Sept. 24, 1935. E. W. DIECKMANN 2,015,101

TERMINAL FIXTURE APERTURE INDICATOR

Filed Aug. 16, 1933

FIG. 1

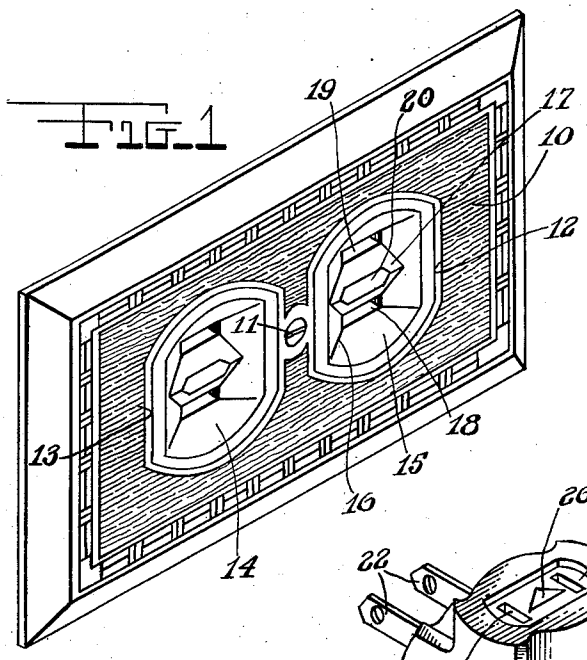


FIG. 2

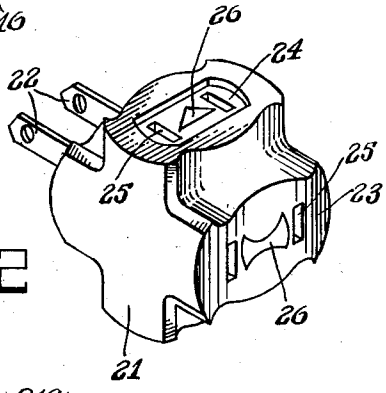
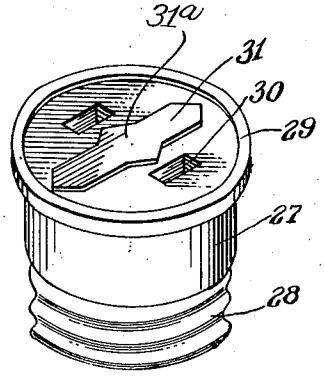


FIG. 3



INVENTOR
E. W. Dieckmann
BY Emil Flamm
ATTORNEY

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TERMINAL FIXTURE APERTURE INDICATOR

Edna W. Dieckmann, Orange, N. J.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 173—343)

The main object of this invention is to provide means by which the apertures in receptacles, slide plugs and screw plugs may be indicated and made apparent and when the relationship of the indicator to the aperture becomes fixed in the mind it will be found to be a relatively simple matter to insert the desired terminal members. A person within a room with a subdued light finds it exceedingly difficult and tiresome to match or align the terminal fingers of a slip plug with the apertures of a receptacle fixture for the reason that when infrequently used by the person the relative positions of the apertures are only vaguely fixed in the mind. A great deal of tinkering and turning to gain alignment of the related parts is necessary before exact alignment is had. This is depressingly irksome and guesswork at best and to eliminate this condition I propose to provide an indicator which shows the relationship of the apertures to the fixture being inserted.

The above and other objects will become apparent in the description below, in which characters of reference refer to like-named parts in the drawing.

Referring briefly to the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a so-called receptacle showing the indicator embedded in place between the apertures.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a three-way outlet plug showing assorted geometrically shaped indicators between the apertures.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a screw plug showing the indicator in place thereon.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the numeral 10 indicates an ornamental base plate of a receptacle. The entire base plate is secured over an outlet member in a conventional manner. A screw 11 holds the plate secured to the remainder of the structure. A pair of openings 12 and 13, symmetrical in outline, receive the insert bodies 14 and 15. The latter are provided with sunken wells 16 which are subdivided by a ridge 17. At the base of these subdivided wells the insert apertures 18 and 19 are located.

At the apex of each ridge 17 a strip 20 of any desirable material of contrasting color, is embedded and extends in the same direction as the apertures in the manner illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 2 shows a three-way plug comprising a body 21 moulded in the form of a cross from which a pair of terminal fingers 22 extend. These fingers project from one of the arms of the cross. The faces 23 of the remaining arms are provided with depressions 24 in which the aligned apertures 25 for the terminals of a complemental plug are located. Between the apertures assorted geometrically shaped indicating strips 26 are mounted.

In Figure 3 another modification is shown. This view represents the old and well-known type of screw plug which comprises a cylindrical body 27 having a helically threaded shell 28 at its lower end and a flanged head 29. Apertures 30 penetrate the face of flanged head and located between these apertures is a linear indicating strip 31. An enlargement 31*a* is provided and is integral with the strip, the enlargement is so constructed as to pass thru the center lines of the two apertures 30, so that the centers of said apertures are indicated.

My invention consists in providing a strip of contrasting color between the terminal apertures so that the user may at all times visualize and determine the positions of the apertures and plug in accordingly. Where rooms and chambers have subdued light or insufficient illumination the surface of these indicating strips or aperture finders may be coated with an iridescent or luminous pigment so that these members may be plainly seen from an appreciable distance. By prior education the user of this type of device is informed that the indicator no matter what its geometrical shape extends parallel of and between the apertures or in definite relation to said apertures. Said strips will generally assume these positions. When this knowledge is fixed in the mind it is relatively simple for the user to determine the exact position of the apertures by noting the angle the luminous or iridescent strip assumes.

It is to be noted that certain changes in form and construction may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:

In combination with an electrical fixture having aligned parallelly extending apertures formed therein for reception of complemental members, means for indicating a definite angle at which the apertures are placed comprising a strip having tapering ends and outwardly flared middle of a color contrasting to the fixture, said strip being adapted to have a linear geometrically shaped form, an enlargement on said strip, said enlargement passing thru the center lines of said apertures, said strip extending parallel to said apertures between the latter and said strip being iridescent or luminous.

EDNA W. DIECKMANN.