May 24, 1932. H. C. KEYES 1,859,516

ILLUMINATED DISPLAY DEVICE

Filed Dec. 29, 1930

Fig. 1.

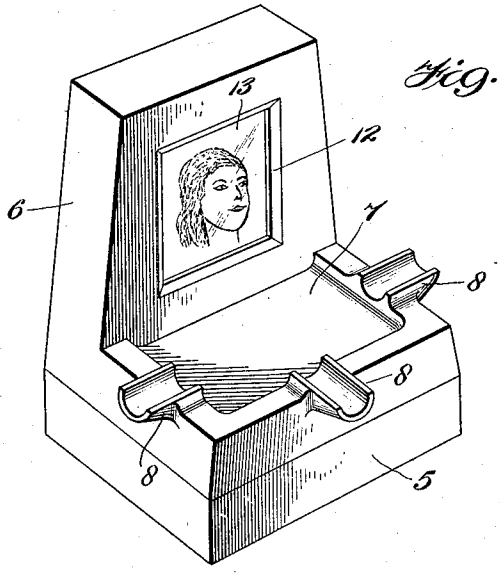


Fig. 2.

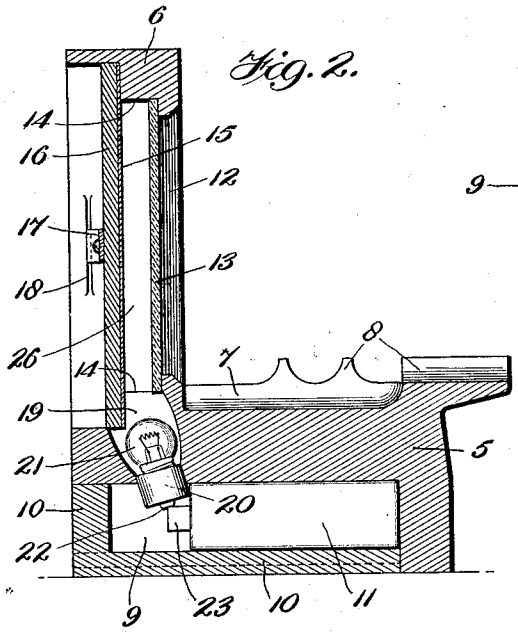
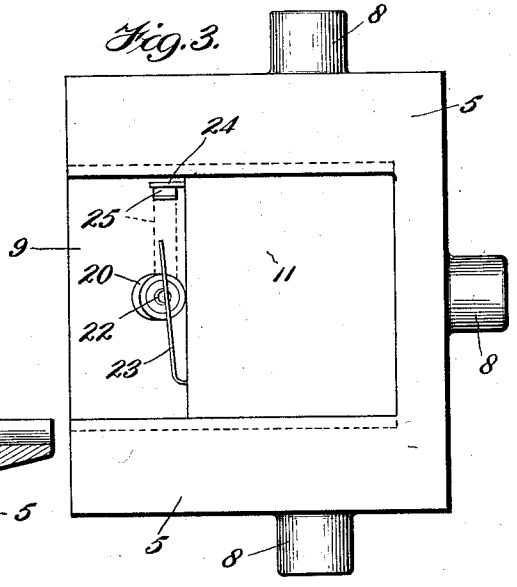


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ILLUMINATED DISPLAY DEVICE

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This invention relates to ash trays and similar receptacles and has for one of its objects to provide a novelty ash tray which combines in a single structure, an ash receiver, and a frame for receiving and exhibiting pictures and the like.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the character described in which provision is made for the illumination of the picture and in which the illuminating means preferably comprises a small electric lamp, the current for which is furnished by an electric battery of the dry cell type, the lamp and battery being housed within the base of the article thereby providing a self-contained unit which may be readily moved from place to place if desired.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a combined ash tray and illuminated picture frame which will be simple in construction, comparatively inexpensive to manufacture and more efficient in use than those which have been heretofore proposed.

With the above and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in the novel details of construction and combinations of parts more fully hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification in which like reference characters designate like parts in all the views:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an ash tray constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a central vertical sectional view of the tray shown in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is an inverted plan view of the parts shown in Figure 2, the removable slide or cover member for the bottom being removed.

In the said drawings 5 indicates a base which may be substantially rectangular in form and which is provided at one side with an upright extension 6 preferably, although not necessarily, integral with the said base. The upper surface of the base 5 is recessed as at 7, to form an ash receiving receptacle and the walls surrounding the said recess 7 are provided with a plurality of lugs 8, the upper faces of which are concave as clearly shown in Figures 1 and 2, for receiving and holding cigarettes, cigars and the like, as will be readily understood.

The lower portion of the base 5 is also recessed as indicated at 9, which recess may be closed by a suitable closure member 10, slidably or otherwise associated therewith to provide a chamber for the reception of an electric battery 11 which is, or may be of the well known dry cell flash light type.

The upright extension 6 is provided with an aperture 12 which is closed by a glass or other transparent plate 13 as clearly shown in Figure 2. Behind the transparent plate 13 and spaced therefrom by means of an offset 14 formed in the member 6, is the picture bearing medium 15 retained in place by the removable back member 16 which may be provided with the rotatable button or spring 17, the ends of which are adapted to be received in the slots or recesses 18 formed in the side walls of the member 6. The picture bearing medium 15 may be separate from the backing member 16 or it may be secured thereto by adhesive or any other suitable manner.

The base member 5 at its junction with the upright extension 6 is further recessed as at 19, at the bottom of which recess there is provided a socket or receptacle 20 for the reception of an electric lamp 21, see Figure 2. The center contact member 22 of the socket 20 is positioned to engage the spring contact member 23 of the electric battery 11 and the other terminal 24 of the said battery may engage a spring member 25 rigid with the base 5 and constituting a conductor to the other terminal of the socket 20.

The base 5 and extension 6 are preferably molded as a single unit either from metal or from some non-conducting composition such for example as bakelite, artificial onyx and the like, and when the part are formed of metal the contact 25 as well as the socket 20 may be grounded thereon, in the well known manner. On the other hand, should the tray be formed of non-conducting material, the conductor 25 may take the form of a strip of

metal imbedded in, or secured to the base member and extending to the socket member 20 as indicated in Figure 3.

It will be obvious from the above described construction that with a lamp such as 21 in place in the socket 20 after the dry cell battery 11 is positioned within the recess 9 and cover member 10 put in place, the contact spring 23 of the said battery will engage the center contact of the lamp socket 20 while the other terminal 24 of the battery will engage the contact member 25, thus completing the circuit and causing the lighting of the lamp 21. The light rays from the said lamp will travel upward in the space 26 between the transparent plate 13 and the picture bearing medium 15, illuminating the latter and rendering it visible through the aperture 12. The source of light is, of course, hidden from the eye and being self-contained in the base, the entire device may be readily transported from place to place if desired.

It is obvious that those skilled in the art may vary the details of construction as well as the precise arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention, and therefore it is not wished to be limited to the above disclosure except as may be required by the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the class described, comprising a base having a recess in the under portion thereof, and a second recess extending upwardly from and communicating with said first recess; an upright extension carried by said base above said second recess, having a vertical chamber communicating therewith; a transparency mounted in said aperture toward one side of said second recess; a picture-bearing medium removably positioned in said aperture toward the opposite side of said second recess and spaced from said transparency; an electric lamp and socket mounted in said second recess; an electric battery in said first recess; and a closure for said first recess for maintaining said battery in electrical connection with said lamp socket.

2. A device of the class described, comprising a base provided with a pair of connected recesses and with an upright extension having an aperture therein; a transparency covering said aperture; a picture-bearing medium behind and spaced from said transparency; an electric lamp mounted in one recess of said base; and an electric battery within the other recess of said base and connected to said lamp, whereby the latter may illuminate the space between said transparency and picture-bearing medium to enable the latter to be viewed through said transparency.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HENRY C. KEYES.