

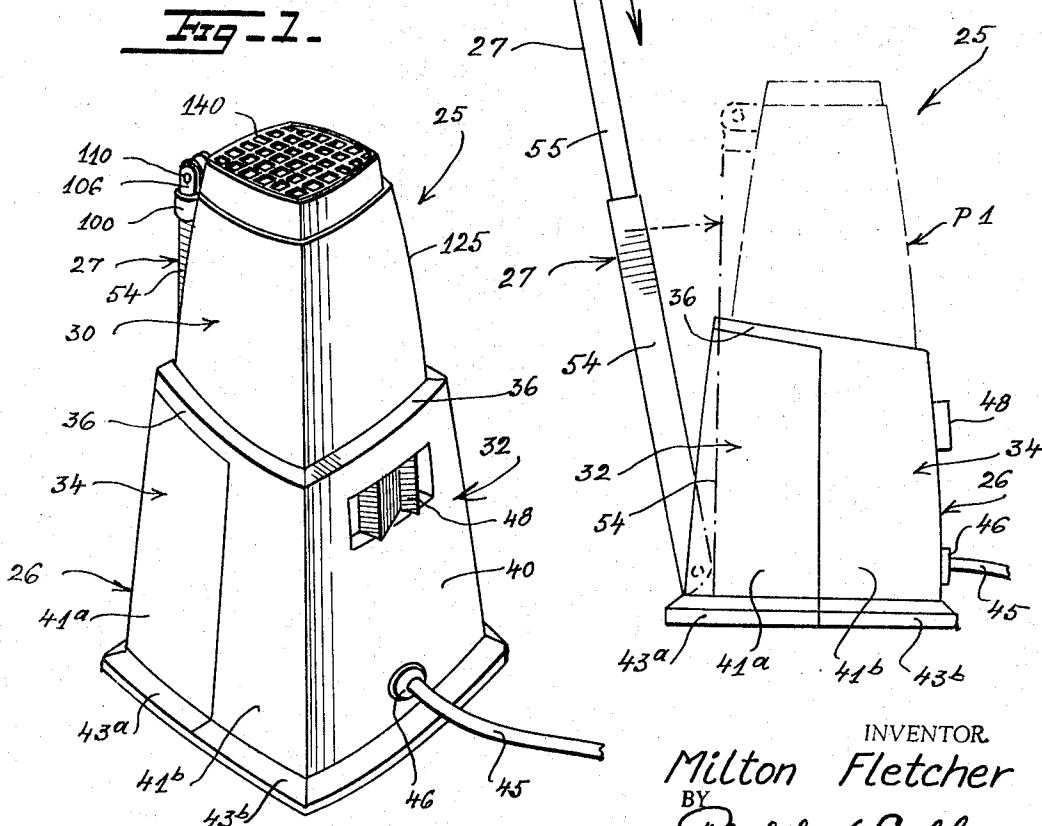
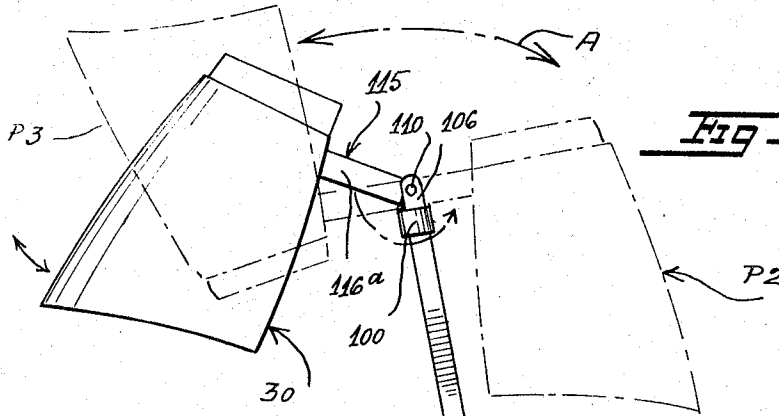
March 21, 1967

M. FLETCHER
COLLAPSIBLE LAMP

3,310,673

Filed Nov. 12, 1964

5 Sheets-Sheet 1



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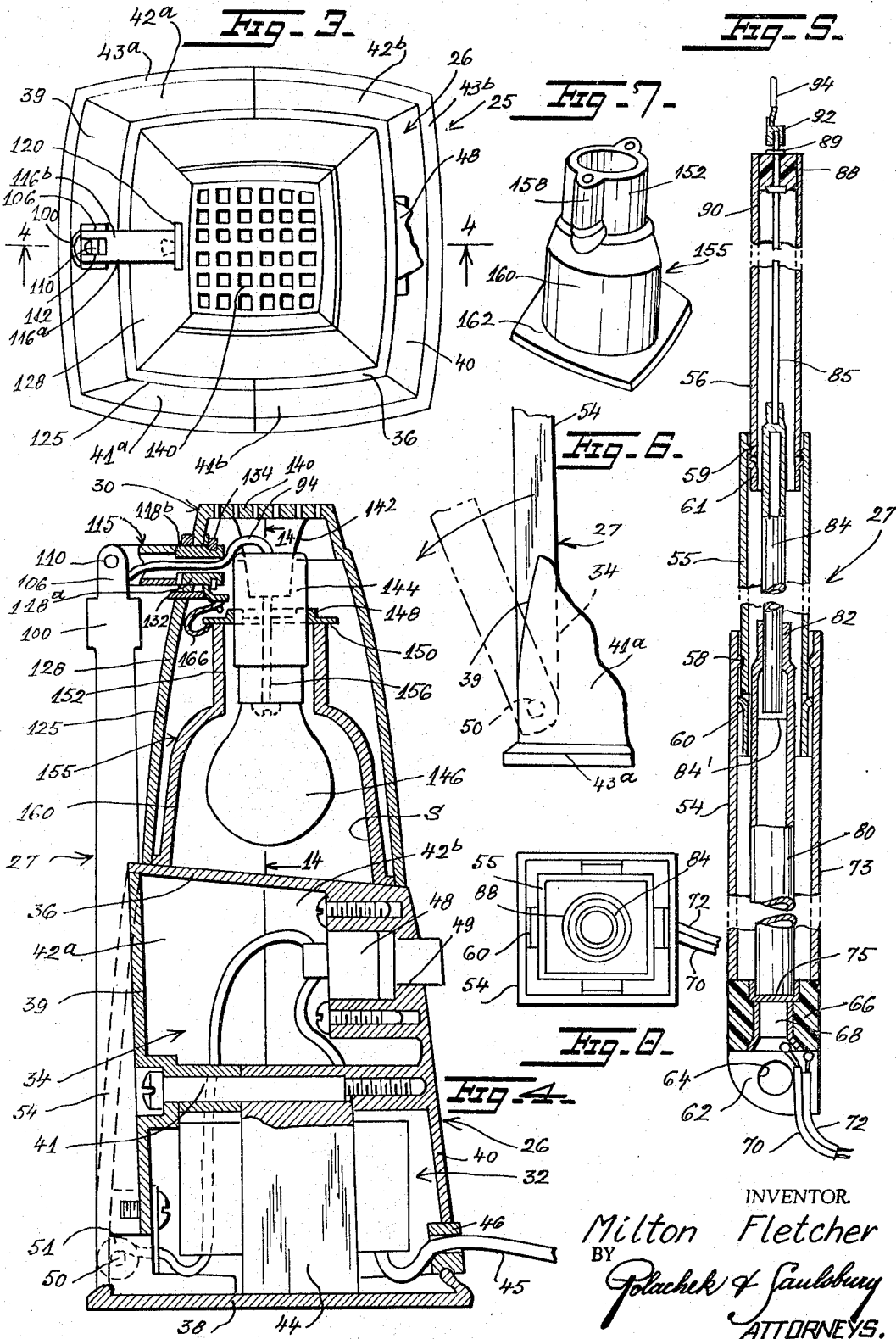
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5 Sheets-Sheet 2



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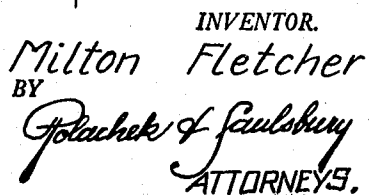
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Fig. 17.

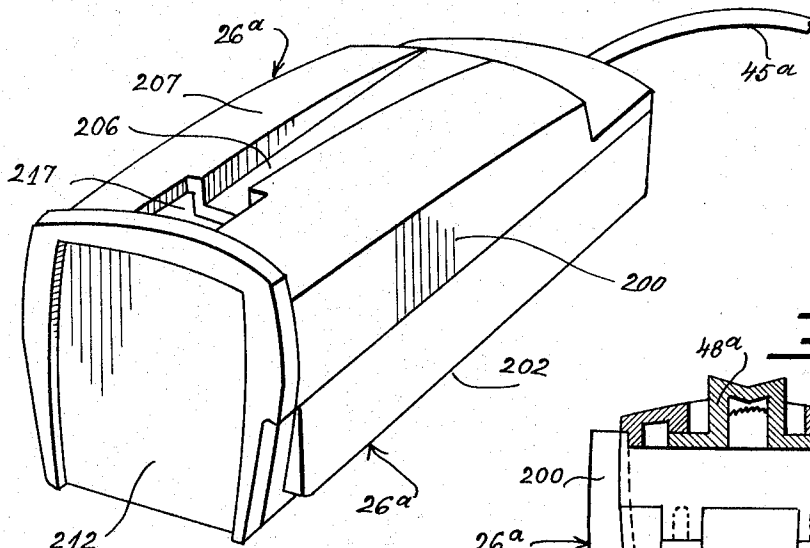


Fig. 21.

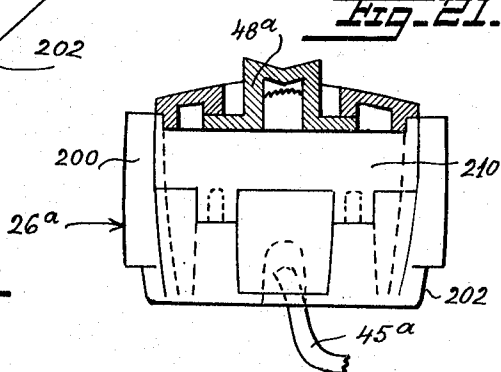


Fig. 19.

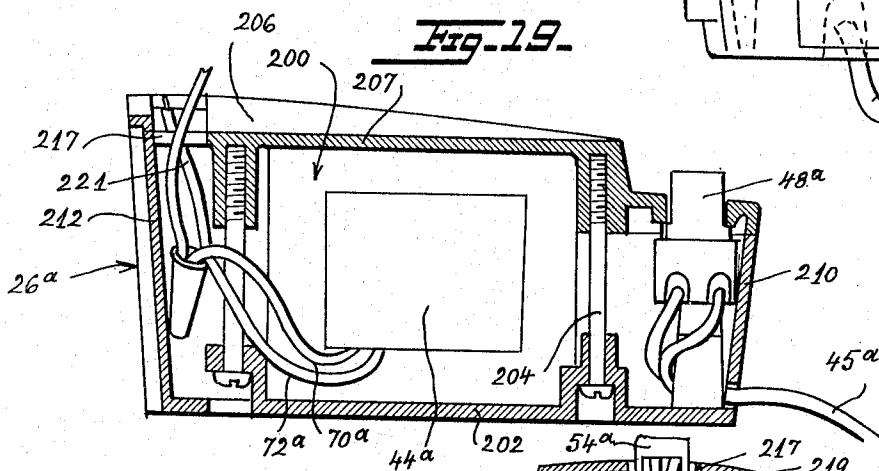


Fig. 20.

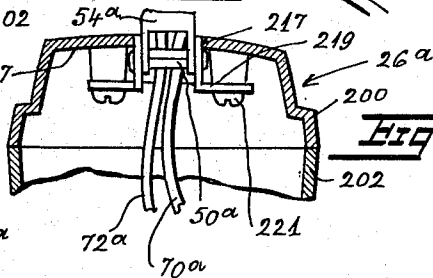
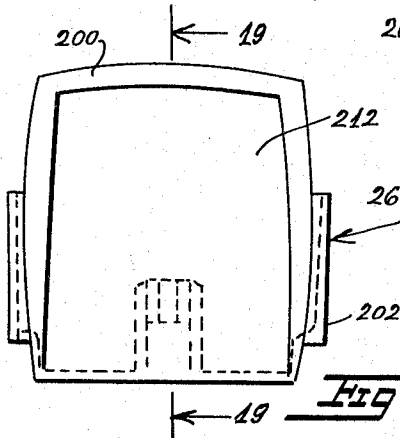


Fig. 18.



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8 Claims. (Cl. 240—81)

This invention relates to the art of portable lamps and more particularly concerns an improved collapsible lamp.

According to the invention there is provided a streamlined lamp shade or cover on a telescopic extension arm and a stable supporting base. In the base is a transformer. The transformer is electrically connected to a lamp in the shade via the telescopic arm which serves as electrical conductive means. In the lamp shade is an improved reflector having an internal mirror reflecting surface. The reflector is shaped for distributing a rectangular beam of light. The shade has a grill on top for ventilating and cooling the shade. In another form of the invention the extension arm is foldable instead of telescopic for retracting the lamp.

It is therefore a principal object of the invention to provide an improved portable lamp having a streamlined ventilated shade, a flaring conical reflector with metalized internal reflecting surface, and a retractable extension arm supporting the shade and reflector on a streamlined base.

Another object is to provide a lamp as described wherein the extension arm has mutually telescopic parts.

A further object is to provide an internal conductive core in the telescopic extension arm so that the extension arm is free of internal conducting wires and the extension arm itself serves to conduct electric power to an electric bulb in the reflector.

Still another object is to provide a portable lamp as described, wherein the extension arm is made of hinged parts so as to be foldable on the supporting base.

A further object is to provide a lamp as described with a transformer in the base serving as a low voltage power supply for energizing the lamp.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a portable lamp embodying the invention, shown in closed position.

FIG. 2 is a side view of the lamp in open, extended position.

FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the closed lamp.

FIG. 4 is a vertical central sectional view of the closed lamp, taken on line 4—4 of FIG. 3.

FIG. 5 is a vertical sectional view of the extension arm of the lamp in extended position, parts being broken away.

FIG. 6 is a fragmentary side view of the lamp base and extension arm.

FIG. 7 is a perspective view of the reflector employed in the lamp.

FIG. 8 is an enlarged sectional view taken on line 8—8 of FIG. 5.

FIG. 9 is an enlarged perspective view of the lamp shade, an adjustable coupling and part of the extension arm.

FIG. 10 is an enlarged exploded perspective view of parts of the extension arm and coupling.

FIG. 11 is a sectional view taken on line 11—11 of FIG. 10.

FIG. 12 is a vertical sectional view taken on line 12—12 of FIG. 9.

FIG. 13 is an enlarged exploded perspective view showing other parts of the coupling.

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FIG. 14 is a sectional view taken on line 14—14 of FIG. 4.

FIG. 15 is a diagram of the electrical circuit of the lamp.

FIG. 16 is a side view of another lamp embodying the invention, shown in extended position.

FIG. 17 is a perspective view of the base of the lamp of FIG. 16.

FIG. 18 is an end view of the lamp base of FIG. 17.

FIG. 19 is a sectional view taken on line 19—19 of FIG. 18.

FIG. 20 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line 20—20 of FIG. 16.

FIG. 21 is a cross sectional view taken on line 21—21 of FIG. 16.

Referring first to FIGS. 1—4, there is shown a portable lamp 25 including a base 26, extension arm 27 and a lamp head 30. The base is a tapered closed box-like two-part structure having a rear section 32 and a forward section 34 interfitted to form a tapered closed box-like structure with a top wall 36, bottom wall 38, front wall 39 and rear wall 40. One side wall is formed by two panels 41a, 41b and the other side wall is formed by two panels 42a, 42b. A first bottom flange 43a extends around the front and sides of front section 34 and a similar flange 43b extends around the bottom of rear sections 32. Bolts 41 hold the sections together.

Inside the base is a transformer 44 which converts the applied alternating voltage to six or twelve volts. A power supply cord 45 passes through a grommet 46 in rear wall 40 of the base and terminates at the transformer. A switch 48 is mounted in an opening 49 in the rear wall 40 and is connected in circuit with the transformer.

Pivotaly attached by a pin 50 at a rear opening 51 in the front wall 39 of the base is the bottom end of extension arm 27. The slanted front wall 39 has a recessed or grooved portion 52 which receives the lower section 54 of arm 27.

Extension arm 27 is best shown in FIGS. 2—6, 8—13 to which reference is now made. The extension arm has three interfitted progressively narrower telescopic sections 54, 55 and 56. These sections are metal tubes which are square in cross section, open at both ends and slidable one within the other. Inner projections or lands 58, 59 at the upper ends of tubular sections 54, 55 engage outwardly struck tongues 60, 61 at lower ends of tubular sections 55, 56 respectively to prevent axial separation of the tubular sections from each other. The lower end of the largest section 54 has a pair of free ears 62 with holes 64 which receive pivot pin 50 at the bottom of base 26.

An insulated hollow plug 66 is fitted in openings in opposing walls of the section 54. In this plug is a metal bushing 68 to which is soldered one wire 70 leading from the transformer 44. Another wire 72 from the transformer is soldered to the rear wall 73 of the electrically conductive tubular section 54. A cup 75 is formed at the upper end of bushing 68 and in this cup is securely seated and secured the lower end of axially vertical cylindrical metal tube 80. The tube 80 and tubular section 54 are coaxial and radially spaced from each other. The upper end 82 of tube 80 is narrowed and slidably engages an upper cylindrical metal tube 84. The tube 84 has a flared lower end 84' disposed below narrow upper end 82 of tube 80 to prevent the tubes from separating axially. Tube 80 is substantially as long as intermediate square tubular section 54 and tube 84 is substantially as long as square tubular section 55. Tube 84 is coaxial with tubular section 55 and terminates near the upper end of tube 55 inside of uppermost square tubular section 56. A rod 85 is fixed in the upper end of tube 84.

The upper end of rod 85 passes through an insulated plug or bushing 88 fixed in the upper end of square tubular

section 56. The rod 85 is coaxial with tubular section 56 and has flange-like projections 89, 90 at upper and lower ends of plug 88 to prevent the rod from moving axially with respect to section 56. By the arrangement described it will be apparent that when the sections 54, 55 and 56 are manually grasped and sections 55, 56 are axially extended from lower section 54 or retracted into this section, the tubes 80, 84 and rod 95 will extend and retract with them. The tubes and rod are electrically insulated from the telescoped square sections and serve as a multiple section collapsible direct electrical conductor from wire 70. The interfitted square sections serve as a multiple section collapsible grounded direct electrical conductor from wire 72. A lug 92 is secured to the upper end of rod 85 and an insulated wire 94 is soldered or otherwise secured to lug 92.

Forming part of the extension arm and serving to secure it adjustably to the lamp head is a coupling assembly best shown in FIGS. 4, 9-13 to which reference is now made. The coupling assembly includes a cylindrical fitting 100 in which the upper end of square tubular section 56 is force fitted and secured. A swivel ring 102 fits on a short neck 104 at the top of fitting 100. This neck is peened over the ring to permit rotational movement of the ring while keeping it secured on the bushing. Ring 102 has a pair of upstanding ears 106 with holes 108 to receive a pin or rivet 110. Ears 112 formed at the lower end of a short rectangular coupling tube 115 have holes 114 engaged by the pin 110. Holes 114 register with holes 108 since the ears 112 fit within and are juxtaposed to ears 106. The coupling tube 115 may be made of two similar channel shaped sections 116a, 116b. Narrow lugs 118a, 118b are struck up and inwardly of the ends of tube sections 116a, 116b into coplanar disposition. Notches 117 are formed in outer edges of lugs 118a, 118b. Inner edges of the lugs are spaced apart and wire 94 extends between them into shade 125 forming part of the lamp head 30. A recess 126 is formed in rear wall 128 of the lamp shade 125 to receive washer 120.

A hole 130 is formed in the wall 128 at recess 126 and both lugs 118a, 118b and wire 94 extend through this hole. An L-shaped grounding lug 132 is engaged on lugs 118a, 118b and a springy C-washer 134 engages on the lugs in the notches 117 just inside of the lug 132 to hold the coupling assembly securely to the wall 128. It will be apparent that the head 30 is rotatable on the vertical axis of the telescopic arm 27 due to the rotatable mounting of the swivel ring 102 on arm section 56. Also the head is rotatable angularly on the horizontal axis of pin 110. A tight friction fit of ears 112 within ears 106 insures that the head 30 will remain in any position set in rotation on pin 110.

The structure of the head 30 is best shown in FIGS. 1-5, 9, 14 to which reference is now made. The head includes the outer tapered shade 125. At its upper narrower end, the shade is formed with an apertured grating 140 to admit air freely therethrough for ventilating and cooling the lamp head. The shade flares outwardly and downwardly and is open at its lower end. In the shade depending from its upper apertured end is a depending post 142. Engaged on this post is a socket 144 receiving a removable lamp bulb 146. The socket is securely engaged in a metal ring 148. The ring has an outer flanged portion 150 which fits on the upper open end of upper cylindrical part 152 of lamp reflector 155 and is secured by bolts 156 extending through cylindrical bosses 158 at sides of the reflector; see FIGS. 7 and 14.

Reflector 155 has a highly polished mirror finish inner surface S to reflect light downwardly from the open bottom end of the head 30. The lower portion 160 of the reflector is tapered in form to project an expanding cone of line light from the lamp head. A rectangular flange 162 is formed at the open bottom end of the reflector so that it conforms with the inner surface of shade 125 at

its bottom end. Wire 94 is connected to an electrical contact 164 in the socket 144 which contacts central terminal T of the bulb 146. The screw terminal 165 of the bulb is grounded through the socket 144, ring 148 and a wire 166 connected between the ring 148 and grounding lug 132. Since the grounding lug is in contact with lugs 118a, 118b, there is direct electrical continuity from the screw terminal of the bulb through the rectangular square sections of the telescopic arm 27 to wire 72.

Circuit C shown in FIG. 15 shows the connection of switch 48 in both wires of power cord 45 and in series with the primary winding 170 of transformer 44. The lamp bulb 146 is connected in series with the secondary winding 172 of the transformer. A fuse 174 is also in series with the secondary circuit. The ground connection 175 is through the square tubular sections as already described. The high voltage connection 176 between the secondary winding and the lamp bulb is through the central tubes 80, 84 and rod 85. When the double pole switch 48 is closed the lamp lights.

The lamp head can be raised off the base 26 from dotted line position P1 to the dotted line position P2 of FIG. 2. Then the head can be rotated on the axis of the extended arm 27 to the solid line position of FIG. 2 to project light forwardly and downwardly. If it is desired to rotate the head to project light upwardly in the dotted line position P3, this can be done from rearward position P2 by turning the head on horizontal pin 110. The head can of course be adjusted to tilt up or down as indicated by arrow A in FIG. 2. The entire arm 27 can be turned angularly on the horizontal bottom pin 50 to tilt the axis of the arm away from the base as shown in the solid line position of FIG. 2. The entire arm can be collapsed to the length of lower arm section 54 alone and the head can be abutted to the top of the base as shown in FIG. 1 and dotted line position P1 of FIG. 2.

The lamp can be made in miniature form for stowing in a pocket or purse. It is readily set up and provides a surprisingly wide field of illumination. The low voltage lamp bulb economizes on power dissipation and the lamp shade remains cool under continuous usage.

In FIGS. 16-21 is shown another collapsible portable lamp 25a having an elongated box-like closed base 26a in which is a transformer 44a to which power cord 45a is connected. The base is formed with an upper section 200 and a lower section 202 interfitted with each other and secured together by bolts 204. A groove 206 is formed in the top wall 207 of upper section 200. A slide switch 48a is mounted on the upper section 200 and is connected in circuit with the transformer 44a and power cord 45a in a manner similar to that shown in FIG. 15. The power cord enters the base through end wall 210 forming part of lower section 202. The base has a closed opposite end wall 212.

Pivotaly mounted by pin 50a in groove 206 near end wall 212 is the lower end of a rectangular arm section 54a. The pin is seated in brackets 219 held by bolts 221. The upper end of this arm section is pivotaly attached by a hinge pin 218 to the lower end of a second arm section 55a. To the upper end of arm section 55a is pivotaly attached a lamp head 30' identical to lamp head 30 previously described. The head is attached by a coupling member 115' and is rotatable on axially horizontal pin 110' engaged with ears 106' at the upper end of arm section 55a.

The interconnected arm sections 54a are grounded to wire 72a in the secondary circuit of the transformer. The high voltage wire 70a extends through the hinged sections 54a, 55a and terminates electrically at the center contact of electric bulb 146' in a manner similar to that shown for wire 94 in lamp 25. Wires 70a, 72a extend through an opening 217 at one end of groove 206.

FIG. 16 shows the lamp arm section in solid lines in extended position. In dotted lines the arm sections are shown collapsed and resting on the base 26a. The head

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30' hangs from the upper end of the collapsed folded arm sections at the end wall 212.

It is possible to employ a coiled central wire extending axially through the telescoped sections 54-56 of arm 27 in lamp 25. The inner tubes 80, 84 and rod 85 may then be omitted. However, the construction described and illustrated for lamp 25 without a central wire running through the arm sections is preferred.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sections and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb.

2. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sections and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb, a transformer in said base having a secondary output connected to said power supply wires, a power supply cord connected to a primary input of said transformer and passing through said base to a remote power source, and a switch on said base connected in circuit with said power supply cord and transformer input.

3. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sec-

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tions and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb, said reflector having a metalized internal mirror surface for reflecting light from said lamp bulb, said reflector being generally tapered in form for projecting a conical beam of light from the lamp head.

4. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sections and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb, said arm assembly being collapsible so that the lamp head rests on the top of the base when the arm sections are fully retracted, said base having a grooved rear end portion, the lowermost section of said arm assembly fitting into said grooved portion of the base when the lamp head is resting on the top of the base.

5. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sections and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb, said shade having a rectangular top wall formed with a multiple apertured grating for ventilating the interior of the lamp head.

6. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of

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the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sections and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb, said arm assembly being collapsible so that the lamp head rests on the top of the base when the arm sections are fully retracted, said base having a grooved rear end portion, the lowermost section of said arm assembly fitting into said grooved portion of the base when the lamp head is resting on the top of the base, a transformer in said base having a secondary output connected to said power supply wires, a power supply cord connected to a primary input of said transformer and passing through said base to a remote power source, and a switch on said base connected in circuit with said power supply cord and transformer input.

7. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sections and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb, a transformer in said base having a secondary output connected to said power supply wires, a power supply cord connected to a primary input of said transformer and passing through said base to a remote power source, and a switch on said base connected in circuit with said power supply cord and trans-

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former input, said reflector having a metalized internal mirror surface for reflecting light from said lamp bulb, said reflector being generally tapered in form for projecting a conical beam of light from the lamp head.

5 8. A portable collapsible lamp, comprising a closed, box-like base having a closed top, an arm assembly including a plurality of telescoped square tubular sections, pivot means at one end of the base pivotally engaging a lowermost one of said sections, a swivel fitting at the upper end of an uppermost one of said sections, coupling means engaged by said swivel fitting for rotating on the axis of the arm assembly, a lamp head pivotally attached to said coupling means and turnable on a horizontal axis thereon, a plurality of tubes coaxial with said tubular sections and telescopically engaged, a rod extending from one of said tubes and fixed in the uppermost one of said sections, means insulating the tubes from the tubular sections, power supply wires in said base, one of said wires being connected to the lowermost one of the tubular sections, another one of said wires being connected to the tubes, said lamp head including an outer tapered lamp shade, a tubular reflector in said shade, a socket for supporting a lamp bulb supported in said shade and supporting said reflector, and other wires connecting the rod and uppermost tubular section to said socket for applying electric current to said lamp bulb, a transformer in said base having a secondary output connected to said power supply wires, a power supply cord connected to a primary input of said transformer and passing through said base to a remote power source, and a switch on said base connected in circuit with said power supply cord and transformer input, said reflector having a metalized internal mirror surface for reflecting light from said lamp bulb, said reflector being generally tapered in form for projecting a conical beam of light from the lamp head, said arm assembly being collapsible so that the lamp head rests on the top of the base when the arm sections are fully retracted, said base having a grooved rear end portion, the lowermost section of said arm assembly fitting into said grooved portion of the base when the lamp head is resting on the top of the base, said shade having a rectangular top wall formed with a multiple apertured grating for ventilating the interior of the lamp head.

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