

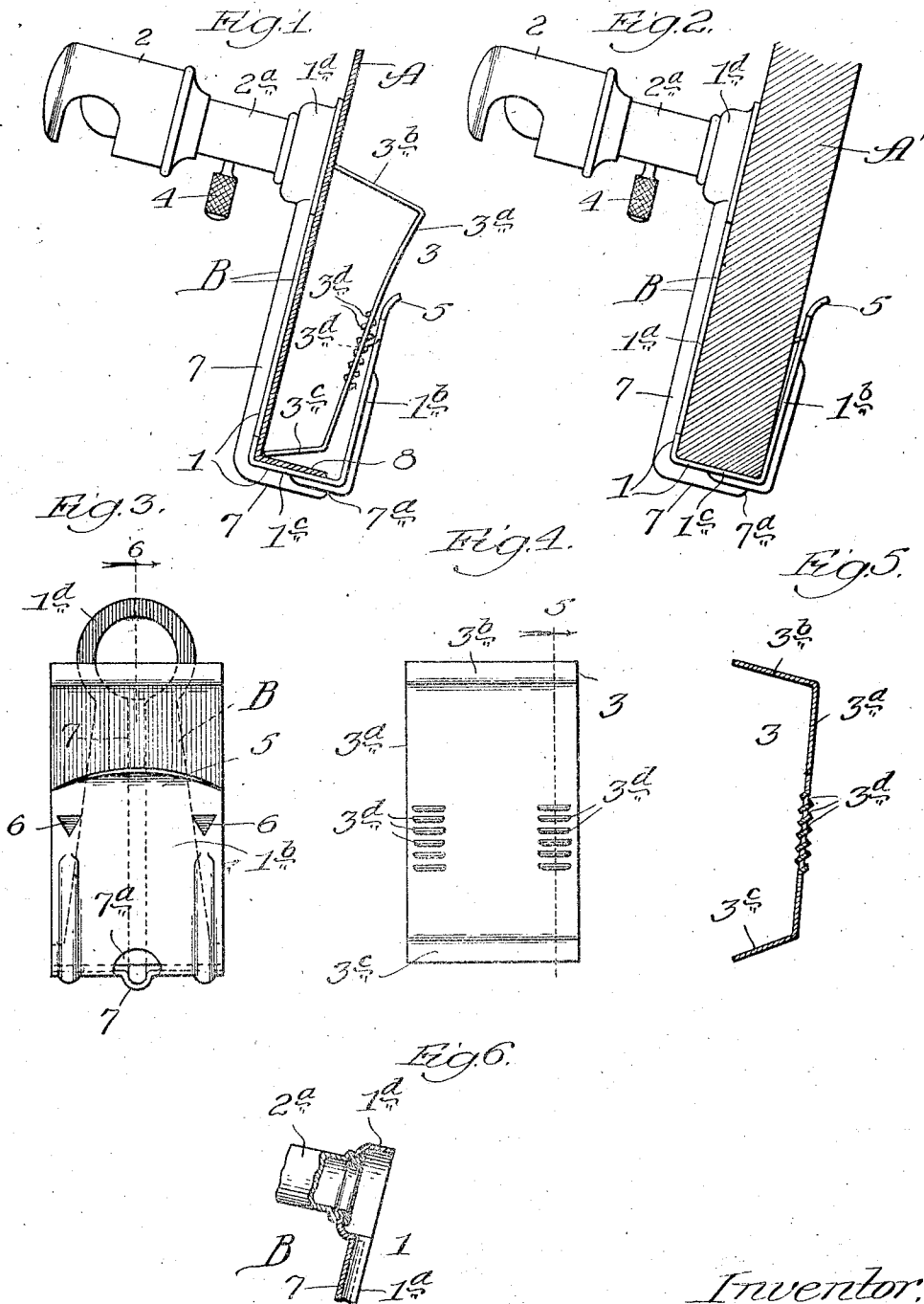
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DASH LAMP

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DASH LAMP.

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This invention relates particularly to a dash lamp which can be readily mounted upon either a wooden dash or a metal dash of an automobile.

5 The primary object is to provide an improved dash lamp of this character which can be readily applied to any automobile dash, which is thoroughly adapted to its purpose, and which can be cheaply manufactured.

10 The invention is illustrated in its preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 represents a vertical sectional view 15 of the metal dash of an automobile having the improved device applied thereto; Fig. 2 represents, brokenly, the improved device applied to a wooden dash; Fig. 3 represents a rear view of the device shown in Fig. 1, after removal from the dash; Fig. 4 is a rear elevational view of a supplemental clamping member which is employed when the device 20 is attached to a metal dash; Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view taken as indicated at line 5 of Fig. 4; and Fig. 6 is a broken vertical sectional view taken as indicated at line 6 of Fig. 3.

In the illustration given, A represents a 25 metal dash of an automobile; A' represents a wooden dash; and B represents the improved dash-lamp device.

The device B preferably comprises a U-shaped clamping-bracket 1; a lamp 2 carried thereby; and a supplemental clamping member 3 associated with the clamping-bracket 1.

35 The clamping-bracket 1 preferably comprises a strip of sheet-metal which is bent substantially in U-form, thus affording a front arm 1^a, a rear arm 1^b, and a connecting web 1^c. The arm 1^a is extended some distance above the upper end of the arm 1^b, and is provided with an embossment 1^d upon which is mounted the lamp 2. The lamp 2 has a shank 2^a which comprises a sleeve 40 whose rear end fits in and has beaded connection with a suitable perforation in the embossment 1^d. In the tubular shank 2^a is mounted a suitable electric connector (not shown), which may be operated by means 45 of a handle 4. Any suitable construction may be employed for the lamp and connector. A desirable construction for this portion of the device is shown in my pending application Number 738,955, filed September 20, 50 1924.

The upper end of the arm 1^b of the clamping-bracket 1 is curved rearwardly as indicated at 5, thus forming a thumb piece. Below this thumb piece the metal is sheared along suitable lines and punched forwardly 60 to provide brads, or lugs, 6. These brads incline forwardly and downwardly and preferably have sharp points. These points are adapted to be driven into the wood when the device is applied to a wooden dash, and are 65 adapted to engage the teeth of a ratchet device with which the supplemental clamping-member 3 is provided when the device is applied to a metal dash.

When the device is applied to the wooden 70 dash A', the supplemental clamping-member 3 is not employed. In this case, the U-shaped clamping-bracket slips over the lower edge-portion of the dash, and the brads 6 engage the rear surface of the dash. Ordinarily, 75 the brads will make a slight indentation in the wood, and the resiliency of the U-shaped bracket is sufficient to prevent the bracket from slipping down from its proper position. However, it is preferred to drive the 80 brads into the wood somewhat, and this can be accomplished by tapping lightly upon the member 1^b with a hammer.

The bracket member 1 has its front arm 1^a and its web-portion 1^c suitably channelled 85 to admit an electric conductor. Such a channel may be provided by striking the metal outwardly to form a hollow rib, as indicated at 7. This enables a conductor to be carried 90 from the rear of the dash through the channel and through the embossment 1^d to connect with the plug of the electric connector of which the sleeve 2^a forms a part.

The metal may be cut away at the lower rear corner of the clamping-bracket 1, as 95 indicated at 7^a, thus affording an opening through which the conductor may pass into the channel 7, as will be clearly understood from Fig. 3.

When the device is to be applied to a 100 metal dash, the supplemental clamping device 3 is employed. As shown, the metal dash ordinarily is provided at its lower edge with a rearwardly turned flange 8. Sometimes the flange is replaced by a bead, and 105 also the dash may vary in thickness. Provision is made for adjustability to meet such conditions. Ordinarily, the metal dash is made from comparatively light sheet-metal, and the supplemental clamping member 3 110

is adapted to serve as a fillet, or wedge-member, interposed between the rear arm 1^b and the dash. As shown, the member 3 comprises a strip of sheet-metal which is of
 5 general U-form, comprising a web-portion 3^a, an upper flange 3^b, and a lower flange 3^c. The lower flange is shorter, or of less depth than the upper one so that the member
 10 has a wedging action when it is entered between the tongue 1^b and the metal dash A. The web-portion 3^a of the member 3 is provided with series of teeth, or catches, 3^d, which are adapted to be engaged by the
 15 ratchet teeth, and preferably are formed by shearing the metal of the web along horizontal lines and bending the sheared metal at an angle to the web. In this manner, ratchet teeth are provided and slits between
 20 the ratchet teeth are also provided so that the sharp points of the brads will slip into or through, these slits when the parts are applied in the manner shown in Fig. 1.

In assembling the device, as shown in Fig. 1, the member 3 is shoved downwardly like a wedge between the tongue 1^b and the metal dash until the lower flange 3^c engages the
 25 flange 8 of the dash. The pressure is continued and the web 3^a of the member 3 is put under a certain amount of flexure. The pressure is continued until the brads are caused to engage the proper teeth of the ratchet device to insure a secure connection.

In this operation, the web and flanges of
 35 the supplemental clamping member 3 are sprung somewhat, and the resilience of the member is sufficient to insure secure connection

between the brads 6 and the ratchet teeth 3^d. Thus, the bracket 1 is staunchly supported on the metal dash. Both the
 40 member 3 and the clamping-bracket 1 may be suitably resilient, so that the members can be snapped readily into position and will then be securely clamped to the dash.

The foregoing detailed description has
 45 been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible, in view of the prior art.

What I regard as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A dash lamp device comprising a lamp, a U-shaped supporting bracket upon the
 50 upper end of the front arm of which said lamp is mounted, said bracket having an upwardly extending rear arm equipped with a brad, and a supplemental clamping member adapted to be interposed between said
 60 rear arm and a metal dash and provided with a series of teeth co-acting with said brad.

2. A dash lamp device comprising a lamp, a U-shaped supporting bracket upon the
 65 upper end of the front arm of which said lamp is mounted, said bracket having an upwardly extending rear arm, a supplemental clamping member adapted to be interposed between said rear arm and a metal dash, and adjustable connections between
 70 said rear arm and said supplemental clamping member.

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