April 23, 1968 H. C. DEVINE, JR 3,379,872

LIGHTING FIXTURE

Filed Sept. 27, 1966

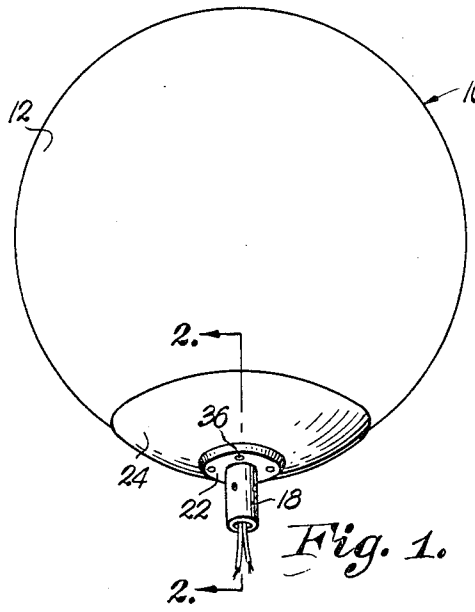
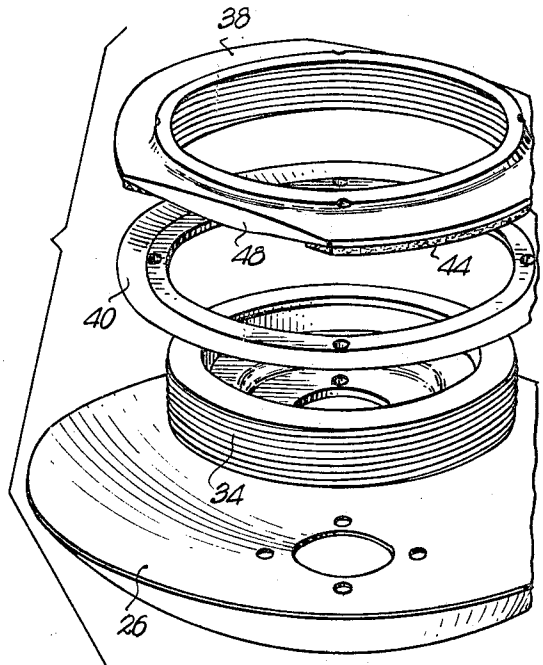


Fig. 1.



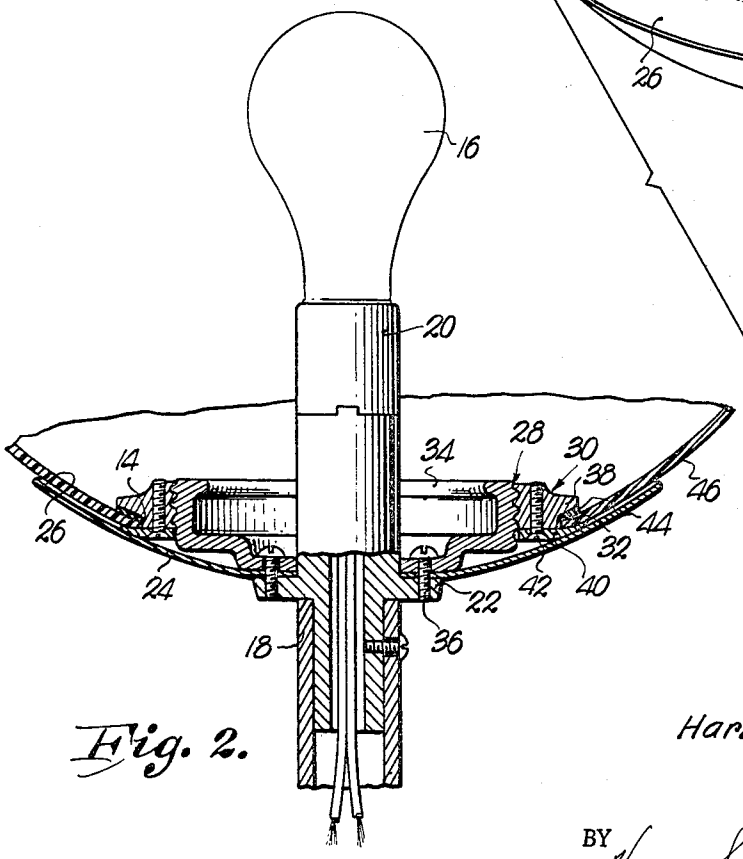


Fig. 2.

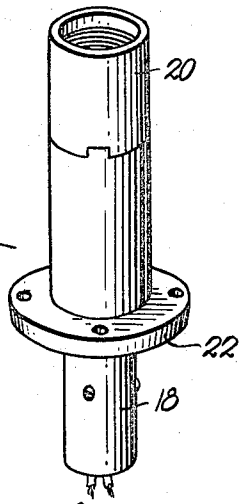


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR
Harry C. Devine, Jr.

BY Hovey, Schmidt, Johnson & Hovey
ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 3,379,872 Patented Apr. 23, 1968

3,379,872

LIGHTING FIXTURE

Harry C. Devine, Jr., Kansas City, Mo., assignor to Devine Lighting Incorporated, Kansas City, Mo., a corporation of Missouri

Filed Sept. 27, 1966, Ser. No. 582,406
3 Claims. (Cl. 240—137)

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A lighting fixture for supporting a hollow globe, the fixture having a base assembly extending through an opening into the globe and receiving a light bulb, there being an externally threaded element secured to the base assembly and an internally threaded ring threaded on the element, the ring having a collar and a shoulder which receive therebetween the lip of the opening to support the globe, and an escutcheon attached to the base assembly and covering the opening, the shoulder and a part of the outer surface of the globe.

This invention relates to lighting fixtures and, particularly, to structure for interconnecting bulb-receiving socket assemblies and decorative light distributing globes.

Globes for covering light bulbs provide light transmitting means for producing particular lighting effects such as softening the harsh glare of a naked bulb and directing light rays to properly distribute the latter. Furthermore, such globes are generally designed to coincide in overall appearance with the decor of the area of usage. As a result, the globes are of assorted sizes and shapes. Manifestly, the use of variously sized and shaped globes has created a need for universal structure which may be utilized with any such globe to adapt the latter to receive a socket assembly.

It is, therefore, the primary object of the instant invention to provide such universal structure included an internally threaded ring attached within the opening of the globe and an externally threaded element carried by the assembly whereby the threads of the ring and the element are intermeshed to permit expeditious assembly of the fixture and to facilitate cleaning and repair.

As a corollary to the foregoing object, a very important aim of the invention is the provision of such a ring having a collar in the globe and an annular member located outside the globe for clamping the lip defining the opening in the globe therebetween so that the ring may be readily attached to the globe to adapt the latter for connection to the socket assembly.

A very important object of the present invention is to provide an escutcheon for covering such universal structure to the end that a decorative appearance is presented by the fixture.

Another very important object of the instant invention is the provision of such universal structure for coupling a globe of the type described with a socket assembly wherein is provided a shoulder on the internally threaded ring disposed for engaging the escutcheon carried by the assembly whereby the escutcheon is prevented from contacting and thereby unduly stressing the globe. In this respect, it is important to note that globes of the type used for lighting fixtures are generally constructed of glass or other brittle material and, therefore, the bulb-receiving socket assembly and the globe must be interconnected without stressing the latter.

In the drawing:

FIGURE 1 is a vertical perspective view of a lighting fixture embodying the principles and concepts of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged elevational view taken on line 2—2 of FIG. 1, shown partly in cross section with certain parts having been broken away for increased clarity; and

FIG. 3 is an exploded view of the lighting fixture in perspective, the globe having been removed for clarity.

A lighting fixture embodying the principles and concepts of the instant invention is shown in FIG. 1 and broadly designated by the numeral **10**. Fixture **10** includes a spherical, hollow globe **12** having a planar, circular opening **14** therein. It is to be understood that while globe **12** is preferably spherical, the same may be provided in a variety of shapes well known to those skilled in the art without deviating from the inventive concepts of the instant invention. Likewise, the size of globe **12** is unimportant so long as the diameter thereof is large enough to accommodate the light bulb **16** mounted therein.

A base assembly **18** adapted for insertion through opening **14** has a bulb-receiving socket **20** on one end thereof as can be seen viewing FIG. 2. Base assembly **18** has an out-turned flange **22** disposed for carrying an escutcheon **24**. It can be seen viewing FIGS. 2 and 3 that escutcheon **24** is configured as a portion of an imaginary hollow sphere to present a dish-shaped concave surface **26**. Fixture **10** includes structure **28** for affixing globe **12** to base assembly **18**. Structure **28** includes an internally threaded ring **30** disposed within opening **14** and attached to the circular lip portion **32** of globe **12** and an externally threaded element **34** disposed within ring **30** with the threads of the latter intermeshed with the threads of the ring **30**. Escutcheon **24** and element **34** are telescoped onto assembly **18** with escutcheon **24** clamped between element **34** and flange **22** by screws **36** as can be seen viewing FIG. 2.

Ring **30** includes a collar **38** disposed within globe **12** and a shoulder member **40** located on the outside of globe **12**. Screw means **42** are provided for clamping member **40** and collar **38** together with lip **32** therebetween as can be seen viewing FIG. 2. Resilient gasket means **44** is carried by collar **38** adjacent lip **32** for protecting the latter against the clamping force created by means **42**.

During the assembly of fixture **10**, element **34** is threaded into ring **30** by rotation of assembly **18** until escutcheon **24** contacts shoulder member **40**. Thus, the location of shoulder **40** prevents escutcheon **24** from bearing against the outer surface **46** of globe **12**. Hence, it can be seen that globe **12**, and in particular, lip **32** thereof, is supported against lateral deformation and stressing thereof during assembly of fixture **10**.

Collar **38** has flat surfaces **48** on opposite sides thereof. The dimension between surfaces **48** is less than the diameter of opening **14**. Hence, collar **38** may be inserted through opening **14** and then positioned as indicated in FIG. 2. After collar **38** is in position, shoulder member **40** is clamped thereagainst with lip **32** therebetween by screw means **42** presenting the ring **30** which serves not only for threadably receiving element **34**, but also for supporting lip **32** during the assembly of fixture **10**.

The novel structure of the instant invention provides a lighting fixture which is easily assembled and disassembled, is adapted for use with a plurality of variously sized and shaped globes, prevents the development of stresses in the globe during the assembly of the fixture, and presents a pleasing appearance after the same has been assembled. Thus, it can be seen that all of the objects, purposes and aims of the instant invention have been fulfilled in a substantial sense.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

1. A lighting fixture comprising:

a hollow globe having an opening therein, there being a lip portion circumscribing said opening;

a base assembly extending into the globe through said

opening and having a bulb-receiving socket within the globe, there being a flange on said assembly exteriorly of said globe;

an escutcheon attached to the flange of said assembly across the opening exteriorly of the globe; and

structure releasably interconnecting the globe and said assembly, said structure including an externally screw-threaded element, said element being secured to said flange between the escutcheon and the socket and an internally screw-threaded ring, said ring being threaded onto said element, said ring comprising a collar engaging the inner surface of said lip portion and a shoulder member engaging the outer surface of said lip portion whereby to clamp said portion therebetween, said escutcheon covering said shoulder member.

2. The invention of claim 1, said shoulder member being releasably attached to said ring.

3. The invention of claim 2 wherein said globe is substantially spherical and said opening is round, said escutcheon being a portion of an imaginary hollow sphere and having a concave surface complementally mated with the exterior of the globe, said escutcheon covering a part of the outer surface of the globe.

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

964,519	7/1910	Hubbell	240—128
2,512,129	6/1950	Appleby	240—128
3,336,474	8/1967	Leibl	240—128 XR

FOREIGN PATENTS

764,849	3/1934	France.

NORTON ANSHER, *Primary Examiner.*

G. M. HOFFMAN, *Assistant Examiner.*