Feb. 4, 1930. K. H. KIEFER 1,745,624

LUMINOUS INDICATING DEVICE

Filed July 23, 1926

Fig. 1

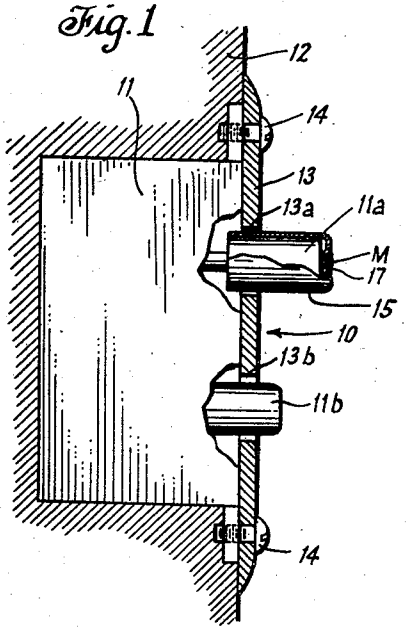


Fig. 2

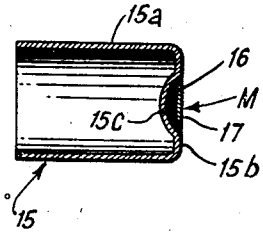


Fig. 3

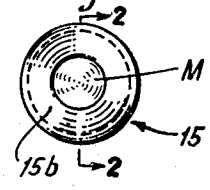


Fig. 4

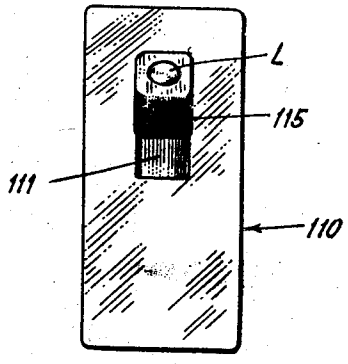
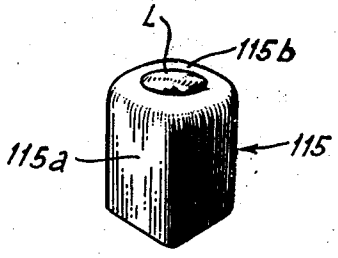


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LUMINOUS INDICATING DEVICE

Application filed July 23, 1926. Serial No. 124,325.

This invention relates to luminous indicating devices and is directed to the provision of an improved device of the character described adapted for attachment to control or operating means for electric fittings, such as push buttons, toggle switch levers, keys, pendants, and the like to render such means visible in the dark.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved luminous device of the character described which may be simply and conveniently applied to the control means of electric fittings without interchanging or otherwise altering the parts provided in such fittings of standard construction.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved device of the character described which shall comprise few parts, be extremely simple in construction, very cheap to manufacture yet neat in appearance, rugged and durable, and practical and efficient to a high degree.

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

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of application will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawing, in which is shown one of the various possible illustrative embodiments of this invention,

Fig. 1 is a side view, partly broken away and in section, of a push button electric control switch showing the luminous device embodying the invention applied thereto.

Fig. 2 is a detailed sectional view of the device taken on line 2—2 in Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 is a front elevational view of the device.

Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of a toggle switch lever type of electric switch with a modified form of the device applied thereto.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the modified form of the device shown in Fig. 4.

Referring in detail to the drawing, 10 denotes a reciprocating button type of electric switch of any well understood construction, and is seen in Fig. 1, to comprise a casing 11 embedded in a wall 12, said casing being adapted to enclose an electric switching mechanism (not shown) having the circuit making and breaking buttons 11^a and 11^b, respectively, extending beyond the open or front side of the casing.

A closure flush plate 13 of any desired construction may be provided on the front side of the casing and secured to the casing by any suitable means, such as screws 14. Said flush plate 13 is provided with suitable openings 13^a and 13^b for the buttons 11^a and 11^b.

The improved luminous device 15 is snugly fitted over the circuit making button 11^a. Said device 15 may be made of any suitable sheet material and is preferably drawn from a blank of sheet metal in the form of a thimble or ferrule having a tubular body portion 15^a made with an integrally formed closed end 15^b.

On the exterior side of said end, the luminous means M is mounted. Said means M preferably may comprise a thin layer of radioactive luminous material 16 applied on the surface of an exterior pocket 15^c formed by depressing a central portion of said end 15^b, a suitable transparent film 17 of material, such as shellac, varnish, or the like being provided as a preserving coating over said layer.

The exterior side of the device 15 may be finished to correspond to any desired interior decorative scheme, and when applied on the circuit making button 11^a of switch 10 may have its tubular body portion 15^a extended through the opening 13^a of the flush plate so as to completely cover said button.

In Figs. 4 and 5, a modified form of the device embodying the invention is shown. In this instance, the device 115 is fitted over the toggle switch lever 111 of the toggle switch 110 and the body portion 115^a of said device is made of rectangular cross-section to correspond to the lever 111 instead of being cylindrical as in the device 15, shown in Figs. 2 and 3 and described above. The closed end portion 115^b of the device 115 carries the

luminous means L which comprises a central depressed portion, a luminous layer and a transparent, preserving film similar to the means M in the device 15 described above.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of this invention are achieved, and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawing is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

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

1. An attachable luminous device of the character described, comprising a ferrule stamping consisting of a tubular body portion of substantially uniform thickness made with an integrally formed closed end, said end being depressed to form a pocket, a layer of luminous material applied to the exposed surface of the pocket, and a transparent preserving coating covering said layer.

2. An attachable luminous device for a push button member, comprising a tubular body portion of substantially uniform thickness having a closed end, a relatively small depression formed in said end, a layer of luminous material on the bottom of said depression, and a transparent coating applied over said layer, the depth and breadth of said depression being insufficient for the entry of an operator's finger end.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

KENNETH H. KIEFER.