

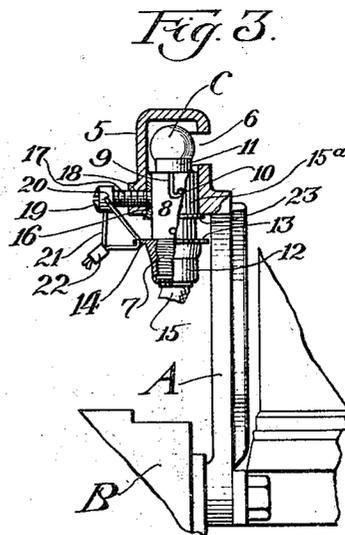
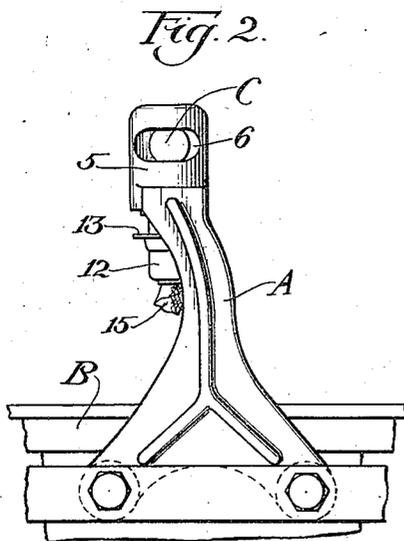
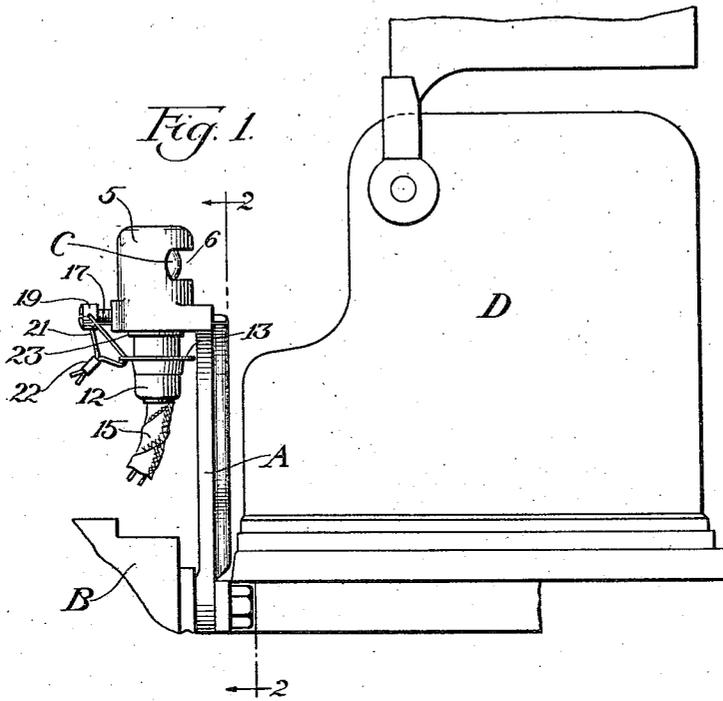
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R. E. STOFFER

LAMP LOCK

Filed April 2, 1921



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH E. STOFFER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO YELLOW CAB COMPANY,
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LAMP LOCK.

Application filed April 2, 1921. Serial No. 458,077.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RALPH E. STOFFER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lamp Locks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a lock for electric lamps such as are adapted to be supported within a bracket, and it is particularly suited for use with an electric light designed to illuminate the face of a taxicab meter, the purpose being to prevent removal of the lamp and the consequent obscuration of the meter readings.

An exemplification of this invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing in the manner following: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a meter in operative association with a lamp which is equipped with the present lock; Fig. 2 is an elevation of the front side of the lamp, the view being such as would be gained by looking along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the bracket with the housing for the lamp shown in longitudinal section.

The lamp is shown as carried by a bracket A preferably secured to the forward side of the bulkhead B which is arranged just rearwardly of the chauffeur's seat in a taxicab, the lamp, designated as C, being adapted to throw its light upon the face of an adjacent meter D. It should be understood that the particular location of the lamp, as well as the manner of its attachment, is of no special importance to this invention.

The lamp is arranged within a generally cylindrical housing 5 having a lateral opening 6 in the form of a slit which faces the meter, thereby permitting the light to shine thereon. This housing is preferably offset with respect to the bracket A on which it is carried so as to permit the lamp to move in and out of the housing by vertical movements without interference from the bracket, the housing being open at the bottom, as shown. In general the lamp socket may follow the usual construction, its component parts including an insulating bushing 7 around which is secured a sleeve 8 having the usual bayonet slot 9 for the reception of a pin 10 which projects laterally from the lamp neck 11. Attached to the lower end of the bushing is a cap 12 having an outwardly extending flange 13 in which are

formed a plurality of holes 14, the lower end of the cap being open to permit the circuit wires 15 to pass therethrough to connect with a current source. Secured fast to the sleeve which surrounds the bushing is a collar 15^a having a lateral opening 16 into which may project the end of a set screw 17 that is adapted to thread into an opening 18 which extends through the wall of the housing adjacent its base. The lower end of the collar is outturned in the form of a flange 23 which abuts against the base of the housing to limit the entry of the lamp there-within to the correct distance.

Formed in the head 19 of the set screw is a transverse opening 20 permitting a wire 21 to be passed therethrough as well as through one of the openings 14 in the cap flange, the ends of the wire being then brought together and fastened with a seal 22.

The construction just described suggests, as a means for locking the lamp in a fixed position within the housing, the use of a set screw together with certain other parts. The wire with its sealed ends in this construction serves to prevent the screw from being loosened preliminary to a withdrawal of the lamp. Only by breaking the seal of the wire may this be accomplished, and this, of course, would be readily apparent to those whose duty it is to inspect the automobile from time to time.

It will be observed that the parts which constitute my invention are not only simple in their construction and assembly, but they are durable and effective for the purposes contemplated. There are other forms in which this invention might be embodied, and in so far as the same are defined in the claims below, I would have such modification included within the scope of this patent.

I claim:

1. A device of the kind described comprising, in combination, a housing open at one end and formed with a threaded opening in one side, a lamp adapted to lie within the housing, a socket adapted to receive the lamp, a collar surrounding the socket and provided on one side with an aperture and at one end with an outturned flange arranged to abut the proximate end of the housing to limit the entry of the lamp therein, a cap secured to the socket provided

with a flange in which is an opening, a threaded element screwed within the threaded opening in the housing and adapted to present its inner end within the aperture
5 in the collar to thereby lock the socket in place, there being an opening through the set-screw, a wire passing through the openings in the set-screw and cap flange, and means sealing the wire ends to prevent any
10 but a limited movement of the parts engaged by the wire, substantially as described.

2. A device of the kind described comprising, in combination, a housing one end
15 of which is open and formed with a threaded aperture in its wall, a lamp adapted to

be moved through the opening into the housing, a socket to which the lamp is connected, means on the socket providing a stop for limiting the entry of the lamp
20 within the housing, a threaded element arranged within the aperture in engagement with the socket and adapted to prevent its removal from the housing, and means connecting the threaded element with the socket
25 having a seal associated therewith for preventing disengagement of the threaded element with the socket except when the seal is broken, substantially as described.

RALPH E. STOFFER.

Witness:

DAVID N. McLEAN.