Sept. 3, 1929. H. P. LEWENSOHN 1,726,907

LIGHTING DEVICE

Filed Oct. 22, 1927

Fig. 1

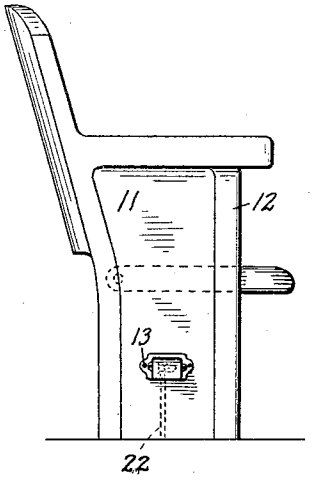


Fig. 2

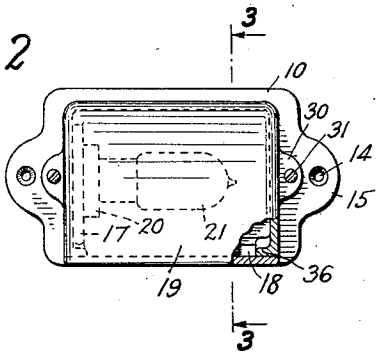
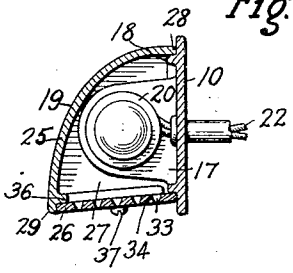


Fig. 3



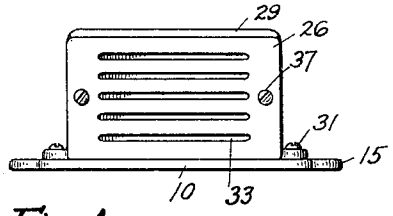


Fig. 4

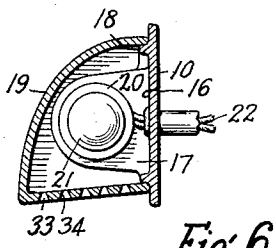


Fig. 6

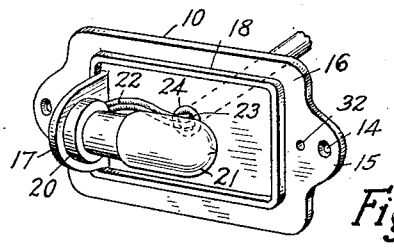


Fig. 5

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Patented Sept. 3, 1929. 1,726,907

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY P. LEWENSOHN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

LIGHTING DEVICE.

Application filed October 22, 1927. Serial No. 227,899.

This invention relates to theatre lighting devices and particularly to the means for illuminating the aisle of a theatre, assembly hall, auditorium or similar seating place.

My invention contemplates the provision of simple and inexpensive means readily attachable to a chair of any of the types now in general use, for casting light on the floor of the aisle. It is intended that the aisle floor be lighted sufficiently to allow the safe and rapid passage of patrons without interfering with the lighting effects in the remainder of the house, or allowing any of the direct rays of light to reach the eyes of patrons. The parts are so designed, proportioned and arranged as to occupy a minimum of space, while allowing ready access to the lamp for replacement and repair, and so enclosing the lamp that it may not easily be tampered with by unauthorized persons. It will be understood that my improved device is adapted for manufacture and sale separately and may be attached to any of the chairs now used, or may form part of the chair when it is first installed. The device is adapted for attachment to any of the individual chairs of a row or to the end chairs of the row only if desired.

The various objects of my invention will be clear from the description which follows and from the drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a side view of a theatre chair showing my improved device attached thereto in operative position.

Fig. 2 is a front view of my improved device, partly broken away to show the interior construction.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the back member of the casing showing the lighting lamp supported thereby, and

Fig. 6 is a vertical section of a modified form of the casing showing the cover member made integrally with the bottom.

In that practical embodiment of my invention which I have illustrated in its preferred form, the back 10 is preferably made flat and thin so that it may be conveniently secured to the side panel 11 of the chair 12, as by means of bolts or screws 13 passing through the holes 14 in the side extensions 15. The back may be made as a casting or it may be stamped or pressed from sheet metal as will be readily understood. Outstanding from the front surface 16 of the back 10, is the lamp supporting lug or bracket 17, which may be cast integrally with the back or which may be formed of a separate member suitably secured thereto as may be found convenient or desirable.

I prefer to provide the ribs or flanges 18 outstanding from the front surface 16 of the back for the purpose of accurately locating the position of the cover member 19 of the casing, and for preventing possible movement of the cover member in any direction except that at right angles to the back for disassembling the cover member and the back. While the ribs or flanges 18 are shown as continuous to form a closed rectangle, it is to be understood that it may be entirely omitted if desired, or that it may be made of any length or extent which may be found to be advantageous. The usual lamp base 20 of suitable insulating material is secured to the bracket 17 in a manner which is well known in the art as by means of suitable screws not shown. For removably securing the lamp 21 to the base 20 to allow ready replacement or repair thereof, any connection such as the usual bayonet lock or screw threads generally used for that purpose may be employed. The usual current carrying wires 22, for supplying current to the lamp 21 are suitably connected to the lamp base 20 and are led through the opening 23 in the back 10 and thence toward the floor for connection with the exit lighting circuit in the manner illustrated in my previous Patent No. 1,488,888, dated April 1, 1924, a suitable insulating connection 24 protecting the wires from the back 10.

The cover member 19 of the casing is preferably made of cast or pressed metal and may be made of one or more parts. As illustrated in Figs. 2, 3 and 4, the casing consists of two parts 25 and 26. The front 25 is preferably curved so as to project into the aisle as little as possible, and is formed integrally with the end 27. In order to conserve space while providing sufficient space for the lamp 21, the curvature of the front 25 is preferably begun at the upper rear edge 28 thereof and extends to the lower front edge 29. The front 25 is closed on all sides except at the back thereof where the cover member engages the back 10, and fits about the flanges 18. Perforated ears as 30 extend from the ends 27 of the cover member, by means of which said member may be re-

movably secured to the back 10 as by the screws 31 passing through suitable openings of said ears and into the threaded holes 32 of the back.

The bottom of the member 19 is provided with a suitable opening or openings through which the light of the lamp is permitted to reach the floor of the aisle. In the form illustrated, these openings take the form of elongated narrow slots 33 having inclined sides 34. As shown in Figs. 2 to 4, the bottom is made in the form of a removable slotted plate 26, removably secured to the inwardly extending flanges 36 of the front 25 as by means of the screw 37. When the plate 26 is in the position illustrated in Fig. 3, the narrowest parts of the preferably parallel slots 33 are lowermost thereby allowing a minimum area of the floor to be illuminated, since parts of the rays of light from the lamp are cut off. When, however, the plate 26 is reversed in position with the narrowest parts of the slots uppermost, the rays of light passing the uppermost parts of the slots are allowed, by the downwardly divergent sides 34, to diverge and spread the light on the floor, thereby illuminating a greater area. In the modified form of the cover member 19′ shown in Fig. 6, the bottom is made integrally with the remainder of said member. In either case, the rear portion of the member fits about and engages the outside of the flanges 18 and said member is thereby held against displacement relatively to the back 10, though it will be understood that by removing the screws 31, said member may be entirely separated from the back by movement in a direction substantially perpendicular to the back. Furthermore, the bottom may be lower at its front edge than at the rear edge so as to be forwardly and downwardly inclined, whereby the light may be cast into the aisle at a point further from the seat, if desired.

It will be understood that if desired the inside of the cover member and the front surface of the back 10 may be nickel plated and polished to serve as reflectors for aiding to throw the light in the desired direction.

It will be seen that while the back 10 is not intended to be removed from the chair after it has been secured thereto, the cover member 19, which normally covers the top, front and bottom of the lamp may, however, be quickly and easily removed from the back to expose the lamp by merely removing the screws 29. By means of my improved device, it becomes possible to light the aisles to a greater or lesser extent, while at all times preventing direct rays of light from reaching the eyes of patrons. The lamp is furthermore supported and arranged for quick and easy access, while allowing detection of persons who without authority, might endeavor to tamper with the lamp. The casing is designed to provide a maximum space in the interior thereof consistent with good appearance and minimum amount of projection into the aisle. It will further be seen that my improved enclosing device consists of few and simple parts capable of being readily separated and secured together and designed for economical production, assembly and installation in large quantities.

I do not intend to be understood as limiting myself to the specific structure shown and described herein as it is obvious that various contemplated changes may be made therein and as I intend to claim my invention as broadly as is permitted by the state of the prior art.

I claim:

1. In a lighting device of the character described, adapted to be secured to the outside of a chair, a lamp, a cover member closed on all sides except at the back, and having in the bottom thereof a series of parallel elongated openings arranged lengthwise of the device, each of said openings having plane sides angularly disposed to the face of the bottom for the passage of light therethrough, a back member adapted to close the open side of said cover member, a flat back surface on said back member, a rib extending forwardly from the front surface of said back member and arranged inwardly of the edges thereof in the form of a closed rectangle, a bracket adjacent one end of said rib extending from said back into the interior of said cover member for supporting the lamp, a base for said lamp entirely on one side of said bracket, said back having an opening therein on the lamp side of the bracket, and lugs projecting from the end of the cover member for attaching said cover member to said back member and for allowing the complete removal of said cover member therefrom for exposing the top, front and bottom of the lamp.

2. In a lighting device of the character described, a flat back member adapted to be secured to a chair for supporting a lamp, means for securing said member to the chair including perforated end lugs extending from said member, a bracket outstanding forwardly of said member, a lamp and a base therefor entirely on one side of the bracket and supported thereby, and a cover member curved from its upper rear edge to its lower front edge and having an opening closed by said back member, and a slotted bottom inclined upwardly from the front to the rear thereof, said cover member being secured to said back member and completely removable therefrom and provided with perforated end lugs spaced inwardly from the end lugs of the back member for the reception of screws.

3. In a lighting device of the character described, a lamp, a casing for enclosing said

lamp and adapted to be secured to the outside of a chair, including a substantially flat back member perforated for the passage of current conducting wires, means for securing said back member to a chair, comprising perforated lugs extending from said member, means associated with said back member for supporting the lamp, comprising a bracket extending from said member, and a lamp socket arranged entirely on the lamp side of said bracket and means separable from and removably securable to said back member and projecting therefrom for covering the top, front and bottom of the lamp and allowing light from the lamp to pass therethrough, comprising a curved member having a slotted bottom inclined upwardly toward the rear and having lugs by means of which said curved member may be secured to the back member and completely detached therefrom.

4. In a lighting device of the character described, and adapted to be removably secured to the outside of a chair near the bottom thereof, a lamp, a back member, a bracket projecting forwardly of said member for supporting a lamp socket, projecting flanges on said member in the form of a closed rectangle, one end of the rectangle being adjacent to said bracket, a lamp socket secured to said bracket on one side thereof, a unitary lamp covering member, having spaced elongated longitudinally arranged openings in the bottom thereof, engaging said flanges on the outside thereof and abutting against the back member, and lugs extending from said covering member and adapted to be secured to the front face of the back member for securing said members together and allowing the complete separation and detachment of said members.

5. In a lighting device of the character described, a back adapted to be secured to the side of a chair, a cover member engaging said back and removably secured thereto, a lamp supported in the interior of said cover member, and a slotted bottom on said cover member, the slots of said bottom having inclined sides, each lying in a plane and angularly disposed relatively to its opposite side, and said slots being arranged longitudinally of the bottom and in parallel spaced relation.

6. In a lighting device of the character described, a substantially rectangular back member for supporting a lamp, perforated end lugs extending from the shorter sides of said back member and adapted to have fastening means passed therethrough for removably securing the back member to a chair, a rib extending forwardly from the front surface of said back member and arranged inwardly of the edges thereof to form a closed rectangle substantially parallel to the edges of said back member, a bracket arranged inside of said rib and adjacent the inner surface of one side thereof, a lamp socket arranged entirely on one side of said bracket, a cover member substantially quadrantal in cross-section and comprising flat ends, a flat bottom and a quarter-cylindrical surface joining said ends and said bottom and of sufficient interior size to engage the outer surface of said rib, the bottom of said cover member having plane surfaces and being provided with a plurality of parallel slots of greater length than the width of said bottom, and perforated lugs projecting from the ends of said cover member and adapted to be secured to the front face of said back member adjacent the lugs of said back member, whereby said cover member may be completely removed from said back member and from the chair to which said device is secured to completely expose said lamp socket.

HENRY P. LEWENSOHN.