United States Patent [19]

Dennis

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[54] **LAMP STAND CONNECTOR**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **240/81 BS,** 240/84

[51] **Int. Cl.** **F21s 1/12,** F21s 3/10

[58] **Field of Search** 240/11.2, 25, 52.1, 240/63, 73, 81, 84

[56] **References Cited**

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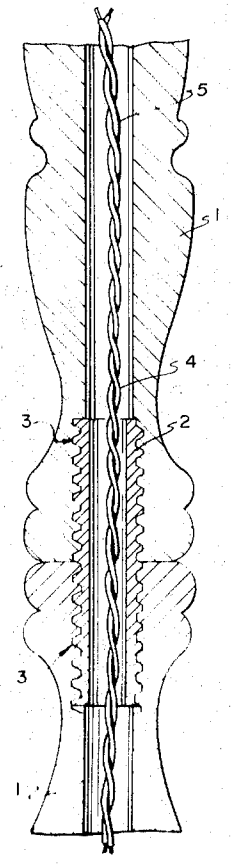
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides connectors for forming a joint in the recessed abutting ends of adjacent members, such as wood turnings, in the stand of an electric lamp stand, the end portions of the connector being releasably fixedly accommodated in the recesses and both the members and the connectors including a bore to provide for passage of electric flex to a socket to provide power for lighting the bulb of a lamp formed from said stand. The recesses are preferably internally threaded and the connector is preferably externally threaded to provide for the releaseable fixed accommodation of the connector in the recesses.

12 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures



2 Sheets-Sheet 1

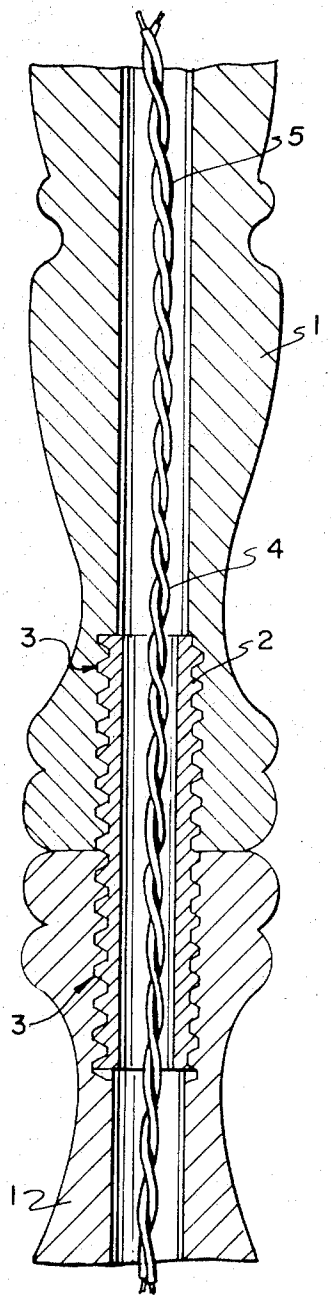


FIG. 1.

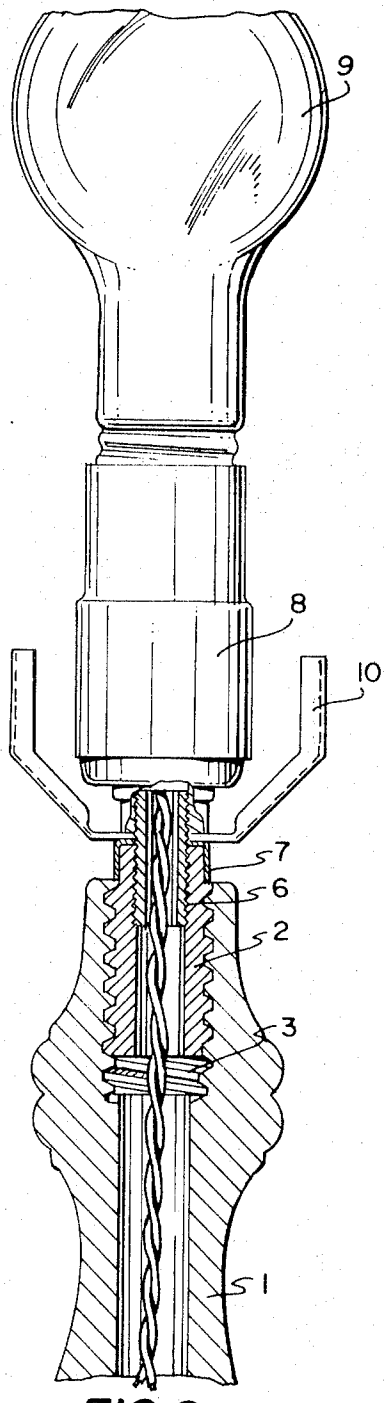


FIG. 2.

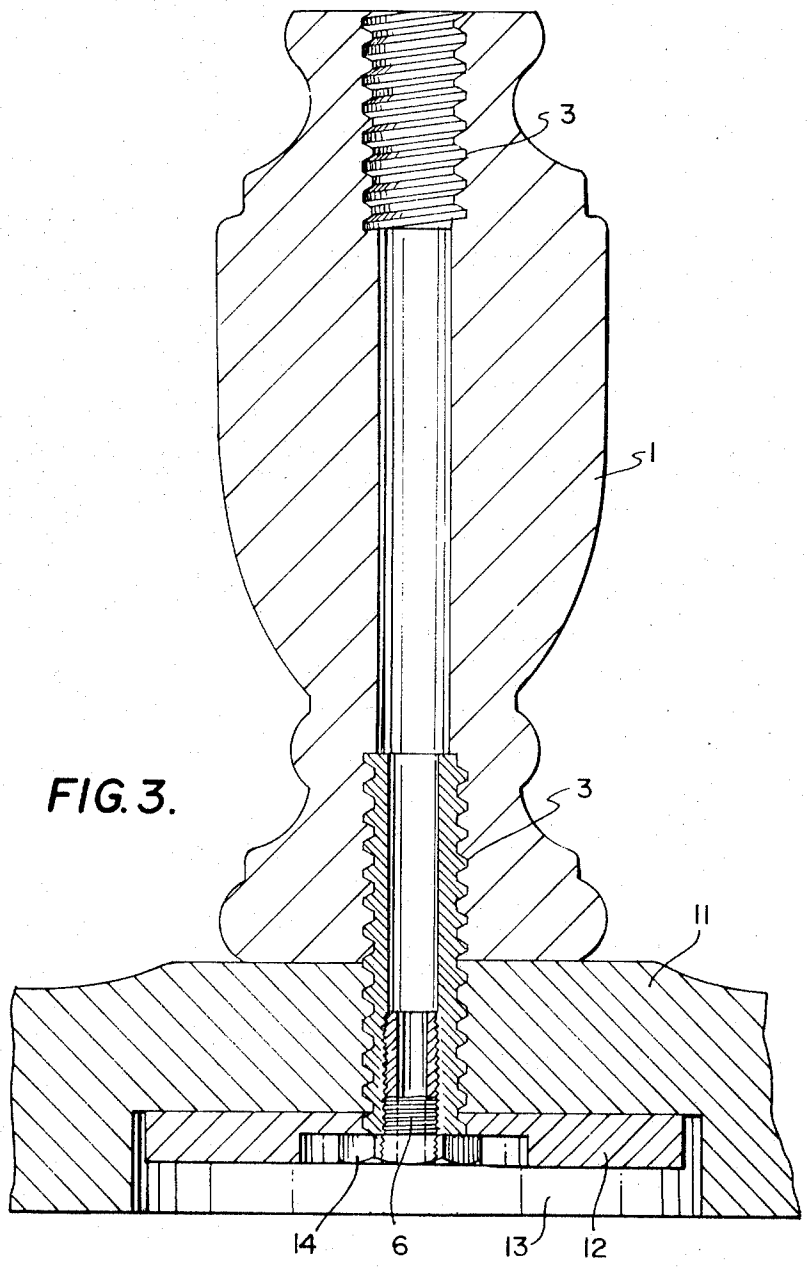


FIG. 3.

LAMP STAND CONNECTOR

The present invention relates to the electric lamps both of the table and floor model type and in particular the present invention relates to an electric lamp in which the lamp stand is formed from a plurality of members, e.g. wood turnings, in a way which allows for the stand to be erected simply and easily by the customer or the retailer and thus allows the lamp to be shipped from the manufacturer in a compact form.

Heretofore the lamp stands of such electric lamps have been formed from a plurality of members, in particular wood turnings of the desired design, which wood turnings have a central bore therethrough and are mounted on a central metal tube, e.g. brass tube, with the turnings in end to end abutting relationship. The socket for the electric bulb and the lamp shade are mounted on the top of the brass tube by means of an externally threaded metal sleeve which is fixedly mounted into the top portion of the bore of the brass tube and extends therefrom, the socket being screwed onto the externally threaded portion of the sleeve and the bracket of the lamp shade fitting over the outside of the sleeve and being held in place by a locking member. Power is supplied to the bulb in the socket via an electric flex passing upwardly through the stand by way of the bore in the brass tube.

Such lamps are however subject to several disadvantages and primarily the relatively large bulk of the lamps during the shipping thereof. Thus heretofore it has been necessary for the lamp manufacturer to assemble the lamps in his plant and to ship the lamps fully assembled to the distributors and retailers and while the weight of the lamp is not substantial, the bulk of the packaged lamp is relatively large and thus the shipping of the lamp by the manufacturer incurs substantial shipping costs as well as packaging costs. Further the purchaser of the lamps must use a lamp of the manufacturer's design and thus he has limited choice in his design of lamps. Again, during assembly of the lamps by the manufacturer the tube must be of a precise length for the lamp stand. If the tube is too short or too long for the total length of the wood turnings, the lamp manufacturer whose primary function is assembly of the lamps from parts supplied by lamp part makers cannot assemble the lamps or he may find that after partially assembling the lamp he has to destroy a part of it in order to correct the faults.

The present invention provides a lamp which can be shipped in compact disassembled form and thus the bulk of the lamp package will be determined primarily by the size of the lamp shade and in which the stand may be assembled by for example the distributor, the retailer or the buyer from a plurality of members, e.g. wood turnings, and which eliminates the necessity of a metal tube extending the height of the lamp stand upon which the wood turnings are mounted.

It has now been found according to the present invention that the lamp stand may be assembled from the plurality of elongated members, e.g. wood turnings, by recessing the ends of the wood turnings which are to be in abutment in the assembled lamp stand and providing a rigid connector, the end portions of which are accommodated in the recesses in the ends of the turnings, the connector being adapted for releasably fixed accommodation in the recesses. In order to allow electric flex to pass upwardly through the stand to the socket both the wood turnings and the connectors include the bore extending therethrough.

According to the present invention therefore there is provided an electric lamp stand adapted for mounting thereon of a lamp socket for an electric bulb fixedly comprising a plurality of elongated members joined together with the ends of adjacent members in abutment, the abutting ends being recessed and releasably fixedly accommodating an end portion of a rigid connector to form the joint between adjacent members each of said members and connector including a bore for passage of said flex therethrough to said socket.

The present invention also includes an electric lamp comprising said stand a lamp socket for an electric bulb fixedly mounted on said stand and electric flex passing upwardly through the bore in the stand to said socket for supplying electric power to said bulb.

The present invention still further provides a connector for forming a joint between the recessed ends of abutting elongated members in the stand of an electric lamp said connector being in the form of a cylindrical spindle having a bore extending axially therethrough and being adapted to be releasably, fixedly accommodated in said recesses in the ends of said members.

As aforesaid the lamp of the present invention may be transported in bit form with or without the flex and socket being present these being readily supplied by the buyer of the lamp. The present invention thus also provides a bit for forming an electric lamp stand as set forth above, comprising a plurality of elongated members for forming said stand upon which a socket for an electric bulb is to be mounted, the ends of said members being recessed to accommodate an end portion of a connector whereby to form a joint with said ends of said members in abutment and at least one connector adapted to be releasably accommodated in the recessed ends of a pair of adjacent members to form said joint, each of said members and said connector including a bore for passage of electric flex therethrough. The bit may also include said flex and said socket.

In order to be releasably fixedly accommodated in the recesses in the elongated members, e.g. the wood turnings, the recesses in the wood turnings are desirably internally threaded so as to co-operate with an external thread on the end portions of the connector. The connector must be rigid and is preferably cylindrical, has a bore extending axially therethrough and is suitably made of wood or other rigid material such as natural or synthetic resin e.g. hard rubber.

In order to mount the socket on the lamp stand, desirably the end of the elongated member to which the socket is to be mounted is also threadedly recessed and accommodates the threaded end portion of a connector, the upper end portion of the bore in the connector including an externally threaded and fixedly mounted metal sleeve onto which said socket is screwed. The lamp shade may also be mounted on this sleeve by means of the bracket of the lamp shade.

The lamp stand may also include a base, in particular a weighted base in abutment with the lower end of the lowest of the elongated members in which case the lower end of the member and the base are threadedly recessed and accommodate an externally threaded connector to form a joint therebetween, the connector having a bore extending therethrough for passage of electric flex therethrough. When the base includes a weight, the recess in the base may extend through the

base, the lower end of the bore of the connector including a fixedly mounted sleeve extending from the connector to which the weight may be releasably attached by means of for example a nut.

The present invention will be further illustrated by way of the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a vertical section through a portion of an electric lamp stand according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a detail partly in vertical section of the upper portion of an electric lamp stand according to another embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 3 is a detail vertical section through the base portion of an electric lamp stand according to yet another embodiment of the present invention.

Referring to FIG. 1 the lamp stand is formed from a plurality of wood turnings 1 in end to end abutment. The joint between the abutting ends of the turnings 1 is formed by an externally threaded connector 2 which is screwed into internally threaded recesses 3 in the ends of the turnings 1. Extending through the wood turnings 1 and connector 2 is a bore 4 which allows passage therethrough of electric flex 5.

Referring to FIG. 2 the top portion of the uppermost wood turning 1 also has a threaded recess 3 in the upper end thereof which releaseably fixedly accommodates an externally threaded connector 2, one end of which connector extends from the recess 3. Connector 2 fixedly accommodates an externally threaded sleeve 6 in the central bore 4 in the protruding end thereof the protruding end being covered by ferrule 7. The sleeve 6 has screwed thereon the socket 8 of the lamp into which is screwed the lamp bulb 9. The socket 8 also fixedly locates around the sleeve 6 a bracket 10 of a lamp harp (not shown) for holding the lamp shade of the lamp. The flex 5 extending through the bore 4 in the turning 1, connector 2 and sleeve 6, is connected to terminals 6 (not shown) in the socket 8.

Referring to FIG. 3 the lamp stand includes a wood turning 1 having internally threaded recesses 3 in the ends thereof the recess 3 in the upper end accommodating a connector for attachment of another wood turning 1 in accordance with FIG. 1 or a socket 8 in accordance with FIG. 2. The lower end of the wood turning 1 is in abutment with a base 11 including a weight 12 in a recess 13 in a lower portion of the base 11. The turning 1 is joined to the base by means of an externally threaded connector 2 having a hollow bore 4 which is screwed into the threaded recess 3 in the base 11 and in the turning 1, the recess 3 in the base 11 extending completely through the base into the recess portion 13. The connector 2 has an externally threaded sleeve 6 fixedly mounted thereon and extending from lower end thereof by which the weight 12 is attached to the base 11 by the nut 14.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. An electric lamp stand adapted for mounting thereon of a lamp socket for an electric bulb comprising a plurality of elongated members joined together with the ends of adjacent members in abutment each of, the abutting ends being recessed and the recess in each end releasably fixedly accommodating an end portion of a rigid connector to form the joint between said adjacent members, each of said members and connector including a bore for passage of electric flex therethrough to said socket.

2. A stand as claimed in claim 1 in which each recess is internally threaded and the end portions of the connector are externally threaded to provide said releasable fixed accommodation of said connector in said recess.

3. A stand as claimed in claim 2 in which said members comprise wood turnings and said connector is in the form of a hollow externally threaded cylinder.

4. A stand as claimed in claim 2 in which the end of the member to which the socket is to be mounted is threadedly recessed and accommodates the threaded end portion of a connector the upper end portion of the bore in said connector including an externally threaded fixedly mounted metal sleeve onto which said socket may be screwed.

5. A stand as claimed in claim 2 which includes a base in abutment with the lower end of the lowest of said members, said lower end and said base being threadedly recessed and accommodating an externally threaded connector to form a joint therebetween, said connector having a bore extending therethrough for passage of electric flex therethrough.

6. A stand as claimed in claim 5 in which said base includes a weight, said recess in said base extending through said base, the lower end of the bore of said connector including a fixedly mounted sleeve extending from said connector to which said weight is releasably attached.

7. An electric lamp comprising a stand as claimed in claim 1 a lamp socket for an electric bulb fixedly mounted in said stand and electric flex passing upwardly through said bore in said stand to said socket for supplying electric power to said bulb.

8. A kit for forming an electric lamp stand as claimed in claim 1 comprising a plurality of elongated members for forming said stand upon which a lamp socket for an electric bulb is to be mounted, each end of said members being recessed to accommodate in said recess an end portion of a connector whereby to form a joint with said ends of said members in abutment with each other and at least one connector the end portions of which are adapted to be releasably accommodated in the recessed ends of the pair of adjacent members to form said joint of each of said members and said connectors including a bore for passage of electric flex therethrough.

9. A kit as claimed in claim 8 in which each connector is externally threaded and the recesses are internally threaded.

10. A kit as claimed in claim 9 including a lamp socket for an electric light bulb.

11. A kit as claimed in claim 9 in which the bore in one of said connectors includes a fixedly mounted externally threaded sleeve extending therefrom by which said socket may be mounted on said stand.

12. A kit as claimed in claim 9 including a base having an internally threaded recess therein.

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