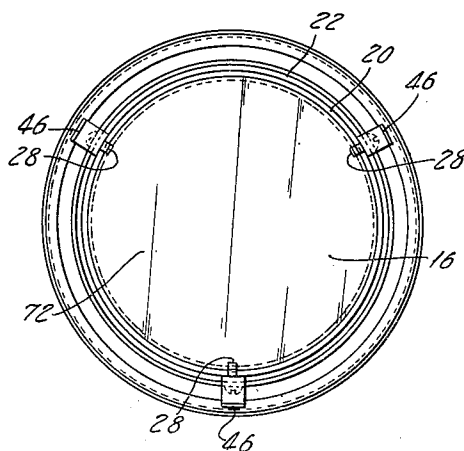
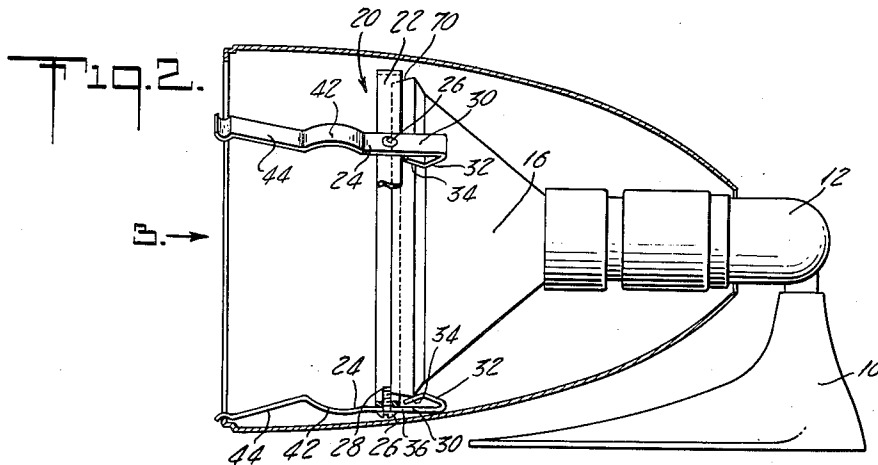
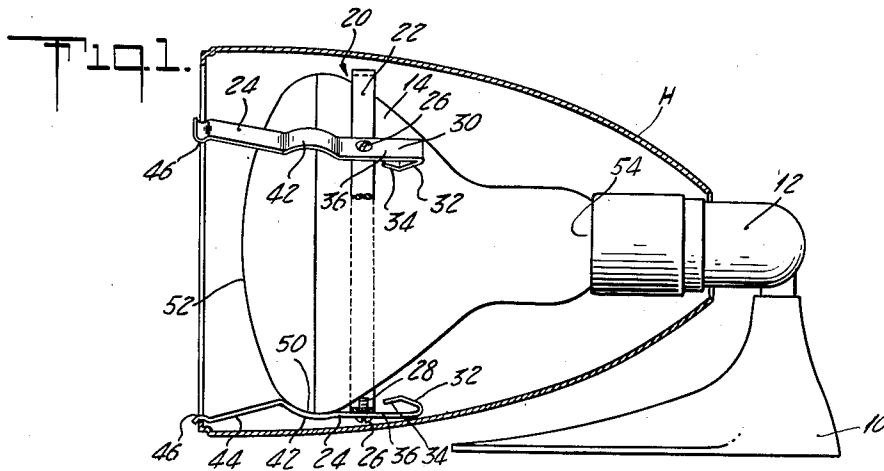


Nov. 14, 1950

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LIGHT BULB SUPPORT COMPRISING A RING HAVING
A PLURALITY OF FINGERS EXTENDING FORWARDLY
AND REARWARDLY OF THE RING
Filed Feb. 3, 1948

2,530,360



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LIGHT BULB SUPPORT COMPRISING A RING HAVING A PLURALITY OF FINGERS EXTENDING FORWARDLY AND REARWARDLY OF THE RING

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Application February 3, 1948, Serial No. 6,111

5 Claims. (Cl. 240—41.5)

1

The present invention relates generally to light housings, and in particular it relates to light housings of the type known in the trade as "bullet" housings and supports therefor. These bullet housings are of thin gauge metal, very light in weight. In shape, they are quite elongated, circular in cross-section, tapered downwardly toward the rear end thereof, and having a relatively large opening at the front end. Such housings are used in connection with various sizes of electric light bulbs having reflectors built thereinto or having other treatments, and it has always been a problem to properly support housings of this type with respect to the light bulb and the bulb base.

The main object of the present invention is the provision of means which will securely and properly support a housing on and about light bulbs of different sizes and shapes.

Still another object of the present invention is the provision of a support of the character described comprising a ring having a plurality of fingers extending forwardly and rearwardly of the ring.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of support means for a light housing about electric light bulbs disposed within the housing, positioning of the support means about the bulb, in part locating the bulb and in part tensioning the support means for engagement thereof with the housing.

Still another object of the present invention is the provision of a support of the character described comprising a ring having a plurality of fingers thereon extending forwardly and rearwardly thereof, certain of the fingers being adapted to engage the head of a light bulb, and certain of the fingers being adapted to engage and grip the mouth of the housing, whereby the housing is supported about the bulb.

Still another object of the present invention is the provision of a support of the character described comprising a ring having a plurality of fingers extending forwardly thereof, the fingers having bulb head receiving means between the ring and the free ends thereof, the free ends having housing mouth engaging means.

Still another object of the present invention is the provision of a support of the character described comprising a ring having a plurality of fingers extended rearwardly thereof, and projections extending inwardly of the ring in the plane thereof, the ring and fingers cooperating to locate and secure the front end of a light bulb therebetween.

2

Other, further and more specific objects of my invention will in part be obvious and in part pointed out specifically in the following description of an illustrative embodiment.

5 In the drawings annexed hereto and forming a part hereof,

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a base, light socket, electric light bulb, ring and housing assembly constructed according to and embodying the present invention, the housing being shown in vertical section and a portion of the ring being broken away;

Figure 2 is a similar view, but with another type of bulb within the housing and support;

and

Figure 3 is a front elevational view in the direction of the arrow of Figure 2.

A heavy base member 10 is provided, having secured thereto a light bulb socket 12. As illustrated in Figure 1, an enlarged head type of electric light bulb as 14 or 16 may be screw-fitted into socket 12 and supported thereby as shown. The present invention is directed to the provision of means to support a bullet housing as H about bulbs 14, 16 and socket 12 as to enclose the bulb and the socket end within the housing H. This support is provided by the device of my invention which herein is indicated generally by reference numeral 20.

Support 20 comprises an annular ring or band 22 to which a plurality of fingers 24, 24 are secured, as by screw bolts 26, 26 as shown, or by spot welding, by riveting, or other suitable or desired means; the desiderata in this connection being the firm securement of the fingers, as well as the provision of inwardly directed projections as 28, 28. These projections may consist of the leading ends of the screws or bolts 26, 26. However, if, as above, spring fingers 24, 24 are spot welded to ring 22, or flush riveted, the inwardly directed projections may be otherwise formed on the inner aspect of the ring. Further, the projections 28, 28 need not be coincidentally located with the securement of the fingers to the ring.

Each of fingers 24, 24 comprises a length or strip of springy material, the rearwardly extended portions 30, 30 thereof beyond ring 22 having the ends 32 thereof bent reversely and thence outwardly at its terminal portion, and terminating in short portions 34 bent over towards the body 36 of portion 30. The portion of each finger 24 extending forwardly of ring 20 is bent or curved, as at 42, and then bent outwardly as at 44, terminating in outwardly curved tips 46, see Figs. 1 and 2. The normal diameter of the circle

through the tips 46 is slightly larger than the diameter of the housing mouth.

In Figure 1, I have illustrated the application of my support 20 in connection with the use of the large round-headed electric light bulb 14 known generally as a blown reflector bulb, the characteristics of which are (as illustrated) a bulbous rounded head end 50 and a convex front 52. When it is desired to use such a bulb 14 and mount thereon a bullet housing as H, the support for the housing is provided by my ring assembly 20. The base end of bulb 14 is threaded through ring 22 and bulbous head 50 is pulled or pushed into the seat provided by recesses 42, 42 in the forwardly extending fingers 24, 24. When the bulb with ring assembly 20 thereon is screwed into socket 12, the extensions or spreading terminals 46, 46 of the spread finger ends are slightly contracted against their normal biasing, and curve about and grip the edge of the housing mouth, thereby supporting housing H at its front end. Usually, this support is sufficient and no other support is needed, but if any additional support is required at the rear of the housing, the rear end of the housing resting on the swivel socket 12 will be adequate for such purpose.

In Figures 2 and 3, I have illustrated the application of support 20 in connection with the use of a molded reflector bulb 16, the characteristics of which are an enlarged head, a tapered front end 70 and a flat face 72, the overall length of bulb 16 being shorter than that of the blown type of bulb as 14. My ring support assembly 20 may also be used with this bulb, in connection with the same bullet type of housing as H. When bulb 16 is used, ring assembly is fitted onto and snapped over the tapered bulb head 70, against the tensioning of reversely bent fingers 32, 34, which grip the bulb, the edge of bulb face 72 being located by the inwardly directed prongs or projections 28, 28. The bulb 16-support 20 assembly is then inserted into housing H, the bulb base threaded into socket 12, and the finger ends 46, 46 engaged over the edge of the mouth of the housing.

It will thus be seen that with my assembly 20, means are provided to support a housing about reflector bulbs of various types and sizes. Support 20 is easily, quickly and positively fitted onto the bulbs, and the bulbs and support assembly are quickly and easily disposed within the housing for supporting same thereon.

It is to be observed that support 20, as shown and described, may be formed of relatively light inexpensive material, easily and quickly; and that the attachment of the fingers to the ring is also very simple, requiring no particular skill or experience. The specific dimensionings of the ring and fingers are factors merely of the types and sizes of bulbs to be supported, and of the length of the housing into which the bulb is placed, and of the diameter of the housing opening 50.

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

1. An apparatus for supporting an open mouthed bullet housing on the head of an electric light bulb which apparatus comprises an annular ring member, a plurality of fingers extending rearwardly of the ring and beyond the plane thereof, means to secure the fingers to the ring, and extensions directed inwardly of the ring in

the plane thereof to locate the front end of the bulb and a plurality of fingers extending forwardly of the ring and beyond the plane thereof to engage and grip the housing at the mouth thereof, whereby to support the said housing on said bulb.

2. Apparatus as in claim 1, in which the inwardly directed ring extensions comprise a part of the means to secure the fingers to the ring.

3. An apparatus for supporting an open mouthed housing on the head of an electric light bulb, the apparatus comprising an annular ring member, a plurality of prongs projecting inwardly of the ring, and a plurality of fingers of spring material extending rearwardly of the ring and beyond the plane thereof, the fingers terminating in reversely and inwardly directed portions to form a bulb head seat between the fingers and the prongs, and a plurality of fingers extending forwardly of the ring and beyond the plane thereof to engage and grip the housing at the mouth thereof, whereby to support the said housing on said bulb.

4. An apparatus to support an open mouthed bullet housing about an electric light bulb having an enlarged head, which apparatus comprises an annular ring member, a plurality of elongated spring fingers disposed uniformly about the ring annulus and secured at right angles thereto, said fingers having portions thereof extending a substantial distance beyond the plane of the ring at one side thereof, the extensions being curved between the ring and the ends thereof, to form a seat for locating and gripping the bulb head, and fingers on the ring, hooked at the terminals thereof, to engage the mouth of the housing whereby to support the housing about the bulb, with the open mouth of the housing in spaced relation to the head of the bulb.

5. An apparatus to support an open mouthed bullet housing about an electric light bulb having an enlarged head, which apparatus comprises an annular ring member, a plurality of elongated spring fingers disposed uniformly about the ring annulus and secured at right angles thereto, said fingers having portions thereof extending a substantial distance beyond the plane of the ring on both sides thereof, the extensions on one side being curved to provide a bulb head locating and receiving seat between the ring and the ends of the extensions, and the extensions on the other side being bent to form, in cooperation with the ring, a bulb head locating and receiving seat, the extremities of the fingers on the one side of the ring being shaped to engage the mouth of the housing whereby to support the housing about the bulb.

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