Jan. 29, 1946. R. L. GOULD 2,393,767

CANDLE HOLDER

Filed March 28, 1944

Fig. 1.

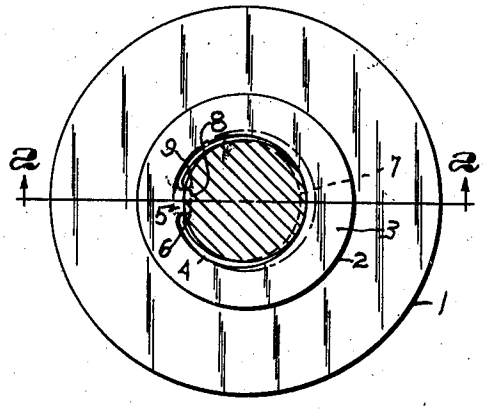


Fig. 2.

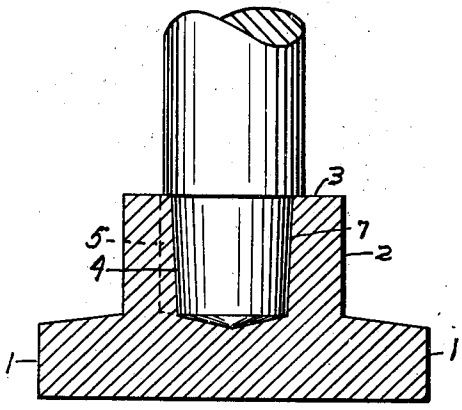


Fig. 3.

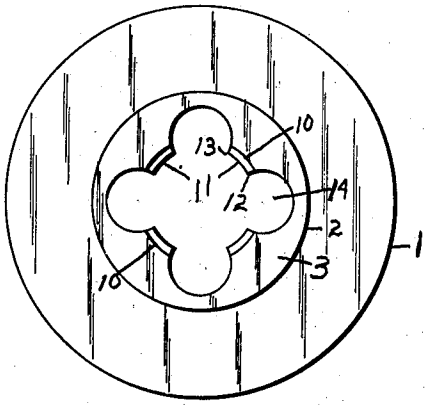


Fig. 4.

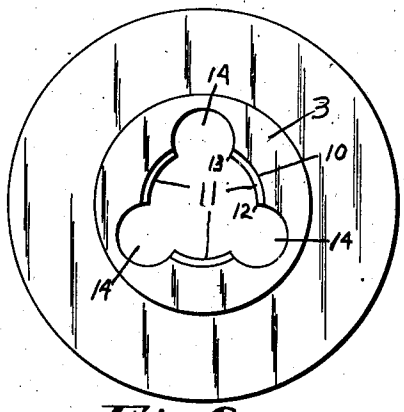


Fig. 5.

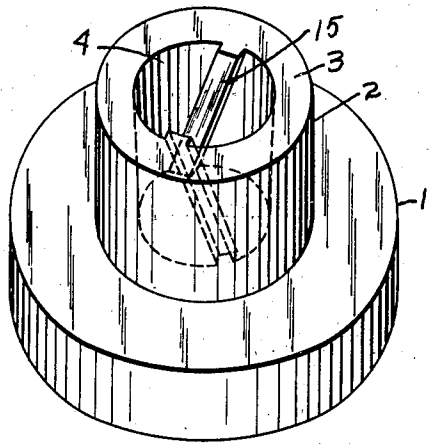
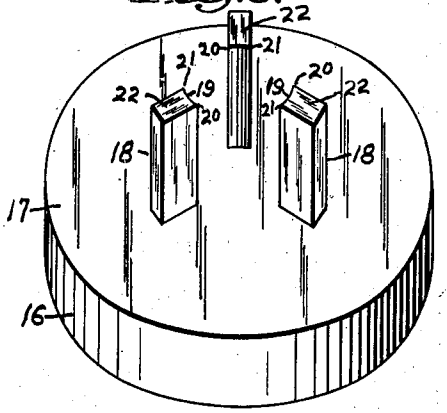


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,393,767

CANDLE HOLDER

Russell L. Gould, Shirley Center, Mass.

Application March 28, 1944, Serial No. 528,419

8 Claims. (Cl. 67—23)

This invention relates to improvements in candle holders and the object thereof is to provide a holder which will insure the maintenance of the candle in vertical position until it is consumed.

Usually candles are formed either by casting the candle in substantially cylindrical moulds or by repeatedly dipping the wick vertically into a melted body of suitable material from which the candle is to be made, thereby providing the so-called "dipped candles." In thus making dipped candles the downward flow of the material during the repeated dipping operation produces a candle of conoidal form because of the downward flow of the material as it hardens so that the base of the candle is of considerably larger diameter than the upper portion thereof. Furthermore, the diameter of the dipped candles varies in accordance with the number of dips which produce the candle and also with respect to the degree of fluidity of the molten material.

The diameter of the lower ends of different candles, whether cast or dipped, varies considerably, and seldom any is found which snugly fits the socket of the usual candle holder or candlestick having a head provided with the socket to receive the candle. In order therefore to insure the holding of the candle in vertical position so that it will not wobble or drip it has been necessary either to wrap the lower end of a candle which is too small to fit the socket or to trim by hand the lower end of the candle, such as a dipped candle, which is too large to fit the socket.

The object of the present invention is to provide a candle holder having a socket provided with means operable by rotation of the candle about its axis, while the end thereof is being inserted into the holder, to trim it and thereafter to retain the candle in upright position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a candle holder having a socket the wall of which is provided with one or more inwardly extending ribs provided with an angular edge or edges operable by rotation of the candle about its axis when the end of a standard or oversized candle is inserted into the socket to trim said end and thereafter to retain the candle in vertical position and which rib may extend sufficiently inwardly properly to engage and support an undersized candle in vertical position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a candle holder having a socket provided with an inwardly extending rib or ribs inclined circumferentially with respect to the axis of the candle and operable when the candle is rotated about its axis while being inserted therein not only to trim the candle but to draw the candle downwardly thereby progressively trimming the candle and finally holding the candle in vertical position.

Another object of the invention is to provide a candle holder having a socket comprising trimming mechanism which will produce a shoulder to engage the flat upper face of the socket member thereby producing an additional circumferential support to insure retention of the candle in vertical position.

These and other objects and features of the invention will more fully appear from the following description and the accompanying drawing and will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Preferred embodiments of the invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawing as applied to a simplified form of candle holder, but it will be understood that the socket member of the candle embodying the invention may be employed in a usual type of candlestick having at its upper end a suitable socket member to receive and support the candle.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a simplified form of candlestick embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on line 2—2, Fig. 1, the lower end portion of the candle being shown in elevation;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a modified form of invention comprising four ribs each having cutting edges operable to trim the candle when rotated in either direction during its insertion into the socket;

Fig. 4 is a similar view illustrating a candle holder having three ribs with cutting edges adapted to trim the candle and so constructed as to form a triangular support for the candle;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a candle holder in which the cutting ribs are circumferentially inclined with respect to the vertical axis of the socket; and,

Fig. 6 is a modified form of the invention comprising a flat base with three concentrically spaced members extending upwardly therefrom with concavely curved inner faces the vertical edges of which are adapted to trim the candle.

The construction illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 comprises a preferably circular base 1 having a central upwardly extending socket member 2 provided with a flat upper face 3 and having therein a concentric socket 4 preferably but not necessarily tapering downwardly to conoidal form. The wall of the socket member 3 is pro-

vided with an inwardly extending rib 5 having a cutting edge 6 adapted when the candle is rotated about its axis in a clockwise direction, while being inserted into the socket to trim the lower end portion of the candle and to force the diametrically opposite portion 7 of the candle against the wall of the socket. Desirably the rib 5 has a concave face 8 concentric with the axis of the socket, thereby providing an additional cutting edge 9 operable to trim the candle when rotated in a counterclockwise direction, and by reason of the concave face more firmly to secure the candle in vertical position. In the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 the socket desirably converges slightly downwardly so that the lower end of the candle is trimmed to conical tapered form thereby enabling candles of smaller diameter than the socket to be properly trimmed and retained in vertical position.

In the construction shown in Fig. 3 the socket member 2 is provided with four inwardly extending convergingly inclined ribs 10 equally spaced apart and having inner faces 11 concentric with the axis of the socket so that each rib is provided with two cutting edges 12 and 13 adapted to trim the candle as it is inserted whether rotated in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction. In this construction the ribs with the cutting edges 12 and 13 are produced at the intersection of segmental equally spaced vertical circular recesses 14 which merge into the circular or conoidal socket formed by the concave faces of the ribs. The vertical recesses form receptacles for the material cut from the candle as it is being rotatably inserted in the socket. A holder of this type can be readily constructed from a solid block by first boring the central socket and thereafter boring eccentric holes or channels about centers suitably spaced from the periphery of the central socket, or of course the holder may be formed by casting in a suitable mould. The construction shown in Fig. 4 is similar to that shown in Fig. 3 except that it is so constructed as to provide three candle trimming and supporting ribs of the character above described. This construction is advantageous in that it provides a three-point support which will more certainly support the candle in vertical position and prevent it from wobbling.

The construction shown in Fig. 5 is of similar construction to that illustrated in Fig. 1 except that the wall of the socket member 2 is provided with a plurality, preferably two trimming ribs 15 which are circumferentially inclined with respect to the axis of the socket and act when the candle is rotated in a counterclockwise direction during its insertion into the socket to draw the candle downwardly, thereby aiding its introduction into the socket and insuring the positioning of the candle vertically in the socket.

The modified embodiment of the invention shown in Fig. 6 comprises a preferably circular base 16 having a flat upper face 17 with three upwardly extending candle-engaging members 18 equally spaced apart circumferentially and having concentric circular faces 19 providing angular edges 20 and 21 operable by the rotation of the candle about its axis in either direction while being inserted axially between said members to trim said end portion of the candle and when said end is engaged by the faces 19 to retain it in vertical position.

When the lower end portion of the candle is trimmed by rotation about its axis as it is inserted into the socket a shoulder will be formed which will seat firmly upon the flat upper surface of the holder member such as the flat surface 3 of the socket members illustrated in Figs. 1–5 inclusive and the flat upper ends of the cutter and holder members shown in Fig. 6.

It will be understood that the particular embodiments of the invention shown and described herein are of an illustrative character; that other types of trimming devices may be employed; and that the invention may be embodied in the socket portion of usual types of candlestick or other candle holders within the meaning and scope of the following claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:

1. A candle holder having a socket to receive the lower end of a candle in which the wall of the socket is provided with a narrow inwardly extending rib having a concave face concentric with the vertical axis of the socket and presenting an angular edge operable by rotation of the candle about its axis while an end thereof is being inserted into the socket to trim it, the concave face of the rib acting in cooperation with another portion of the socket wall thereafter to retain the candle in vertical position.

2. A candle holder having a socket to receive the end of a candle in which the wall of the socket is provided with a narrow rib extending inwardly and provided with a concave face concentric with the vertical axis of the socket and having a cutting edge circumferentially inclined to the vertical axis of the socket.

3. A candle holder having a socket to receive the end of a candle in which the wall of the socket is provided with an inwardly extending narrow rib having an inner face concentric with respect to the vertical axis of the socket and having edges operable by rotation of the candle about its axis in either direction while being inserted into the socket to trim said end, the concave face of the rib acting in cooperation with other portions of the wall of the socket to retain the candle in vertical position.

4. A candle holder having a socket to receive the end of a candle in which the wall of the socket is provided with a plurality of equally spaced inwardly extending ribs each having an inner face concentric with respect to the vertical axis of the socket and having spaced angular edges operable by rotation of the candle about its axis in either direction while being inserted into the socket to trim said end and thereafter to retain the candle in vertical position.

5. A candle holder having a socket to receive an end of a candle in which the wall of the socket is provided with a plurality of equally spaced narrow downwardly and inwardly converging ribs each having a concave inner face concentric with respect to the vertical axis of the socket and having angular edges operable by the rotation of the candle about its axis in either direction, while being inserted into the socket, progressively to trim and fit said end and thereafter to retain the candle in vertical position.

6. A candle holder having a vertical socket member provided with a flat upper face and having a circular socket therein extending vertically downwardly from said face and of less diameter than that of the lower end of the candle to be held thereby, the wall of said socket having a rib provided with a cutting edge operable by the rotation of the candle about its axis while the lower end is being inserted into the holder

progressively to trim said end and to produce a shoulder on the candle engaging the flat upper surface of the socket member acting in conjunction with said rib and other portions of the wall of the socket to support the candle firmly in vertical position.

7. A candle holder comprising a head having a vertical circular recess and a plurality of equally spaced segmental recesses merging into said central recess providing ribs having concave inner faces forming a socket for the candle and presenting angular edges operable by rotation of the candle about its axis in either direction, while being inserted in the socket, progressively to trim and fit said end and thereafter to hold the candle in vertical position, said vertical recesses forming receptacles for the material trimmed from the candle by said ribs.

8. A candle holder comprising a head having a downwardly converging conoidal recess, three equally spaced vertical segmental recesses merging into said conoidal recess providing ribs having concave inner faces forming a vertical socket for the candle and presenting angular edges operable by the rotation of the candle about its axis in either direction, while being inserted in the socket, progressively to trim and fit said end and thereafter hold the candle in vertical position.

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