ROTATABLE ROADWAY LIGHT SUPPORT

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This invention relates to roadway light units, usually located at the margin of the road, wherein a light element is carried by an arm disposing the light unit over the road at a point remote from the margin of the road. Such units are used on highways, bridges and the like, wherein the flow of traffic is substantial. It becomes necessary, from time to time, to service the light unit. In the conventional arrangement, it has been necessary to block off one or more lanes of traffic to this end.

The present invention provides a roadway light support having means to normally hold the light unit in its fixed position over the roadway, and to provide for the rotation thereof to a position along the margin of the roadway, or at some distance from the margin of the road. Such features have been particularly set forth below and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary, partly sectional, vertical, elevational view of a rotatable roadway light support embodying the invention,

Fig. 2 is a partly sectional side elevational view thereof, and

Fig. 3 is a schematic view illustrating the application of the invention.

In the drawings, a rotatable roadway light support comprising a tubular base 15 which may be mounted on or secured to the roadway R at the margin M thereof; (wherever the term "roadway" is used in this application, the same shall be interpreted to mean any strip or edge of a bridge or other surface requiring illumination for vehicular or foot traffic). A disc 16 is secured interiorly of the tubular base 15 adjacent the lower end thereof by any desired or suitable means, such as, for example, plugs 17 welded as at 17'. The disc is provided with an internally tapered portion 19 for the reception of a complementarily tapered portion 20 of a bearing member 20, terminating in a lip or portion 18 which serves to register the parts in assembly and to maintain them aligned. A rotor tube 25 is secured at its lower end to the bearing member 20 by self-tapping screws 26 or the like, or is formed integrally with the bearing member 20. The collar 27 is fixed to the upper end of the tubular base member 15 by any suitable or convenient means, such as, for example, self-tapping screws 28 or the like. The rotor tube 25 is provided with an extended portion 29 above the collar 27 to which a ring 30 is secured by any suitable means 29'. The ring 30 is secured to the upper end of extended portion 29 of the rotor tube 25 (or to a second tube fixed thereto) is the arm 22 which carries the light unit 36. The arm 22 is fixed to the rotor tube or post 25 at a plane 23 at an angle to the axial plane 24 of the rotor tube 25, and at right angles to the longitudinal axis 35 (Fig. 3) of the roadway R. The collar 27 is provided with one or more threads or other anchoring portions 31 to be engaged by securing members 32 to clamp the ring 30 to the collar 27 and to thus dispose the lighting unit 36 over the roadway in normal fixed position.

In operation, the device is assembled to dispose the arm 22 in the normal fixed position shown in Fig. 2, the parts being held in that position by engagement of the securing members 32 with the portions 31 of the collar 27.

To rotate the arm 22 from its normal fixed position, to its maintenance position, to dispose the lighting standard or unit 36 at the margin M of the roadway, the securing members 32 are disengaged. A suitable tool may then be inserted into the apertures 37, or the rotor 25 otherwise engaged, to rotate the same to a position substantially 90° (a practical degree of rotation would be 110°, as indicated in Fig. 3) from the normal, fixed position.

The disposition of the threaded portions 31 of the collar 27 may be such that the securing members may have engagement therewith at both the maintenance and fixed positions and, if desired, at intermediate positions, this being a matter readily determined by the particular requirements of the installation involved.

The parts may be made of any desired or convenient materials. In one form of the invention, the tubular base member 15, rotor tube 25, collar 27, and ring 30 have been made of aluminum, the bearing member 20 of stainless steel, and the disc 16 of aluminum. However, the parts may be made of any other material found convenient or practical for the purpose.

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

1. In a rotatable roadway light support, a hollow base open at its top, a collar mounted in the upper portion of the hollow base and having a portion projecting upwardly therefrom, a post disposed vertically over said base and having a reduced lower portion passing downwardly through said collar into the hollow base axially thereof, a ring-like disc secured in the hollow base and formed with a tapered seat in its central opening, a bearing member carried by the reduced lower portion of the post, said bearing member having a portion coaxially extending with the seat on the ring-like disc to rotatably support the lower end of the post, a ring secured about the post above the reduced lower end thereof and extending downwardly about the projecting upper portion of the collar, complementarily means on the ring and collar to secure them together in rotated adjusted position, and abutment lips carried by the ring and base and engageable with each other to limit the turning movement of the ring and the post.

2. In a rotatable roadway light support, a hollow base open at its top, a collar mounted in the upper portion of the hollow base, a post disposed vertically over said base and having a reduced lower portion passing downwardly through said collar into the hollow base axially thereof, a ring-like disc secured in the hollow base and formed with a tapered seat in its central opening, a bearing portion at the upper end of the post complementary to and coacting with the seat on the ring-like disc to rotatably support the lower end of the post, a ring secured about the post extending downwardly about the projecting upper portion of the collar, complementarily means on the ring and collar to secure them together in rotated adjusted position.

3. In a rotatable roadway light support as set forth in claim 2, a lip portion on said bearing member projecting downwardly through the central opening of the disc and serving to align the disc and bearing.

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