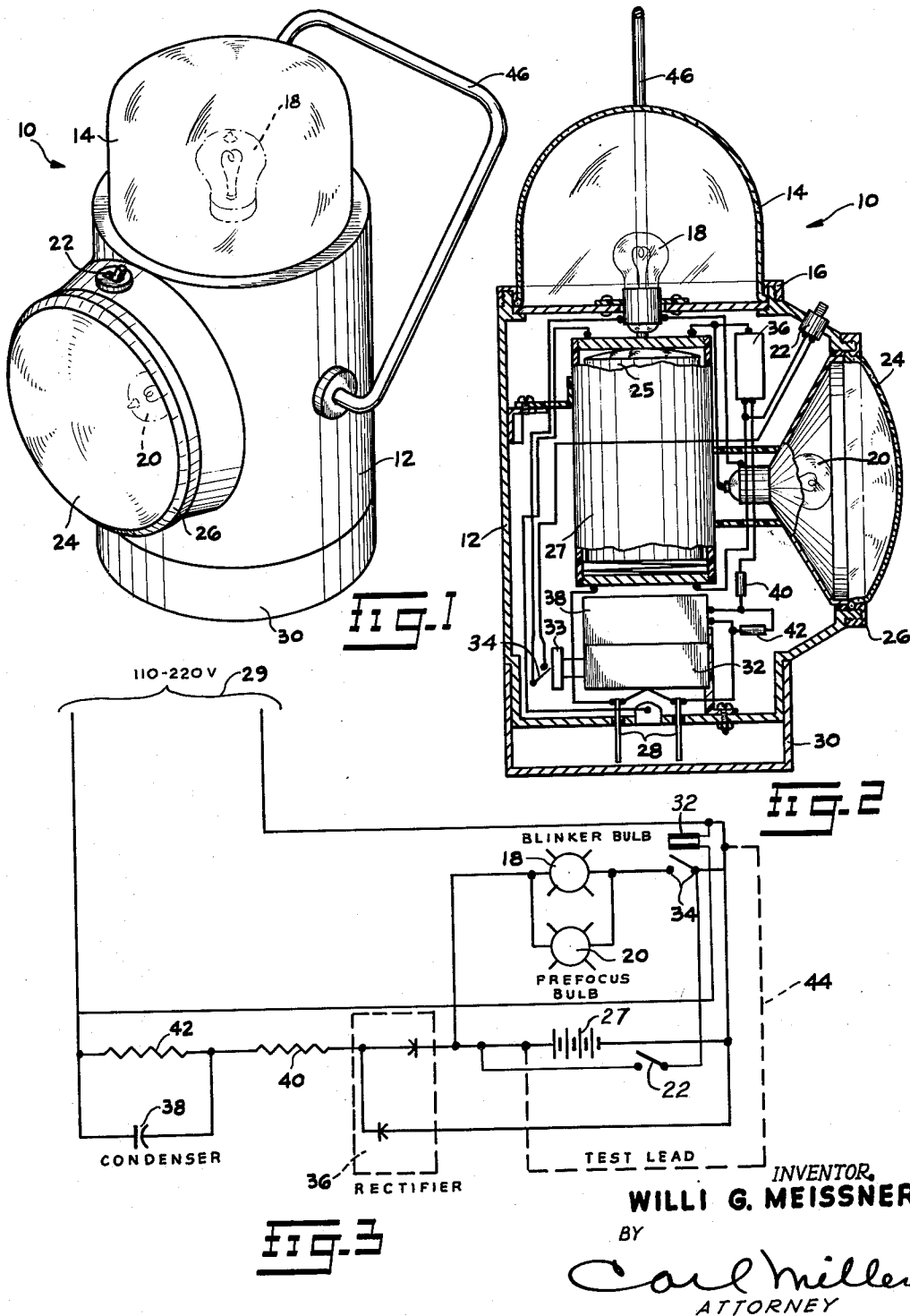


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PORTABLE EMERGENCY LIGHT
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PORTABLE EMERGENCY LIGHT

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4 Claims. (Cl. 340—81)

This invention relates to illumination apparatus and, more particularly, to a portable emergency light.

Various types of installations require the availability of emergency lighting equipment, such as in hospitals, institutions, stores, and the like. In many instances, it is advisable to also have emergency lighting equipment that is portable and which can be used for evacuation, repair, and signal purposes. It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a portable emergency light that is extremely simple in construction, efficient in operation, and which will be available for use at all times.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a portable emergency light that is energized by means of chargeable storage cells which are normally connected to a source of electrical energy at all times when not in use so as to continuously maintain a full charge therein.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a portable emergency light of the type described in which a blinker light is automatically energized in response to deenergization of the source of electrical or removal of light from its connection thereto.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portable emergency light made in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal cross sectional view of the light shown in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a schematic wiring diagram of the emergency light shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Referring now to the drawing, and more particularly to Figures 1 and 2 thereof, a portable emergency light 10 made in accordance with the present invention is shown to include a substantially cylindrical housing 12 having a transparent dome 14 removably secured to the top thereof, such as by a retaining ring 16. This dome 14 encloses a blinker light 18 which is connected in electrical circuit with a pre-focus type lamp 20 enclosed within a transparent lens 24 by means of a bezel 26 on the side of the housing 12. A manually operated switch 22 controls the energization of the pre-focus lamp 20, in association with the blinker lamp 18, which will be hereinafter more fully described. A stack of chargeable cells 25 supported within a case 27 within the housing 12 are in electrical circuit relationship with a pair of contacts 28 that project outwardly through the bottom of the closing 12 and which are intended to be mechanically connected to mating contacts of a source of electrical energy 29 available within a base 30. As is clearly shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawing, the bottom of the housing 12 is arranged to slidably engage within the base 30 for readily removing it whenever desired.

A relay 32 having a normally extended plunger 33 is energized by the circuit connection to the contacts 28 so as to retain the plunger 33 in a retracted position so long

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as the housing 12 is connected to the base 30 and the unit is electrically connected to the source 29 of electrical energy, in this retracted position, the armature 33 of the relay allows the contacts 34 of an adjacent switch unit to remain open, thus deenergizing the electrical circuits of the lamps 18, 20, while the charging circuit through the cells 25 remains closed. However, as soon as the relay 32 is deenergized, the armature 33 returns to its normal extended position, thus closing the contacts 34 and causing the blinker light 18 to be energized by the cells 25, thus emitting a warning signal. A rectifier 36, condenser 38, and resistances 40, 42 are electrically connected in the circuit to properly control the charging of the cells 25 when the contacts 28 are electrically connected to the source of electric energy. A test lead 44 is provided which will enable the circuit to be checked whenever necessary to determine the operativeness of the unit.

In actual use, the lamp may be removed from the base 30 by the handle 46, at which time the blinker light 18 is automatically energized. It will now be recognized that this device is particularly useful in all types of institutions, vehicles, and the like, so as to provide a strong beam of light for repair, evacuation, and emergency purposes, while providing a blinker light which will provide further warning to oncoming persons, vehicles, and the like.

While this invention has been described with particular reference to the construction shown in the drawing, it is to be understood that such is not to be construed as imparting limitations upon the invention, which is best defined by the claims appended hereto.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A portable emergency light comprising, in combination, a housing, a set of charged cells mounted within said housing, a blinker lamp mounted in one side of said housing connected in electrical circuit relationship with said cells, a switch interposed between said cells and said lamp, said switch being in a normally closed position, and means automatically opening said switch in response to connection of a source of electrical energy to said cells to deenergize said blinker lamp during the charging of said cells, said means for automatically opening said switch comprising a normally energized relay connected to and maintaining said switch in a closed position, and contacts energizing said relay in response to the connection of the source to said cells.

2. A portable emergency light as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a pre-focus lamp connected in circuit with said blinker lamp, and a switch connected in said circuit selectively controlling energization of both of said lamps.

3. A portable emergency light as set forth in claim 2, wherein said source of electrical energy comprises an upwardly opening hollow base removably supporting said housing therewithin, and said housing having a pair of contacts extending into said base.

4. A portable emergency light as set forth in claim 3, further comprising individual transparent covers mounted in angularly related positions relative to said housing, each one of said covers enclosing one of said lamps.

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