Sept. 3, 1935. L. G. BECKER 2,013,596

FUSED CURRENT TAP

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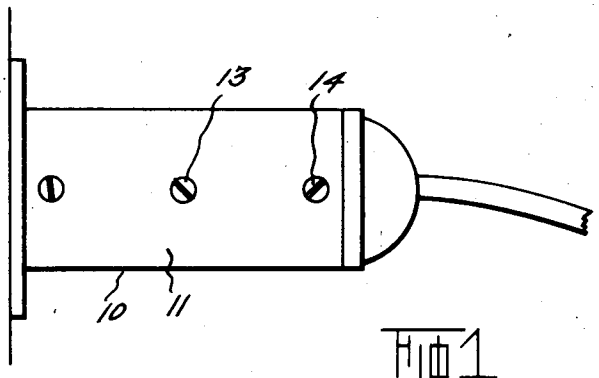


FIG 1

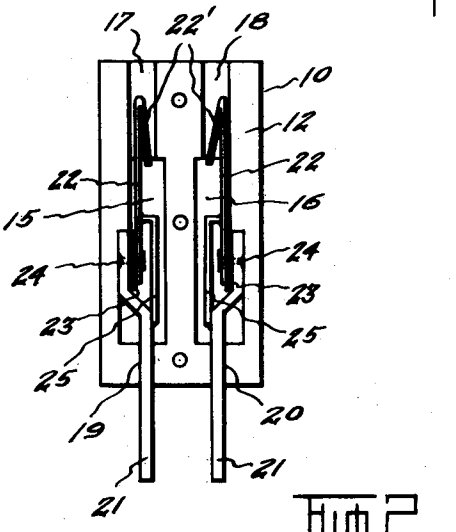


FIG 2

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FUSED CURRENT TAP

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1 Claim. (Cl. 200—115.5)

This invention relates to a fused current tap adapted to be inserted into a conventional outlet and to function both as a socket and a fuse plug.

The object of this invention is to design a plug to serve as a socket and fuse, adapted to be inserted in a conventional outlet and to serve as a socket for the insertion of a plug attached to an electric appliance such as a coffee percolator, waffle iron, washing machine, etc., to safeguard against the blowing out of the fuses in the house current in case a short or overload occurs in said electrical appliance.

Other objects of this invention will become apparent as the description thereof, given hereunder, proceeds, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Fig. 1 shows the fused current tap applied to a wall outlet.

Fig. 2 is an elevational sectional view thereof.

The fused current tap or plug comprises a casing 10 made of "bakelite", rubber, glass or any other suitable insulating material, said casing being longitudinally divided in the well known manner to facilitate the assembly of prongs therein, the sections 11 and 12 of said casing being held together by means of screw bolts 13 and 14.

The interior of each section is provided with non-communicating recesses 15 and 16, which terminate at the ends of said sections in parallel grooves 17 and 18, and 19 and 20, for a purpose to be hereinafter described.

Positioned in each of said recesses is an inlet prong 21 and an outlet prong 22 of copper or any other suitable conducting material. The outlet prongs 22 are of conventional shape, one end of each terminating in a spring contact portion 22' which is adapted to fit in the lower part of the grooves 17 and 18. The other ends of said outlet prongs 22 are attached to one end of the inlet prongs 21, said prongs being insulated from each other at said points of attachment in the well known manner. Preferably, an insulating strip 23 separates each of said prongs which are clamped together by an insulated rivet or screw 24. The free ends of the inlet prongs 21 extend through the grooves 19 and 20 for a distance beyond the bottom of the casing 10, to serve as a means to insert the tap into an outlet.

Connecting the inlet and outlet prongs 21 and 22 are fuse wires 25 which are fused or otherwise attached to the adjacent end portions of said prongs in the manner clearly shown in Figure 2, said fuse wire being of any desired amperage capacity as for example one to six amps.

It is apparent that when the fused current tap is completely assembled in the manner well known and inserted in an outlet, and having in turn inserted therein a plug of an electrical appliance that current will flow from the inlet prongs 21, across the fuse wires 25, to the outlet prongs 22, and to the electric appliance, said tap thereby serving, as mentioned above, both as a socket and a fuse. In case the fuse wires 25 burn out, current cannot flow to the electric appliance while the flow of current in other parts of the house circuit is uninterrupted.

Although a single inlet means has been shown on the drawing, it is apparent that my fuse tap may also be provided with two or more outlet means providing the proper size fuse wire is used. As is well known, the conventional multiple tap provides a means for plugging in a multiplicity of electrical appliances, as a result of which the house fuses are often overloaded and hence blown. By making the conducting means of a conventional multiple plug with a fuse wire, as in my device, it is apparent that any overload, as a result of using a multiple plug, will be guarded by the plug fuse itself.

While a preferred embodiment of fused current tap has been disclosed, the same is susceptible of many changes within the scope of the appended claim.

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

An electric fuse plug comprising a supporting casing of insulating material, said casing comprising two half body portions, a pair of inlet contacts, a pair of outlet contacts, an insulating means separating each inlet contact from each outlet contact, means securing said inlet contacts and outlet contacts to said insulating strip to one half of the body of said casing, and fuse wire means bridging said insulating strip to connect said inlet prongs with said outlet prongs whereby the current may pass from said inlet contacts to said outlet contacts across said bridging fuse means so long as said bridging fuse means is unblown.

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