

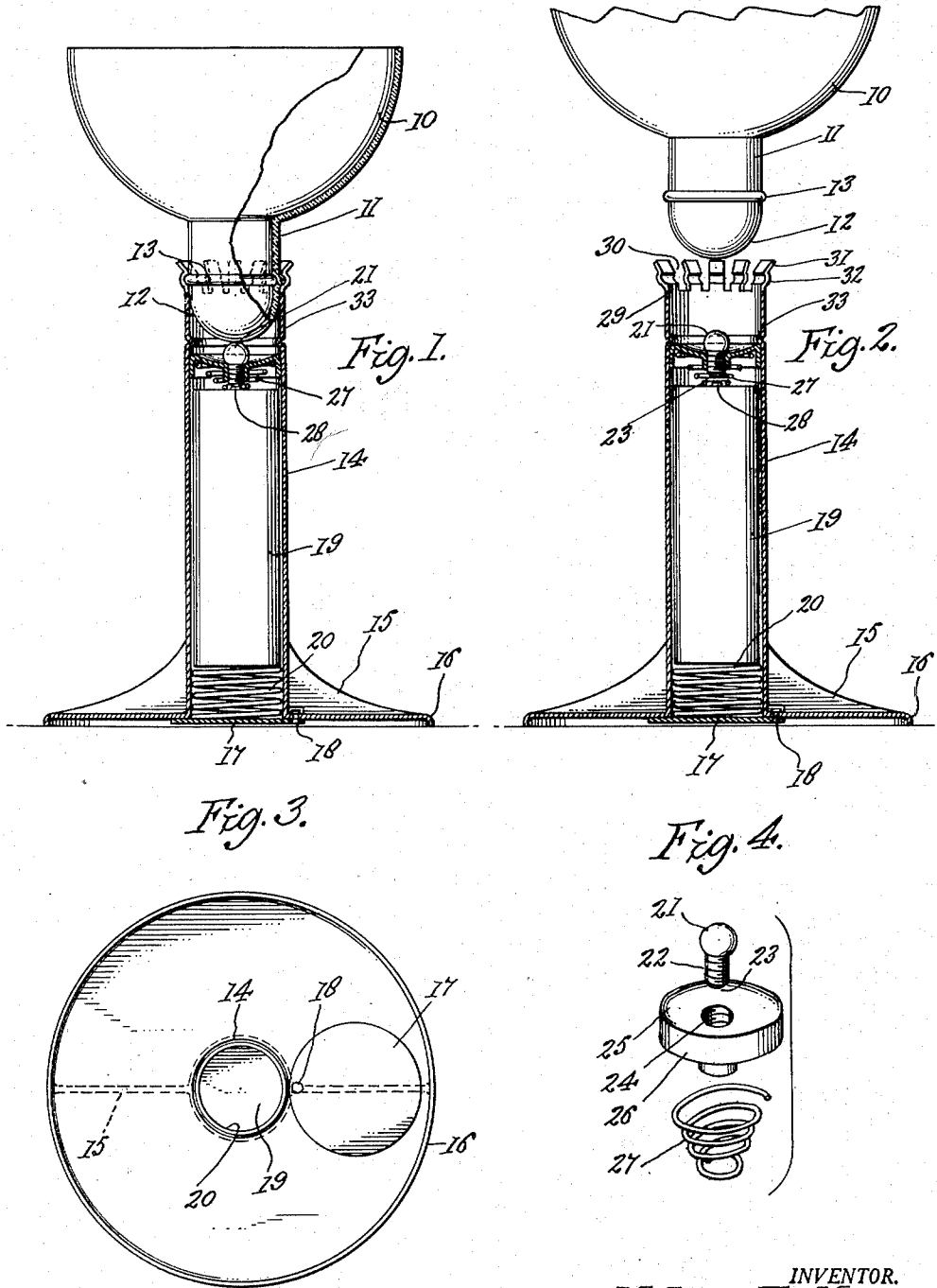
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ILLUMINATED DRINKING GLASS

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ILLUMINATED DRINKING GLASS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 240-6.4)

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The present invention relates to improvements in illuminated drinking glass and more particularly relates to a liquor, cocktail, wine glass or the like in which provision is made for illuminating the glass bowl and its contents to produce a novel and attractive effect.

An object of the invention is to provide a self-contained drinking glass embodying an electric lamp and battery in the stem thereof so related to the translucent bowl that the lamp will focus its rays through the bowl and through the contents thereof to give a visual vitality to the glass and to the contents and to enhance the charm of imbibing from such a receptacle.

A further object of the invention resides in providing a separable glass bowl and stand or stem in which bowls of various sizes and shapes and for differential uses may be interchangeably mounted in the same stem in which is installed an electric lamp and battery with the lamp so arranged that the same is normally dark and the circuit interrupted but upon the fitting of a bowl to the stem such bowl is so related to the lamp as to cause the same to become illuminated by closing of the circuit.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a glass bowl of a novel construction adapted to cooperate with a novel form of stem which permits the bowl to be detachable from the stem and which when in place in the stem enforces a slidable electric lamp and reflector to a closed position in circuit with a battery removably carried within such stem.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will be more fully described hereinafter and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, in which like parts are denoted by the same reference characters throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of an improved illuminated drinking glass constructed in accordance with the present invention and with the stem and base shown in section with the parts assembled and the lamp illuminated;

Figure 2 is a similar view with a portion of the bowl broken away and with the bowl and stem separated and the lamp circuit open;

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the base with the cover in the open position; and

Figure 4 is an exploded isometric view of the electric lamp, reflector and spring unit.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 10 designates a glass bowl or other receptacle, the same being representative of liquor, cocktail

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or other conventional forms of drinking vessels of which a variety may be provided to cooperate with the improved stem as hereinafter described.

The glass bowl 10 is made with a depending nub 11 having a rounded lower end 12 and formed with an annular bead or outstanding ridge 13. This nub 11 is adapted to be detachably received into the upper end of a hollow stem 14 which together with a base 15 is metallic and may be ornamented externally in any suitable manner; for instance, the same may be chromium plated.

A downturned marginal base flange 16 enables the base to rest upon the table or other support so that a slide cover 17 may be accommodated below the base and in the space circumscribed by the annular flange 16. This slide cover, shown more particularly in Figure 3, is mounted upon a pivot 18 secured to the base whereby the cover may be rotated back and forth between the positions shown in Figures 1 and 3 to cover and open the lower end of the hollow stem 14 for the purpose of introducing a dry cell or battery 19 thereinto and of removing such battery for replacement when the same has been exhausted.

The cover 17 also forms an abutment for the lower end of a base coil spring 20 which is interposed between the cover 17 and the lower end of the battery 19 for the purpose of urging this battery yieldingly upwards within the hollow stem 14.

An electric lamp 21 having a screw base 22 and a lamp contact 23 is adapted to be screwed into and out of a threaded socket 24 made in an elliptical reflector 25 having a reflector skirt 26 made somewhat after the fashion of a piston skirt, the same being fitted to reciprocate up and down in the hollow stem 14. Below the reflector 25 is placed a lamp coil spring 27. The convolutions of the helix 27 progress from a narrowest convolution at the lower end of the coil 27 which is adapted to fit about a top terminal 28 of the battery 19 in a progressively expanding series of widening convolutions up to the top widest convolution which fits firmly into the angle between the reflector 25 and its skirt 26. An inwardly-pressed bead 33 of the stem 14 acts as a stop to restrict the upward movement of the lamp and reflector unit under the urging of the spring 27.

The bead 33 is spaced below the upper open end of the stem 14 about which are arranged upstanding spring fingers 29 separated for ease in independent inner and outer movement by slots 30. The outer portions of the fingers are formed into flaring tips 31 and inwardly of these tips the

fingers are formed with outwardly-curved clamp sockets 32 of a pattern matching the bead 13 of the nub 11.

In the use of the device, before the bowl 10 is affixed to the stem 14, the latter is reversed to the position shown in Figure 3 and the cover 17 rotated to the open position in which the internal space of the hollow stem 14 is exposed to receive the lamp and reflector unit and its spring 27 followed by the loading of the battery 19 thereinto with the terminal 28 of the battery entered first and followed by the introduction of the coil spring 20. The cover 17 is then rotated to a closed position where it may be maintained by the frictional fit of the rivet or pivot 18.

The stem is thereupon returned to the upright position and the parts will be revealed to have assumed the position shown in Figure 2 where the contacts 23 and 23 are separated and the circuit from the battery 19 to the lamp 21 interrupted. In other words the lamp spring 27 reacting against the upper end of the battery 19 has raised the reflector and lamp unit to the uppermost position against the stop 33. The load of the base coil spring 20 is so selected that it will not overpower the lamp spring 27 otherwise such base spring 20 would move the battery at all times up until the contact 23 thereof encountered the lamp contact 23. The coil spring 20 further serves as an electrical connection between the lower part or terminal or case of the battery 19, the metallic base 15, stem 14 and the metallic skirt 26, reflector 25 and lamp base 22, thus completing the circuit to the lamp 21.

The lamp 21 is thus normally dark but such lamp 21 is exposed through the upper end of the hollow stem 14 to the rounded lower end 12 of the bowl nub 11; whereby when such nub 11 is moved down into the stem the curved nub end 12 will encounter the lamp 21 and shift the lamp unit including the reflection and skirt 26 downwardly, compressing the spring 27 until the lamp contact 23 has engaged the battery contact 23 whereupon the circuit will be closed and the lamp 21 illuminated. The parts are so related that when the lamp contact 23 shall have descended the necessary distance to engage the battery contact 23 the rib 13 of the nub 11, which has been riding down the flared tips 31 and springing the fingers 29 outwardly, will have arrived opposite the sockets 32 which will thereupon close upon the rib 13 and lock the bowl 10 to the stem 14 and lock the lamp 21 in closed circuit. Thus the lamp will be illuminated at all times while the bowl 10 is connected to the stem. But as soon as the bowl is removed from the stem by applying slight pressure in opposite directions to the bowl and stem sufficient to spring the fingers outwardly over the rib 13 during which the lower nub end 12 moves upward away from the lamp bulb 21, the lamp spring 27 is free to shift the lamp upwardly thus opening the contacts 23 and 23 and the lamp is extinguished.

If there should be any slight discrepancies in the dimensions of the parts so that the relationship just referred to is disturbed, the base coil spring 20 will compensate for any such differences. If, for instance, the rib 13 is still above the sockets 32 when the contact 23 descends against contact 23 and it becomes necessary to move the nub 11 down still further before interlocking engagement can occur between the spring fingers 29 and the nub 11, the base spring 20 will allow this further descending movement. This spring 20 therefore acts not only in an electrical

capacity but also as a compensating spring and furthermore tends to maintain a certain tightness of the loaded units in the hollow stem 14 to prevent undesirable rattling noises in the handle of the glass.

The nub 11 being hollow and made of glass or some other translucent material and receiving the liquid and the direct rays of the light from the lamp 21 acts to enhance the illumination and the effect thereof when viewed from above. Moreover the internal wall of the stem 14 above the stop 33 may be highly polished to act as a light reflector to further increase the illuminating effect by rays extending crosswise of the included nub 11.

The reflector 25 co-acts with the polished internal wall of the stem 14, with the rounded lower end 12 of the nub 11 and generally with the nub to further promote the lighting effects. This reflector also serves not only to increase the amount of light reflected but it serves as a socket for holding the bulb steady. The spring fingers also limit the depth to which the nub 11 of the bowl may be inserted downwardly in the stem 14 and fixes the proper point for contact with the bulb and prevents too violent contact and breakage to bulb and nub. The ridge 13 snaps into and out of the socket 32 with the application of a little force.

When assembled and filled with any beverage, and particularly a colored beverage, the small bulb is lighted by the battery and the light is reflected by the reflector through the beverage which also reflects and refracts the light creating a beautiful and pleasing effect.

It will be appreciated that the present invention provides an electrically lighted beverage glass which is completely self-contained and independent of any outside wiring or contacts and that the glass is a novelty which is both practical and attractive.

The invention also provides for an economical replacement of the breakable glass parts. For instance heretofore when a drinking glass is broken the entire glass including the integral stem must be discarded. With the present invention the stem and base are permanent and unbreakable and they receive any form of bowl which if broken can be replaced at small cost.

It will be noted that the battery 19 floats between the lower and the upper springs 20 and 27 and thus these springs in this relation tend to a more efficient contact and at the same time reduce breakage.

The invention permits the stem to be made of metal or other suitable material while the bowl is made of glass, thus permitting an attractive ornamented stem not possible in glassware. Also the stem is stronger and the combination of the two component parts is most pleasant and attractive.

While I have disclosed herein the best form of the invention known to me at the present time, I desire it to be understood that I reserve the right to make changes and modifications in the herein described embodiment of the invention provided such changes fall within the scope of the following claim.

What I claim is:

An illuminated drinking glass consisting of a first and second body members, said first body member comprising a base, a hollow stem carried normal to said base, a battery therein, upper and lower springs in said stem at opposite ends of said battery for floatingly carrying said battery, a lamp and reflector unit in said stem above said

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battery and being separated therefrom by said upper spring, said stem being crimped at its upper portion to prohibit the withdrawal of said lamp and unit from the upper end, a disc like cover pivoted to the base of said stem to permit the introduction of said battery into said stem, an annular clip carried by the upper end of said stem and having an outwardly flaring mouth and receptacle socket, said second body member comprising a glass bowl having a projection extending from the outer base thereof and terminating in a semi-spherical head, and an annular head and being receivable within the socket of said outwardly flaring mouth whereby upon insertion therein said spherical head will contact said lamp and reflector unit and upon the seating of the annular head in said receptacle socket the lamp will contact the battery completing the circuit and lighting the same.

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