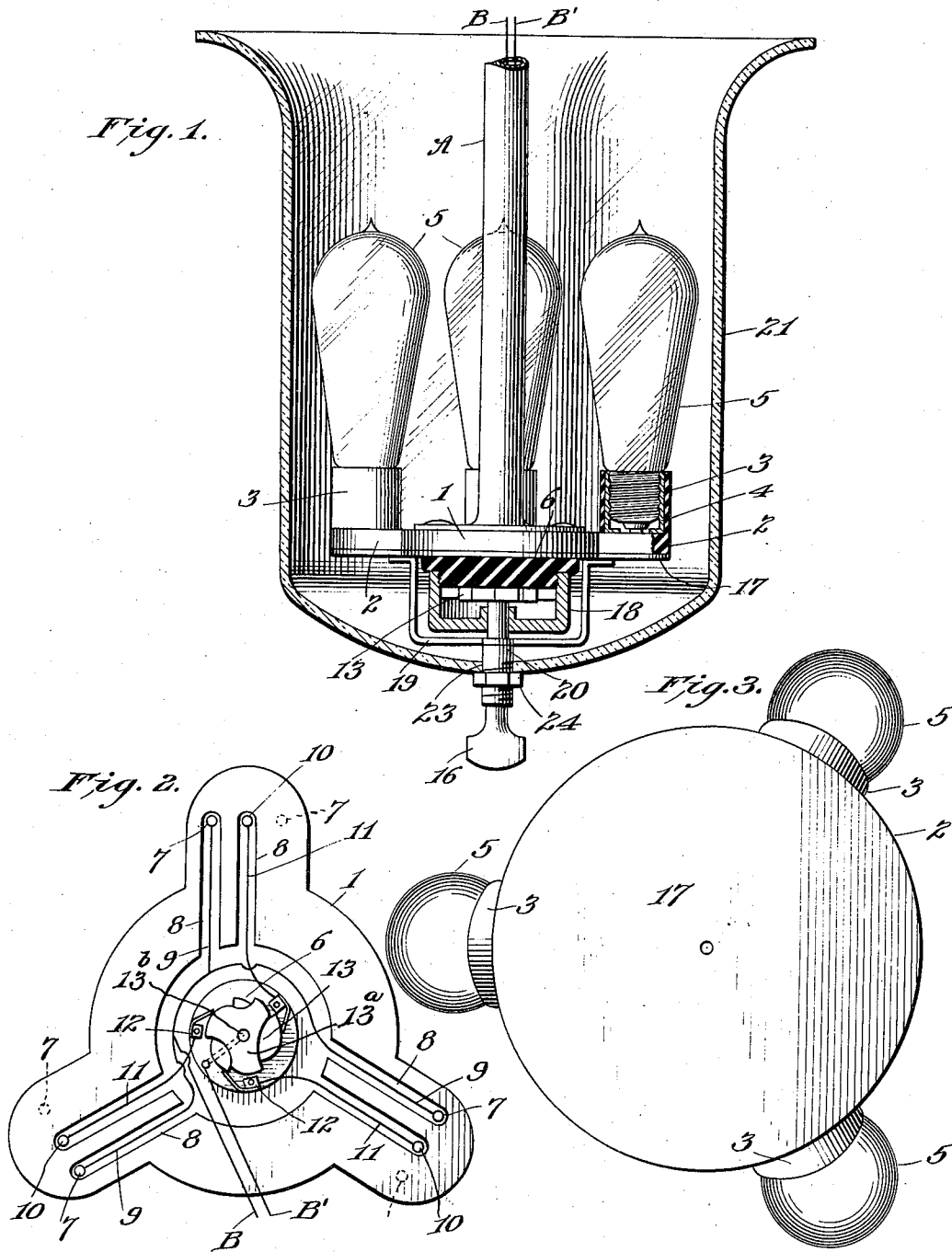


J. H. CALDWELL.
CLUSTER FIXTURE FOR ELECTRIC LIGHTS.
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Inventor

John H. Caldwell

Witnesses
M. C. Lyddane
F. O. Mulhall

By

Joshua R. D. Davis

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. CALDWELL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

CLUSTER-FIXTURE FOR ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

933,887.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 14, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. CALDWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cluster-Fixtures for Electric Lights, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved cluster fixture for electric lights, the object of the invention being to provide an improved base of insulating material having a series of integral lamp supporting sockets on one face and a series of grooves on its other face to contain the circuit wires, which are concealed from view and protected against harm when the fixture is mounted for use.

A further object is to provide an improved cluster fixture which is especially adapted for supporting the lamps in a vertical position above the base and within a shade, and provide improved means for closing the electric circuit with one or more lamps at the option of the user.

A further object is to provide an improved cluster fixture, the base portion of which will be so designed as to prevent the casting of a shadow by the base portion when the fixture is supported with the lamps above the base portion.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1, is a view partly in section and partly in elevation illustrating one form of my improvement. Fig. 2, is a view of the lower face of the base shown in Fig. 1, and illustrating the location of the several circuit wire grooves. Fig. 3, is a view similar to Fig. 2, illustrating a modification in which the base is circular, and the lamp sockets are at an angle to the base so that the lamps will be in a flared position.

1 represents my improved base portion which is made of porcelain, glass or other suitable insulating or non-conducting material, and preferably of the shape as shown in Fig. 2, with a circular central portion and radially projecting extensions 2. On the upper face of the extended portions 2, integral lamp sockets 3 are located and are adapted to receive screw threaded shells 4

for the reception of the ordinary incandescent lamps 5. By reason of this shape or design of the base plate, it will be observed that the lamps when supported by a rod or tubular hanger A as shown in Fig. 1, will throw the light downward all around the base and prevent the casting of a shadow, as would be the case if the base were of a diameter equal to the distance from end to end of the extensions.

The under face of the base, as shown clearly in Fig. 2, is provided with a series of grooves to accommodate the electric conductors connecting the lights in circuit with the line wires B, B'; and with a switch 6 which is also in circuit with the line wires as will now be described, and provided with a base of insulating material as shown at Fig. 1.

I have shown in Fig. 2, the several electric connections to illustrate the circuit. Both sides of the shells 4 are secured by screws 7 to the base 1, and one of each of these pair of screws project into the end portions of grooves 8, and one of each pair is connected by wires 9 with one of the line wires B. The lower ends of the shells are split as usual, and a center screw 10 extends through the base and when the circuit is made from this screw 10, through the lamp and shell the lamp will be lighted as is ordinarily the case. These screws 10 are connected by wires 11, with spring switch points 12, and the latter bear against the periphery of the ratchet like rotary switch member 13. This switch member 13 which is of insulating material is made with three metal faces of varying lengths, all connected in circuit with one of the line wires B' and the other line wire B is connected by the wire 9 with the several lamp shells. The three metal faces above referred to are integral with a metal plate 13^a secured to the switch member 13 in electric circuit with the central journal 13^b, the latter connected with the line wire B'. This switch 12 can be turned by its operating button 16 so as to throw in one switch member 12 at a time and close its lamp circuit, and the metal surfaces above referred to on the rotary member, are so disposed as to first compel the lighting of one light, then two, and then three, and then break the circuit of all the lamps.

To the bottom of the base 1 to better protect the electric connections, I secure a plate 17, and the switch casing 18 is secured to the center of this plate, and the line wires B and

B' are preferably carried up through its tubular hanger A.

A metal yoke or bail 19 straddles the switch casing and is secured to the base. The 5 bail is made with a central bearing sleeve 20 for the switch stem, to the lower end of which latter, the button 16 is removably attached. The sleeve 20 is externally screw threaded, and is adapted when the shade 21 10 is placed in position inclosing the lamps, to enter a central opening 23 in the shade, and a nut 24 screwed on said sleeve will hold the shade in proper position.

In the form of device illustrated in Fig. 15 3, the base is to be secured to a wall or ceiling, and in such form, I would of course employ a switch not shown, located between the several lamps and on the same face of the base as are the lamp sockets.

20 A great many changes might be made in the general form and arrangement of parts described without departing from my invention, and hence I do not restrict myself to the precise details set forth, but consider myself at liberty to make such changes and 25 alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is: 30

1. An article of the class described, comprising a base of insulating material, radial extensions on said base, integral lamp sock-

ets on one face of said radial extensions of the base, shells in said sockets, screws securing said shells and projecting through the base extensions, a switch secured on the other face of said base at its center, said other face having radial grooves, and circuit wires in said grooves connecting said screws with 40 said switch.

2. In a cluster fixture, the combination with a hanger, a base secured to said hanger, lamp sockets on the upper face of the base, lamps in said sockets, a switch on the lower 45 face of the base, a bail secured to said base, and a lamp shade supported by said bail, said shade surrounding the said base.

3. In a cluster electric fixture, the combination with a hanger, a base secured to said 50 hanger, lamp sockets on the upper face of the base, lamps in said sockets, a switch on the lower face of the base, a bail or bracket secured to the base, a sleeve on said bail or bracket, a stem on said switch located in 55 said sleeve, a lamp shade having a central opening to receive the sleeve, and a nut on said sleeve for holding the shade in position on the fixture.

In testimony whereof I have signed my 60 name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN H. CALDWELL.

Witnesses:

R. H. KRENKEL,

J. A. L. MULHALL.