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W. ILE

1,676,439

THREE-WAY ELECTRIC PLUG

Filed March 19, 1925

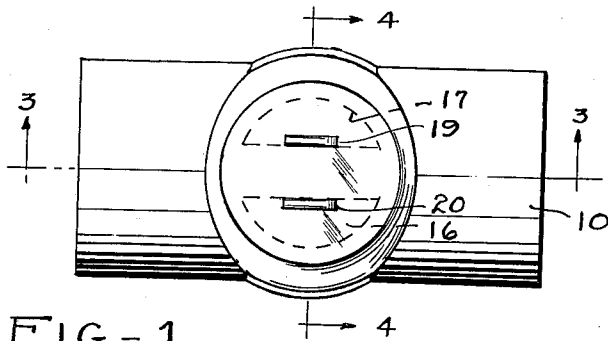


FIG.- 1

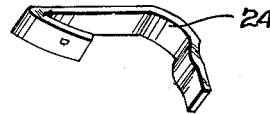


FIG.- 5

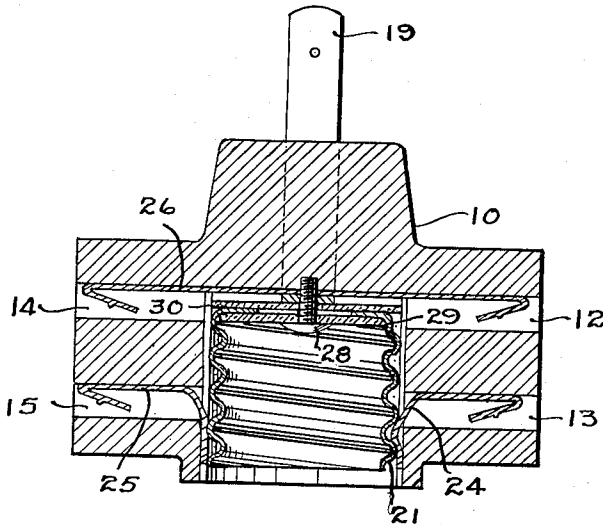


FIG. 3

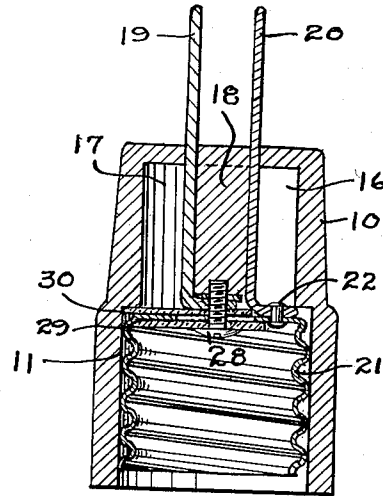


FIG.- 4

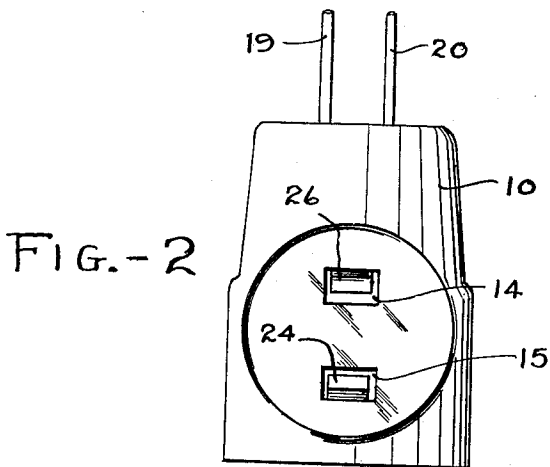


FIG.- 2

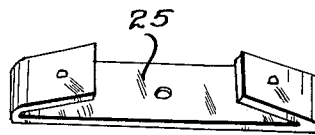


FIG.- 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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THREE-WAY ELECTRIC PLUG.

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This invention pertains to a multiple socket fixture, wherein the casing comprises moulded electrical insulating material. One of the difficulties arising from the manufacture of fixtures having moulded casings is the liability of the casing to crack particularly in the region adjacent the metallic parts which are embedded within the casing, during the forming operation.

The present invention is concerned with the provision of a fixture which obviates the necessity for embedding the contact plate within the insulating material during the forming operation, and which reduces the percentage of breakage during the manufacturing operation.

A preferred object of my invention is the provision of a three way socket wherein the cooperating contact members are positioned within a casing without necessitating the employment of a number of small securing members. An advantage of this invention is the ease with which the cooperating parts may be assembled, and the rigidity of such parts when in use.

The preferred form for carrying out my invention is illustrated in the drawings, wherein Fig. 1 is a plan view of an electric fixture embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is an end elevation of this fixture shown in Fig. 1; Figs. 3 and 4 are sections taken on the lines 3-3 and 4-4 respectively in Fig. 1; Figs. 5 and 6 are perspective views illustrating two forms of contact plates used in the fixture.

My fixture is shown in connection with a casing 10 of electrical insulating material, such as bakelite, which is moulded to the desired shape. As shown, the casing has an opening in the nature of a pocket 11 adjacent the middle portion thereof and has passageways 12 and 13 leading outwardly from the pocket in one direction, with passageways 14 and 15 leading outwardly from the pocket in the opposite direction. Additional passageways 16 and 17 are shown as extending longitudinally of the pockets. These last mentioned passageways however are spaced apart by a wall 18 which is formed integrally with the casing. Current may be brought into the fixture through inlet contact plates 19 and 20 which have opposite polarity.

A threaded shell or socket 21 within the pocket 11 is shown as being electrically con-

nected at 22 to the plate or blade 20 and as being electrically insulated from the blade 19. The threaded shell provides a socket into which an electric device such as a lamp may be inserted. The pocket also functions to position contact plates 24 and 25 within the passageways 13 and 15 respectively. The blades 24 and 25 therefore have the same polarity as the socket 21.

The blade 19 is electrically connected to a blade 26 which preferably embodies a one piece member and extends into the passageways 12 and 14 respectively. The blade 26 therefore has a polarity opposite to that of the blades 24 and 25, and cooperates therewith to provide an outlet on each end of the casing.

A threaded member 28 is shown in Figs. 3 and 4 as being employed for positioning the blades 19 and 26 as well as the socket 21 within the casing. Suitable electrical insulating members 29 and 30 may be employed for preventing a short circuit between the blade 19 and the socket.

The construction thus described provides an electric fixture wherein the casing may be moulded without requiring any of the metallic parts to be embedded therein. This reduces the percentage of breakage during the manufacturing operation. A further advantage of the device embodying my invention is the fact that only one threaded securing member need be employed for positioning the various parts within the casing. This facilitates the assembly of the device, and reduces the tendency for breakage during use.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with a casing of electrical insulating material having a pocket therein, and having a pair of passageways leading outwardly from the pocket in opposite directions, a contact plate extending across the pocket and into one of the passageways on each side of the pocket, a threaded socket member mounted in the pocket and opening outwardly, a separate contact plate in each of the remaining passageways, said separate plates cooperating with the first mentioned plate to provide independent outlets and having a portion thereof in abutting engagement with the socket member to provide

electrical contact therewith, inlet current conducting members longitudinally of the pocket, means for electrically connecting one of the members to the socket member, means for electrically connecting the other member to the first mentioned contact plate.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination with a casing having a centrally located pocket and having a pair of passageways leading outwardly from the pocket in opposite directions, a contact blade common to two of the passageways, a single socket member in the pocket, independent contact blades in the remaining passageways, each of the independent blades having a laterally extending portion engaging the socket member and providing an electrical contact therewith, a pair of current carrying members disposed within the casing and projecting outwardly therefrom, one of said members being electrically connected to the socket member, the other of said members being connected to the first mentioned contact plate, and means for holding said socket member and blades within the casing.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination with a casing having a centrally located pocket and having a pair of passageways leading outwardly from the pocket in opposite directions, a contact blade common to two of the passageways, a threaded socket member in the pocket, independent contact blades in the remaining passageways, each of the independent blades having a laterally extending portion engaging the outer surface of the socket member and providing an electrical contact therewith, a pair of current carrying members disposed within the casing opposite the socket and projecting outwardly therefrom parallel with the axis of the socket, one of said members being electrically connected to the socket member, the other of said members being connected to the first mentioned contact plate, and a screw located at the axis of the socket and connected to the last mentioned inlet member and insulated from the socket member and serving to position said socket member and blades with reference to the casing.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination of an electrical insulating casing having a pocket in one side, a

threaded sleeve in the pocket, a pair of inlet contact members extending into the opposite side of the casing, one of said members joined to said sleeve and the other of said members being connected to a central contact member comprising a screw at the axis of the sleeve, and two pairs of contacts each pair on opposite sides of the sleeve, each of said contacts being located within an exposed recess in the casing, and one of the contacts of each pair abutting the side of the threaded sleeve, and the other contact of each pair and extending across the base of the sleeve and insulated from it and being connected by the central screw with one of the inlet members.

5. In a device of the character described, the combination with a casing of electrical insulating material having a pocket therein, and having passageways leading outwardly in pairs directly from the pocket, the inner passageway of each pair entering the pocket adjacent its base and the outer passageway of each pair abutting the side of the pocket, a threaded socket member within the pocket, contact plates within the outer passageways and in abutting engagement with the outer surfaces of said contact member, conducting blades in other passageways, a second contact plate of opposite polarity to the first mentioned plates in the inner passageways and extending across said pocket and being electrically insulated from the socket member, and a single securing member for positioning the socket member and said blades within said casing.

6. In a device of the character described, the combination of an insulating body having a cylindrical pocket and two aligned diametrically opposite cylindrical extensions on an axis transverse of the pocket, each extension having two passageways one abutting the side of the pocket and the other registering with the base of the pocket, a metallic threaded shell in said pocket, separate contact strips in the passageways opposite the sides of the pocket, which strips contact with the shell, a strip in the passageway registering with the base of the pocket insulated from the shell, and the central contact connected with the last mentioned strip.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

WILLIAM ILE.