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PORTABLE RECEPTACLE  
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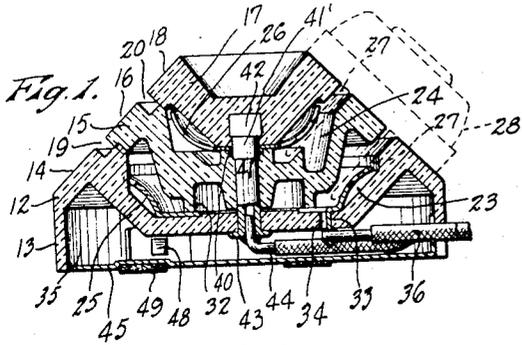


Fig. 1.

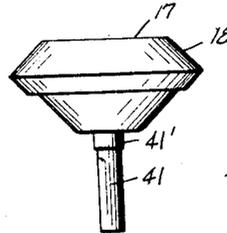


Fig. 5.

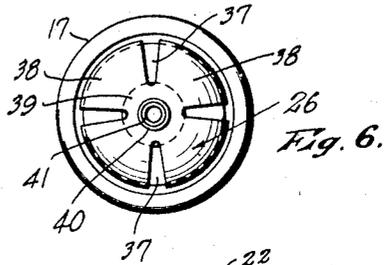


Fig. 6.

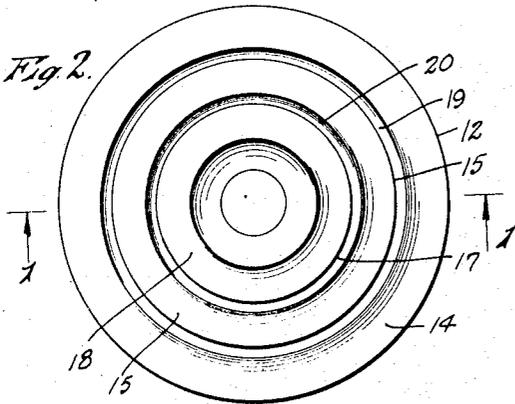


Fig. 2.

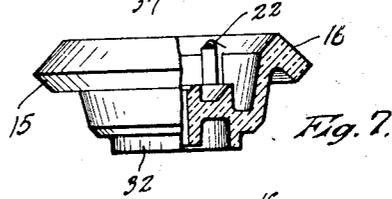


Fig. 7.

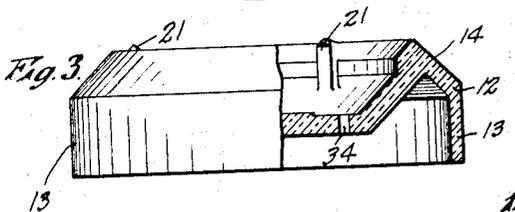


Fig. 3.

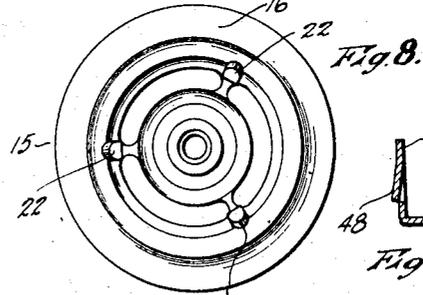


Fig. 8.

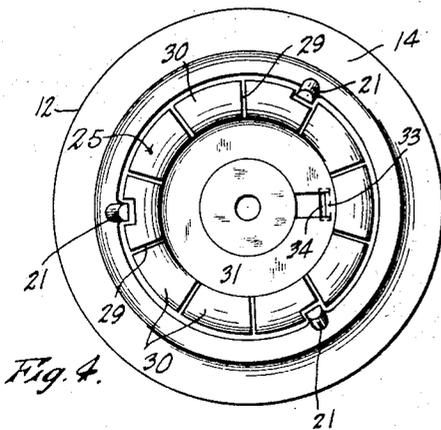


Fig. 4.

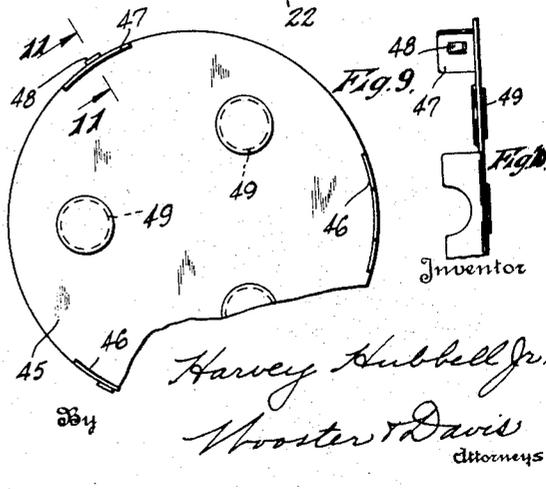


Fig. 9.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## PORTABLE RECEPTACLE

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This invention relates to a receptacle for plugging in attachment plug caps connected with electrical devices for supplying current thereto and has for an object to provide a device of this character which is easily portable and may be placed on a table or other suitable support, and is so constructed as to receive at one time the attachment plug caps of a plurality of devices.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a device which is neat and attractive in appearance, and one in which the slots to receive the blade contacts are substantially continuous so that the cap may be plugged in at practically any position desired, and in which the slots are of sufficient extent so that a plurality of caps may be plugged in at the same time.

It is another object of the invention to provide an improved construction which may be easily assembled and which requires comparatively little space as compared with the number of caps which may be plugged in.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be more fully described in connection with the accompanying drawing. In this drawing,

Fig. 1 is a vertical section through the device.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a partial side elevation and partial section of the lower member of the device.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view thereof showing the lower receptacle contact in position.

Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the upper or center member of the body construction.

Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view thereof showing the upper receptacle contact in position.

Fig. 7 is a partial side elevation and partial section of the intermediate member of the body construction.

Fig. 8 is a top plan view thereof.

Fig. 9 is a top plan view of the closing member for the under side of the body.

Fig. 10 is a partial side view thereof, and Fig. 11 is a detail section substantially on line 11—11 of Fig. 9.

This improved construction of receptacle is shown in assembled relation in Figs. 1 and 2. It comprises a body member composed of a plurality of superposed members or sections molded of insulating material, preferably of a phenolic condensation product. The body may be of various shapes without departing from the principle of the invention, but the specific construction shown is substantially circular in outline and the outer walls of the various sections are tapered so that it is generally conical in shape. The lower member or section 12 is the largest of the three members and is formed with upright substantially cylindrical side walls 13 with an inclined surface 14 at the upper end thereof. The member is somewhat dished on its top wall to receive the intermediate member 15. This latter member is of somewhat smaller diameter than the member 12 and has an inclined peripheral surface 16 which is in substantial alignment with the surface 14 of the member 12 when this member is seated in the lower member. This intermediate member is also somewhat dished at its upper surface to receive the upper or central member 17 which has an inclined peripheral surface 18 in substantial alignment with the inclined surface 16 of the intermediate member. In assembling, these three members are placed one upon the other in superposed relation as shown in Fig. 1 and in somewhat nested relation as the lower members are somewhat dished. The members are so proportioned that when so assembled the outer peripheral edges of adjacent members are spaced from each other to provide substantially continuous slots 19 and 20, slot 19 being between the members 12 and 15, and the slot 20 between the members 15 and 17, and these slots are in the inclined surface of the body member formed by the surfaces 14, 16 and 18 of the respective sections. In order to insure that these slots are of substantially uniform width throughout their entire extent one of the adjacent members forming each slot is provided with spacing lugs. In the construction shown the lower member 12 is provided with lugs 21 on which the under side of the intermediate member 15 rests when in assembled position, and the intermediate member

12 is provided with similar lugs 22 on which the upper member 17 rests. These lugs prevent the two upper sections inclining to one side or the other when assembled due to variations incident to manufacture, and therefore, insure that the slots 19 and 20 are of substantially uniform width throughout.

The sections or members 12, 15 and 17 are so proportioned that when assembled in superposed relation they provide chambers 23 and 24 between them to the rear of the slots 19 and 20 and in which chambers are mounted receptacle contacts 25 and 26 respectively. These contacts are made substantially coextensive with their respective slots 19 and 20 so that no matter in what part of the slots the blade contacts, indicated in dotted lines 27, Fig. 1 of an attachment plug 20, are inserted in these slots they will engage these receptacle contacts for proper electrical connection. In the circular receptacle shown the two contacts 25 and 26 are substantially circular and they are cut or slotted from their outer peripheries transversely or substantially radially thereof to provide individually yieldable portions. Thus the contact 25, as shown in Fig. 4, is slotted at suitable intervals, as shown at 29, from the outer edge thereof providing individually yielding portions 30. These portions are all connected by the ring portion 31 so that they are electrically connected, and when mounted in the base or lower member 12 this ring portion seats in an annular groove in the top wall of the base member and is held therein by the lower rim 32 of the intermediate member 15. The ring portion 31 has an ear 33 cut therefrom extending down through an opening 34 in the top wall of the lower member 12 so as to extend into the chamber 35 on the underside of the base member for connection to one of the lead wires 36, this wire being connected to this ear by any suitable means, such as soldering.

The upper receptacle contact 26 is of somewhat smaller diameter than the lower contact but is similarly cut transversely from its outer edge, as shown at 37, Fig. 6, to provide separate yieldable portions 38. These portions are connected by a central portion 39 which when assembled in the receptacle rests on the upper wall of the intermediate member 15 and is held thereon by the lower wall of the top member 17. This member, however, has a central opening preferably surrounded by a flange 40 to engage a central bolt or eyelet 41. This bolt or eyelet is of metal and forms electrical contact with the member 26, the flange 40 preferably having a forced fit on the shouldered portion 41', and may extend through all three of the body sections 12, 15 and 17, but it preferably has a head 42 molded in the upper member 17 and it then extends downwardly through the intermediate and bottom members 15 and 12

and is rolled over at its lower end against the under side of the member 12, as shown at 43. This single member, therefore, secures all three sections of the body together and forms an electrical connection from the upper contact 26 to the under side of the body where it is connected to the other lead wire 44 by any suitable means, such as soldering.

It will, therefore, be evident that the operation of assembling is a very simple one, the contact 25 being placed in the lower body member, the intermediate section 15 being placed thereon, the upper contact 26 having been forced to position on the bolt or eyelet 41 the upper section 17 with this contact is then seated on the intermediate section with the eyelet 41 passing down through the sections, and by rolling over its lower end the elements are all secured together.

The leads 36 and 44 may be connected to any suitable source of current preferably by means of an attachment plug cap similar to the cap 28 so that it may be plugged into a wall or floor receptacle. The yieldable portions 30 and 38 of the two receptacle contacts are preferably somewhat curved transversely, as shown in Fig. 1, so as to insure proper engagement with the blade contacts 27 and also to give smoother operation. This curved feature also gives a spring action as the blades are inserted to insure proper electrical contact.

The lower side of the base member 12 is preferably closed. This is conveniently done by a disc 45 of sheet metal which has upwardly extending ears 46 and 47 at its edge to yieldably engage the inner wall of the cylindrical portion 13, and one or more of these ears may be provided with a lug 48 cut and extending outwardly therefrom, as shown in Fig. 11, to engage the inner wall of the base member and by its resilient action retain the closure in position. The disc 45 may also be recessed to receive felt pads 49 to form supports for the device and prevent marring of the finished top of the table or other surface on which the device may be placed.

It will be apparent from the foregoing description that the blade contacts of the attachment plug caps 28 may be inserted in the slots 19 and 20 at practically any position throughout the extent of these slots, and the operation of plugging in is, therefore, greatly simplified as it is not necessary to locate small openings which are only slightly larger than the blades themselves. A still further advantage of this receptacle is that several caps 28 may be inserted at one time so that a plurality of different electrical devices may be operated from this single portable receptacle. It will also be obvious that whereas the receptacle illustrated is circular in outline it may be of other shapes, such as oval, square, rectangular, hexagonal or other

shapes as desired without departing from the principle of the invention.

Having thus set forth the nature of my invention, what I claim is:

5 1. In a portable receptacle, a plurality of superposed nested dished members of insulating material spaced from each other at their outer surfaces to provide spaced extended slots adapted to receive the contact  
10 blades of a plurality of attachment plug caps at one time, the lower of said members forming a base to rest on a support and carry the other members, contacts mounted between the members to engage said blade contacts,  
15 and means for connecting lead wires with said receptacle contacts.

2. In a portable receptacle, an insulating body comprising a plurality of superposed nested dished sections spaced at their outer  
20 surfaces to provide a pair of spaced peripheral slots to receive the contacts of attachment plug caps, the lower of said sections providing a base to rest on a support and carry the other sections, spaced receptacle contacts mounted in said body substantially  
25 coextensive with said slots and adapted to engage said cap contacts when inserted in the slots, and means in the base section for connecting lead wires with the receptacle  
30 contacts.

3. In a portable receptacle, a plurality of superposed nested dished members of insulating material and of progressively decreasing size spaced from each other at their  
35 outer surfaces to provide a pair of spaced peripheral slots to receive the blade contacts of a plurality of attachment plug caps at one time, the lower of said members forming a base to rest on a table or other support and  
40 carry the other members, receptacle contacts mounted in alignment with said slots to engage the blade contacts when inserted in the slots, and means for connecting lead wires with said receptacle contacts.

45 4. In a portable receptacle, a body member comprising a plurality of nested dished sections of insulating material of progressively decreasing size mounted in spaced relation to provide a pair of spaced slots of sufficient  
50 extent to simultaneously receive the blade contacts of a plurality of attachment plug caps, receptacle contacts mounted behind the slots and substantially coextensive therewith,  
55 and means for connecting lead wires with the receptacle contacts.

5. In a portable receptacle, a body of insulating material having a base to rest on a table top or similar support and also having  
60 spaced slots each in the form of a substantially closed loop, said slots being adapted to receive the spaced blade contacts of attachment plug caps, receptacle contacts mounted in the rear of said slots and substantially co-  
65 extensive therewith to be engaged by the

blade contacts, and means for connecting lead wires with said contacts.

6. In a portable receptacle, a body comprising a plurality of nested sections of insulating material of progressively decreasing  
70 diameter, said sections being spaced from each other at their outer peripheries to provide a pair of spaced slots to receive the blade contacts of attachment plug caps, receptacle contacts substantially coextensive  
75 with the slots mounted to the rear thereof to engage said contacts, and means for connecting lead wires with said contacts.

7. In a portable receptacle, a body of insulating material comprising a plurality of  
80 nested dished sections mounted one upon the other and having inclined peripheral surfaces in alignment, the peripheries of said sections being spaced to provide a pair of spaced slots to receive the blade contacts  
85 of attachment plug caps, receptacle contacts mounted between the sections to the rear of said slots to engage the blade contacts, and means for connecting lead wires with the receptacle contacts.

8. In a portable receptacle, a body member of insulating material comprising a plurality  
90 of superposed sections spaced at their peripheries to provide a pair of spaced slots for insertion of the blade contacts of attachment plug caps, the lower section forming a base to rest on a table top or other support, receptacle contacts mounted to the rear of said  
95 slots, a metal connecting member extending from the upper to the lower section serving to secure the sections together, and forming a conductor to the upper receptacle contact, means in the base for connecting a lead to said  
100 conductor, and means in the base for connecting a lead with the other receptacle contact.

9. In a portable receptacle, a body of insulating material comprising a base section  
105 open at the bottom with upright side walls and dished top wall with an inclined outer surface joining the two, an intermediate cupped member seated in the dished portion of the first member and having an outer inclined surface aligned with that of the first section, said sections being spaced at their  
110 peripheries to provide a slot, a third section mounted in the intermediate section and provided with an outer inclined surface in alignment with those of the other sections, said latter section being spaced from the intermediate section to provide a second slot, receptacle contacts mounted between the sections  
115 to the rear of the slots and substantially coextensive therewith, and means for connecting lead wires with said contacts.

10. In a portable receptacle, a plurality of  
125 superposed members of insulating material spaced from each other at their outer surfaces to provide a pair of spaced peripheral slots to receive the blade contacts of a plurality of attachment plug caps at one time,  
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one of the members adjacent each slot being provided with lugs to engage the other member and retain them in proper spaced relation, receptacle contacts mounted between the members to the rear of the slots, and means for connecting lead wires with the receptacle contacts.

11. In a portable receptacle, a plurality of superposed nested dished members of insulating material spaced from each other at their outer surfaces to provide a pair of spaced continuous peripheral slots to receive the blade contacts of a plurality of attachment plug caps at one time, receptacle contacts mounted between adjacent members and to the rear of said slots, said receptacle contacts being substantially coextensive with their respective slots and cut transversely at intervals to provide individually yieldable portions to engage the blade contacts, and means for connecting lead wires to the receptacle contacts.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HARVEY HUBBELL, JR.

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