said shield to contract when forced into said frusto-conical end portion and to expand when withdrawn therefrom.

4. A device of the class described having a tubular housing with a light transmitting end por-

tion, a flashlight disposed within said housing and having its lamp disposed within said end portion so that the rays of light may pass through said end portion, a circular light shield encircling said lamp and in face contact with said end portion, means for movably supporting said flashlight to be movable relative to said housing for shifting the position of said lamp relative to said light shield and end portion, means for movably supporting said light shield to be movable rela-

5 tive to said lamp and end portion, and manually releasable means for simultaneously locking said flashlight and shield in various adjusted positions, whereby when said manually releasable means is released it frees said flashlight and shield to be moved relative to each other and each relative to said end portion for controlling the quantity of light rays emanating from said end portion.

BENIGNO ZENO.