June 3, 1930. C. B. SCOTT 1,761,239

EYE TESTING DEVICE

Filed June 13, 1927

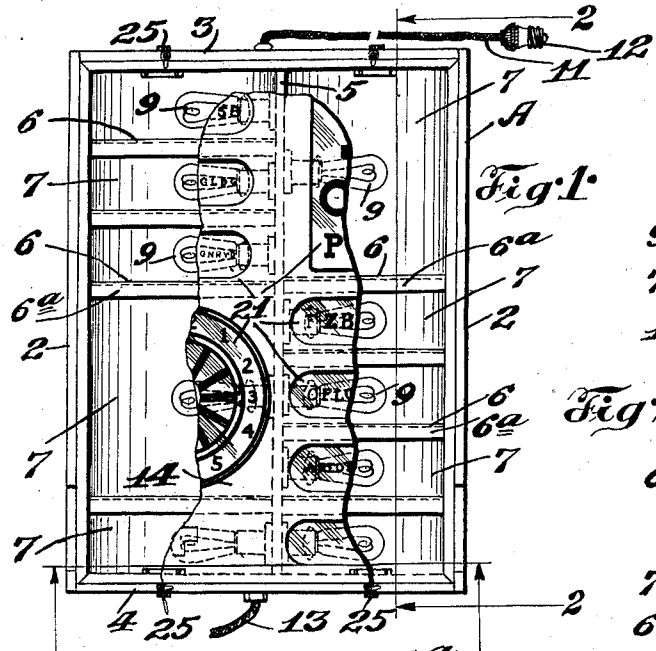


Fig. 1.

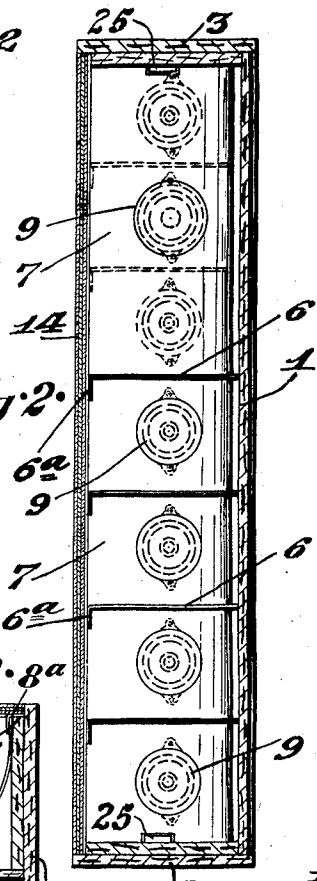


Fig. 2.

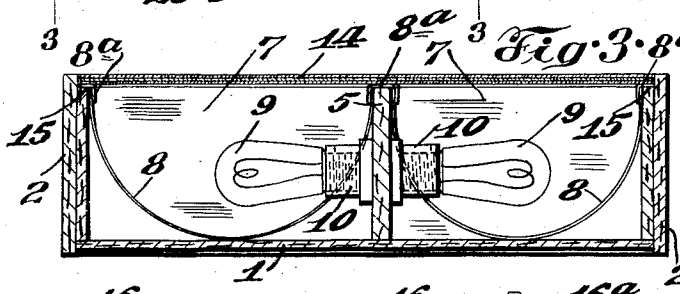


Fig. 3.

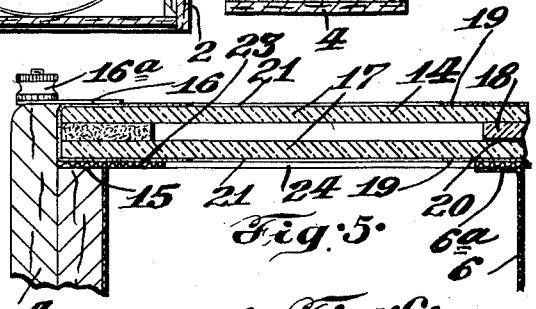


Fig. 5.

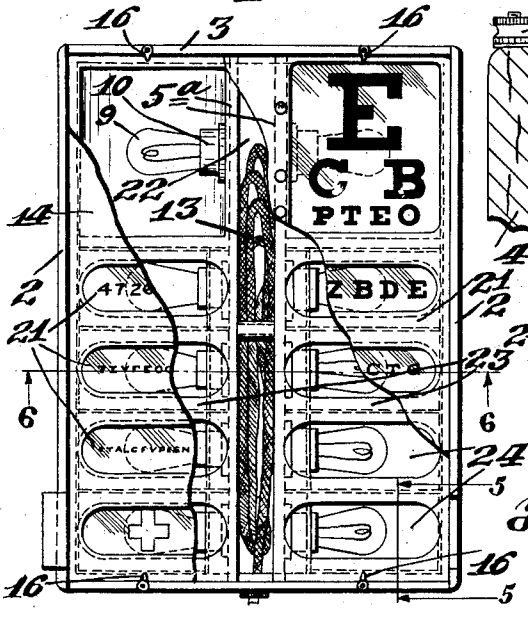


Fig. 4.

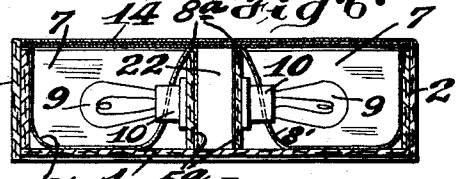


Fig. 6.

INVENTOR
Charlie B. Scott,
By Ralph Kennedy
ATTORNEY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLIE B. SCOTT, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO M. E. GREEN MANUFACTURING CO., OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, A CORPORATION OF MISSOURI

EYE-TESTING DEVICE

Application filed June 13, 1927. Serial No. 198,561.

This invention relates generally to eye-testing devices. More particularly, my invention has to do with a certain new and useful improvement in cabinets for exhibiting illuminable testing devices, objects, symbols, or other characters or reading matter employed in diagnosing the condition of the eyes.

My invention has for its principal objects the provision of a simple and inexpensive, yet durable, practical, and efficient structure for the purpose stated, and the attaining of certain advantages as will more fully appear in the following description. To such end, the invention resides in the novel construction and arrangement of the cabinet and its parts and in the combinations and arrangements of parts thereof as hereinafter described and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing,

Figure 1 is a front view of a cabinet embodying my invention, parts of the front wall or panel thereof being broken away and removed to disclose and expose the interior arrangements;

Figure 2 is a vertical section, on an enlarged scale, through the cabinet on or about the line 2—2, Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a horizontal section taken on or about the line 3—3, Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 1, showing a modification of the cabinet structure;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary section taken on or about the line 5—5, Figure 4; and

Figure 6 is a section on the line 6—6, Figure 4.

Referring now more in detail and by reference characters to the drawing, and first to Figures 1 to 3, inclusive, thereof, the cabinet A there illustrated comprises a rectangular casing or shell including a rear wall 1, spaced side walls 2, a top wall 3, and a bottom wall 4, the same being constructed of wood or other suitable material and suitably fixed permanently together.

The cabinet A is divided vertically or lengthwise, about the middle thereof, by a partition 5. The cabinet A is, in turn, subdivided by transverse or horizontal partitions 6 into a series of separate compartments 7, said compartments, by virtue of the central partition 5, being arranged in two vertical tiers. The central partition 5 is preferably composed of wood or of the same material of which the walls of the cabinet are made, but the transverse partitions 6 are preferably composed of relatively light weight pliable insulation material, such as, for instance, sheet asbestos fabric, compressed fibrous material, or the like. It will be understood that the several compartments 7 may be of any desirable dimensions or area to meet any particular requirements.

Interposed between the several partitions 6 and forming the rear walls of the respective compartments 7, are sections 8 of preferably similar material to that of the partitions 6, each sheet or section 8 being curved or arcuate transversely of the cabinet. At their outer edges, each partition 6 is preferably flanged, as at 6^a, and adhesively fixed to and thereby engaging the partition 5 and the cabinet side walls 2 and the adjacent edge portions of the partitions 6 and 8, are preferably similar strips 8^a for securely, without the employment of nails or other such attaching members, permanently fastening the partitions 6 and 8 together and to the cabinet.

In each of the compartments 7 is placed an electric lamp bulb 9 for the purposes of illumination, as will later more fully appear. The supporting sockets 10 for the lamps 9 are mounted on the central partition 5 and wired and adapted for connection to a suitable source of electrical supply in any usual or suitable manner, a standard connecting cord 11 and plug 12 being shown, Figure 1, conventionally at the upper end of the cabinet, while another cord 13 at the lower end of the cabinet in practice leads to a device, not shown, but obviously located at a convenient place preferably somewhat remote from the cabinet, for controlling the lighting of the several lamps 9

The front wall or panel 14 of the cabinet is preferably removable and is normally set in between the marginal portions of the side and end walls of the cabinet, resting at its margins upon shoulders 15 formed by rabbeting said side and end walls, and being supported

at its middle by the central partition 5, as best seen in Figures 3 and 5. This wall or panel 14 is detachably held in place by suitable clips 16, which latter are conveniently mounted on the end walls 3 and 4 and are movable out of engaging relation to the wall or panel by loosening the clamping nut 16ª or the like (see Figure 5).

As shown, the front wall or panel 14 is a unitary structure comprising a pair of separate transparent plates 17 of glass or other substance of like character, placed flatwise together with an interposed intermediate plate 18, the outer face of the panel being covered by a sheet of opaque fabric 19 whose marginal portions are folded over and adhesively or otherwise fixed to the marginal portions of said plates, so as to bind them securely together. Interposed between one of the plates 17 and the intermediate plate 18, is a sheet 20 of light-penetrable or translucent material, preferably parchment paper, on which is printed or otherwise marked the usual test devices, objects, symbols, or other characters or reading matter used in diagnosing the condition of the eyes, the respective fields of display thereof being coincident with the several compartments of the cabinet, so as to be illuminated by the respective contained lamps 9, and the opaque covering material 19 is correspondingly provided with sight openings 21 through which the respective fields are exposed to view. In this connection, it may be here stated that the particular panel 14 shown in the drawings is reversible, and, to such end, the opaque covering 19 is provided on both sides of the panel, or, in other words, on the outer faces of both of the body plates 17, sight openings 21 being provided correspondingly in said covering material on both sides.

In Figures 4 and 6 of the drawings, a modification of the cabinet structure is illustrated, wherein there are two parallel central partitions 5ª corresponding to and taking the place of the single partition 5 of the first structure. The two partitions 5ª are spaced apart, thereby providing an elongated central conduit chamber 22 extending from end to end of the cabinet, which may be conveniently utilized for the storage of the electrical wiring for the lamp circuits and the cord 13 of the controlling device, which latter cord may be normally folded and stored in the conduit chamber 22 and withdrawn therefrom as needed in any particular installation.

In other respects, this structure is substantially the same as that herein first described, except that the arcuate compartment members 8′ between the partitions 6 are given a shape slightly different from that of the arcuate members 8 of the other structure, in that they are preferably brought with their middle portions down flatwise against the rear wall 1 of the cabinet (see Figure 6).

In this particular modification, also, there is provided a false front for the cabinet, the same underlying the removable front wall or panel 14, as indicated at 23. This false front member is preferably composed of the same character of material as that of the partition members 6, 8, and 8′, and it is provided with openings 24 substantially coincident with, but preferably somewhat larger in length and breadth than, the respective openings 19 of the opaque covering 17 of the front wall or panel 14.

In this modification, it is further preferable to cement the partition-flanges 6ª to the adjacent inner or under face of the false front 23, the latter being in turn secured at its margins to the shoulders 15 of the casing walls.

The members 8 and 8′, in addition to largely covering and concealing the sockets 10 and the wiring thereto, serve as reflectors for the light from the lamps 9 in the compartments 7 and are accordingly preferably tinted in a characteristic color, preferably a shade of blue, as are also the partition members 6, so as to give the desired hue to the light as reflected thereby through the sheet 20 bearing the described test-characters. I might add that by so curving or flexing the compartment rear-wall members 8, 8′, I am enabled to increase the reflecting surface thereof and reduce heat generated within the cabinet, such heat finding escape from the cabinet by means of openings or ventilators 25 provided for the purpose preferably in the end walls of the cabinet.

While the structures herein shown and described are simple and practical for the purposes intended, it is obvious that further modifications and changes in the parts thereof may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without in the least departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claim. The invention, therefore, is not limited to the details shown in the accompanying drawings.

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

In an eye-testing device, in combination, a cabinet structure comprising top, bottom, and side walls, partition members of sheet material disposed within the cabinet, said members having their forward marginal portions turned at right angles to the body portion thereof, a false front element of the same character of material as said partition members disposed upon and secured at adjacent portions of its under face to said right angular portions of said partition members, said false front element having sight openings therein co-ordinated respectively with and of reduced dimensions relatively to the separate compartments provided in the cabinet by the relative arrangement of said partition mem-

bers therein, and a paneled front wall disposed flatwise over and upon said front element and disposed at its margin within the confines of the cabinet defined by the walls thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

CHARLIE B. SCOTT.