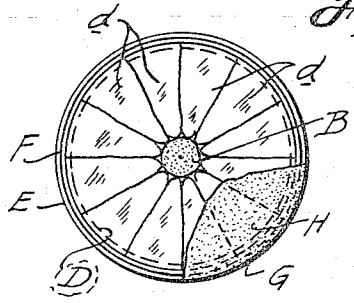
May 29, 1934. L. A. SHERMAN 1,960,288

ILLUMINATOR

Filed July 10, 1933

Fig. 1.



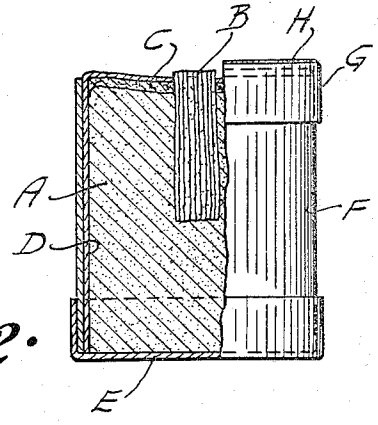


Fig. 2.

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ILLUMINATOR

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14 Claims. (Cl. 67—22)

This invention relates generally to illuminators and, more particularly, to a certain new and useful improvement in illuminators of the type commonly known as emergency or safety lights, beacons, flares, and the like.

My invention has for its chief object the provision, as a new article of manufacture, of an illuminator of the type stated which may be inexpensively manufactured, which may be readily ignited, which is a size for ready, convenient portability in a coat-pocket or the like, which will burn for a relatively long period with an elongated easily visible illuminating flame, and which is safely and efficiently usable in the performance of its intended functions.

And with the above and other objects in view, my invention resides in the novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts all as presently described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing,—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the illuminator with the igniting-cover partly broken away; and

Figure 2 illustrates the illuminator partly in side elevation and partly in section.

Referring now more in detail and by reference characters to the drawing, which illustrates a practical embodiment of my invention, the light or illuminator comprises a preferably cylindrical plug or body A constructed preferably of a suitable meltable hydrocarbonaceous illuminating or other combustible material, such as paraffine, which in the present instance, is substantially pure and of 118 to 122 melting point (American), formed to the desired contour and dimensions by any suitable means.

For convenience and facility in igniting the illuminator, a match B is partly lengthwise embedded centrally in the combustible plug A, as best seen in Figure 2, the match B projecting at its upper end upwardly beyond the plane of the plug or body A, and preferably disposed upon the upper end of plug A and surrounding the projecting upper end of the igniter B, is a primer C comprising a suitable mass or tuft of preferably non-packing fibre, such, for instance, as kapok, preferably impregnated or soaked with kerosene or other readily combustible carbonaceous material.

Snugly or tightly wrapped around and embracing the body A, is a tubular wick D, which is constructed of a suitable non-combustible and non-inflammable material, such as and preferably relatively thin sheet asbestos, first preferably dipped in liquid or melted paraffine. Through their inherent characteristics, the body A and the so treated wick D firmly adhere one to the other, and to further facilitate ready and quick ignition of the illuminator, the wick D is originally constructed to also extend above the plane of the body A, which projecting wick portion is suitably divided and formed to include an annular series of preferably pointed tongues *d*, which are bent inwardly and downwardly to overlie the primer C and to approximately abut at their tips or apices the match or igniter B, as best seen in Figure 1, the kerfs or divisions between the several tongues *d* permitting sufficient atmosphere to the primer C to support quick and ready combustion on the ignition of the match B.

Preferably then the illuminator is retained within a cup-shaped base-member E constructed of any suitable cardboard or other material, which may preferably, as shown, but not necessarily, include an upstanding illuminator-enclosing or container wall F. For convenience and safety, the container F may also include a readily removable flanged closure or cover-cap G, the end wall of which latter may be provided on its outer face with any suitable striker or friction substance H for convenience, on removal of the cap, in igniting the match B.

The illuminator is thus in itself readily ignited without the employment of other substances and, when ignited, burns for quite an extended period of time with a substantially elongated cylindrical flame of more or less brilliancy, the paraffine, as it melts, flowing to and through the pores of, and burning only on, the asbestos-wick D.

The illuminator is quite handy for fishermen, hunters, automobilists, and campers and is particularly useful as a beacon, flare, or signalling-light, and in various emergencies; and it is to be understood that changes in the form, construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of the illuminator may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is,—

1. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of combustible material, and a wick surrounding and having surface engagement with the body.

2. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a cylindrical body of meltable combustible material, and a tubular wick sur-

rounding and having surface engagement with the body.

3. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of meltable hydrocarbonaceous material, and a wick embracingly surrounding and having surface engagement with the body.

4. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, and a wick embracingly surrounding and having surface engagement with the body.

5. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, and an asbestos paraffine-impregnated wick embracingly surrounding and having surface engagement with the body.

6. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a cylindrical body of paraffine, and a tubular asbestos wick embracingly surrounding and having surface engagement with the body.

7. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a cylindrical body of paraffine, and a tubular asbestos wick surrounding and embracing the body, the wick having an end portion divided to include an annular series of tongues disposed inwardly of and overlying the body.

8. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, an igniter having an end-portion embedded in the body, and a wick surrounding and embracing the body, the wick including a series of pointed tongues disposed over the body with their tips in adjacence to the igniter.

9. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, an igniter having an end-portion embedded in the body, a wick surrounding and embracing the body, the wick including a series of pointed tongues overlying the body and having their tips in adjacence to the igniter, and a primer disposed intermediate the body and said tongues.

10. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, a wick surrounding and embracing the body, the wick including a marginal portion overlying the body, and a primer disposed intermediate the body and said marginal wick-portion.

11. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, an igniter having an end-portion embedded in the body, a tubular wick surrounding and embracing the body, the wick including a series of pointed tongues overlying the body and having their tips in adjacence to the igniter, and a primer comprising combustible kapok disposed intermediate the body and said tongues.

12. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a cylindrical body of paraffine, a tubular asbestos wick surrounding and embracing the body, and a flanged base for confining the lower marginal portion of the body and wick.

13. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, an igniter having an end portion embedded in the body, and a tubular wick embracingly surrounding and embracing the body, in combination with an open-end shell for housing the illuminator, and a closure for the open end of the shell, the closure having an end wall provided with a striking surface for ignition of the igniter.

14. As a new article of manufacture, an illuminator comprising a body of paraffine, an igniter having an end-portion embedded in the body, and a wick embracingly surrounding and having surface engagement with the body.

LOUIE A. SHERMAN.