June 20, 1933. L. BROSILOW ET AL 1,914,480

MANUALLY OPERABLE ELECTRIC LAMP CORD REEL

Filed Nov. 12, 1931

Fig. 1.

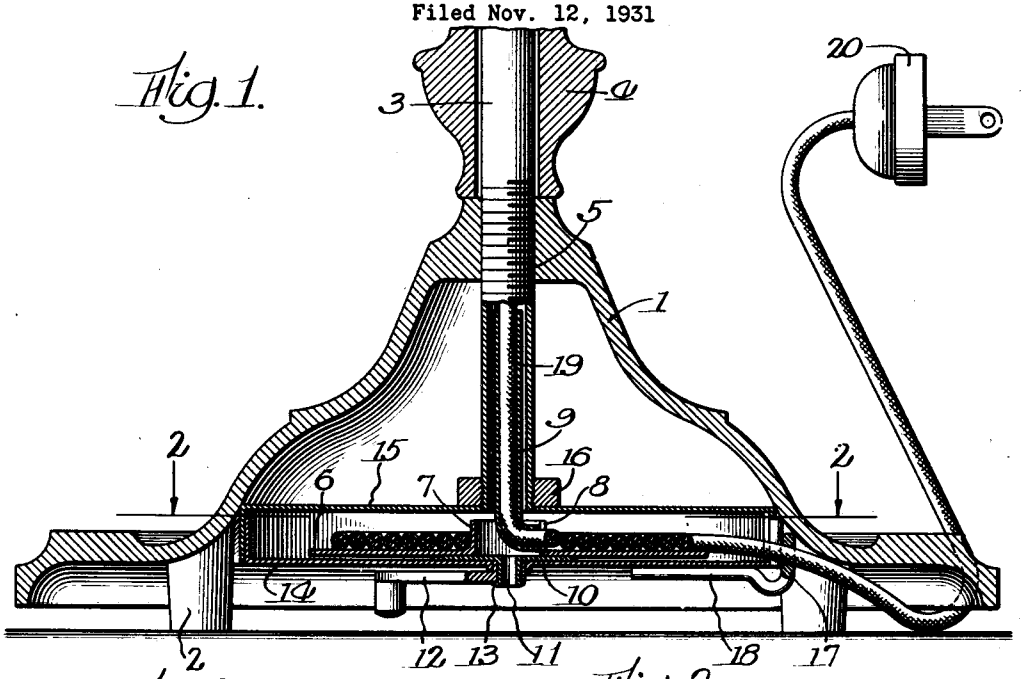


Fig. 3.

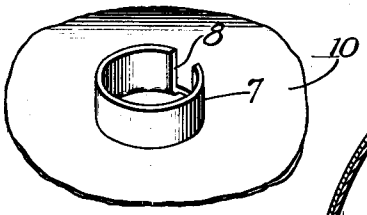


Fig. 2.

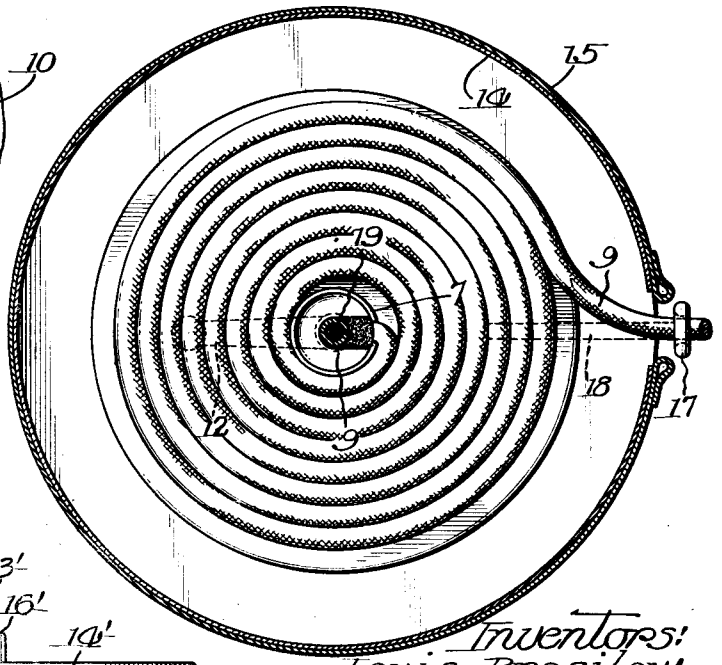
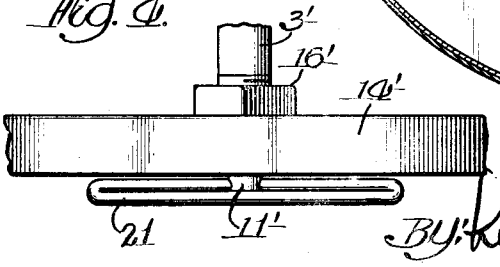


Fig. 4.



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Patented June 20, 1933 1,914,480

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MANUALLY OPERABLE ELECTRIC LAMP CORD REEL

Application filed November 12, 1931. Serial No. 574,653.

This invention relates to improvements in electric wire or "cord" retaining and adjusting devices for portable electric lamps, the invention having for an object to provide a device of such character which may be attached to the base of an electric lamp of prevalent construction and design, without alteration to or modification thereof, and when so attached, may be operated to either increase or decrease the length of the "cord" extending therefrom into engagement with the usual wall plug, electric socket, or other source of energy supply, hence, enabling a user to adjust said "cord" to that length required to make the desired electrical connection and in so doing, to avoid the presence of an excessive length of "cord" which is apt to become objectionable and unsightly, as through becoming tangled, etc.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a device of the character mentioned, capable of being manually operated whereby to effect adjustment of the length of the electric "cord" extended from the point of entrance of the same into an equipped lamp, the manually operable means being rotatable and so arranged and constructed as to cause the "cord" to be taken in and retained in coiled formation free of bends, kinks, or similar conditions, and conversely, to permit the coiled "cord" to be uncoiled or unwound therefrom to enable the same to be extended from the equipped lamp to the desired length or point.

Yet another and equally important object of the invention resides in the provision of the device with a novel and meritorious casing for the "cord" reel, the same being so constructed as to completely house said reel therein in a manner to protect it, and the "cord" arranged thereon from dirt, dust or other similar accumulations, as well as to avoid fire hazard due to possible short circuiting of the "cord" contained thereby; the interior of the casing being accessible for inspection or repair thereof, or of the reel or "cord".

Other objects of the invention will be in part obvious and in part pointed out hereinafter.

In order that the invention or its mode of operation may be readily understood by those skilled in the art to which it appertains, we have in the accompanying illustrative drawing and in the detailed description based thereupon, set out one possible embodiment of our invention.

In this drawing:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary longitudinal section through the lower portion or base of a prevalent type of portable electric floor lamp having the invention applied thereto,

Figure 2 is a transverse horizontal section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, looking in the direction in which the arrows point,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary detail in perspective illustrating the formation of the reel side and the electric wire or "cord" inlet way therein, and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary detail in side elevation of a slightly modified form of handle or lever for imparting rotary motion to the reel of the device.

Having more particular reference to the drawing, in connection with which like characters of reference will designate corresponding parts throughout, we have shown, for purpose of illustration only, our invention as being applied to a portable electric lamp of the so-called floor type, wherein, the numeral 1 designates the base of said lamp, said base being of substantially frusto-conical formation, or if not this, then of such formation that the under side of the base provides a chamber or compartment, the purpose of which will be subsequently apparent; said base being equipped with the usual supporting feet 2 and having a screw threaded opening formed in the reduced and upper extremity thereof into which the usual lamp standard tubing connecting pipe 3 is adapted to be turned, the upper portion of the connecting pipe, of course, receiving the usual assembly of standard tubing, ferrules and the like thereon, as indicated by the numeral 4. At this point, it is to be noted that the standard tubing connecting pipe 3 has that end of the same engaged with the base 1, extended downwardly for a distance into the same and is

screw threaded along its extended length as indicated by the numeral 5.

The invention may be stated to comprise what we term as a one-sided reel, that is, a reel constructed from a circular or otherwise shaped piece of sheet metal indicated by the numeral 6, the central portion of which is formed with a sleeve-like hub 7 having a way 8 formed in one portion of the periphery thereof to allow for the coaxial introduction of one end of the lamp electric wire or "cord" 9 onto the reel hub, as shown in the Figure 1.

A flat plate formed of sheet metal or other suitable material and indicated by the numeral 10, is fixedly secured, by soldering, welding or other suitable means, to the normally lower side and central portion of the reel side 6. The central portion of this plate is formed with a downwardly extending finger 11 adapted to receive the collar of a crank handle 12 thereover, whereupon the free end of the finger is flanged or swaged, as at 14 to effect permanent connection as between said collar of the crank handle 12 and the pin 11. At this point, it is to be noted that the inner annular edge of the collar of the crank handle 12 is brought into full abutting engagement with the adjacent side of the plate 10 so that with flanging or swaging, as at 13, of the outer end of the pin 11, a rigid and positive connection will be effected between the plate 10 and the operating crank handle 12.

To receive and rotatably support the reel 6, we provide the same with a casing or housing preferably shaped to approximately conform to the inside shape of the equipped lamp base 1, as is shown in the Figure 1. Said casing consists of interengageable sheet metal sections 14 and 15, the latter being of a diameter slightly larger than the former and adapted to have slidable or overlapping engagement with the flanged marginal portion thereof. With the overlapping or slidable or substantially telescopic engagement between the marginally flanged casing sections 14 and 15, it will be seen that the same will serve to effectually and wholly house the reel 6 therein. The central portion of the lower section 14 is formed with a bearing opening snugly and rotatably receiving the collar of the crank handle 12 therethrough, while the central portion of the upper section 15 is provided with an opening through which the electric cord 9 may pass into engagement with the hub 7 of the reel 6. A nut 16 is fixedly secured to the upper or outer side of the central portion of the section 15, surrounding the opening therein and is adapted to have the screw threaded lower end of the extension of the connecting pipe 3 turned into engagement therewith, as is shown in the Figure 1. Hence, it will be understood that a means will be provided, in this way, for fixedly and immovably supporting the reel housing, comprising the sections 14 and 15, in an adjusted or appropriate position within the chamber or compartment provided in the under side of the lamp base 1. Obviously, by varying the extent of screw threaded engagement of the screw threaded portion 5 of the connecting pipe 3 with the nut 16, the extent of engagement or mounting of the reel casing within the lamp base 1 may be regulated. Also, it will be seen that with the reel casing thus mounted upon the lower end of the connecting pipe extension, the lower side 14 of the reel casing will be exposed when the lamp is raised or tilted and consequently upon this, that ready access may be had to the crank handle 12 for rotating the reel 6, when desired.

The sections 14 and 15 constituting the reel casing, may be fixedly interconnected by any suitable means (not shown herein).

To permit of the passage of the electric "cord" into or from the reel casing and onto or from the reel 6, we form a way in one portion of the periphery of the casing. Immediately adjacent this way, we fixedly support a "cord" or eyelet 17, providing said eyelet with an inwardly extending attaching shank 18 adapted to be fixedly connected to an appropriate portion of the section 14 of the reel casing. Accordingly, it will be understood that with passage of the cord 9 through said way and through the eyelet or guard 17, the same will be positively caused to be properly directed or fed onto the hub 7 of the reel 6, or, conversely, to be effectually uncoiled or unwound therefrom, as when the wire 9 is being extended or drawn from the reel.

With a view toward providing that portion of the electric "cord" in proximity to the reel hub with means for preventing excessive flexing, twisting or turning thereof, we may and preferably do, mold or otherwise form about said portion, a protective and bracing sleeve of rubber or composition matter, such as indicated by the numeral 19, extending this protecting and bracing sleeve for a distance upwardly along that portion of the "cord" extending upwardly through the connecting pipe 3, as is shown in the Figure 1, and also, extending said protective or bracing casing 19 downwardly in elbow-like fashion to a point in abutting engagement with the adjacent portion of the inner periphery of the hub 7, at which point the "cord" 9 is passed through the way 8 in said hub for coiling arrangement thereabout. Consequently upon this, it will be understood that with rotation of the reel 6 in the casing provided therefor, excessive localization of the twisting of the aforementioned portion of the "cord" 9 will be prevented and therefore, rupture of the electric conductor and of the insulating casing therefor will be avoided to a great extent.

The free end of the electric "cord" 9, that

is, that end extended from the base 1, as will be understood, is equipped with the usual electrical plug connection 20, whereby electrical contact may be made with a wall plug or like fixture from which the equipped lamp is to receive its supply of electric energy.

Instead of providing a reel 6 with a type of operating handle such as shown in the Figure 1 and identified by the numeral 12, we may equip the reel with a type or construction of operating handle such as is illustrated in the Figure 4. In this particular embodiment, the finger 11′ which is extended from the reel casing 14′, has a flattened loop-like bar or pin 21 extended diametrically therethrough or diametrically engaged therewith. Thus, a wing-like form of handle will be provided the reel 6 housed within the casing 14′, so that rotary movement may be manually imparted to said reel through the operating handle 21.

Manifestly, the construction shown is capable of considerable modifications and such modifications as come within the scope of our claims, we consider within the spirit of our invention.

We claim:

1. In combination with the base and standard of a portable electric lamp, the standard engaging the base and extending within the same beyond its point of engagement, reel supporting means nested within the base, said supporting means being connected to the extended end of the standard and secured thereby in immovable engagement with the adjacent inner walls of the base, a reel rotatably received upon the reel supporting means, and means engaging said reel for imparting rotation thereto.

2. In combination with the base and standard of a portable electric lamp, the standard engaging the base and extending within the same beyond its point of engagement, a casing nested within the base having its upper side connected to the extended end of the standard and drawn by such connection with the standard into clamping engagement with the adjacent inner walls of the base, said casing having inlet and outlet openings formed therein, a reel rotatably received within the casing and means engaging said reel for imparting rotation thereto.

3. In combination with the base and standard of a portable electric lamp, the standard engaging the base and extending within the same beyond its point of engagement, a casing nested within the base having wire inlet and outlet ways therein, the upper side of said casing being connected to the extended end of the standard and being drawn by such connection into binding engagement with the adjacent inner walls of the vase, a reel rotatably received within the casing, and manually operable means connected to said reel and arranged without the casing in proximity to the lower side thereof and accessible only with exposure of the underside of said base, for imparting rotary motion to the reel.

In witness whereof they have hereunto set their hands.

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