April 22, 1924. 1,490,978

W. F. LENT ET AL

BASE FOR PORTABLE LAMPS

Filed Jan. 16, 1923

Fig. 1.

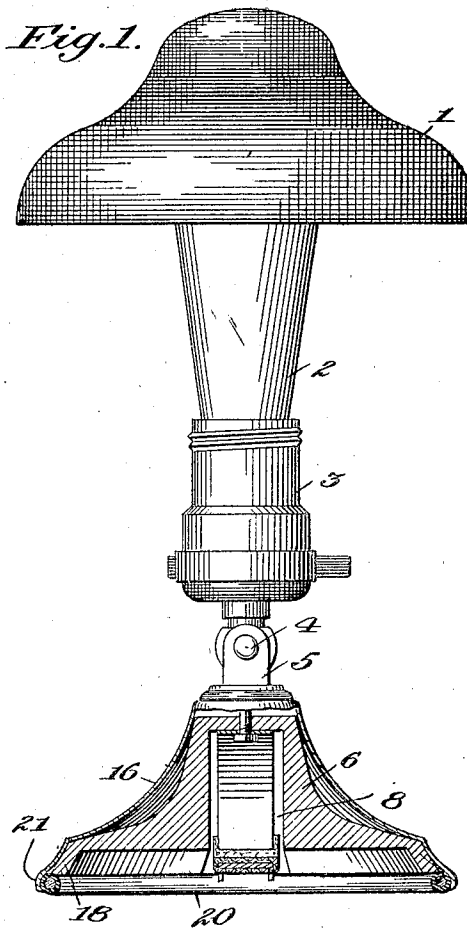


Fig. 2.

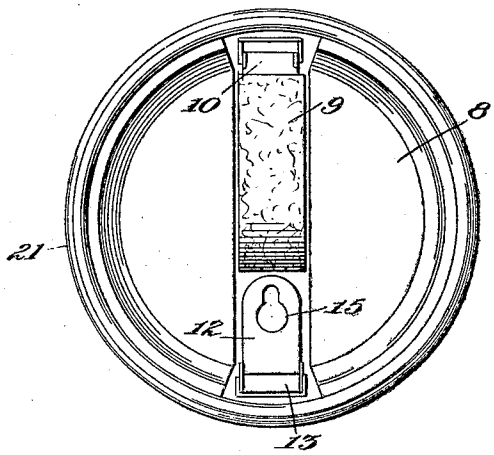


Fig. 3.

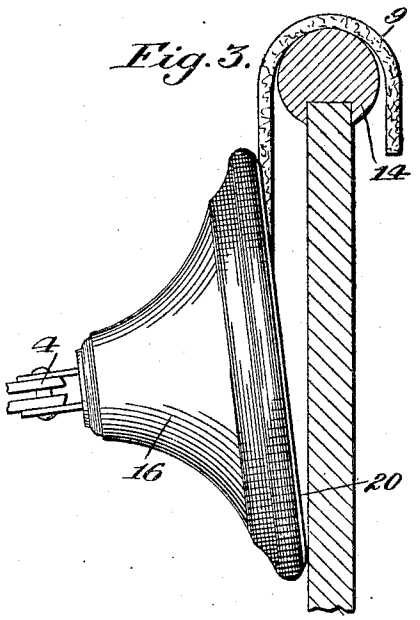
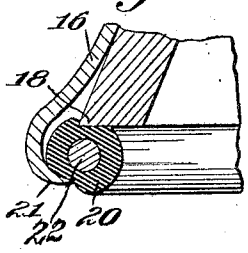


Fig. 4.



Inventor:
W. F. Lent
A. J. Carmichael and
W. C. Greist.
by C. A. Mason Att'y.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILMAR F. LENT, ANDREW J. CARMICHAEL, AND WALTER C. GREIST, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNORS TO THE GREIST MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

BASE FOR PORTABLE LAMPS.

Application filed January 16, 1923. Serial No. 612,911.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILMAR F. LENT, ANDREW J. CARMICHAEL, and WALTER C. GREIST, citizens of the United States of America, residing at New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Bases for Portable Lamps, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in the base portions of portable lamps.

Heretofore means have been provided to deaden the sound produced by carelessly placing a lamp upon a table or other article of furniture, and to prevent scratching or marring of the surface of the furniture or other object with which the base of the lamp may come in contact. In one style of lamp base a plurality of rubber bumpers were seated in holes in the cavity within the base. This construction was defective in that the lamp was unstable upon its base, and when hung from a hook or other suspension device which engaged a bedstead or similar piece of furniture, the projecting parts of the furniture were liable to come in direct contact with the base shell of the lamp between the bumpers and thereby scratch the furniture.

In order to overcome the above and other objectionable features found in cushioning devices for lamp bases, as heretofore employed, the present invention provides a construction wherein a continuous rubber, or other soft facing is so attached to the base of the lamp that all marring of furniture will be prevented, and also the supporting point of such cushioning means is located at such a point near the edge of the base of the lamp that the stability of the latter is completely maintained.

With the stated objects in view, the invention comprehends as an important feature a supporting ring of rubber or other soft yielding material which extends about the periphery of the frame weight of a lamp base and slightly below and beyond the edge of said weight, and is secured between such edge and the sheet metal shell of the base within which the weight is enclosed. Preferably, the sheet metal shell has its outer edge portion slightly inwardly bent or rolled in the form of a curved bead which acts to hold the cushioning ring to the outer edge of the weight. By such arrangement of the cushioning ring a continuous rubber facing is presented and the weight of the base is sustained upon the cushioning ring, while the latter is held in position without being supported directly from the base shell.

The novel features of the invention will be better understood from the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 represents a portable lamp, in side elevation, the base being in vertical section;

Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view of the base;

Fig. 3 shows the base in side elevation with one of the supporting hooks in position over the rail of a bedstead, and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged, detail sectional view.

Referring to Fig. 1, the lamp comprises the usual shade 1 which is supported from the globe 2 having suitable connection with the socket 3, which latter has a hinge connection 4 with lugs 5 upstanding from the base. The base of the lamp comprises a main frame member or weight 6, preferably of cast metal and having a central space 8 within which may be housed lamp suspending devices, such as a hook 9 which is pivoted at 10 to the weight 8, and a tab 12, which is pivoted to the weight 8 at 13. The hook and tab are arranged to be folded within the lamp base and to occupy the space 8 in the weight as shown, when not in use.

If it is desired to suspend the lamp from a rail, such as 14, of a bedstead or other horizontal support of similar character, the hook is swung outwardly and passed over said rail, the base of the lamp then occupying a substantially horizontal position as shown in Fig. 3.

On the other hand, if it is desired to support the lamp in a horizontal position from a nail, or similar projection from the wall of a room, the tab 12 is turned outwardly from its position within the base, and the key-hole slot 15 in such tab is passed over the nail or projection.

The weight or frame 6 of the lamp is surrounded by a sheet metal shell 16. The

lower outside edge 18 of the weight 6 is sustained upon a cushioning ring 20, which is of spring metal 22 covered by india rubber or other suitable material, and said ring is held firmly in engagement with the outer peripheral edge 18 by the lower edge portion 21 of the shell 16, which, as shown best in Fig. 4, is bent, by spinning or otherwise, the ring being held in the recess between the weight and the edge 21 by the tension of the spring metal. It will be seen that by this construction the cushion is so located as to bring the supporting point at the outer edge of the weight and near the extreme outer edge of the base of the lamp, as an entirety. A continuous cushioning facing is thus presented to prevent the marring of furniture, the stability of the lamp is maintained, and the cushioning ring is held in position between the shell and weight in such manner that no portion of the weight of the lamp is sustained through the thin metal shell. By reason of the greater weight of the lamp of the type herein described, as compared with that of some other portable lamps, it would not be feasible to support the cushioning ring from the base shell directly as this would result in a distortion of the shell. It will accordingly be seen that the particular location of the ring 20 contemplated by the present invention is especially advantageous in a lamp in which the base portion is made up of an interior frame of substantial weight for the purpose of stabilizing the lamp on a support, in combination with an external sheet metal shell.

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

1. A lamp base comprising, in combination, a weight constituting a frame, an enclosing shell, and a cushioning ring located beneath said weight so as to sustain the same, and held between the edge of said shell and said weight.

2. In a base for portable lamps, the combination of an internal weight or frame having an outstanding edge, a cushioning ring located below said edge in position to sustain said weight, and a sheet metal shell enclosing said weight and having its lower edge portion in engagement with said ring and arranged to hold said ring against the outer edge of said weight.

3. In a base for portable lamps, the combination of a weight having a downwardly extending outwardly flared edge, a cushioning ring located below and in engagement with said edge, and an enclosing shell for said weight having its lower edge portion rolled against said ring and maintaining the same in engagement with the edge of said weight, said ring presenting a cushioning surface below the lamp base and being so located that none of the weight of the lamp is sustained by said shell.

4. A lamp base having in combination a weight constituting a frame, an enclosing shell, the lower outer edge of said frame and shell shaped to form an annular recess, and a ring comprising a spring metal core and a covering of cushioning material adapted to be sprung into said recess.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 6th day of December A. D. 1922.

WILMAR F. LENT.
ANDREW J. CARMICHAEL.
WALTER C. GREIST.

Witness as to W. F. Lent:
FRANK E. LAYMAN.
Witness as to A. J. Carmichael:
ANNA M. CYLKOWSKI.
Witness as to W. C. Greist:
FRANCES E. MERROW.