

Sept. 14, 1943.

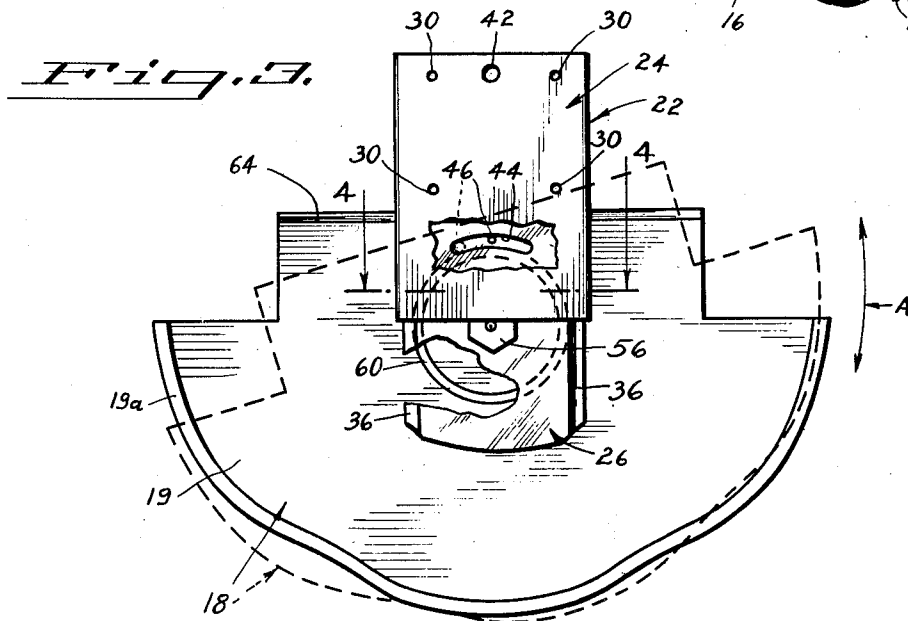
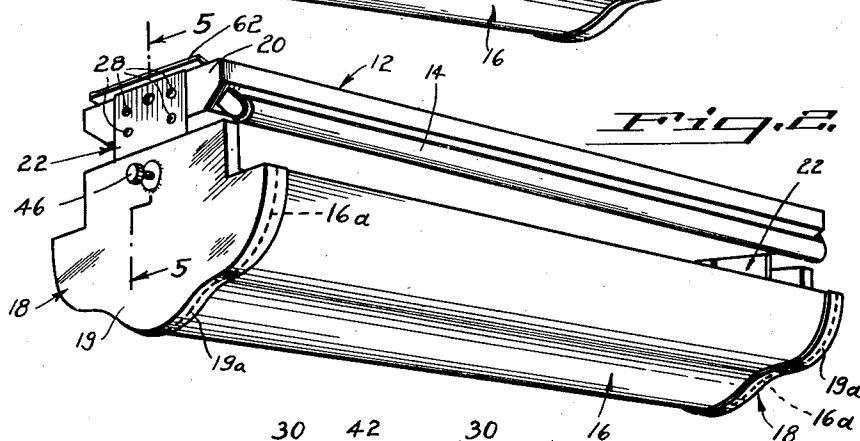
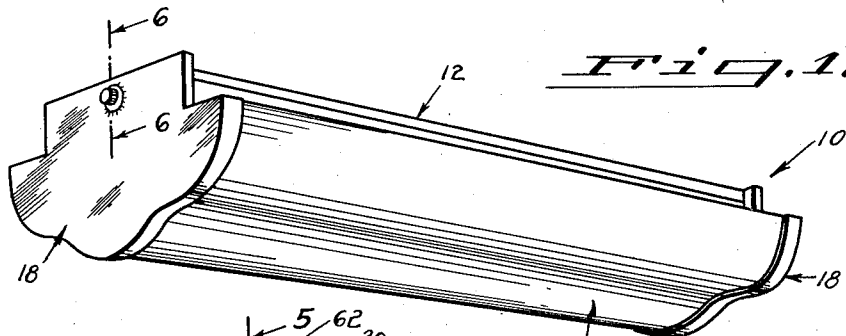
J. COLUCCI

2,329,435

LIGHT FIXTURE

Filed Nov. 18, 1941

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.
JOHN COLUCCI
BY *Edwin Lincoln*
ATTORNEY.

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J. COLUCCI

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

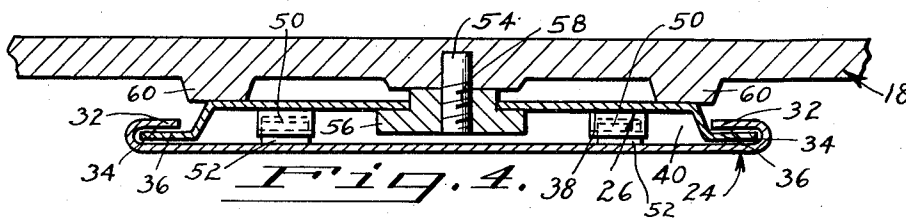


Fig. 5.

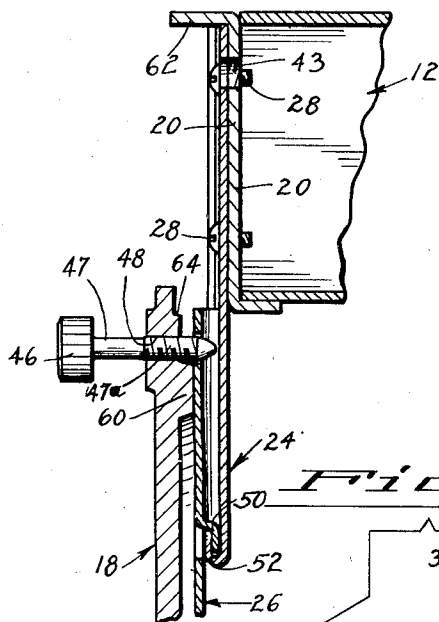


Fig. 6.

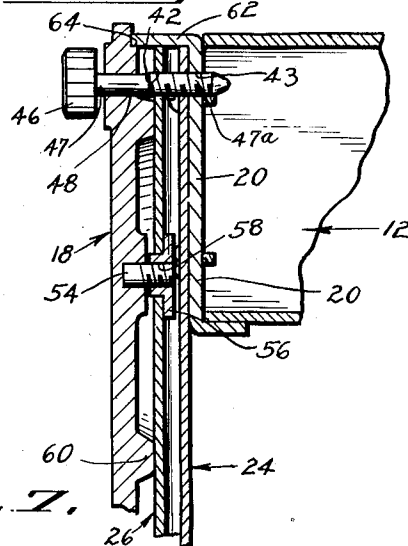
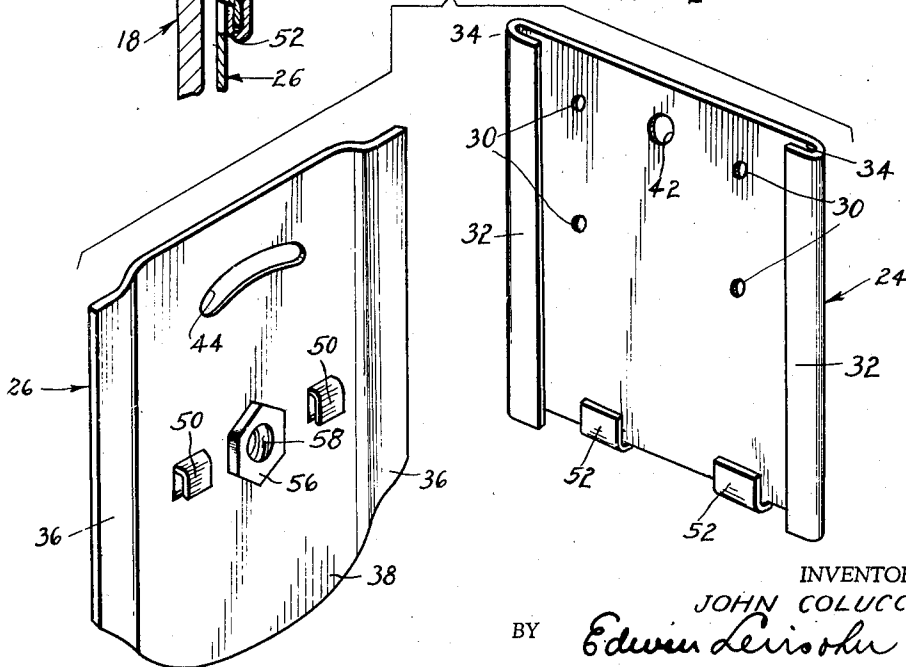


Fig. 7.



INVENTOR.

JOHN COLUCCI

BY

Edwin Leisner

ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LIGHT FIXTURE

John Colucci, Brooklyn, N. Y., assignor to Isidor Rosenblatt and Max Rosenblatt, copartners doing business as Globe Lighting Fixture Mfg. Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Application November 18, 1941, Serial No. 419,588

8 Claims. (Cl. 240—78)

This invention relates to electric light fixtures and is especially useful in connection with electric light fixtures in which fluorescent or other lamp tubes are used.

The primary object of the invention is to provide an electric light fixture of the type which is provided with an elongated translucent shade or cover in such manner as to facilitate access to the interior of parts of the fixture, for example, to the tube lamp, to the inside of the shade or cover, etc. In accordance with the preferred form of the invention the mounting of the shade or cover is such that it is unnecessary to remove the cover in order to obtain access to interior parts of the fixture or for cleaning the lamp shade on the inside thereof. Also, said mounting permits the installation and removal of the tube lamps without removing the shade or cover from the fixture.

Another object of the invention is to provide an electric light fixture of the designated type with means for mounting the lamp shade in such manner that the latter can be placed in position without removing the shade-supporting means or other parts of the fixture.

A yet further object of the invention is generally to improve electric light fixtures in respect to the means for supporting the lamp shade.

The above mentioned and other objects, features and advantages of the invention will be more fully explained in connection with the following description of the preferred embodiment of the invention, reference being had to the accompanying illustrative drawings. It will be understood that while the drawings and description are of the present preferred embodiment of the invention, they are not to be considered in limitation thereof except to the extent specified in the claims appended hereto.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an electric light fixture embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing the shade-supporting means displaced from the main part of the fixture in order to afford access to the interior of the fixture;

Fig. 3 is a view on a larger scale of the mounting means of the present invention for each end of the shade, and illustrates in dotted lines how the shade-supporting means can be swung for increasing the size of the opening between the upper edge of the shade and the adjacent part of the fixture for facilitating access to the in-

terior of the fixture or to the inner surface of the shade;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the companion bracket members forming parts of the shade mounting means.

Referring now to the drawings in further detail, the electric light fixture 10 embodying the present invention is here shown as of the fluorescent light type and of the type which is usually suspended from a ceiling by a suitable device (not shown) with which the art is familiar. The fixture comprises a main frame or casing 12 on which one or more fluorescent light tubes 14 (Fig. 2) are supported. Said frame 12 is provided with a lamp shade or cover 16 which is translucent for permitting the passage of light from the fluorescent tube lamps but which is preferably sufficiently opaque to conceal the fluorescent light tubes 14 and other parts positioned interiorly thereof. It will be understood that shade or cover 16 is preferably formed of glass but may be made of any other suitable material, for example a plastic.

The means for supporting shade 16 comprises members 18 secured to and depending from frame 12. Each of said members 18 has a wall 19 and an inwardly projecting flange 19a forming a ledge on which the adjacent end portion of shade 16 rests, the ends 16a of the shade being indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2. As here shown, flange 19a conforms to the contour of the shade. Said members 18 constitute parts of the mounting means of the present invention and are each attached to the adjacent ends 20 of casing 12 by a bracket 22 forming a part of said mounting means. As the bracket 22 for each frame member 18 is of the same construction a description of one will be sufficient.

Bracket 22 comprises the companion relatively movable bracket members 24 and 26 shown in perspective in Fig. 7. Bracket member 24 is secured to end wall 20 of frame 12 in any suitable way as by screws 28, for which purpose said bracket member is provided with apertures 30 for the passage of said screws. Said bracket 24 has interned side edges 32 which form longitudinally extending guideways 34 in which the laterally offset marginal side edge portions 36 of bracket member 26 are slidably received, said side edge

portions 32 and 36 providing cooperating guiding portions between the companion members 24 and 26. The marginal end portions 36 of bracket member 26 are pressed out of the plane of the main body portion 38 of said bracket member whereby to provide a space 40 between the companion bracket members. Bracket member 24 is provided near the upper end thereof with a centrally disposed hole 42 which registers with an opening 43 in the adjacent end wall 20 of casing 12, and the companion bracket member 26 is provided near its upper end with a centrally disposed arcuate slot 44. When the end frame or cover supporting members 18 are in their normal or upper positions, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 6, arcuate slot 44 registers with hole 42 to permit the passage of a screw 46 carried by member 18 to engage end portion 20 of frame 12 in said opening 43 for securing said frame member 18 releasably in its upper or normal position.

As illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, screw 46 engages member 18 in a threaded opening 48 formed in the latter. It will be noted that screw 46 has a portion 47 of its shank non-threaded, the outer shank portion 47a being screw-threaded. The length of screw-threaded shank portion 47a is such that when the outer end of screw 46 engages opening 43 in end portion 20, said portion 47a has disengaged threaded opening 48 in member 18 and therefore does not tend to force member 18 away from end portion 20 during the rotation of the screw in engagement with said end portion, as it would do if the threaded part of the shank of the screw engaged simultaneously in openings 48 and 43. It will be understood that the screw shank passes through openings 42 and 44 with a slight clearance and has no threaded engagement in said openings. When screw 46 is moved from its projected position illustrated in Fig. 6 in which it engages end 20 of the casing, to the retracted position thereof illustrated in Fig. 5, bracket member 26 and the companion frame member 18 can move rectilinearly downwardly to the retracted position illustrated in Fig. 2, the downward movement of bracket member 26 being limited by the engagement of struck-out downwardly projecting tongue portions 50 on said bracket member with the laterally bent upwardly projecting tongue portions 52 of the companion bracket member 24. Bracket member 26 is pivotally mounted on the adjacent frame member 18 at the inner surface thereof by a pin 54 fixed to frame member 18 and projecting from the inner surface thereof and engaging a nut 56 fixed to bracket member 26, said pin 54 being threaded and engaging said nut 56 in a threaded opening 58. A circular rib 60 is formed on the inner surface of frame member 18 and engages the adjacent surface of body portion 38 of bracket member 26. Frame member 18 is thus secured to bracket member 26 and can swing on the latter about pin 54, as indicated in Fig. 3, about an axis parallel to the tube lamp when said bracket is moved to the position illustrated in Fig. 2, screw 46 being out of engagement with hole 43 of the adjacent end 20 of the casing 12 and out of engagement with hole 42 of the companion bracket member 24. As shown in Fig. 5, screws 48 engage bracket members 26 in arcuate slots 44 and thus limit the pivotal or swinging movement of shade 16 in two directions.

Provision is made for positively limiting the upward movement of members 18, that is, from the retracted position of the shade support shown in Fig. 2 to the projected or normal position

thereof shown in Fig. 1. For this purpose each end portion 20 is provided with an out-turned flange 62 and each member 18 is provided with a shoulder 64 adjacent its upper edge in position to engage flange 62, as illustrated in Fig. 6. The companion flanges 62 and shoulders 64 thus constitute stop means for limiting upward movement of members 18 and for predetermining the normal position thereof, and further it will be understood that when shoulders 64 engage flanges 62 screws 46 register with openings 43 in the adjacent end portions, respectively, of frame 12.

From the above description it will be readily understood that the screws 46 constitute releasable means for holding the shade-supporting means in position to support the shade in its normal position, and that by retracting said screws from engagement with the adjacent end parts 20 of frame 12 and from engagement with the adjacent bracket member 24 the shade-supporting means constituted by members 18 is permitted to drop to the retracted position of said shade illustrated in Fig. 2. The shade is thus positioned to permit access to the fixture for inserting or replacing the tube lamp or lamps 14 and for other purposes. It will be noted also that when the shade-supporting means is in the retracted position thereof the shade can be swung toward and away from frame 12, in two directions, as indicated by the dotted lines and by the arrow A in Fig. 3, to facilitate installation and removal of lamps 14 and to facilitate access to the inner surface of said shade for cleaning the same. It will be understood that shade 16 can be inserted and removed from between members 18, while the latter are attached to frame 12, by moving said shade into and out of position in a direction along the contour of flanges 62.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood that the latter may be embodied otherwise than as herein specifically shown or described and it will be understood further that in the illustrated embodiment of the invention certain changes in the details of construction and in the arrangement of parts may be made. Therefore, as indicated above, I do not wish to be limited to the construction herein shown or described except as may be required by the scope of the appended claims.

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

1. In a light fixture having a main frame for a lamp and a translucent shade for said lamp, means for supporting said shade, means for mounting said shade-supporting means on said frame comprising vertically disposed relatively slidable members attached to said frame and to said shade-supporting means, respectively, whereby said shade-supporting means is movable upwardly and downwardly toward and away from said frame to normal and retracted positions, respectively, means pivotally connecting said shade-supporting means to the slidable members attached thereto whereby said shade-supporting means is pivotally movable in the retracted position thereof in a direction transversely of the frame, and additional means carried by said shade-supporting means and releasably engageable with said frame for releasably attaching said shade-supporting means to said frame to prevent said up and down and said pivotal movement of said shade-supporting means.

2. In a light fixture having a main frame for a lamp and a translucent shade for said lamp,

means for supporting said shade, releasable means for securing said shade-supporting means in one position to hold the shade in normal position in relation to said lamp, and means comprising relatively movable members attached to said frame and to said shade-supporting means, respectively, for releasably holding the latter in another position for supporting the shade in retracted position when said securing means is released, said members being relatively movable in the direction extending between said normal and said retracted positions of said shade, said shade-supporting means having a pivotal connection with said members attached thereto whereby said shade can be swung in a direction transversely of said first mentioned direction toward and away from said frame when said shade is in said retracted position thereof.

3. In a light fixture having a main frame for a lamp and a translucent shade for said lamp, means for supporting said shade, releasable means for securing said shade-supporting means in one position to hold the shade in normal position in relation to said lamp, pairs of relatively movable companion members attached to said frame and to said shade-supporting means, respectively, for releasably holding the latter in another position for supporting the shade in retracted position when said securing means is released, said companion members being in slidable engagement and having cooperating guiding portions for guiding the shade-supporting means for rectilinear movement toward and away from said frame, said members which are attached to said shade-supporting means having a pivotal connection therewith whereby said shade-supporting means are pivotally movable, and means carried by said shade-supporting means and engageable with said members which are attached thereto for limiting the pivotal movement of said shade-supporting means.

4. In a light fixture having a main frame for a lamp and a translucent shade for said lamp, means for supporting said shade, releasable means for securing said shade-supporting means in one position to hold the shade in normal position in relation to said lamp, pairs of relatively movable companion members attached to said frame and to said shade-supporting means, respectively, for releasably holding the latter in another position for supporting the shade in retracted position when said securing means is released, said companion members being in slidable engagement and having cooperating guiding portions for guiding the shade-supporting means for movement toward and away from said frame, said members which are attached to said shade-supporting means having a pivotal connection therewith whereby said shade-supporting means are pivotally movable, and means carried by said shade-supporting means and engageable with said members which are attached thereto for limiting the pivotal movement of said shade-supporting means and interengaging means on said companion members for limiting the relative movement of said companion members in one direction whereby to limit said movement of said shade-supporting means away from the frame.

5. In a light fixture having a main frame for a lamp and a translucent shade for said lamp, means for supporting said shade, releasable means for securing said shade-supporting means in one position to hold the shade in normal position in relation to said lamp, pairs of relatively

movable companion members attached to said frame and to said shade-supporting means, respectively, for releasably holding the latter in another position for supporting the shade in retracted position when said securing means is released, said companion members being in slidable engagement and having cooperating guiding portions for guiding the shade-supporting means for movement toward and away from said frame, and pivotal connections between said shade-supporting means and the member of each pair which is attached thereto whereby said shade can be swung toward and away from said frame when said shade is in said retracted position thereof.

6. In a light fixture having a main frame for a lamp and a translucent shade for said lamp, means for supporting said shade, releasable means for securing said shade-supporting means in one position to hold the shade in normal position in relation to said lamp, pairs of relatively movable companion members attached to said frame and to said shade-supporting means, respectively, for releasably holding the latter in another position for supporting the shade in retracted position when said securing means is released, said companion members being in slidable engagement and having cooperating guiding portions for guiding the shade-supporting means for movement toward and away from said frame, interengaging means on said companion members for limiting the relative movement of said companion members in one direction whereby to limit said movement of said shade-supporting means away from the frame, and pivotal connections between said shade-supporting means and the member of each pair which is attached thereto whereby said shade can be swung toward and away from said frame when said shade is in said retracted position thereof.

7. A light fixture comprising a main frame for a lamp, a cover for said frame, and means for mounting said cover on said frame comprising cover-supporting members, and vertically disposed brackets for supporting said cover-supporting members, respectively, each of said brackets comprising vertically disposed relatively movable companion members one of which is secured to a companion cover-supporting member and the other of which is secured to a part of said main frame, said companion members having cooperating guiding portions in relatively slidable engagement, said cover-supporting members being movable from positions in which said cover is supported in the normal position thereof to positions in which said cover is supported in retracted position to provide access to the inside of said cover while the latter is supported by said cover-supporting members and while said cover-supporting members are attached to said main frame, a pivotal connection between each of said cover-supporting members and the companion bracket member, which is secured thereto, each of said bracket members which is secured to said cover-supporting members having an arcuate slot, and means carried by said cover-supporting members and engageable in said arcuate slots for limiting the pivotal movement of said cover-supporting members in relation to said companion bracket members.

8. A light fixture comprising a main frame for a lamp, a cover for said frame, and means for mounting said cover on said frame comprising cover-supporting members, and brackets for supporting said cover-supporting members, re-

spectively, each of said brackets comprising relatively movable members one of which is secured to a companion cover-supporting member and the other of which is secured to a part of said main frame, said cover-supporting members being movable from positions in which said cover is supported in the normal position thereof to positions in which said cover is supported in retracted position to provide access to the inside of said cover while the latter is supported by said cover-supporting members and while said cover-supporting members are attached to said

main frame, and means for releasably securing said cover-supporting members in said first mentioned positions thereof, said last mentioned means comprising screws threaded through said cover-supporting members, respectively, and having threaded engagements with adjacent parts, respectively, of said frame, said screws being out of threaded engagement with said members when the screws are in threaded engagement with said parts of the frame.

JOHN COLUCCI