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AUXILIARY LAMP SNAP-ON FILTER

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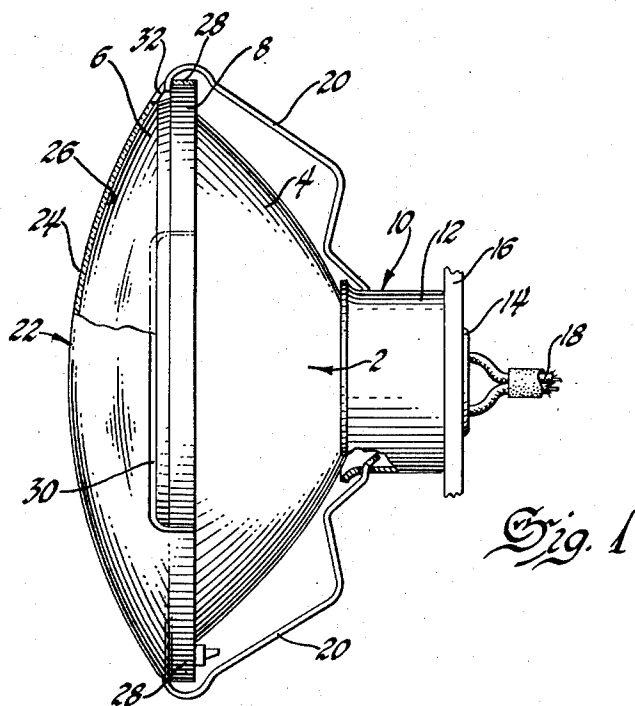


Fig. 1

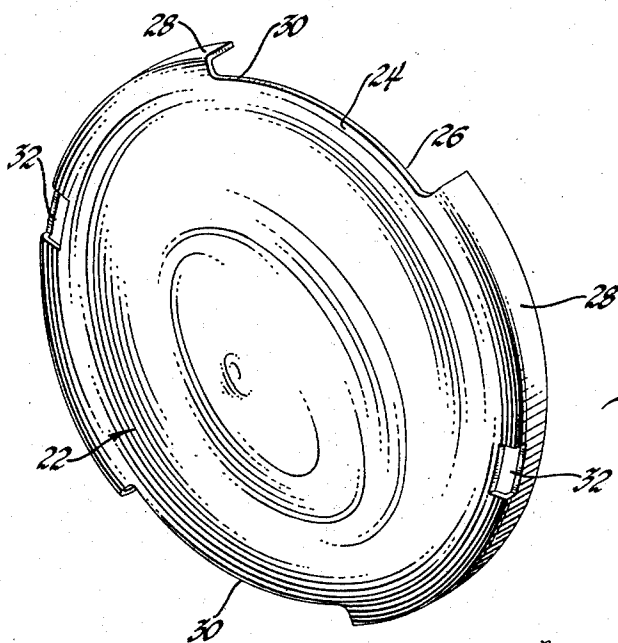


Fig. 2

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AUXILIARY LAMP SNAP-ON FILTER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 240—46.59)

1 The present invention relates to vehicle auxiliary lamps of the type illustrated and described in the U. S. application of Clarence A. Michel, et al., Serial Number 32,654, filed June 12, 1948, and more particularly to snap-on filters for such lamps.

The auxiliary lamp of the above application comprises a well-known sealed-beam lamp and a simple adapter for connecting the lamp in a vehicle lighting system. It provides a simple and inexpensive trouble light for vehicles particularly trucks which are used in scheduled runs requiring large amounts of driving during the hours of darkness. Such vehicles are often subjected to breakdowns on the highways and require suitable portable lighting systems for effecting repairs and in addition require suitable means for giving ample warning to other highway traffic. Heretofore, open flame kerosene lamps having windshields have been used but are not entirely successful as they are bulky and require frequent attention to keep them in condition. The portable lamp of the above application obviates the need for frequent attention and may be quickly and easily converted to a warning lamp.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a filter for the above adapted to quickly convert it to a warning signal means.

This and other objects are accomplished in accordance with the present invention by providing the portable lamp disclosed in the above application with a colored filter element readily attached thereto.

The novel features which are characteristic of my invention are set forth with particularity in the appended claim. The invention itself, however, will be best understood in connection with the accompanying drawing in which Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the portable lamp and snap-on filter and Figure 2 is a perspective view of the filter.

Referring now to the drawing there is illustrated the portable lamp with the filter attached for use as a portable warning lamp. The lamp comprises a conventional sealed beam lamp 2 composed of a light source (not shown), a reflector 4 and a lens 6 sealed as a unit by the sealing ring 8. An adapter 10 composed of a cup-shaped spool member 12, a connector 14 and a rectangular plate 16 (shown partly broken away), provides means for connecting the sealed-beam lamp to the lighting circuit of the vehicle by conductors 18. When the terminals (not shown) of the sealed beam lamp are inserted in the con-

2 nector 14, the reflector 4 forms one side for the spool 12 thus permitting the winding of a length of conductor 18 on the spool. A pair of spring clamps 20 having one end connected to the side wall of the spool as shown and the other end engaging the sealing ring 8 provide for clamping the sealed beam lamp in the adapter.

To convert the portable trouble lamp into a warning lamp a snap-on filter 22 is provided. The filter is formed with inner and outer spherical surfaces 24 and 26 respectively which substantially conforms to the outer surface contour of lens 6. The filter is made of any suitable transparent material preferably a plastic which is colored red to filter substantially all but red light from the light source thus providing the conventional red warning signal. I have found that a plastic material such as the polymerized methylmethacrylate thermoplastic resin commonly known as "Lucite" is particularly desirable. The filter 22 is provided with diametrically disposed axially extending flanges 28 which engage the surface of the sealing ring 8 of the sealed-beam lamp. Cutout portions 30 equally space the flanges 28 and adapt the filter to be fastened with the portable bracket described in the above application. Centrally spaced along the flanges 28 and at the peripheral edge of the filter are rectangular apertures 32 which provide for attaching the filter element to the portable lamp by means of the spring clamps 20. It will be seen that attachment of the filter element is accomplished by first removing the clamps from their position engaging the sealing ring of the sealed-beam lamp, sliding the filter element over the sealed-beam lamp and thereafter inserting the gripping ends of the clamps 20 through the apertures 32 to again engage the sealing ring.

With the filter element attached the auxiliary lamp provides a warning signal lamp which is compact for carrying at some convenient place on the vehicle, and portable with the extension cord to position the lamp at suitable positions ahead of or behind the vehicle for a warning signal.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

In combination with a vehicle auxiliary trouble lamp comprising a sealed-beam unit, an adapter for connecting said unit in the electrical system of said vehicle, said adapter comprising a cup-shaped spool member, an electrical connector, and a plate member, and means for clamping said sealed-beam unit in said adapter, said means comprising a pair of spring clamps each detach-

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ably secured at one end to said spool member, a light filter in the form of a disk having inner and outer spherical surfaces substantially conforming to the contour of the outer lens surface of the sealed-beam unit, and having a pair of diametrically disposed axially extending integral flanges formed at the edge of said filter for engaging the peripheral edge of said sealed-beam unit and positioning said filter thereon, said filter additionally having disposed centrally of said flanges to rectangular apertures through which said spring clamps grip the sealed-beam unit.

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