March 6, 1956 D. LANE 2,737,635

FLUORESCENT LAMP SOCKET MOUNTING

Original Filed April 7, 1950 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

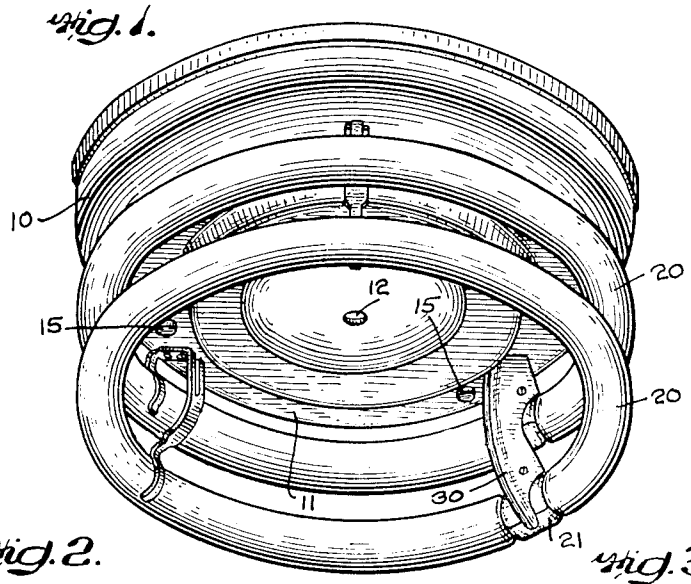


Fig. 2.

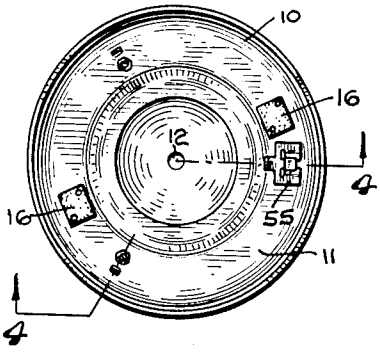


Fig. 3.

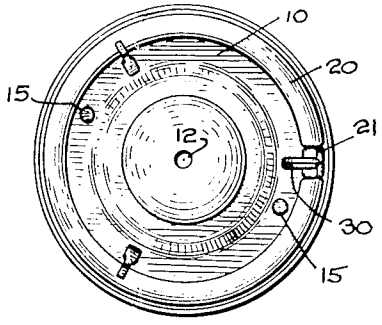
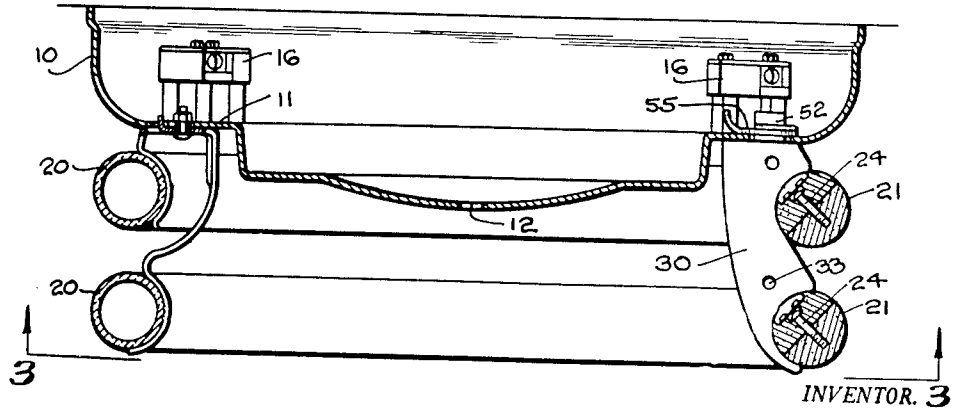


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 5.

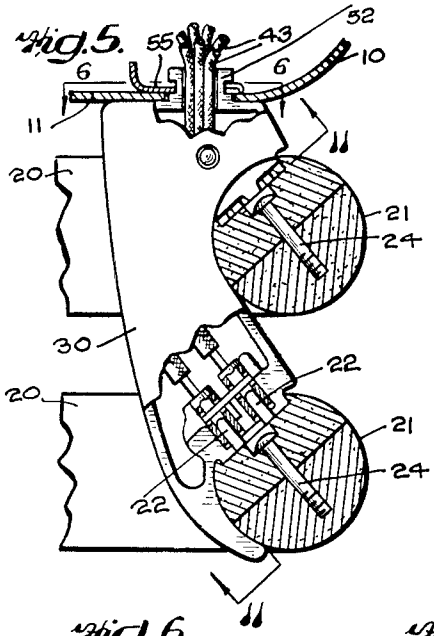


Fig. 6.

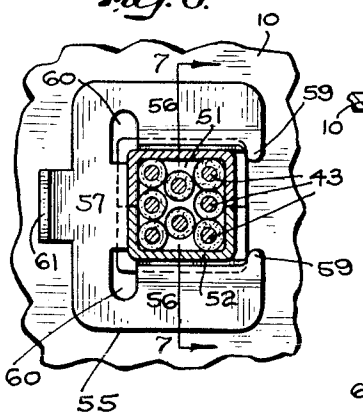


Fig. 7.

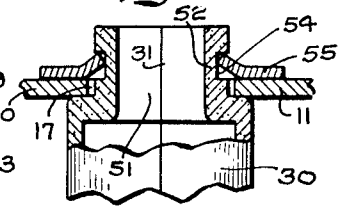
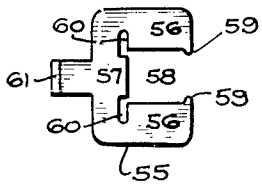


Fig. 8.



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FLUORESCENT LAMP SOCKET MOUNTING

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Original application April 7, 1950, Serial No. 154,493. Divided and this application November 8, 1952, Serial No. 319,547

1 Claim. (Cl. 339—126)

This invention relates to lighting fixtures and more particularly to an improved fixture utilizing ring-shaped fluorescent lamps, this application being a division of application Serial No. 154,493, filed April 7, 1950, now matured as United States Letters Patent No. 2,688,690, issued September 7, 1954.

Among the principal objects of the present invention is the provision of a simple and effective construction of latching member for quick-detachably mounting the lamp sockets upon the lamp-supporting fixture base, which member is in the form of a flat slide of spring metal which is designed to securely interfit with an externally grooved supporting neck formed at the inner end of the lamp socket to resiliently bias and releasably detain said neck in a complementally shaped opening provided therefor in the fixture base.

The foregoing objective, and such other objects and advantages as may hereinafter appear or be pointed out, are attained in the manner illustrated in the appended drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view looking upwardly at a fixture constructed in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the fixture looking toward its base;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the fixture when viewed along the line 3—3 of Figure 4;

Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional view as taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the fixture showing the dual-socketed lamp holder of the present invention partially broken away to reveal details of the holder construction;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view as taken on line 6—6 of Figure 5;

Figure 7 is a partial sectional view as taken along line 7—7 of Figure 6; and

Figure 8 is a plan view of the retaining clip member for securement of the dual-socketed lamp holder in position.

The fixture constructed in accordance with the invention is shown in the drawings as comprising an escutcheon plate **10**, a pair of axially spaced circular fluorescent lamps **20**, a dual-socketed lamp holder **30**, and a pair of auxiliary lamp-holding clamps **70** in association with control apparatus, including thermal switches **15** and ballast coils **16**, such as are conventionally employed in fluorescent lighting units.

The fixture constructed in accordance with the invention is shown in the drawings as comprising an escutcheon plate **10**, a pair of axially spaced circular fluorescent lamps **20**, a dual-socketed lamp holder **30**, and a pair of auxiliary lamp-holding clamps **70** in association with control apparatus, including thermal switches **15** and ballast coils **16**, such as are conventionally employed in fluorescent lighting units.

The escutcheon plate **10**, which comprises a dish-shaped base of any suitable ornamental configuration which may

be suitably supported from a ceiling or other wall, is provided with an opening **12** for passage of a threaded supporting nipple (not shown). The base or support **10** may be formed of metal, plastic or other suitable material and may be enameled, painted or otherwise finished on its exterior to harmonize with the decor of the space to be illuminated. The base is preferably formed with a flat annular portion **11**, to which are attached most of the other fixture parts, such as the conventional ballast coils **16** and thermal switches **15**.

The fluorescent lamps **20** are also conventional, each consisting of a coated tube bent into circular shape with the ends thereof spaced apart to receive therebetween a suitable connector plug **21**. Two pairs of prongs **22—22** (of which one pair of one lamp are shown in Figure 5) project from each lamp plug, each pair of said prongs **22—22** being connected to the opposite terminals of a cathode forming part of the electrode located at each end of the lamp. The plugs are of insulating material and are conventionally formed of two parts held together by a threaded bolt **24**.

The dual-socketed holder **30** is detachably secured to the fixture base. For this purpose the holder is provided at one end thereof with an endwise-projecting tubular neck **52** the lateral walls of which define a wiring exit passage **51**. Preferably, this neck is of polygonal shape, usually square, so that upon insertion thereof in the correspondingly shaped opening **17** in the base plate **10** of the fixture the holder **30** will be restrained against rotation about the axis of the tubular neck **52** and so present the socket constantly in position to properly receive the plugs **21** of the lamps **20**. The tubular neck **52** is perimetrally grooved, as at **54**, this groove being so arranged that upon insertion of the tubular neck in the opening **17** it is disposed interiorly of the fixture base **10**.

For securing the holder to the base a quick-detachable clip member **55** is employed, this clip member being stamped and formed of flat spring steel stock to provide a U-shaped member having a pair of opposed wing portions **56—56**, the corresponding ends of which are interconnected by an end portion **57**. The inner edges of the wing portions **56—56** and the end portion **57** are respectively bent at angle to the plane of the clip member and define therebetween a notch **58** for reception of the grooved tubular neck **52** of the lamp holder. The entrance to the notch **58** is restricted by a pair of inwardly presenting projections **59—59**. When the clip member is slidably engaged with the grooved neck **52** of the lamp holder, as best shown in Figure 8, with the angularly bent marginal edges of the notch seated in the groove **54**, the said edges serve as wedge elements to resiliently press the bottom of the lamp holder **30** tightly against the supporting base plate **10** of the fixture. The clip member is restrained against ready removal from its latching engagement with the lamp holder by the projections **59—59**, which are spreadable to releasably embrace that portion of the grooved neck which extends freely across the open end of the notch **58**. The requisite spreadability and resilience of the oppositely disposed parts of the clip are preferably attained by notching the clip as at **60—60**. In order to facilitate attachment and detachment of the clip member **55**, it may be provided with an upturned tail piece **61** which may be engaged by the fingers to push or pull the clip into or out of engagement with the neck **52** of the lamp holder **30**.

What is claimed as new and useful is:

A supporting and latching member for a lamp socket of the type provided with an externally grooved supporting neck receivable through an opening in a lamp fixture base, said member comprising a flat slide of spring material having a surface engageable with said fixture base adjacent

its opening and on the side thereof remote from said lamp socket, and having a pair of spreadable wing portions separated by a rectangular slot adapted to engage three sides of said lamp socket supporting neck, the entrance end of said slot being restricted by opposed projections capable of grasping the fourth side of said socket neck, said slide being further provided with a pair of transverse slots communicating with the end of said rectangular slot opposite the entrance end thereof to permit resilient spreading apart of said projections upon sliding engagement of the latching member with the lamp socket, the opposite edges of said slot being bent out of the plane of the slide whereby upon interlocking engagement of the slide with

the groove in the socket neck, said slide is operative to react against said fixture base to resiliently bias thereagainst the shoulder adjacent said socket neck.

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