Feb. 13, 1923. 1,444,930

C. McKEEVER

VEHICLE LAMP

Filed Mar. 4, 1922

Fig. 1

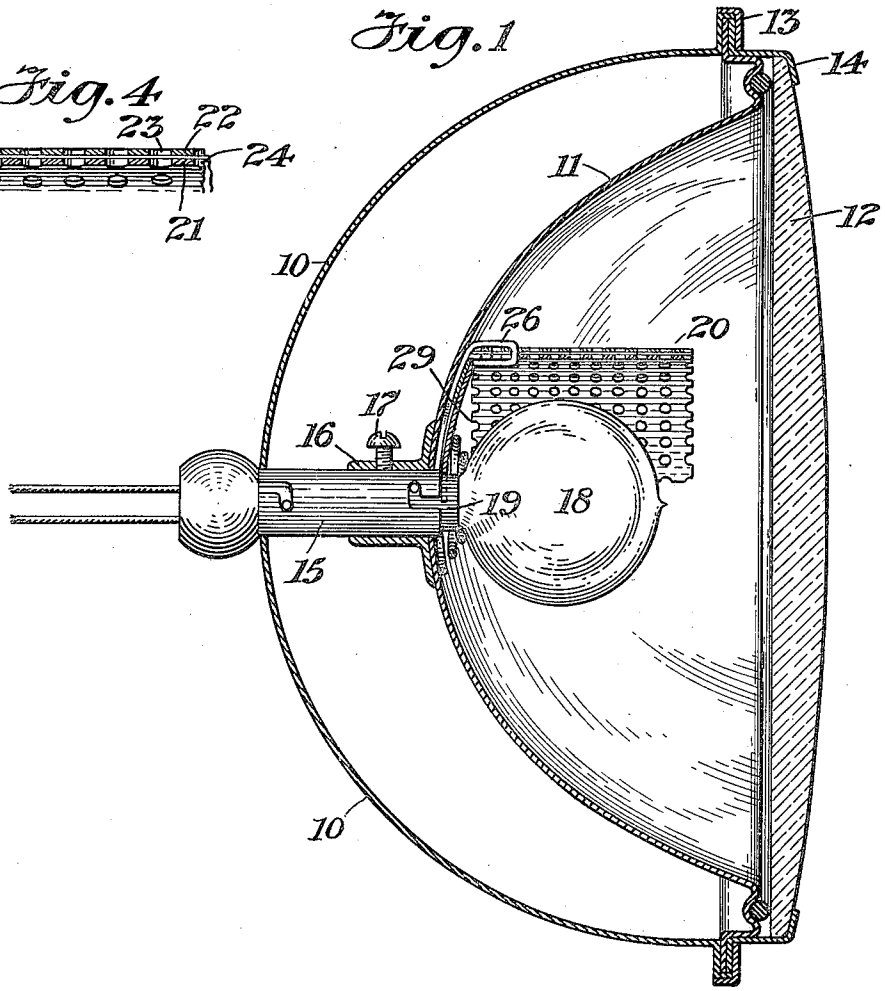


Fig. 4

Fig. 2

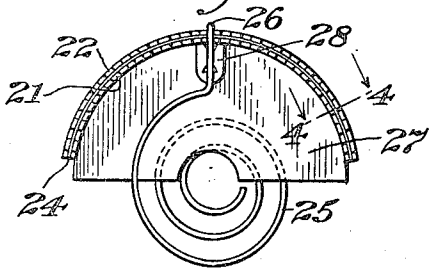
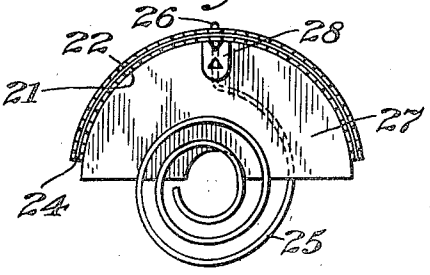


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES McKEEVER, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

VEHICLE LAMP.

Application filed March 4, 1922. Serial No. 541,029.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES McKEEVER, a citizen of the United States, residing in Jersey City, county of Hudson, and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Vehicle Lamps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a vehicle lamp and more particularly to that type of dimmer device as shown and described in my copending application, Serial No. 426,407, filed November 26, 1920, for preventing the blinding glare of headlights of motor vehicles. The present invention relates still more particularly to the construction of the devices for attaching the dimmer member to the lamp to prevent the same from slipping and thus becoming misplaced. In carrying out the invention the attachment preferably comprises a semi-cylindrical dimmer member adapted to fit over the bulb of a lamp and provided with a coiled spring by which, through the coaction of the lamp bulb when placing the same in the socket and a suitable friction device engaged by the convolutions of the spring and adapted to bear against the adjacent portion of the reflector, the dimmer is maintained in place, as will be hereinafter more particularly described.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a sectional elevation illustrating the use of the device made in accordance with my present invention.

Fig. 2 is an elevation of the inner end of the dimmer member.

Fig. 3 is an elevation of the outer end thereof, and

Fig. 4 is a partial cross section on an enlarged scale taken on line 4—4, Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawing, it will be seen that in carrying out my present invention the same is applied to a vehicle lamp which may include the customary shell or casing 10 fitted with a reflector 11 and a front glass or lens 12 which latter may be secured in position by a flanged rim 13 with an intervening gasket 14. All these parts are those which are customarily employed in the usual type of vehicle lamp.

As illustrated there is a socket 15 extending in the axis of the lamp between the casing 10 and the reflector 11. This socket passes through a sleeve 16 and is secured in position by a set screw 17 or otherwise. The socket is adapted to receive the usual lamp bulb 18, the base 19 of which is secured therein by means of the customary pins and the usual bayonet joint.

The part of the apparatus to which my invention particularly relates is the semi-cylindrical dimmer member 20 and the means by which the same is secured in position in the lamp. This dimmer member is preferably made of sheets of metal indicated at 21 and 22 superimposed upon one another with a plurality of holes 23 in corresponding positions and an intervening layer of paper, mica or any similar translucent material which is indicated at 24. The inner end of the semi-cylindrical dimmer may be formed with a rib as shown in my aforesaid application or otherwise.

Together with this semi-cylindrical dimmer member I employ a spiral spring 25, the end 26 of which is suitably connected to the dimmer member in a suitable manner and preferably in a substantially central position. Associated with the spring is a semi-circular washer 27 which may be made of felt or other fabric or similar material and is secured to the dimmer by a clamp 28 and also by having the outer portion thereof extend between predetermined convolutions of the spring 25.

In the use of this dimmer member the base of the lamp bulb is passed between the center coil of the spring and the lamp bulb forced to position in the socket 15. This action, as will be understood, compresses the convolutions of the spring causing the same to grip the friction washer 27 forcing the latter against the adjacent surface of the reflector and engaging the same with sufficient pressure to prevent the dimmer from shifting from the position in which it is set. It will furthermore be apparent that this action is assisted by the edges 29 at the inner end of the dimmer also engaging the surface of the reflector, and also that the outer or lower convolution of the coil is forced against the adjacent face of the reflector which assists in maintaining the parts in position.

I claim as my invention:

1. A dimmer for vehicle lamps comprising a semi-cylindrical member, a coiled spring connected at one end to the semi-cylindrical member, and a friction washer engaged between the convolutions of the spring whereby when the spring is compressed the washer is gripped by the convolutions of the spring

and forced to contact with the adjacent surface of a lamp reflector to maintain the dimmer in position therein.

2. A dimmer for vehicle lamps comprising a semi-cylindrical member, a coiled spring connected at one end to the semi-cylindrical member, a friction washer adapted to be engaged by the convolutions of the coiled spring, and means for connecting the friction washer to the said semi-cylindrical member.

3. A dimmer for vehicle lamps comprising a semi-cylindrical member having inner and outer walls with an intermediate layer of translucent material, a coiled spring connected at one end to the said semi-cylindrical member, and a semi-circular washer adapted to be engaged by the convolutions of the coiled spring.

4. A dimmer for vehicle lamps comprising a semi-cylindrical member having inner and outer walls with an intermediate layer of translucent material, there being a plurality of holes in corresponding positions in the parts of the said semi-cylindrical member, a coiled spring connected at one end to the said semi-cylindrical member, a semi-circular washer adapted to be engaged by the convolutions of the coiled spring, and means for securing the semi-circular washer to the said semi-cylindrical member.

5. In a vehicle lamp and in combination with a casing, a reflector, a lamp, and a socket therefor, a semi-cylindrical dimmer member, a coiled spring connected at one end to the said semi-cylindrical member and terminating in a loop adapted to be engaged by the lamp bulb and to coact with the same and the socket to yieldingly maintain the dimmer member in contatct with the surface of the reflector, and a friction washer adapted to be engaged by the convolutions of the spring and to be forced thereby through the insertion of the lamp into the socket against the adjacent surface of the reflector to maintain the dimmer member in position therein.

6. In a vehicle lamp and in combination with a casing, a reflector, a lamp, and a socket therefor, a semi-cylindrical dimmer member, a coiled spring connected at one end to the said semi-cylindrical member and terminating in a loop adapted to be engaged by the lamp bulb and to coact with the same and the socket to yieldingly maintain the dimmer member in contact with the surface of the reflector, a friction washer adapted to be engaged by the convolutions of the spring and to be forced thereby through the insertion of the lamp into the socket against the adjacent surface of the reflector to maintain the dimmer member in position therein, and means for connecting the washer to the dimmer member.

Signed by me this 6th day of February, 1922.

CHAS. McKEEVER.