Sept. 19, 1961 T. G. SCONZO 3,000,511

BULB HOLDING PLATE

Filed Jan. 30, 1959

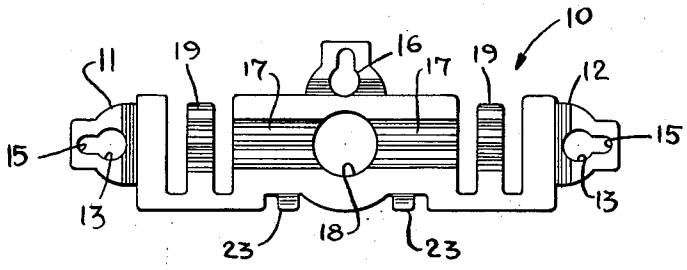

Fig 1

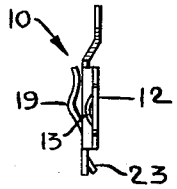

Fig 2

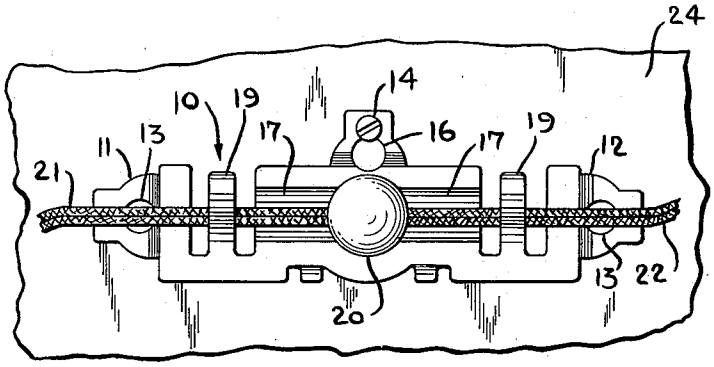

Fig 3

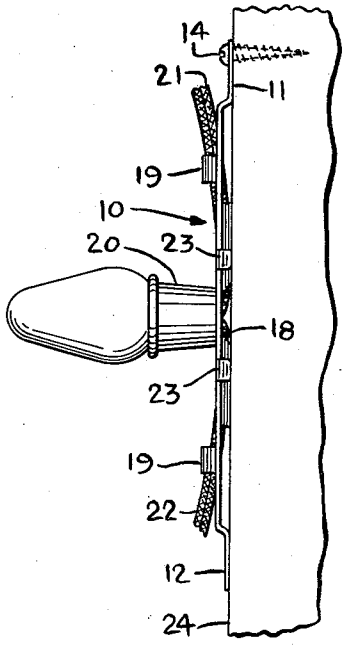

Fig 4

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BULB HOLDING PLATE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 211—26)

This invention relates to a bulb holding plate. More particularly, it relates to an attachable plate adapted to hold bulbs and their sockets perpendicularly with respect to the face of the plate.

It is noted that when a plurality of electric light bulbs are used for decorative purposes they usually extend from their sockets in a haphazard manner. Also, such sockets and bulbs are difficult to arrange in a methodical manner because of lack of a base for fixing the same in a symmetrical manner. This is particularly noticeable where Christmas bulbs and sockets are arranged around windows or the outline of houses particularly indicated in suburban areas. It is necessary to arrange and rearrange the bulbs and sockets to obtain an orderly appearance.

With the above disadvantages in view it is an object of the present invention to provide an easily attachable member adapted to hold light sockets and bulbs in an orderly manner relative to their position of installation.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a plate member having a plurality of openings therein adapted to permit fastening of the member onto a wall with a minimum of handling.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a plate like member having a plurality of openings and bends to permit spaced arrangement and attachment thereof to a wall whereby the wiring and socket of a light bulb is easily accommodated and held firmly by the plate.

Other objects and features of the invention will become apparent from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a plan view of a preferred embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 2 is an end view of the embodiment shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a composite view showing the embodiment attached to a wall and having mounted thereon a decorative bulb with its socket showing said light bulb and socket extending perpendicularly from the embodiment, and

FIG. 4 shows the embodiment in a different position relative to a wall or backing.

Referring now to the drawing wherein like members refer to like parts throughout, there is provided according to my invention a plate or member **10** of any suitable width and length. At each end **11** and **12** respectively of said plate, I provide openings **13** of such size to permit the plate to be attached or fixed to a nail or screw **14** as shown in the drawings. Furthermore, the openings have a smaller opening **15** extending from the larger opening **13** so that the member freely rests on the shaft of said nail or screw **14**. The use of the end openings **13** permit attachment of the member **10** vertically whereas a middle opening **16** is provided to permit horizontal hanging or attachment of the member. It will be noted that there may be provided several openings along its horizontal edges so that the member **10** depending upon its length can be securely attached by a plurality of nails or screws.

As shown in the drawings, the plate **10** is provided with a central concave portion **17**, a central opening **18** and a plurality of spaced retainers or fingers **19** extending outwardly and inwardly from the body of the plate member **10**. Said opening **18** as set in the concaved portion of plate **10** is adapted to snugly accommodate the base or end of a socket **20**, while retainers **19** extending from the member are springy and in relatively spaced apart relation with the face of member **10** to permit easy holding of the insulation wires **21** and **22**, extending from the socket **20**. Furthermore, the concave portion **17** of plate **10** accommodates the wires of socket **20** on either side thereof.

It is to be noted that the concave portion, the openings **13** and **16** are adapted to be in the same plane while the retainers **19** are in another plane spaced apart from the portion **17**. In order to permit the plate to lie flush against a wall there are provided extensions **23** which project rearwardly of the face of the plate so that the ends of the extensions are flush with the rear face of the concave **17**. By this construction, the plate stays flat against a wall **24** rather than at a slant.

A device as illustrated and described herein can be readily adjusted to any type of surface. Furthermore, as made it snugly holds a socket and the wiring securely thereto so that when decorating for example, a store front or the front of a building structure the lights may be effectively and readily attached to the structure in a neat manner without requiring detailed adjustment of the bulbs so that they extend uniformly outward from the front of the structure. It will be noted that said member as embodied in the invention can be of any desired length with any desired number of openings to permit ready attachment to a surface. Also, the member may be laid vertically or horizontally against the supporting wall.

While a preferred form of the invention has been described and illustrated it is to be understood that modifications as to form, arrangement and use of parts may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

I claim:

A plate member adapted to be readily affixed to a nail or screw extending from a wall surface, said member being further adapted to hold a decorative bulb or the like, and having terminal openings at opposed ends of its longitudinal axis and at least one marginal opening at its central vertical axis for accommodating a nail head and affixing the plate to the wall, said plate further having an opening at an area intersecting its longitudinal and vertical axis for holding a bulb socket, said socket having conducting wires extending therefrom, and retainer means extending outwardly and upwardly of the plate and on either side of the central opening to accommodate said conducting wires.

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