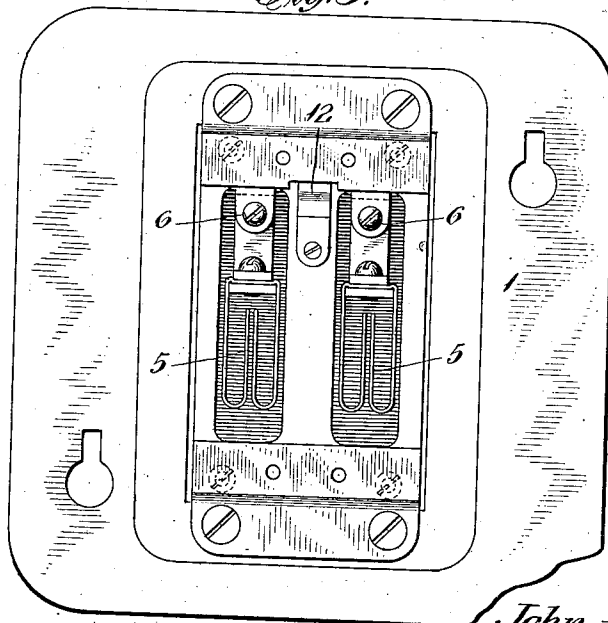
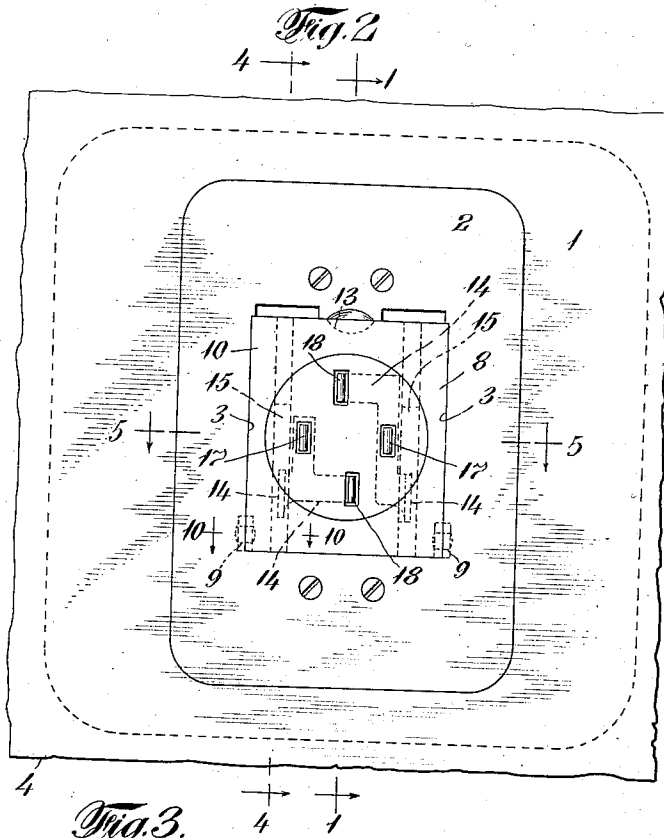
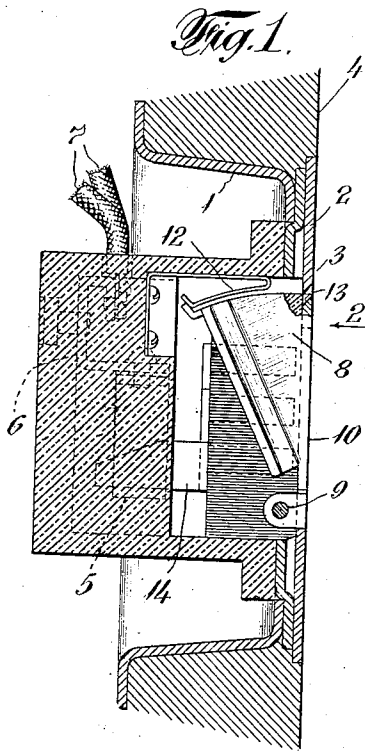


Jan. 16, 1923.

J. A. McKAY.
ELECTRIC CONNECTOR.
FILED FEB. 21, 1920.

1,442,284.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Inventor
John Andrew McKay
By his Attorney J. B. Liberman

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN ANDREW McKAY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

ELECTRIC CONNECTOR.

Application filed February 21, 1920. Serial No. 360,537.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ANDREW McKAY, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and resident of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electric Connectors, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to electric connectors of the type commonly known as receptacles or outlets, and has for its main object to render such outlets more universal in their application than has heretofore been possible; that is to say: to make it possible to plug in different kinds of removable fittings in the same receptacle.

In the art as practiced at the present time, receptacles are generally provided which are flush with the wall or other surface in which they are located, the contact sockets being accessible from the front surface of the receptacle which receive the plug of the device to be attached. In Patents Nos. 1,300,286 and 1,307,869 are disclosed pivotally mounted socket members which occupy a position flush with the wall when not in use and which are given a forwardly tilted protruding position when it is desired to plug in an attachment.

The main feature of the present invention resides in means whereby the receptacle can occupy either the flush or the tilted position and still afford terminal facilities for the device to be attached; and whereby also attachments of different kinds of fixtures can be made concurrently without interference.

In the accompanying drawings, the invention is disclosed in one concrete form in which:

Fig. 1 is a vertical sectional view, substantially on the line 1—1 of Fig. 2 of a device embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a face view looking in the direction of the arrow 2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 with the front plate and pivotally supported member removed.

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2 showing the pivotally supported member in its closed position.

Fig. 6 is a part of a view similar to Fig.

5 with the pivotally supported member in its protruding position.

Fig. 7 is a detailed view of one form of plug that can be used in connection with the device of my invention.

Figs. 8 and 9 are diagrammatic face views of other plugs that can be used in connection with the device of my invention.

Fig. 10 is a sectional view on the line 10—10 of Fig. 2.

1 indicates an outlet box of any suitable construction provided with a flush plate 2, having an opening 3. The flush plate is substantially flush with the surface, such as wall 4, in which the box is located. Within this box is a permanent or stationary fitting consisting of spring contacts 5 connected to binding parts 6 which receive the leads 7. The parts are properly insulated in a manner well understood. 8 is an adjustable socket member of insulating material seated in opening 3 and pivotally supported at its lower end on pivots 9. This adjustable member may occupy a position either within the box and with its front side 10 flush with the plate 3 of the box (see Fig. 1) or a protruding position with its top side 11 forwardly inclined and exposed outside the flush plate (see Fig. 4). When member 8 is in its innermost position a spring latch 12 frictionally operates to keep it from protruding by its own weight, and to facilitate manipulation of said member into its protruding position cut-outs for fingerholds 13 are provided in front face 2.

Member 8 is provided with contact fingers 14 which slidably engage spring contacts 5 so that electrical connection between said parts exists whether member 8 is in its inward or protruding position. Each of contact fingers 14 is connected with an upwardly extending socket terminal 15, accessible from the top side of the adjustable member through longitudinal sockets 11 and with springs 17 and 18 forming plug contact terminals accessible from the front side of the adjustable member.

It will now be understood that when the adjustable member is in its protruding position, a plug such as 19 may have its terminals 20 inserted into the contacts 15, and that when the adjustable member is in either its protruding or innermost position, plugs

as 21 or 22 may have their terminals 23 and 24 inserted into the contacts 17 or 18.

I claim:

1. An electric connector comprising: an outlet box having a front face flush with the surface in which it is mounted, a member, having front and top sides, supported in said outlet box and means mounting said member permitting it to be adjustable to occupy a position with its front side flush with the front face of the box or a protruding position exposing its top side, and provided with terminals accessible from the front and top sides, a permanent electric fitting within the box, means in said adjustable member electrically connected with said terminals and with the permanent fitting in both positions of the adjustable member.
2. An electric connector comprising: an outlet box having a front face flush with the surface in which it is mounted, a member, having front and top sides, pivotally supported in said outlet box and means mounting said member permitting it to be adjustable to occupy a position with its front side flush with the front face of the box or a pro-

truding position exposing its top side, and provided with terminals accessible from the front and top sides, a permanent electric fitting within the box, means in said adjustable member electrically connected with said terminals and with the permanent fitting in both positions of the adjustable member.

3. An electric connector comprising a flush receptacle, a stationary fitting mounted in said receptacle and having contacts thereon provided with terminals for receiving line wires, a socket member hinged at one end to said receptacle and movable outwardly to expose the free end thereof, contact fingers mounted on the socket member and adapted to engage the contacts of said stationary fitting in both closed and open positions of said socket member, and a plurality of sets of plug receiving contacts carried by said socket member and accessible from the free end and front sides thereof.

Signed at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 18th day of February A. D. 1920.

JOHN ANDREW McKAY.