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COMBINED FUSE WRENCH AND LIGHT THEREFOR

Filed May 26, 1955

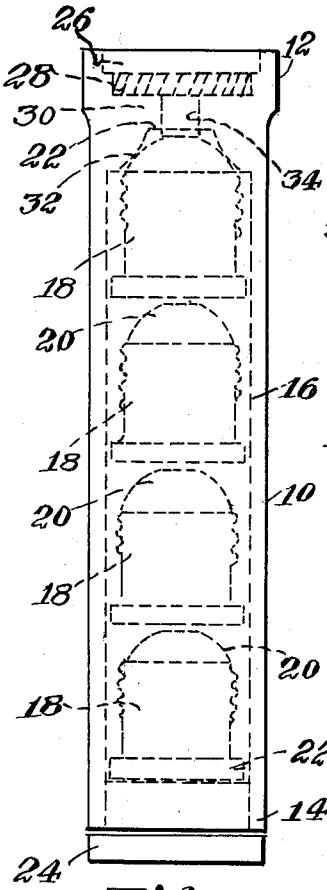


Fig. 1.

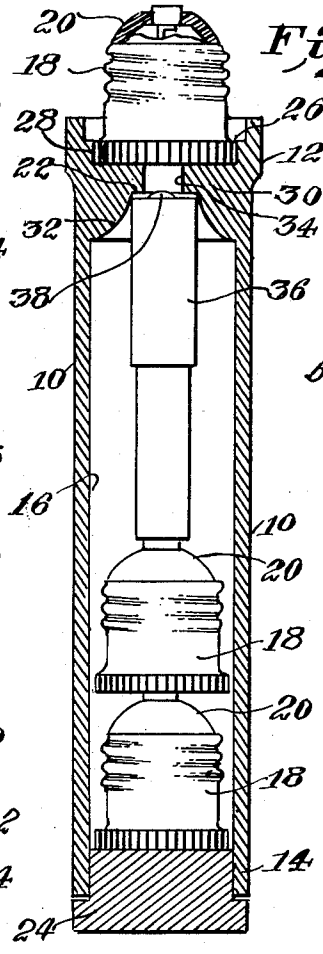
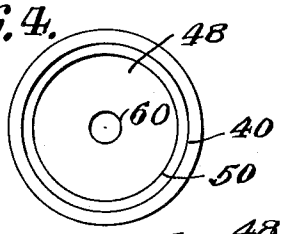


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.



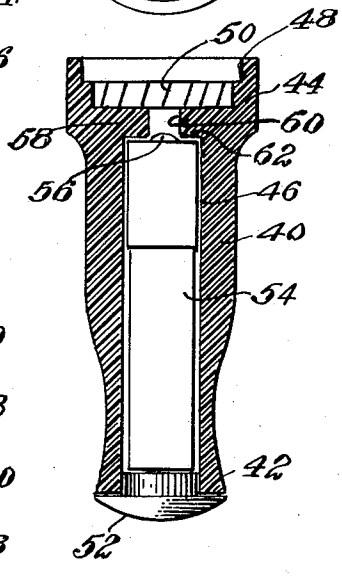


Fig. 3.

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COMBINED FUSE WRENCH AND LIGHT THEREFOR

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2 Claims. (Cl. 240—6.46)

This invention relates to a casing forming a housing for a light, and means for non-rotatably holding a fuse, so that the fuse may be screwed into a socket while the fuse body is being illuminated, to thereby enable a fuse to be attached to a fuse socket, in the dark.

An object of the invention is, therefore, to provide a means for supporting a fuse while illuminating the same;

Another object is to provide a receptacle for storing a plurality of fuses, and for simultaneously supporting, in operative position, a flashlight;

A further object of the invention is to provide a housing forming a receptacle for extra fuses, and a means for operatively positioning a flashlight so as to illuminate one of the fuses as it is applied to a fuse socket;

Yet another object is to provide a fuse wrench having a socket adapted to retain and rotate a fuse plug;

Another object is to provide a utility light construction having a storage space in the handle thereof which is adapted to support a plurality of plugs, with a space for holding a flashlight in operative position to illuminate an additional plug supported outside of said storage space; and,

A further object is the provision of a lighted fuse wrench which is safe, and which is easy to use even in the darkest corners of a resident's basement or other location, whereby to eliminate danger to a person who is removing and replacing a burned out fuse with a new fuse.

Other objects will appear hereinafter throughout the specification.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of the device of the invention when used to store extra plugs;

Figure 2 is a view of the receptacle shown in Figure 1, showing the storage of several plugs, and a flashlight, and the support of a third plug in operative position;

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view of a modified form of the invention; and,

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the structure shown in Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings, **10** indicates a hollow, elongated casing having ends **12** and **14**. The numeral **16** indicates the hollow, cylindrical casing passageway.

This passageway is adapted to support either a plurality of fuse plugs arranged in end to end engagement, or a portable flashlight with one or more plugs, as shown in Figure 2. These plugs are shown at **18**, and they are preferably provided with glass ends **20**. The end **14** of the casing has a closure **24** which is held in the casing by a friction fit, but a screw threaded connection may be substituted therefor.

The opposite end of the casing is provided with a socket **26**, which latter has a knurled inner cylindrical portion **28** that is located adjacent to the partition **30**, which separates the socket **26** from the passageway **16**. The opposite end of the partition is provided with a substantially conically shaped portion **32** which terminates at its smaller end at an annular shoulder **22** disposed around the lower end of an aperture **34**. The aperture **34** extends outwardly through the partition **30** and opens into the socket **26**.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2, the shoulder **22** is adapted to form the seat for a flashlight **36**, which latter is provided with a flashlight bulb **38**.

The flashlight **36** is preferably of the dual barrel type such as shown and described in my copending application Ser. No. 511,144, filed concurrently herewith and now Patent No. 2,783,364, granted February 26, 1957. This flashlight structure enables the bulb to be illuminated when the barrels are rotated relative to each other.

Assuming it is desired to replace a burned out fuse plug, the flashlight **36** is turned on and inserted in the position shown in Figure 2, where the upper barrel is seated on the shoulder **22**, and where the lower barrel is seated on one of the plugs **18**, as shown in Figure 2. The socket is then caused to engage the plug **18**, which is mounted in the fuse box. The casing is then rotated to unscrew the fuse plug from the fuse box. During this time the light is on, and the bulb shines through the aperture **34** to locate the burned out fuse plug, and to properly position the socket **12** on the plug, with the knurled portion **28** engaging the knurled portion of the plug. After the plug has been removed, a fresh plug may be inserted in the socket **26**. This may be accomplished by interchanging as seen in Figure 2, the upper plug **18** with the lower plug **18** shown in that figure. The light of the flashlight being still on, and the plug having a glass body insures the accurate positioning of the plug within the empty socket of the fuse box.

The plug is then screwed into the fuse box socket, and the fuse wrench is removed from the plug.

The structure shown in Figures 3 and 4 is the same as that shown in Figures 1 and 2, except that it does not have a conical portion and no provision is made for extra fuse plugs within the modified casing **40**, shown in Figures 3 and 4. This casing **40** is provided with ends **42** and **44**, and a passageway **46** for the reception of a flashlight. The numeral **48** indicates a socket similar to that shown in Figures 1 and 2. This socket is provided with a knurled, inner, cylindrical surface **50**. The lower end **42**, as seen in Figure 3, is closed by the plug **52**, which bears on one end of the flashlight **54**. This light has a bulb **56**. The socket is provided with a partition **58**, having a central aperture **60**, the partition being provided with a shoulder **62** for seating the other end of the flashlight so that the bulb **56** will also be seated within the aperture **60**.

One of the advantages of the present construction, as shown in the several figures, is that a flashlight may be used that can be entirely removed from the interior of the casing, and the provision of the partition between the socket and passageway serves to position the bulb end of the flashlight so that its rays will extend longitudinally of the casing and will illuminate the socket, and the fuse box socket, as well as the fuse plug when it is supported in either the fuse box socket or in the casing socket.

The above description and drawings disclose several embodiments of the invention, and specific language has been employed in describing the several figures. It will, nevertheless, be understood that no limitations of the scope of the invention are thereby contemplated, and that various alterations and modifications may be made such as would occur to one skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

I claim:

1. A combined fuse wrench and light holder comprising an elongated casing having ends, said casing having a hollow substantially cylindrical passageway constructed and adapted to support and house a flashlight and a plurality of fuse plugs arranged end to end, said casing having a closure at one of its ends, and a socket at the

other of its ends, said socket having a knurled cylindrical interior portion for engagement by the knurled cylindrical portion of a fuse plug and a partition between said socket and said passageway, an aperture in said partition arranged in axial alignment with said socket and said passageway, means on said partition for supporting one end of a flashlight whereby when said flashlight is mounted in said passageway a beam of light may be directed into said socket, and said means on said partition comprising a circular shoulder around said aperture and a conical portion between said shoulder and the wall of said passageway forming a seat for the bulb end of a flashlight mounted in said passageway, said conical portion constituting a centering means for said end of said flashlight as the flashlight is positioned in said passageway.

2. A combined fuse wrench and light holder as defined in claim 1, wherein the diameter of said passageway is at least as great as the maximum diameter of said knurled interior portion of said socket so that fuse plugs removed from or to be supplied to fuse sockets may be stored in said passageway.

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