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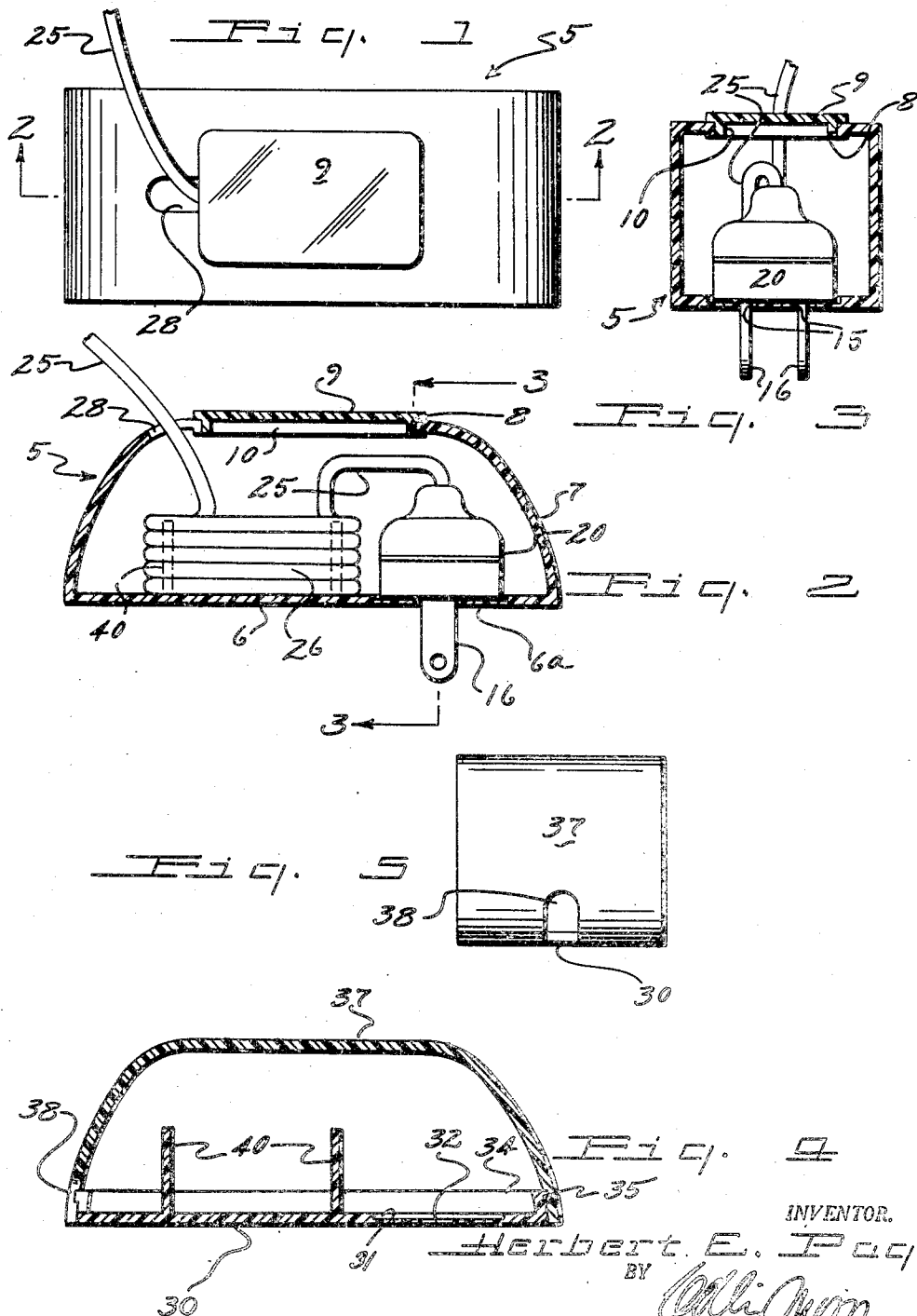
H. E. PAGE

2,470,320

ELECTRICAL CONNECTION DEVICE

Filed Jan. 13, 1945

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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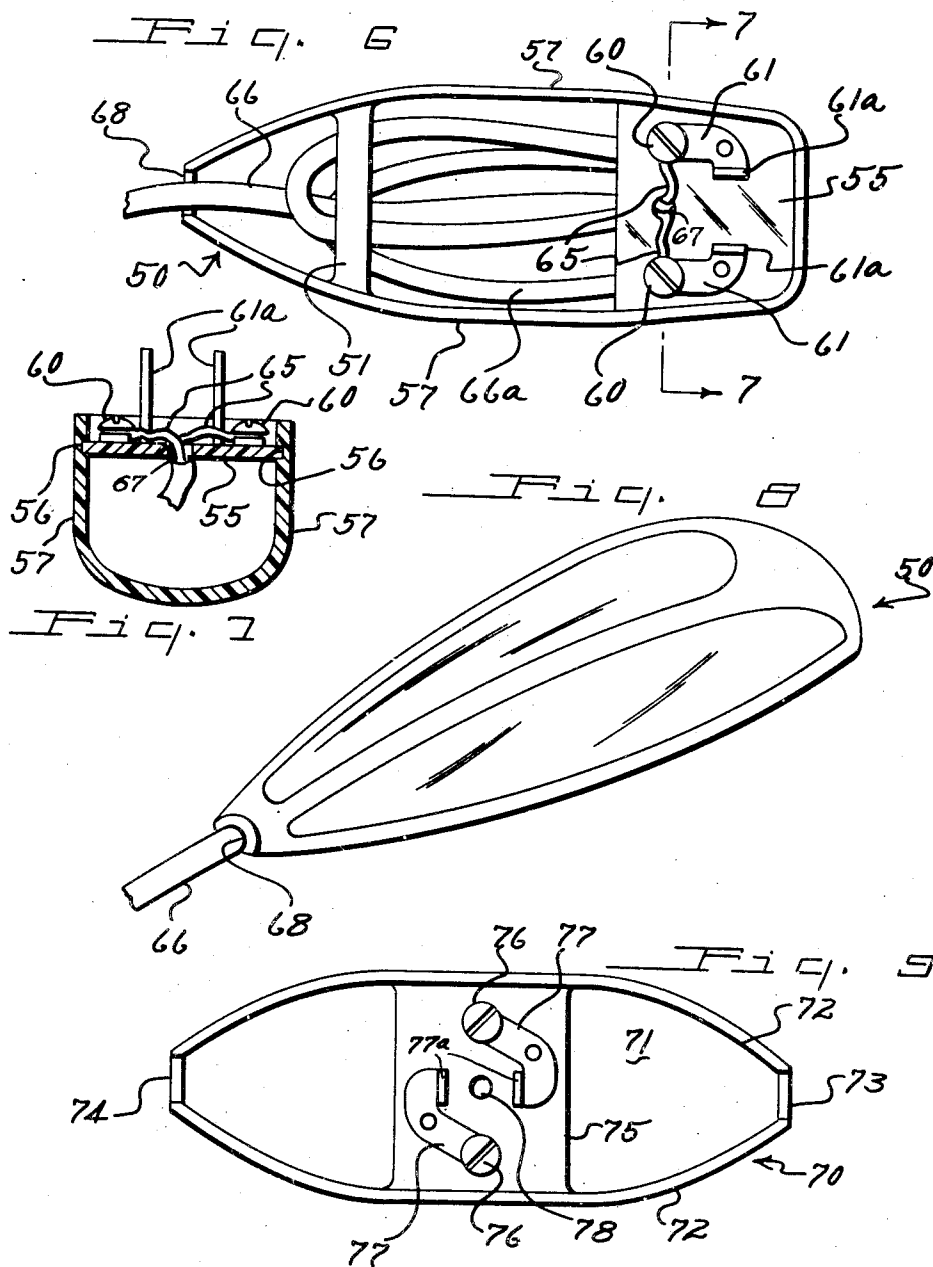
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2,470,320

ELECTRICAL CONNECTION DEVICE

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ELECTRICAL CONNECTION DEVICE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 173-361)

1

2

This invention has to do with means for connecting into wall or floor sockets, electrical wires leading to utilities such as lamps and the like.

Such electrical utilities as, for instance, floor lamps, are usually supplied with electric current through a cable or cord connected into a floor or wall plug and inasmuch as it is usually necessary or desirable to move such a lamp about the room in the course of house cleaning or for other special purposes, the practice has been to utilize an electrical cord or cable which is considerably longer than the length normally required. It is a well-known and long-existing objection to such excessively long cords that the excess must lay exposed on the floor of the room, proving not only unsightly but a hazard.

It is an object of the present invention to overcome this objectionable feature and to provide a simple, inexpensive connection or plug element which incorporates a cord retainer to protect and conceal the excess cord in position for use when desired, my receptacle being extremely simple to apply and serving not only the purposes before described but also protecting the plug element from exposure.

While my invention, in its broader aspects as defined by the appended claim, is capable of being embodied in various physical forms, I shall now describe in detail specific embodiments thereof, for which purpose I shall refer to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front view;

Fig. 2 is a section on line 2-2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a section on line 3-3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of a variational form of device;

Fig. 5 is an end view of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a back view of a further variational form of connection device.

Fig. 7 is a section taken on line 7-7 of Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is a perspective of the device of Figs. 6 and 7; and

Fig. 9 is a back view of another modification of my invention.

Referring now to the drawings and particularly to Figs. 1, 2 and 3, I show my connection device as comprising a rectangular, box-like body 5 having a back wall 6 adapted to rest flush against the wall or floor of a room, and converging side walls 7 providing a front opening 8 closed by a cover plate 9. The cover plate has side and end flanges 10 which frictionally fit into the opening 8.

The body 5 is preferably made of a non-conductive plastic and the back wall 6 has a portion 6a of relatively thin section through which I pro-

vide a pair of holes 15 to pass the contact prongs 16 of a conventional electric plug element 20. The purpose of the relatively thin wall portion 6a is to enable the prongs of the plug to pass therethrough and to properly engage in the conventional wall socket, not shown, in a manner not only to form the contact with the wall socket but also to firmly secure the body 5 in position against the wall. To force the prongs 16 into a socket, the cover 9 may be removed and the fingers of the user's hand inserted through opening 8 to press in the plug element 20. The excess length of the electric cord 25 connected into the plug 20 is preferably coiled within the receptacle as shown at 26, the free end of the cord then passing out of the receptacle through an opening 28 which intersects the openings 8 to enable the entire cord assembly, including the plug 20, to be inserted without disconnecting the cord from the plug.

All but the length of cable currently required to reach from the wall socket to the lamp is included in the coil 26. When a longer length of cord is desired it may be readily pulled from the receptacle and re-inserted when no longer needed.

In Figs. 4 and 5 I show a variational form of device which is used substantially as before described, but has a somewhat modified form of construction. Here the base 30 is merely a flat, non-conductive plate having the portion 31 of relatively thin section provided with holes 32 to pass the prongs of a plug element such as before described, and having end flanges 34 which present lips 35 engaging in complementary slots in a cover member 37, the latter having an opening 38 to pass the free end of the cord, not shown. To insert the prongs of a plug element (not shown) into a socket, the cover 37 is removed so that finger pressure may be applied to the plug.

To facilitate coiling of the excess length of cord within the receptacle, I may provide a pair of spaced hangers 40, which may be formed integral with wall 30, in the case of Figs. 4 and 5, or integral with wall 6 in the case of Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

The device of Figs. 6, 7 and 8 comprises a body 50 open at its back except for an integral cross member 51 and a removable partial back wall 55, the latter wall being somewhat wedge-shaped in plan, having its side edges fitting in grooves 56 provided in the converging side walls 57 of the body. To insert the wall 55, it is first placed between the side walls in the medial wider portion of the body and then pushed towards the right end along the grooves 56.

The wall 55, which is of non-conductive material, has secured thereto by screws 60 a pair of

3

contact elements 61 terminating at their free ends in parallel prongs 61a adapted to be inserted in a wall or floor socket. The ends of the two wires 65 constituting the electrical cord 66 are connected to the respective contact elements 61 by the screws 60 and pass into the body through a hole 67 provided through wall 55. The excess length 66a of the cord is coiled in the receptacle provided by the body 50 and its free end passes outwardly through an end recess 68, so that when it is desired to use the excess length it may be fed outwardly of the body through said recess and may be fed back into the body through said recess when the need of using the excess length ceases.

In the modification of Fig. 9 I show a body 70 having a front wall 71 and side walls 72 which converge towards their ends, providing recesses 73, 74 through the ends to pass electrical cords, not shown. The back wall 75 may be cast integrally with the side walls and has secured thereto by screws 76 a pair of contact elements 77 which terminate in the parallel prongs or contact portions 77a for insertion into a wall or floor socket in the manner before described. In this form of device two separate electrical cords, not shown, may be connected to the contact elements 77 through the holes 78 and the respective cords may pass outwardly of the body through the respective ends of recesses 73, 74, while the excess length in each cord may be coiled in the receptacle provided by the body.

I claim:

In an electric wire connector device, an elongated

4

casing open at its bottom and having a wire passing opening in an end, a base of shorter length than the casing mounted in closing relation to a portion of said open bottom at one end, plug means carried by the base and projecting therefrom for insertion in a plug receptacle member, means for connecting the plug means to a wire in the casing, and means for supporting a coil of excess wire in the casing comprising a cross piece fixed at its respective ends to opposite sides of the casing at a point between the base and the opposite end of the casing, said cross piece being narrow enough in relation to the open bottom end of the casing to permit access to the casing through the bottom thereof for the purpose of inserting said coil.

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