Jan. 4, 1944. R. D. WINKELMEYER 2,338,559

LIGHTING FIXTURE

Filed July 18, 1941

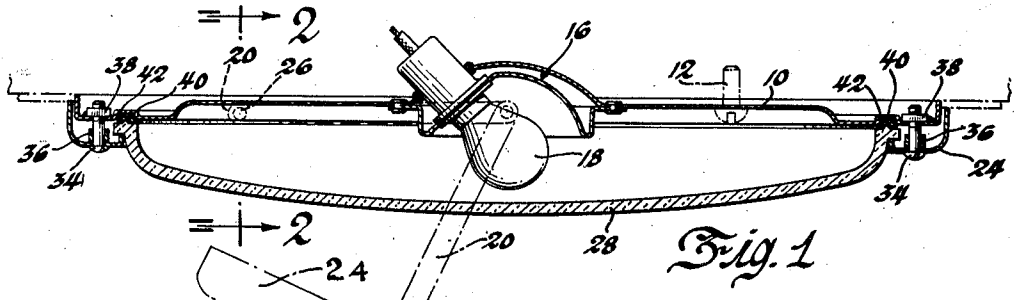
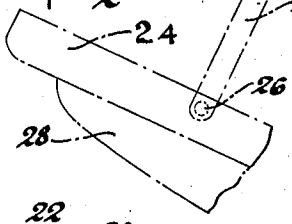


Fig. 1



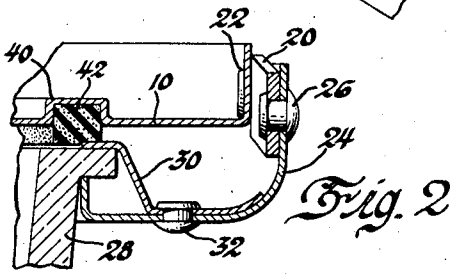


Fig. 2

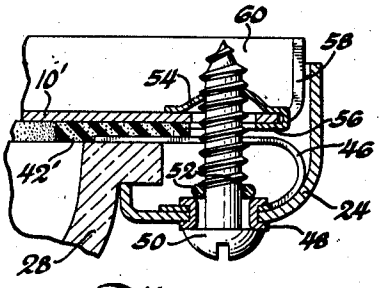


Fig. 5

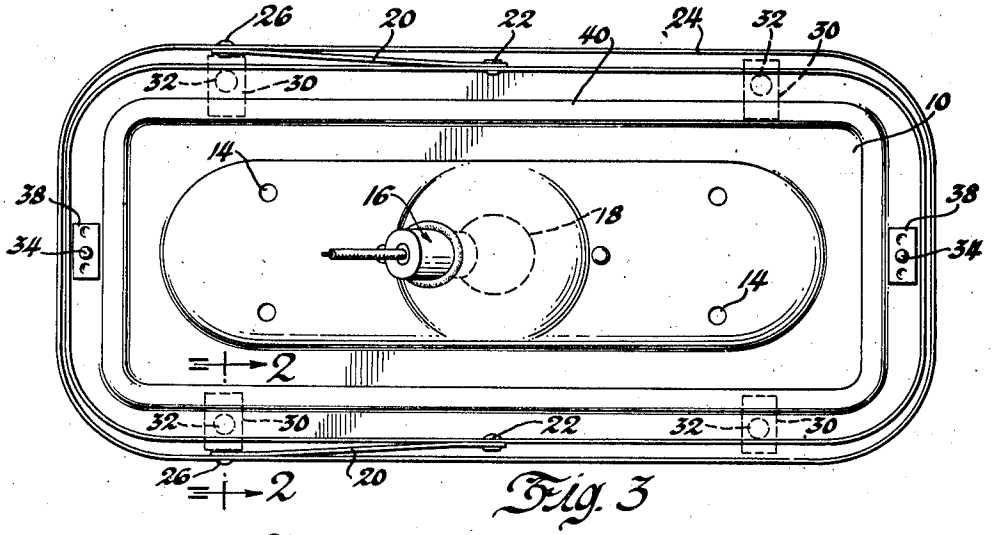


Fig. 3

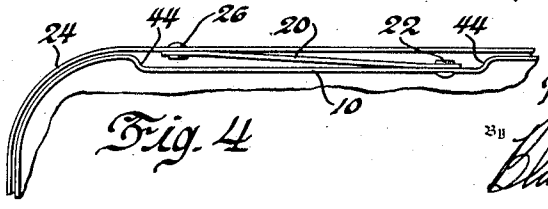


Fig. 4

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LIGHTING FIXTURE

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Application July 18, 1941, Serial No. 403,009

1 Claim. (Cl. 240—7.35)

My invention relates to lighting fixtures and has particular application to fixtures used on vehicles.

Interior lighting fixtures such as are found in passenger automobiles and motor coaches in use today usually have a lens or cover glass assembled in a bezel, the assembly being removable to provide access to the bulb located behind the lens. In fixtures in use today these lens assemblies are usually completely detached from the fixture in this removed position. It often happens during the removal of the assembly that it is dropped accidentally resulting in breakage of the fragile lens, or that it is mislaid while work is being done on the rest of the fixture.

The principal object of my invention is to provide a mounting for the lens or cover glass assembly of a lighting fixture which will permit access to the bulb in the fixture but which will not permit the assembly to fall thereby insuring against breakage of the lens or glass.

More specifically, the object of my invention is to provide a mounting for the cover glass assembly which attaches the assembly to the fixture base in such a manner that the lens assembly may be removed from the base sufficiently to allow access to the base, as by a "maintenance man," but, in this removed position, the assemby remains attached to the base. In the application shown, the mounting means takes the form of a pair of links. One end of each link is fastened to the base, and the other end is attached to the lens assembly.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing, an application of my invention is shown in longitudinal section.

Fig. 2 is a view in section substantially on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, showing details of the mounting and lens assembly.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the fixture shown in Fig. 1.

Figs. 4 and 5 are fragmentary views showing modifications of my invention.

In the drawing, 10 indicates a base plate of any suitable material, such as pressed sheet metal, secured to the wall or ceiling of a room or vehicle body by screws 12 which extend through holes 14 in the base plate 10. Mounted at or near the center of the base plate is a reflector and socket assembly indicated generally by 16. For convenience in providing easy access to the bulb 18 in the socket, I may preferably, although not necessarily, mount the socket at an angle to the vertical as shown in Fig. 1.

The mounting forming a part of my invention comprises a pair of links 20 hingedly mounted to base plate 10 as by rivets 22, and similarly fastened to a frame or bezel 24 by rivets 26. The frame or bezel 24 supports the lens or cover glass 28 and may be secured thereto by a plurality of clamps 30. These clamps are held in engagement with frame 24 by any suitable means such as rivets 32.

The frame and cover glass assembly is held in position over the bulb by two screws 34 which pass through reinforced openings 36 in frame 24 and which engage threaded members 38 provided on base plate 10. This threaded member may be an ordinary nut welded or otherwise secured to the base plate 10. A channel 40 is provided in plate 10 to receive a gasket 42. This gasket serves both as a seal for keeping dirt out of the fixture and as a cushion to prevent breaking of lens 28 in assembly by pulling screws 34 up too tight.

The modification shown in Fig. 4 is substantially the same as the hinge shown in the other figures except that the edges of base plate 10 are recessed as shown at 44 to permit a closer fit between frame 24 and the flanged or upturned edges of plate 10. As seen in this figure, the recessed portion receives the link 20 when the fixture is in its assembled condition.

The modification shown in Fig. 5 illustrates another construction for holding the frame and cover glass assembly together. A substantially J-shaped clip 46 is secured to frame 24 by a rivet 48 which engages one leg of the clip. The other leg engages the lens or cover glass 28. Rivet 48 is hollow to provide a passage for screw 50, which is kept from falling out of rivet 48 by a retaining means such as hairpin clip 52, the two legs of which are shown in cross section. Screw 50 holds the frame and lens assembly in place by engaging any suitable female screw member such as sheet metal threadless nut 54. Note that in this modification, gasket 42' is secured, as by gluing, directly to the plane or flat portion of base plate 10', instead of being provided with a retaining channel 40, as in Fig. 1. Threadless nut 54 is held in place on base plate 10' by a T-shaped head on the lower leg 56 of this sheet metal member, the sides of which engage the sides of a slot 58 in upturned flange 60 of base plate 10' to keep member 54 from falling out endwise.

Although the operation of my invention is easily understood from the drawing and the foregoing description, a brief résumé may be made here. When it is desired to remove the lens or cover glass assembly for any reason, such as for the purpose of replacing a burned out bulb, the screws 34 are removed and the frame and lens

assembly drops down and away from the base plate, being nevertheless still secured thereto and kept from falling by the links 20. Easy access can then be had to bulb 18 for its removal or replacement or for working on the socket. When the operation to be performed has been completed the frame and lens assembly is merely swung back into position and the screws 34 are replaced.

I claim:

In a ceiling lighting fixture, a base plate, a light source secured to said base plate, a light transmitting cover, and means for mounting said cover beneath said base plate and light source including a frame to receive said cover and means to detachably connect said frame to said base plate, and means to hold said frame and cover in spaced suspended relation to said base plate when said frame is disconnected therefrom including a pair of links, peripheral flanges on said base plate and frame adapted to overlap one another when said frame is connected to said base plate with the flange on said frame located outside of the flange on said base plate and means for pivotally connecting the opposite ends of said links respectively to said flanges on said frame and base plate with said links extending along opposite sides of said frame and housed between said flanges when said frame is connected to said base plate and concealed by the flange on said frame.

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