No. 863,214. PATENTED AUG. 13, 1907.

W. F. PHELPS.

SUPPORTING BASE FOR ELECTRIC FANS.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 9, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

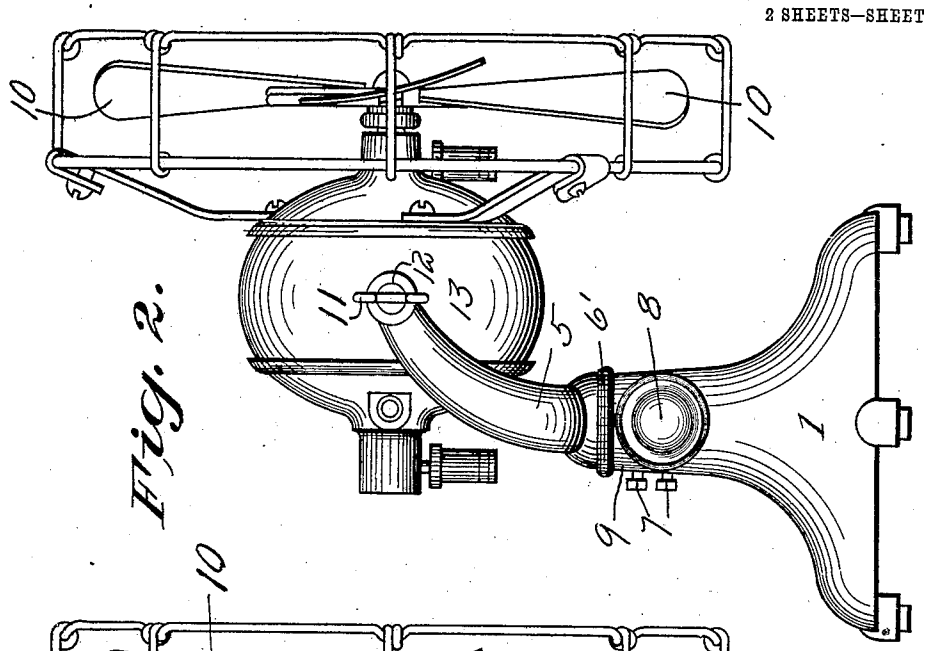


Fig. 2.

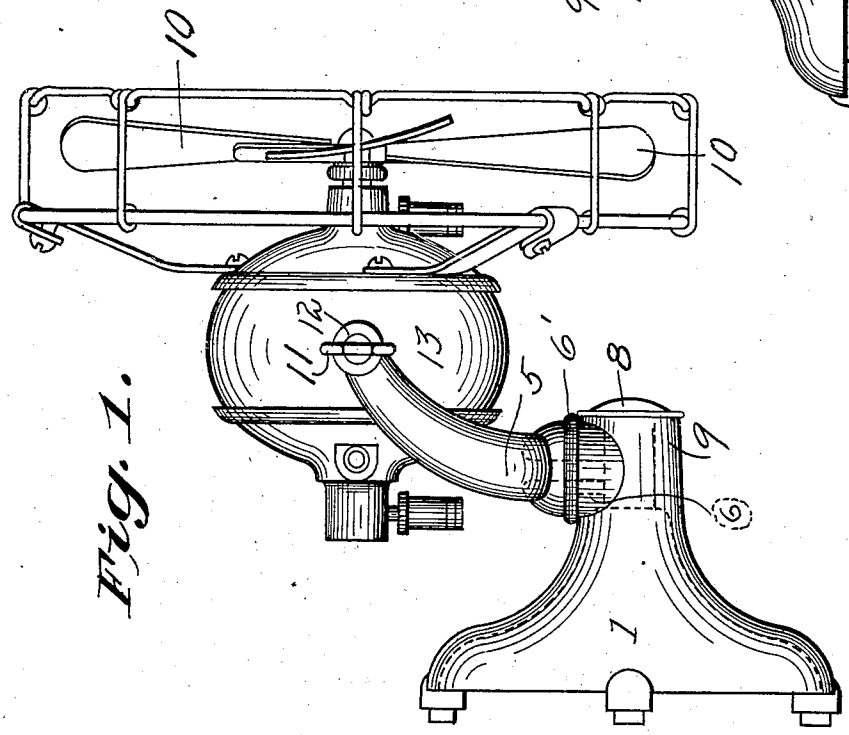


Fig. 1.

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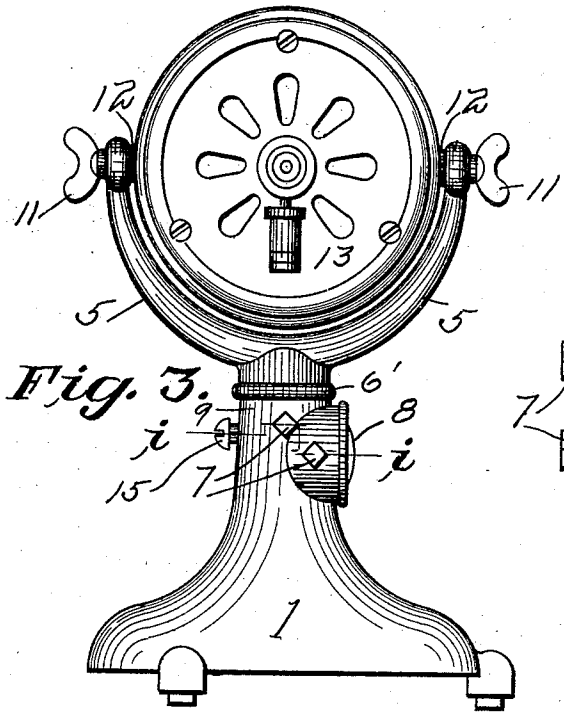


Fig. 3.

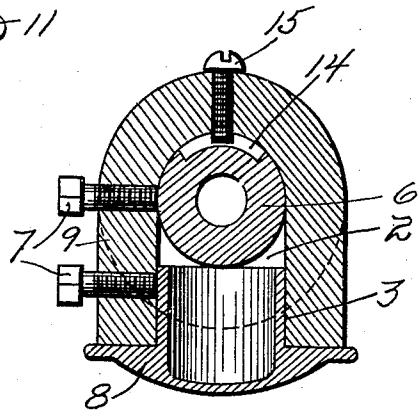


Fig. 4.

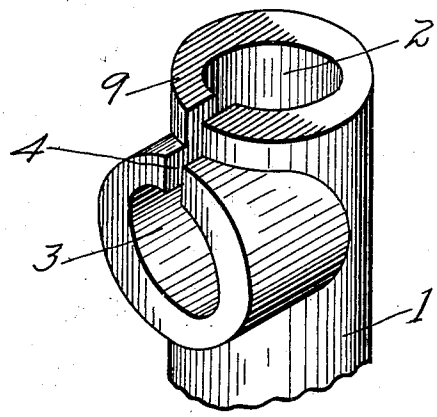


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SUPPORTING-BASE FOR ELECTRIC FANS.

No. 863,214. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 13, 1907.

Application filed March 9, 1907. Serial No. 361,435.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER F. PHELPS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supporting-Bases for Electric Fans; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in electric fans, and has specific reference to improvements in the motor and fan-supporting element.

The object of the invention is to provide an interchangeable or convertible base or supporting element upon which the motor and fan with the adjuncts are supported, and whereby said base or supporting element is rendered capable of being converted from an ordinary desk or table stand to a wall bracket and vice versa, so that a single base or supporting element for the motor and fan may become a fixture or not as the needs of the case require.

Preceding a detailed description of my invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1, is a side elevation of the base or supporting element with fan and motor thereon, and the supporting base converted into a wall bracket. Fig. 2, is a similar view showing the same utilized as a desk or table stand. Fig. 3, is a rear elevation of Fig. 2. Fig. 4, is an enlarged sectional view on the line *i*—*i* of Fig. 3. Fig. 5, is an enlarged detail view of the upper end of the convertible supporting base.

In a detail description of the invention, similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts.

The base or main supporting element 1 is suitably broadened or increased in area at its base, and the same may be utilized as an ordinary stand for a desk or table fan as in Fig. 2, or it may serve the purpose of a wall bracket or support for the fan as shown in Fig. 1; in the former case, it need not be fastened or united to the desk or table owing to its increased base area, but when utilized as a wall bracket or support it is obviously necessary that a rigid connection with the wall shall be made; this may be done in any suitable manner. In order to thus utilize the supporting element for the purposes of a stand or bracket, I provide therein two distinct apertures 2 and 3, the former being in a line with the major axis of the base, and the other aperture, to-wit—3, being at right angles to the aperture 2 and communicating therewith by entering the neck of the base on the side thereof. Extending from the opening 2 to the opening 3 is a slot 4 which enables the conducting wires (not shown) from the source of electrical supply for the motor, to pass with the motor from one position to the other in converting the base from a stand to a bracket and vice versa. The conducting wires enter the base through a suitable opening and pass through the opening 2 in the neck of the base and thence through the usual opening provided in the yoke 5, returning in the same manner.

There is no novelty in the manner of connecting the supply wires with the motor circuit, therefore, it has not been deemed necessary to illustrate the same. Stem 6 of the yoke 5 is tubular in order that conducting wires may pass therethrough to connect with the motor circuit. The said stem 6 enters the orifice 2 in the end of the neck of the base and has an enlarged annular abutting portion 6′ of an ornamental character which engages the upper end of the base or the neck and thus imparts to the joint thus formed an ornamental appearance.

When the base is utilized as a desk stand as in Fig. 2, the yoke stem 6 enters the axial opening 2 in the neck and is secured rigidly by one or more binding screws 7 which enter the neck of the base; in this adaptation of the base or supporting element 1 the side aperture 3 is closed by an ornamental plate 8.

In utilizing the supporting element for a bracket or wall support as in Fig. 1, the yoke stem 6 is inserted in the side opening 3, the plate 8 being removed therefrom and placed over the end aperture 2 to close the same. In thus changing the position of the motor yoke 5, the slot 4 permits the wires leading to the motor circuit to pass with the yoke from one position to the other. When projected into the side opening 3 in the base the yoke stem 6 is made secure by the requisite number of binding screws 7, one of which enters the wall 9 of the neck and penetrates into the side opening 3. It will be readily seen that whether the yoke be supported in the axial opening or the side opening in the neck of the base, it may be deflected or adjusted to any desirable position and therewith the fan and the motor to change the currents of air created by the revolving fan blades 10, and in such position said yoke may be secured by the binding screws 7.

When the axial opening 2 is utilized as in the case of a desk fan, the motor and fan may be adjusted or moved to any position within the limits of the slot 14 in the stem 6 by loosening the binding screw and swinging the motor yoke around to the desired position limited by the slot 14 and the screw 15, and then tightening said screw 7. The forks of the yoke 5 have apertures in their extreme ends to receive binding screws 11 which engage apertured lugs 12 on the opposite sides of the spherical motor casing 13. The angle or position of the motor and fan may be adjusted

by means of the binding screws 7. It will thus be seen that different adjustments may be given the fan.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. In an electric fan, a supporting base convertible into a stand or a wall bracket, said base having openings respectively in a line with the major axis thereof and at right angles to said axis, said openings so arranged at right angles communicating with each other by a slot, and a fan and motor-supporting yoke having a stem portion adapted to enter either of the openings in the base, and means for securing said yoke in either position.

2. In an electric fan, a supporting base convertible into a desk stand or wall bracket, said base having in its neck portion two apertures extending at right angles, the inner terminal of one of said openings communicating with a side of the other of said openings, and a slot extending through a portion of the neck of said base and forming a passage from one opening to the other, a plate adapted to close either of said apertures when one is not utilized, a yoke supporting the fan and motor, said yoke having a stem adapted to enter either aperture in the neck of the base and to be supported therein, and means for securing said yoke in such positions.

3. In a convertible stand for an electric motor fan, a supporting base provided with openings in line with the major axis thereof, and at an angle to said axle, said openings communicating with each other by means of a slot extending through the side of said base, and a motor-supporting part having a stem portion adapted to be secured in either of the openings in said base.

4. A supporting base for electric motor fans having at its small end two hollow extensions lying at right angles to each other and communicating by means of a slot extending therethrough, in combination with a motor-supporting yoke which is adapted to be supported on one or the other of said hollow extensions to vary the position of the motor fan, the slot forming the communication between said hollow extensions affording means for permitting the conducting wires to the motor circuit to pass with the motor from one position to the other in changing the position of the motor-supporting yoke.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER F. PHELPS.

Witnesses:
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