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F. F. DICKSON

2,168,118

UTILITY LIGHT

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Fig. 1.

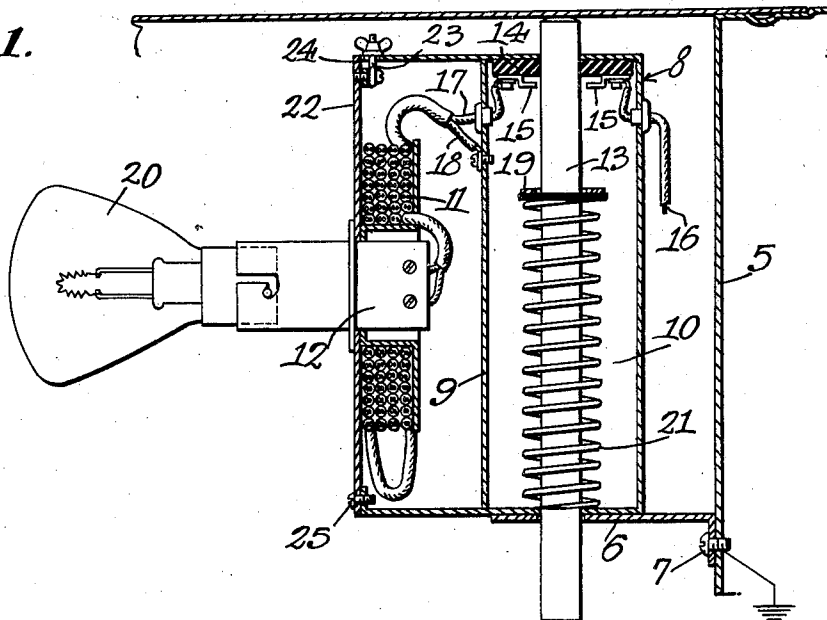


Fig. 2.

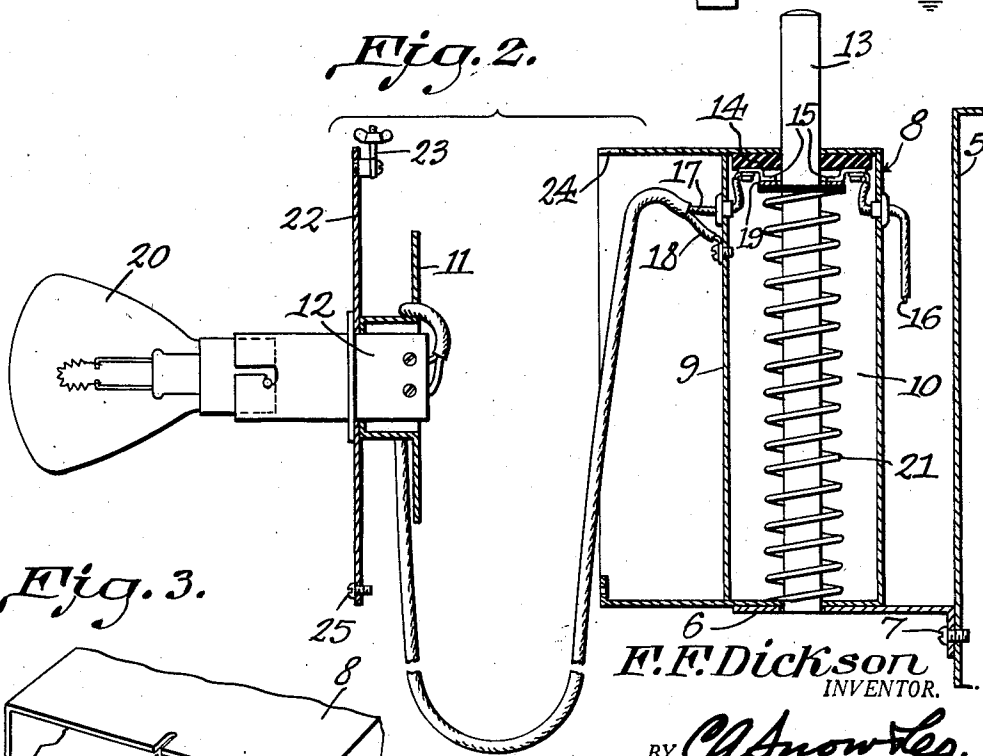
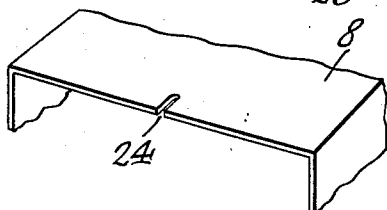


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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UTILITY LIGHT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 240—8.18)

This invention relates to a motor vehicle accessory, the primary object of the invention being to provide a trouble lamp which will be automatically lighted when the motor vehicle hood has been raised to inspect or repair the motor.

An important object of the invention is the provision of a trouble lamp of this character which is mounted in such a manner that the person or mechanic inspecting or repairing the motor will have full use of his hands to accomplish his purpose.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a trouble lamp which, while normally supported in such a way that light rays projected therefrom will clearly illuminate the motor, the lamp may be readily removed from its support and carried to positions remote from its support, to inspect the tires, brakes or other parts at the rear of the vehicle.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein described, may be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is an elevational view of a trouble lamp constructed in accordance with the invention, the controlling switch and support being shown in section.

Figure 2 is a sectional view through the switch and support, the switch being shown in its active position.

Figure 3 is a fragmental perspective view of the top wall of the switch housing.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the reference character 5 designates the dash-board of a motor vehicle on which the trouble lamp forming the essence of the present invention, is mounted, as by means of the bracket 6, which in turn is secured to the dash-board 5, by screws 7.

The support for the trouble lamp is in the form of a housing 8 secured to the bracket 6 in any suitable manner. A partition 9 divides the housing 8 into a plunger compartment 10 and a compartment in which the reel 11 and lamp socket 12 are normally housed.

The reference character 13 designates the plunger of the switch actuating mechanism, which is slidably mounted within the compartment 10 the housing 5 and bracket 6 having registering openings through which the lower end

of the plunger 13 moves when it is depressed by contact with the hood of the motor vehicle. Secured within the upper end of the compartment 10 is a block of insulating material 14 to which the contacts 15 are secured, the contacts 15 being insulated from the housing by the insulating material 14.

Wire 16 connects with one of the contacts 15, and provides a circuit with the battery of the vehicle. The wire 17 connects with the opposite contact member 15, and extends to the lamp socket 12. The ground wire is indicated by the reference character 18 and connects the lamp socket to the partition 9 of the housing. Carried by the plunger 13, is a contact member 19 which is insulated from the plunger and so mounted that when extended, will bridge the contact members 15, completing the circuit to the lamp 20, mounted in socket 12. The plunger 13, is normally urged upwardly by the coiled spring 21, 20 which is coiled around the plunger, within the plunger compartment. It might be further stated that the plunger is of a length to extend an appreciable distance above the upper end of the housing to be engaged by the motor hood and moved downwardly by contact with the hood, when the hood is closed, with the result that the circuit to the lamp is broken and the lamp extinguished.

The lamp socket 12 and reel 11 are supported 30 on the removable cover plate 22, which is held in position by the bolt 23 adapted to extend into the slot 24 of the cover. The screw 25 extends through the cover, and passes into a threaded opening of the housing further securing the cover 35 22 in position.

As shown by the drawing, the wires which are connected to the lamp socket 12 are of appreciable lengths and are normally wound on the reel 11, to be readily unwound therefrom should it be desired to remove the lamp from the coverplate so that it may be carried to the rear of the vehicle, for use in illuminating the rear of the vehicle, to inspect or repair the same.

While I have shown a bracket 6 of a particular construction, it is to be understood that the shape and size of the bracket may be changed to better adapt the device for attachment to a motor vehicle of a particular type.

I claim:

A trouble lamp for positioning under the hood of a motor vehicle, comprising a housing, a partition within the housing dividing the housing into a switch compartment and a reel compartment, contact members within the switch compartment, 50

a cover plate for the housing, a lamp supported on the cover plate, a reel supported on the cover plate, electric wires leading from the lamp and wound on the reel, said wires being in circuit with the contact members of the switch compartment, a vertically movable plunger operating through the switch compartment, contact members on the vertically movable plunger and adapted to engage the first mentioned contact members completing a circuit to the lamp, a normally open electrical circuit between the contact members of the switch compartment and a source of electricity supply and said cover plate adapted to be removed providing a portable trouble lamp.

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