Sept. 6, 1927. 1,641,880

G. COHEN

HAND LANTERN

Filed Aug. 6, 1926

Fig. 1.

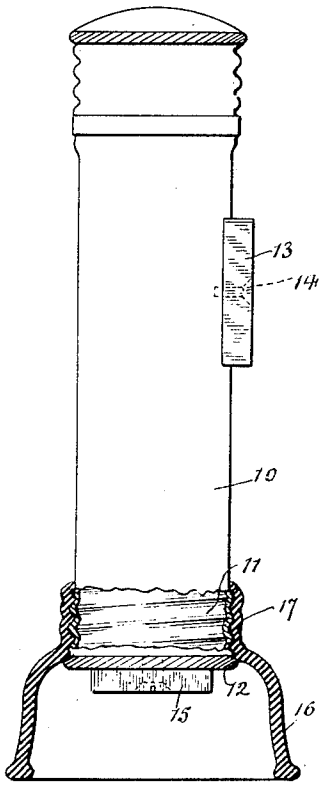


Fig. 2.

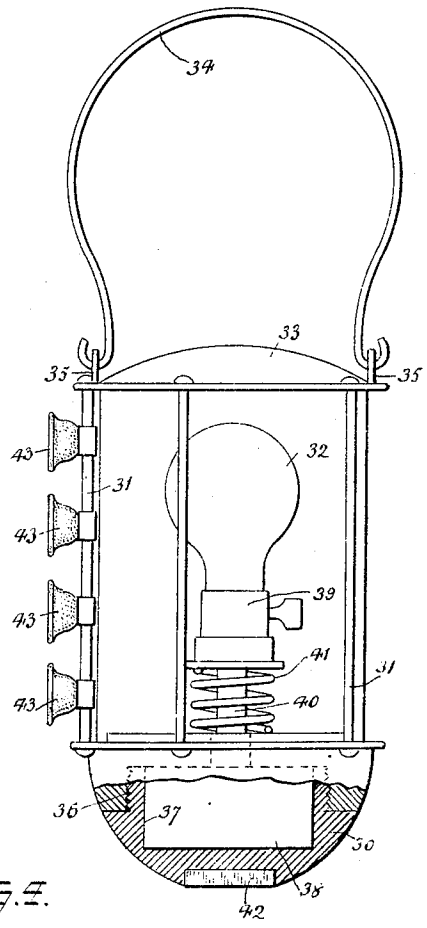


Fig. 3.

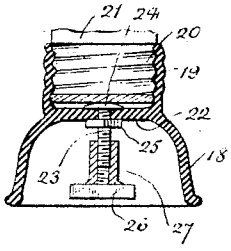
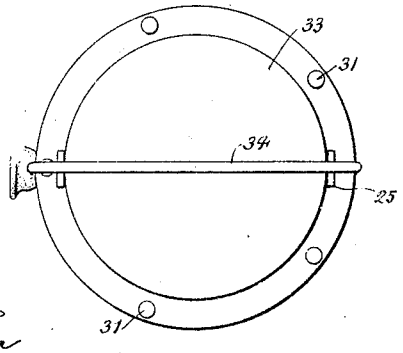


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HAND LANTERN.

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The present invention is concerned with the provision of an electric torch or hand lantern so constructed that it may be securely emplaced upon various supporting surfaces.

The ordinary electric torch is frequently very inconvenient when the user requires both hands to carry on the work which is being illuminated by the torch. These torches or flashlights will roll about on a flat surface, and are very awkward to attach in a permanent position when they are used as trouble lights.

One object of the present invention is to provide means for securely attaching an ordinary hand lantern of this character to a wall, floor or other supporting surface.

The invention also contemplates the provision of a hand lantern such as that commonly used by railroad men, in which an electric bulb is so mounted that there is little danger of breaking the filament by jarring the lantern, and in which the lantern may be conveniently supported independently of the handle, upon or against various supporting surfaces.

Further objects of the invention are to provide lanterns of this general character of simple, practical construction, which will be rugged, durable and efficient in use, and which may be manufactured with comparative economy.

With the above noted and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth and pointed out in the claims. The invention may be more fully understood from the following description in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Fig. 1 is a view mainly in elevation and partly in section through one form of hand lantern embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a similar view through a modified type of lantern.

Fig. 3 is a sectional detail showing an attachment for readily converting an ordinary flashlight or electric torch into a hand lantern embodying the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of Fig. 2.

In Fig. 1 I have shown the invention embodied in a flashlight or electric torch which includes a battery casing 10, formed with a threaded end 11 receiving a threaded cap 12 which screws over the end of the battery casing to retain the battery (not shown) in place. At one side of the battery casing I mount a permanent magnet 13 in any convenient manner as by the use of a screw 14. Magnet 13 may be of bar shape. A similar magnet 15 is mounted on the outer face of the cap 12, but magnet 15 is normally prevented from contacting with a metal surface by a relatively large suction cup 16 formed with a threaded socket portion 17 screwing over the exterior of the cap 12.

By virtue of this construction, the flash lamp may be magnetically held against a supporting surface by the engagement of the magnet 13. It may be secured to a supporting surface by compressing the suction cup 16 to expel the air therefrom, and then releasing the pressure. When it is desired to use the magnet 15 for retaining the flashlight in any desired position, the suction cup 16 is screwed up on to the battery casing until its mouth clears the magnet 15.

The use of the magnets and suction cup permits the torch to be securely laid upon its side on a flat surface, or supported in either vertical or horizontal position against a metallic surface or a surface sufficiently smooth to seal the suction cup.

In Fig. 3 I have illustrated a modification in the nature of a combined suction cup and magnet attachable as a unit to any ordinary flashlight or electric torch. Here the suction cup 18 is formed with a socket portion 19 adapted to embrace the threaded cup 20 of a flashlight 21. A dividing partition 22 between the socket 19 and the cup 18 carries a permanently magnetized element which may be projected to operative position or retracted into the suction cup.

One convenient method of mounting the magnetic element for adjustment, involves the use of a threaded stud member 23 passed through the partition 22. A head 24 on the stud member is clamped against the partition by the use of a nut 25. The magnetic member 26 is in the nature of a bar magnet or a disc of magnetic material formed with an internally threaded tubular extension 27 adjustable on the stud 23. This construction permits the magnet 26 to be projected or retracted by the simple expedient of rotating it on the stud. It will be apparent that attachments such as are shown in Fig. 3 may be made up and sold as individual units to fit standard sizes of flashlights.

In Figs. 2 and 4 I have illustrated the invention embodied in another type of hand lantern. Here the lantern includes a rounded approximately semi-spherical base 30 mounting a guard frame 31 for a bulb 32. The skeleton guard frame is connected to the usual cover 33, and a swinging handle bail 34 is pivotally connected to ears 35 rising from the cover. The base 30 is preferably made in two sections, one section being formed with a threaded socket 36 receiving a threaded nipple 37 on the other section. The section having the nipple is formed with a pocket 38 for the reception of a battery supplying current to the bulb 32. Preferably the socket 39 for the bulb is slidably mounted upon a standard 40, and a coiled spring 41 embracing the standard and introduced between the lamp base and socket 39 effectively cushions the bulb against jars or vibrations incident to the engagement of the base with a support.

Lamps of this general character are in use by railroad men, and it is frequently found desirable to support one of these lamps directly upon a railroad rail. With this end in view, I mount a permanent magnet 42 in the base, the magnet being adapted to effect firm contact between the base of the lamp and the rail, so that there is no danger of the lamp blowing over or tipping over when placed on the rail. A supplemental means for retaining the lamp in vertical position includes a series of suction cups 43 carried by one of the skeleton frame bars 31.

The suction cups may conveniently cooperate with the magnet 42 for supporting the lantern upon the running board of an automobile, the magnet sticking to the steel running board, and the suction cups firmly engaging the splash or body of a car. Thus, the lantern may be carried on the running board without any danger of its being jarred loose from its position.

While I have illustrated certain of the preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be evident that numerous slight changes and alterations might be made in the general form and arrangement of parts described without departing from the invention. Hence I do not wish to limit myself to the details set forth, but shall consider myself at liberty to make such changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A hand lantern including a base constituting a battery casing, a top, a skeleton frame connecting the top to the base, a light bulb within the frame deriving current from the battery, and a handle bail on the top, said base being rounded at its bottom and bearing a magnet for the purpose described.

2. A hand lantern including a base constituting a battery casing, a top, a skeleton frame connecting the top to the base, a light bulb within the frame deriving current from the battery, a handle bail on the top, said base being rounded at its bottom and bearing a magnet for the purpose described, and a plurality of suction cups carried by one of the skeleton frame members.

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