Aug. 9, 1927. 1,638,679

L. H. BUCHANAN

DETACHABLE STENCIL FOR BALL LIGHTS

Filed April 20, 1926

Fig. 1.

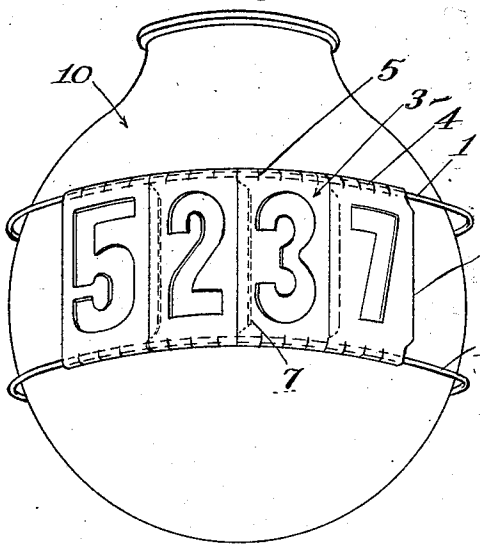


Fig. 2.

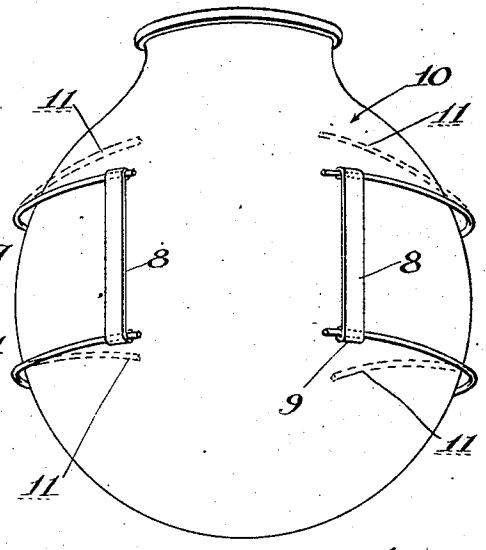


Fig. 3.

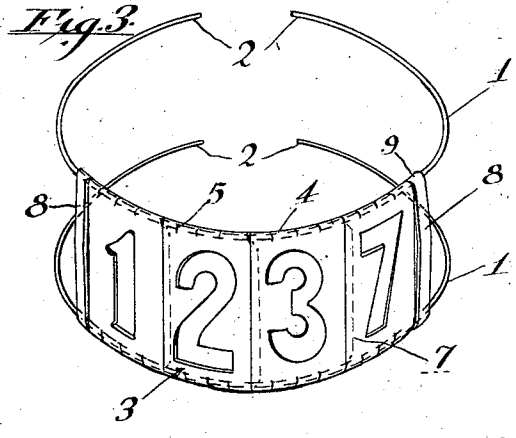


Fig. 4.

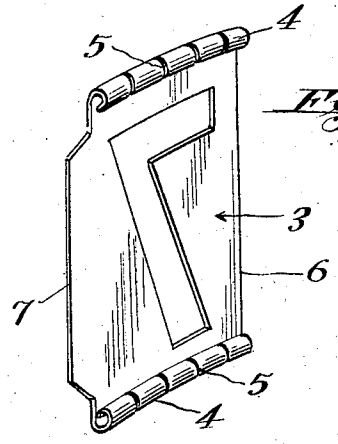
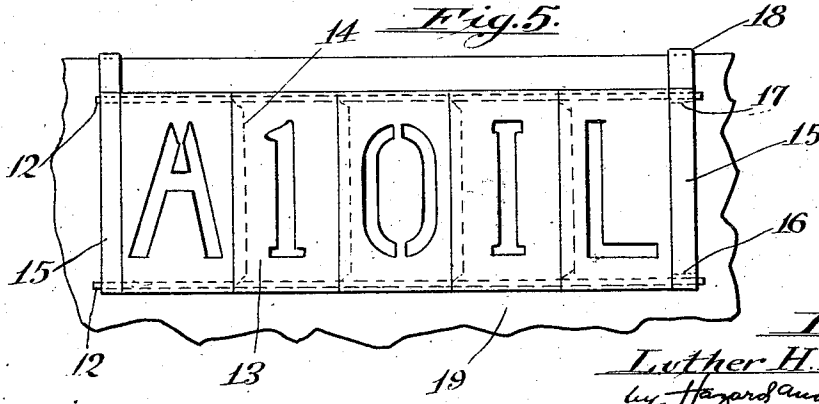


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DETACHABLE STENCIL FOR BALL LIGHTS.

Application filed April 20, 1926. Serial No. 103,239.

My invention is a detachable stencil particularly adapted for ball or globe lights, to give an illuminated stencil at night and to indicate numbers, letters or words by day.

An object of my invention is the formation of stencilled numbers or letters, or a combination of both, adapted particularly for use with lights to indicate house numbers or the like, the arrangement preferably being attachable and detachable from the light and adapted to fit and be secured by its own structure to spherical globes or the like, of electric lamps.

Another object of my invention is to have a series of stencil numbers or letters which may be attached to resilient wires, the wires being adapted to clamp around a globe or ball light, holding same in place so that the stencil may be positioned to be illuminated in any desired direction.

Another object of my invention is in the special formation of the stencilled letters or numbers.

In constructing my invention I utilize a pair of parallel wires bent somewhat into a circle, the free ends of the wires being disconnected so that stencilled numbers or letters may be slid on the wires and positioned in proper relation to give the desired number, word or other information. The free ends of the wires are secured by straps which are slipped into position adjacent the ends or opposite ends of the stencil and hold same in close position. The wires are adapted to spread out slightly on the side opposite the stencil when filling and hold the devices in firm position on a ball or other globular light.

In constructing the stencil letters or numerals, these are preferably formed of sheet metal having inwardly rolled beads at the top and bottom, the beads having a series of slits transversely thereof to allow the numbers to conform to the arc of a circle in order to fit snugly against the ball or other globular light. The individual stencils are also made to overlap the next section in order to obstruct the passage of light between the individual stencils.

My invention will be more readily understood from the following description and drawings, in which;

Figure 1 is a perspective front view of a number formed of stencils, attached to a spherical or ball-shaped globe for a lamp;

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the construction of Fig. 1; indicating the position of the wires dotted when being fitted on a globe;

Fig. 3 is a view of the stencil detached from the globe;

Fig. 4 is a perspective of the rear side of an individual stencil;

Fig. 5 is a front elevation of a modification of my invention, adapting same for use on a flat surface.

Referring first to the construction as illustrated in Fig. 3, the framework consists of a plurality of wires 1, the free ends 2 of which are adapted to be spaced apart, the wires being resilient and being adapted to be bent into a circular formation.

The stencils 3, either letters or numerals, have beads 4 formed by rolling the metal, these beads having transverse splits or cuts 5. This construction allows the individual stencilled letters to be formed on a curve with the concaved side of the curve inwardly. The splits or cuts allow the beads to be slightly compressed on the inner side. I preferably make the stencils with one side 6 at right angles to the beads and extending in a straight line between the upper and lower bead. The other side is provided with a tongue 7. This tongue is adapted to fit under adjacent stencils as indicated in Fig. 1.

A pair of metal clips 8 formed of plain metal without any stencil and with beads 9, are adapted to be slipped over the ends of the wire and to be shoved into close engagement with the stencils when fitting. These clips have a relatively tight frictional engagement with the wire ends and hold the stencil letters in compact relation so that no light will pass between the individual stencils.

When the wires with the stencil numbers thereon are attached to a spherical or ball-shaped globe designated by the numeral 10, and the clips 8 are shoved into close engagement with the stencil letters, the free ends of the wire extend outwardly from each other or are somewhat spread apart as indicated dotted by the numeral 11 in Fig. 2; such action being due to the spherical shape of the globe and aids in fitting the stencil on the globe.

From the above construction it will be readily seen that the stencil having numbers, letters or words may be readily attached to a globe whether this is in a de-

pending position from a ceiling as indicated in Figs. 1 or 2, or whether it is on a side wall. The ends 2 of the wires are designed to be spaced sufficiently apart so that they will not interfere with the neck of the globe. Thus house numbers or the like may readily be visible at night.

Moreover, as the globes are usually made of white glass and frosted, the stencil numbers and letters show up clearly at daytime, thus giving house numbers which are clearly distinguishable day and night.

In Fig. 5 the wires 12 are not bent into a circle but are straight wires on which the flat stencil blocks 13 are threaded; these threads having beads preferably rolled inwardly at the back. The beads however, do not require any slits.

These stencil blocks preferably have tongues 14 similar to the tongue 7 of the stencils illustrated in Fig. 4. The clips 15 have beads 16 and 17 to engage the wires and hooks 18 extending over the top of a sheet of glass 19 or other structure which is designed to have a light positioned therebehind. Hence by this construction it will be readily seen that my stencil numbers and letters adapted for house numbers in particularly, may be used on flat as well as on curved lights.

Although my invention is of a simple character, it will be manifest that it may be considerably changed in general features and in specific details to suit different requirements. For instance, the clips 8 may be entirely discarded if desired, or may be connected merely to the free ends of the wires whereby the wires are held in substantially parallel position around a globe or the like. These various changes in general construction or specific details will be within the spirit of my invention as set forth in the description, drawings and claims.

In Fig. 2 it will be noted that the clips 8 draw the wires towards each other from the dotted position, the dotted position of such wires allowing them to be readily inserted over a globe or the like. When the wires are brought into a parallel position by the said clips, the globe is gripped tightly; thus holding the stencil number in proper position.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In combination with a globular structure, a pair of wires of a resilient nature partly encircling the structure, stencils having indicia thereon, the stencils having beads, the wires extending through the beads of the stencils, and clips secured to the wires at the opposite ends of the series of stencils, having frictional arrangement with the wires, and adapted to maintain the wires in position.

2. In combination with a ball-shaped lamp globe, a pair of wires partly encircling same, the wires being resilient, stencil blocks of sheet material having beads at the top and bottom, threaded on the wires, the beads having slit or cut portions on the back adapted to allow the blocks to conform to the circular curvature of the globe.

3. In combination with a ball-shaped globe as claimed in claim 2, in which the stencil blocks are provided with tongues, the tongues being adapted to overlap the adjacent block to prevent passage of light between said blocks.

4. In combination with a ball-shaped globe as claimed in claim 2, having in addition clips of sheet material having beads at opposite ends, said clips being threaded on the wires from their opposite ends.

5. A detachable stencil for ball lights comprising a pair of resilient wires bent into a curve, a stencil block having beads at the top and bottom, the beads having slits adapted to allow bending of the block in accordance with the curve of the wires.

6. A detachable stencil for ball lights as claimed in claim 5, having in addition clips having beads at the top and bottom threaded on the ends of the wires.

7. A detachable stencil comprising a pair of resilient curved wires, the wires being bent into a substantially circular form, a plurality of sheet material stencil blocks having rolled beads at the top and bottom, the beads having slits transversely thereof, the wires being threaded through the beads, the slits allowing the stencil blocks to curve in conformity with the wires, and tongues on certain of the blocks adapted to overlap the blocks to prevent light passing therebetween.

8. A detachable stencil as claimed in claim 7, having in addition sheet material clips having inwardly rolled beads at the top and bottom, said beads being threaded on the wires from opposite ends and the clips being adapted to hold the wires in parallel relation one to another.

9. In a detachable stencil, an integral sheet material stencil block having rolled beads at the top and bottom, the beads having a series of transverse cuts to allow bending of the block with the bead side convex.

10. In a detachable stencil, an integral stencil block of sheet material having rolled beads at the top and bottom, said beads having cuts transversely thereof and on the back to allow bending in a convex curve, one side edge of the block having a tongue sidewise beyond the end of the beads, the opposite side being substantially straight, the main body of the block being concentric to the curve of the bead.

11. A detachable stencil comprising in combination an integral stencil block of smooth surface sheet material having rolled

beads at the top and bottom, one side of the block having a tongue extending sidewise beyond the end of the beads, the opposite side being substantially straight and flat, supporting wires extending through the beads, and sheet material clips having inwardly rolled beads at the top and bottom, the said clips being attached to the supporting wires by the beads on opposite ends of a row of stencil blocks.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

LUTHER H. BUCHANAN.