April 5, 1927. 1,623,813

D. SCHELL

COMBINATION FIXTURE SUPPORT AND BASE

Filed Oct. 14. 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

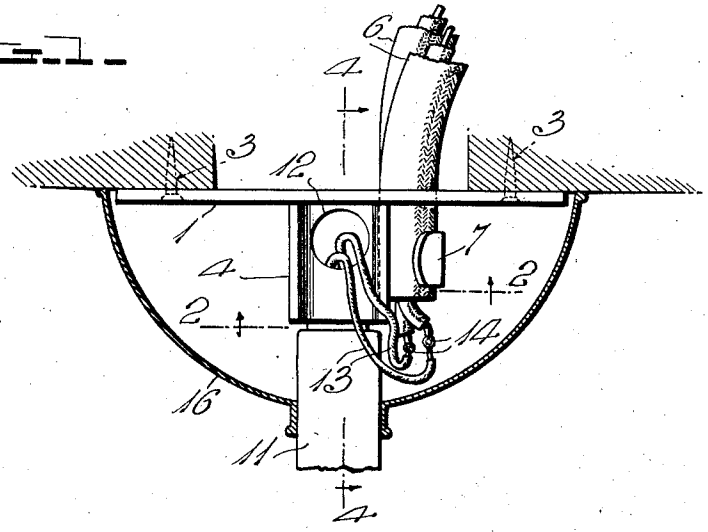


Fig. 2.

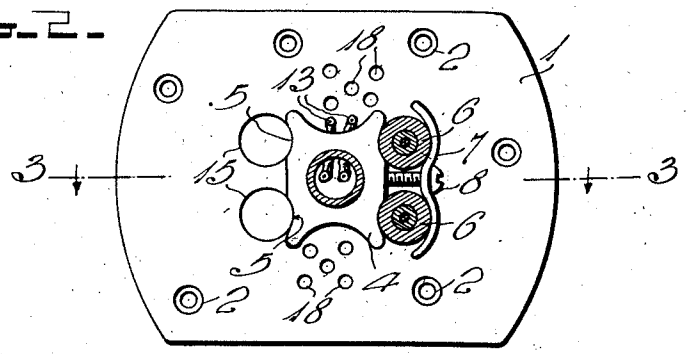
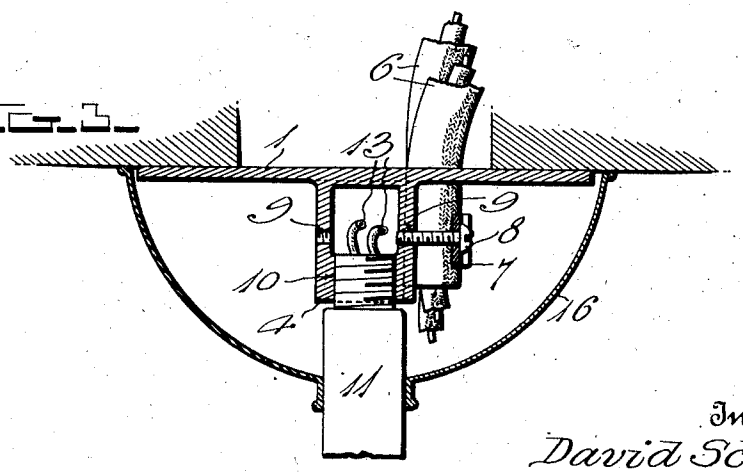


Fig. 3.



Inventor
David Schell

Witness
H. Woodard

By H. B. Williamson & Co
Attorneys

April 5, 1927. 1,623,813

D. SCHELL

COMBINATION FIXTURE SUPPORT AND BASE

Filed Oct. 14, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 4.

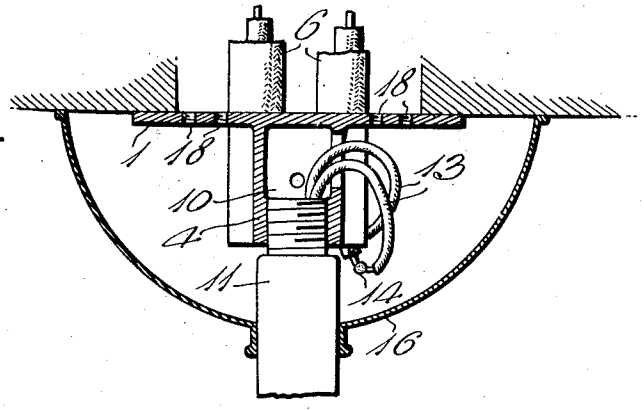


Fig. 5.

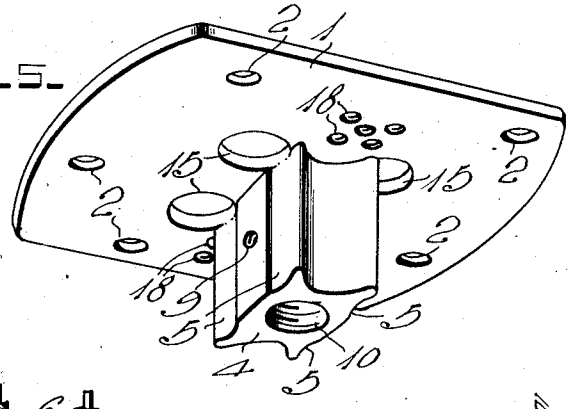


Fig. 6.

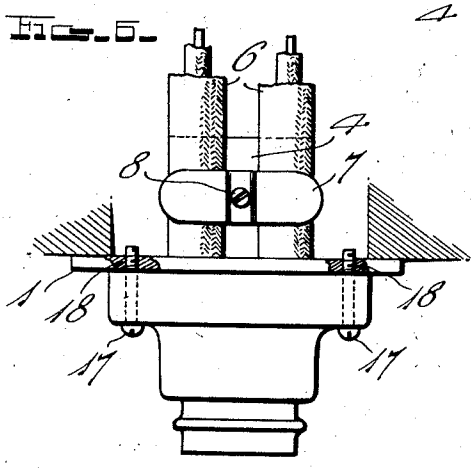
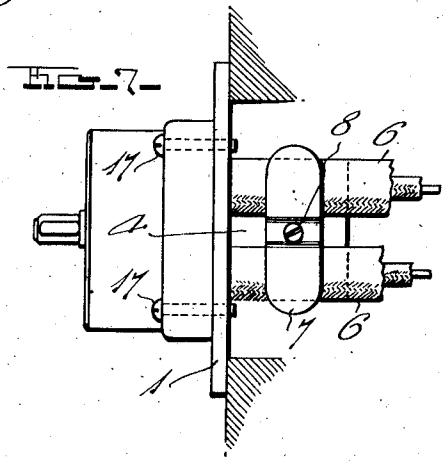


Fig. 7.



Witness
H. Woodard

Inventor
David Schell

By H. B. Wilson & Co
Attorneys

Patented Apr. 5, 1927. 1,623,813

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID SCHELL, OF MYERSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

COMBINATION FIXTURE SUPPORT AND BASE.

Application filed October 14, 1924. Serial No. 743,580.

My invention relates to improvements in devices used at the outlets of electrical wiring for supporting fixtures, sockets, snap-switches and other electrical contrivances, and one object of the invention is to provide an extremely simple and inexpensive device which may be effectively used in either of two relatively reversed positions, the device when in one position, being capable of use to support a fixture, and in its other position, being adapted to support a socket, snap-switch or other electrical contrivance, provision being made whereby the usual insulated conductors may be tightly secured to the device when it is used in either position.

Another object is to provide simple and efficient means for clamping the conductors to the device, while still further objects are to provide an arrangement of screw-receiving openings which will permit screws to be passed into a greater number of laths, than usual, and to provide other arrangements of openings which will receive the attaching screws for concealed receptacles, sockets, switches and the like, even though the screw-receiving openings of such electrical contrivances, may be spaced different distances apart.

Yet another aim is to provide a device which may be manufactured inexpensively and easily, and may be sold at a reasonable cost.

With the foregoing in view, the invention resides in the novel subject matter hereinafter described and claimed, the description being supplemented by the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a side elevation showing the device in use for supporting a fixture and holding the current conductors therefor.

Figure 2 is a horizontal sectional view as indicated by line 2—2 of Fig. 1, the canopy being omitted.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a vertical section as indicated by line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the major portion of the device.

Figures 6 and 7 are detail elevations illustrating the manner in which the device may be used for supporting a concealed receptacle or socl , and a snap-switch.

In the drawings above briefly described, the numeral 1 designates a suitably shaped plate which is formed with a plurality of openings 2, adapted to receive screws 3 by means of which said plate may be secured in place upon a wall or ceiling, the openings being so located that an unusually large number of laths may be struck with the screws, when wiring houses which are lathed and plastered.

Disposed at one side of the plate 1 and preferably formed integrally with the central portion of said plate, is a projection 4 which is by preference of the block-like form disclosed. In the present showing, opposed sides of the projection 4 are formed with grooves 5, two of the grooves being formed in each of said sides, for receiving portions of the usual insulated conductors 6. A suitably shaped conductor clamping plate 7 is provided to engage the outer sides of the conductors 6, and a screw 8 passes through the center of said clamping plate and may be threaded into either side of the projection 4, according to the side at which the conductors are located. The openings in the projection 4, for the reception of the screw 8, are disclosed at 9. Should it be desired to have the device perform somewhat the function of a junction box, it will be obvious that two pairs of conductors can be clamped against the opposite sides of the projection 4, by using two clamping plates 7 and two screws 8.

The projection 4 is formed with an opening 10 at right angles to the plate 1 and the wall of this opening is threaded for engagement with the upper end of a fixture 11, said projection being also formed with a lateral opening 12 from the opening 10 to the exterior of said projection. Through this opening 12, the fixture wires 13 are passed to be secured in the usual manner to the conductors 6 as indicated at 14.

The plate 1 is apertured to receive the conductors 6, whether said plate be used in the position shown in Figs. 1 to 4 or in the reverse position disclosed in Figs. 6 and 7, in which the projection 4 projects inwardly from the plate. In the present showing, two

openings 15 are shown in said plate at each of the grooved sides of the projection, the openings being in line with the grooves so that the conductors may be readily passed through said openings and engaged with the clamping means 7—8.

When the device is used with the projection 4 extending outwardly, as shown in Figs. 1 to 4, it is intended primarily as a fixture support and it may be covered by the usual canopy 16. When mounting concealed receptacles, sockets, snap-switches or the like, the plate 1 is secured to the wall so that the projection 4 extends inwardly, as disclosed in Figs. 6 and 7. Then, the attaching screws 17 for the electrical contrivance, may be engaged with any of two groups of spaced openings 18 which are formed through the plate 1, at opposite sides of the projection 4. These openings are so spaced that some of them may be used for securing practically any socket, switch or the like to the plate, regardless of the distance which the screws must be spaced apart.

When using the device in the manner disclosed in Figs. 6 and 7, the clamping plate 7 and screw 8, hold the conductors 6 against the projection 4, in the same manner as above set forth, and portions of these conductors pass through certain of the openings 15 to the socket, switch or the like.

It will be seen from the foregoing, that an extremely simple and inexpensive device has been provided, yet one which will be highly efficient and desirable, particular emphasis being laid upon the number of uses to which the single article may be put, thus greatly simplifying the wiring of dwellings and other buildings, as well as providing more effective supporting means for fixtures and other electrical contrivances, than the supports now commonly used.

As excellent results have been obtained from the details disclosed, they are preferably followed, but within the scope of the invention as claimed, numerous modifications may be made.

I claim:

1. A device of the class described comprising a reversible plate means for effecting securing of either side of the plate against a wall or ceiling, means for securing current conductors to the plate when the latter is mounted in either of its relatively reversed positions, said plate being apertured to receive the conductors, and means at one side of said plate for securing an electrical illuminating fixture thereto when said side is exposed, said plate having means to facilitate the attachment thereto of other electrical contrivances when the other side of said plate is exposed.

2. A device of the class described comprising a reversible plate having openings to receive attaching screws for securing either side of the plate against a wall or ceiling, a rigid projection carried by one side of said plate, the plate being apertured adjacent said projection for the reception of current conductors, means for clamping the conductors against the exterior of said projection when the plate is mounted in either of its relatively reversed positions, and means at one side of said plate for securing an electrical illuminating fixture thereto when said side is exposed, said plate having means to facilitate the attachment thereto of other electrical contrivances when the other side of said plate is exposed.

3. A device of the class described comprising a reversible plate having openings to receive attaching fasteners, a rigid projection carried by one side of said plate, the plate being apertured adjacent said projection for the reception of current conductors, a clamping plate spaced outwardly from said projection and adapted to co-operate therewith in clamping the conductors, a screw-threaded fastener connecting said clamping plate with said projection for moving the former into clamping relation with the latter when the plate is mounted in either of its relatively reversed positions, and means at one side of said plate for securing an electrical illuminating fixture thereto when said side is exposed, said plate having means to facilitate the attachment thereto of other electrical contrivances when the other side of said plate is exposed.

4. A device of the class described comprising a reversible flat plate having openings to receive attaching screws for securing either side of the plate against a wall or ceiling, one side of said plate being provided with an integral block-like projection, the plate being apertured adjacent said projection for the reception of current conductors, means for securing the conductors to said projection when the plate is in either of its relatively reversed positions, and means for securing an electrical illuminating fixture to one side of the plate when said side is exposed, said plate having means to facilitate the attachment thereto of other electrical contrivances when the other side of said plate is exposed.

5. A device of the class described comprising a flat reversible plate having openings to receive attaching fasteners for securing either side of the plate against a wall or ceiling, one side of said plate being provided with an integral block-like projection, the plate being apertured adjacent said projection for the reception of current conductors, said projection having one aperture at right angles to the plate formed with a threaded wall of use in attaching an electrical fixture, and being also formed with a lateral opening from its exterior to its first named aperture, through which to pass con-

ductors, a conductor-clamping plate spaced outwardly from the aforesaid projection, and a screw-threaded fastener connecting said clamping plate and projection, the first named plate having groups of spaced openings at opposite sides of the aforesaid projection, said groups of openings affording means to facilitate attachment of an electrical contrivance to said first mentioned plate when the side of the latter opposite said projection is exposed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

DAVID SCHELL.