

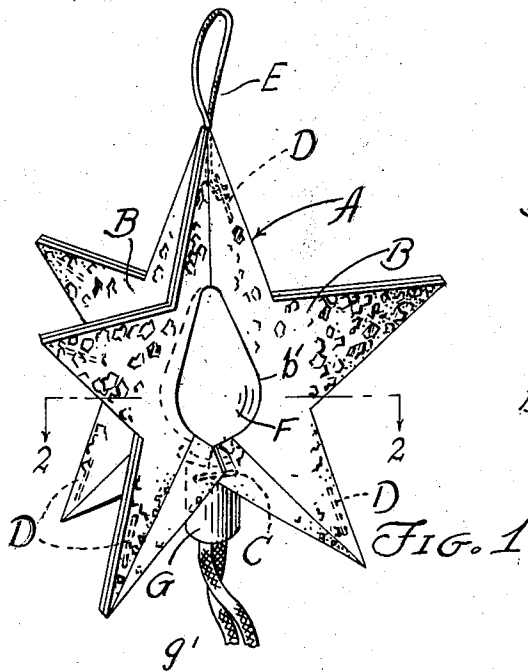
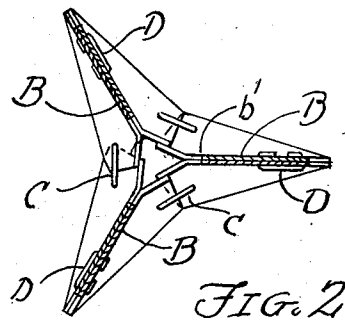
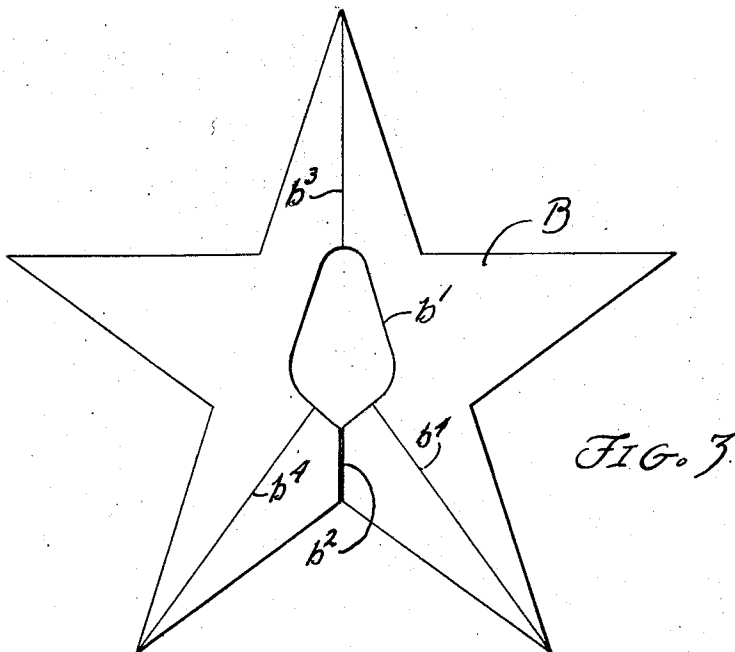
Sept. 22, 1953

D. C. OBER

2,652,653

DISPLAY ATTACHMENT FOR ELECTRIC LIGHT BULBS

Filed April 1, 1952



INVENTOR,
Dean C. Ober
BY *West & Oldham*
ATTYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,652,653

DISPLAY ATTACHMENT FOR ELECTRIC
LIGHT BULBS

Dean C. Ober, East Cleveland, Ohio

Application April 1, 1952, Serial No. 279,770

8 Claims. (Cl. 41-10)

1

This invention is an ornamental or display device for attachment to electric light bulbs, especially those used on Christmas trees, and its primary purpose is to provide an attractive device of this kind that is simple of construction; that is inexpensive; that is substantial and durable for a device of its class; that is convenient of use, and that is safe.

A more limited object is to provide a decorative or display attachment for electric light bulbs that, to a considerable measure, protects the bulb against breakage and prevents engagement of the bulb with objects that might ignite from prolonged contact with a hot bulb; and that prevents contact of tinsel, and ornaments, or other objects of conductive material, with the electrical connections of a socket to which the bulb is attached thereby to safeguard against short circuits.

Another object of the invention is to provide the attachment with suspension means by which it may be connected to a Christmas tree branch or other support and thereby, in turn, solely support the electric light bulb and socket. This feature facilitates the trimming of a tree, and, when many or all of the lights are thus supported, imparts a pleasing effect of uniformity among the lights.

Another object is to provide an ornamental or display device for direct attachment to an electric light bulb and which is so constructed of blanks of relatively thin sheet material that only edge contact is made between the bulb and the attachment.

A further and more specific object of the invention is to provide an ornamental attachment for electric light bulbs that is constructed from three identical, preferably star-shaped blanks of relatively thin sheet material, each having a central opening, and that are assembled about a central axis with the lateral edge portions of each blank in face contact and exact registration with the lateral edge portions of the other two blanks, and so that the light bulb of appropriate size and shape may be inserted in the space provided by the openings of the three blanks, the blanks being suitably secured together and coated with a decorative and desirably light reflecting and/or fireproof material, to the end that the attachment presents a similar appearance and pleasing effect from many viewing angles.

In the accompanying drawing which forms a part hereof,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the present

2

preferred embodiment of my invention attached to an electric light bulb of the kind used on Christmas trees;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section substantially on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is an elevational view of one of the blanks from which the device is constructed.

Without limiting the invention to the construction shown in the drawing, further than is required by the terms of the appended claims, I shall proceed to describe said construction in detail by the use of reference characters.

The attachment is made up of three identical blanks that are die cut or otherwise produced from thin sheet material, such as a relatively stiff, durable cardboard. The attachment is designated generally by the reference letter A, and each of the three blanks from which it is constructed is designated B. Each blank, as best shown in Fig. 3, has a central opening b^1 , that is of a size and shape corresponding, substantially, to the profile of an electric light bulb wherewith the attachment is intended for use, and a slit b^2 extends from the base of said opening to the center of the notch that separates the lower points of the blank.

Preparatory to assembling the attachment, each blank is bent or folded along its central vertical axis, represented by a line b^3 in Fig. 3, so as to dispose the two halves of the blank at an angle of substantially 120° to each other. Also, the adjacent halves of the lower points of the blank are deflected in the same direction from the plane of their other halves along the central axes of said points, represented by the lines b^4 . By reason of the formation thus imparted to the blank, the portions on opposite sides of the slit b^2 are caused to overlap, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, and they are held in this condition by suitable fastening means, as a staple C.

With the blanks B pre-shaped as above described, they are assembled about an axis with the reverse side of each half of each blank in surface contact with the corresponding side of a half of each of the other blanks, this arrangement being clearly illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. With the contiguous edges of the assembled blanks in exact registration with each other, the blanks are secured together by suitable means, such as staples D.

During the assembling of the device, the ends of a loop E of cord or wire are engaged between the blanks at the apex of the attachment and are desirably caught by one of the staples D,

thereby to provide suspension means for the device. When the blanks are assembled in the manner described and are secured together, the openings *b'* merge to provide a space for the accommodation of an electric light bulb *F*, as illustrated in Fig. 1. Shown as applied to the plug of the bulb is a socket *G*, to which are connected the usual insulated wires *g'*.

As will be seen by reference to Fig. 2, the blanks are in surface contact with one another throughout their entire reverse sides, with the exception of the deflected portions of the lower points of the blanks, and the deflection of said portions provides space for the plug of the light bulb and the adjacent end of a socket. It is also clear from Fig. 2 that contact between the attachment and the light bulb is confined to the edges of the blanks that define the openings *b'*.

After the attachment is assembled, it may be coated, as by dipping, brushing or spraying with a suitable paint or similar substance, desirably of a non-inflammable nature, and while said substance is in a tacky condition, a suitable decorative material may be sprinkled or deposited upon the obverse or exposed surfaces of the blanks. Said material may consist of flaked mica, small glass beads, aluminum powder, or the like, preferably having a light reflecting quality so that it will pick up and reflect the clear or colored rays of light from the bulb *F*.

In applying the attachment to a bulb, the bulb is inserted by first projecting the plug of the bulb through one of the openings *b'* and downwardly into the space provided by the deflected portions of the blanks, the blanks yielding enough to permit the bulb to be arranged snugly within the space provided by said openings and wherein it is held firmly by the adjacent edges of the blanks. When the device is suspended from a branch of a Christmas tree or other support by means of the loop *E*, the device, in turn, will support the bulb and socket without the latter having to be attached to any other support. In case of preference, the socket may be attached to the branch of a Christmas tree in the usual manner, and the bulb, with the attachment applied thereto, connected to the socket.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. An attachment for electric light bulbs comprising a plurality of at least three blanks of sheet material, each blank having an opening midway between its lateral edges of a size and shape corresponding to the profile of a bulb of the kind wherewith the attachment is intended for use, said blank being folded along its vertical center to dispose its halves at an angle to each other, the blanks being assembled about an axis with the reverse surfaces of the halves of each blank in face contact, respectively, with the corresponding surfaces of halves of two other blanks and so that the openings of the blanks merge to provide a space for the reception of a bulb of the aforesaid kind, and means securing the blanks together in assembled condition and in fixed relation to one another.

2. The combination and arrangement of parts defined by claim 1, wherein said means for securing the blanks together consist of fasteners extended through the contacting portions of the blanks; and a relatively thick coating of decorative material applied to the obverse sides of the blanks and concealing said fasteners.

3. An attachment according to claim 1, wherein the portion of each blank below the opening

thereof is deflected outwardly to provide space at the bottom of the attachment to accommodate the plug of a light bulb and the adjacent end of a socket applied thereto.

4. An attachment according to claim 1, wherein the portion of each blank below the opening thereof is provided with a slit extending from said opening to the adjacent bottom edge of the blank, and the adjoining edge portions of the blank that are separated by said slit being overlapped so as to deflect the surrounding area of the blank and thereby provide space at the bottom of the attachment to accommodate the plug of a light bulb and the adjacent end of a socket applied thereto, and means for securing said edge portions in overlapped condition.

5. An attachment for electric light bulbs comprising a plurality of at least three blanks of sheet material, each blank having an opening midway between its lateral edges of a size and shape corresponding to the profile of a bulb of the kind wherewith the attachment is intended for use, said blank being folded along its vertical center to dispose its halves at an angle to each other, the blanks being assembled about an axis with the reverse surfaces of the halves of each blank in face contact, respectively, with the corresponding surfaces of halves of two other blanks and so that the openings of the blanks merge to provide a space for the reception of a bulb of the aforesaid kind, fasteners extending through the contacting portions of adjacent blanks for securing the blanks together in assembled condition and in fixed relation to one another, and suspension means having a part disposed between two of the blanks and held in place by an adjacent fastener.

6. An attachment for electric light bulbs comprising three identical blanks of sheet material, each blank having an opening midway between its lateral edges of a size and shape corresponding to the profile of a bulb of the kind wherewith the attachment is designed for use, said blank being folded along its central axis and the areas on opposite sides of said axis being disposed at an angle to each other of approximately 120°, the three blanks being assembled about a central axis with the reverse surface of each half of each blank in face contact with the corresponding surface of a half of one of the other blanks, and means securing the blanks together in assembled condition and in fixed relation to one another.

7. An attachment for electric light bulbs comprising three identical blanks of sheet material, each blank having an opening midway between its lateral edges of a size and shape corresponding to the profile of a bulb of the kind wherewith the attachment is designed for use, said blank being folded along its central axis and the areas on opposite sides of said axis being disposed at an angle to each other of approximately 120°, the three blanks being assembled about a central axis with the reverse surface of each half of each blank in face contact with the corresponding surface of a half of one of the other blanks, the portion of each blank below the opening thereof being deflected outwardly to provide space at the bottom of the attachment to accommodate the plug of a light bulb and the adjacent end of a socket applied thereto, and means for securing the blanks together in assembled condition and in fixed relation to one another.

8. An attachment for electric light bulbs comprising three identical five-point star-shaped blanks, each blank having a central opening of a

5

size and shape corresponding to the profile of a bulb of the kind wherewith the attachment is designed for use, the central axis of said opening coinciding with the central axis of the blank, and the latter axis extending from the apex of the top point of the blank to the center of the notch opposite said point, said blank having a slit connecting said notch with the base of the opening, and the blank being folded along its central axis so as to dispose the areas on the opposite sides of said axis at an angle to each other of approximately 120°, the points of the blank on opposite sides of the aforesaid notch being folded along their central axes to dispose their near halves at a substantial angle to their remote halves, the edge portions of the blank along opposite sides of said slit being overlapped, means secur-

6

ing said edge portions together in overlapped relation, the three blanks being assembled about a central axis with the reverse surface of each half of each blank in surface contact with the corresponding surface of a half of one of the other blanks, and means securing the blanks together in assembled condition.

DEAN C. OBER.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,435,024	Shapiro -----	Nov. 7, 1922
1,695,307	Wilson -----	Dec. 18, 1928
1,784,474	Wilson -----	Dec. 9, 1930
2,333,162	Eddy -----	Nov. 2, 1943