

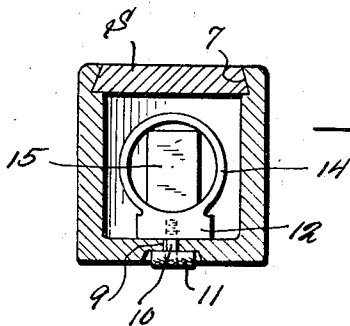
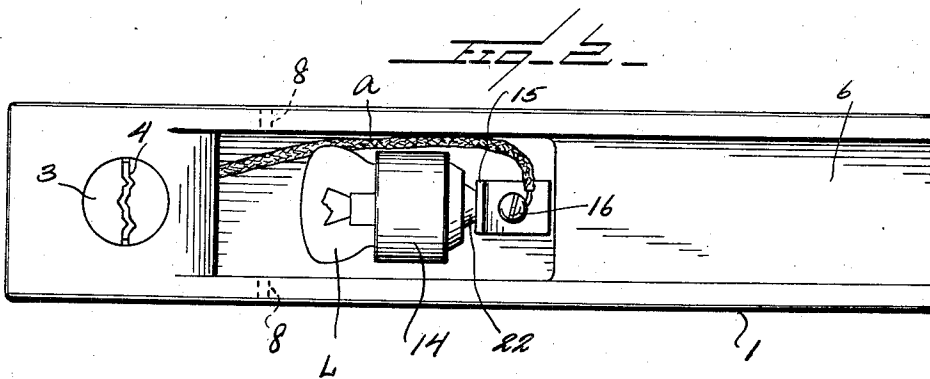
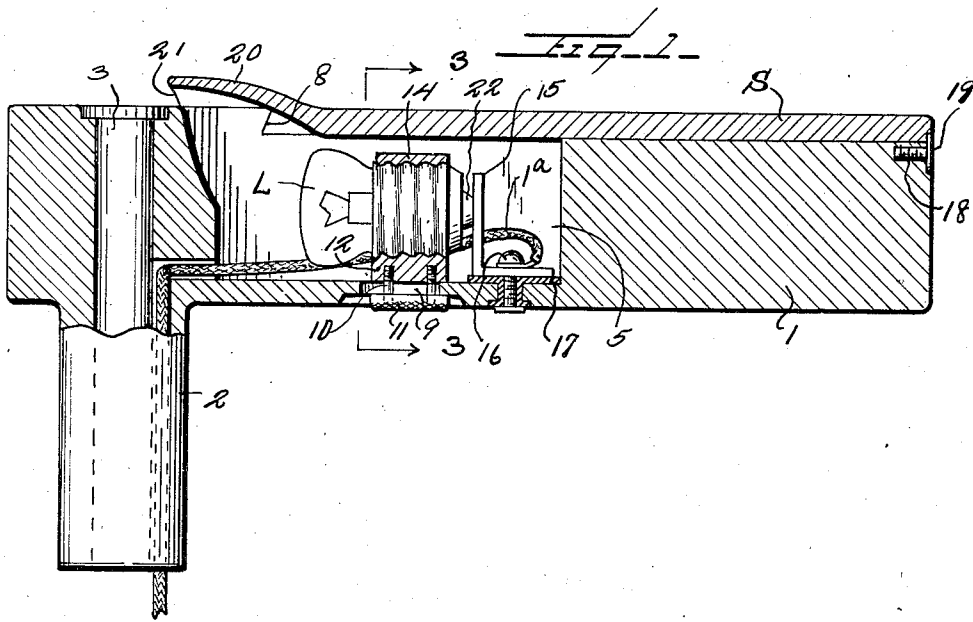
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DOOR HANDLE

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DOOR HANDLE

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This invention relates to door handles and has relation more particularly to a handle of this kind especially designed and adapted for use in connection with automobile doors or the like and which is provided with a key operated mechanism to prevent unauthorized opening of the door. The primary object of the invention is to provide illuminating means whereby a key may be readily engaged with the mechanism and more especially after nightfall.

Another object of the invention is to provide a handle of this kind wherein an illuminating unit is housed within the handle and wherein further means are provided to permit the rays from said lighting unit to effectively illuminate a keyhole in said handle.

The invention consists in the details of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts of my improved door handle whereby certain important advantages are attained and the device rendered simpler, less expensive and otherwise more convenient and advantageous for use, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

The novel features of my invention will hereinafter be definitely claimed.

In order that my invention may be the better understood, I will now proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a view partly in section and partly in elevation illustrating a handle constructed in accordance with an embodiment of my invention;

Figure 2 is a view in top plan of the structure shown in Figure 1 with the slide removed;

Figure 3 is a transverse sectional view taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1 with the light bulb omitted.

As disclosed in the accompanying drawings, 1 denotes a handle member of desired dimensions and configuration and which is provided adjacent one end portion with a laterally disposed shank 2 adapted for conventional coaction with the door of an automobile or the like. Associated with this shank 2 in the adjacent end portion of the handle

member 1 is a cylinder locking mechanism 3 of any desired type and which includes a keyhole 4 arranged at the outer face of the handle member 1 and in which an operating key is adapted to be inserted.

The handle member 1 to one side of and immediately adjacent to the shank 2 has its outer portion cut out to provide a chamber 5 of a size to house a lighting unit L and its associated parts. The outer surface of the handle member 1 is also provided therealong with a groove or channel 6 opening at the end of the handle member 1 remote from the shank 2. The side walls of this groove or channel 6 are undercut, as at 7, and said undercut portions 7 also extend along the upper or outer marginal portions of the side walls of the chamber or compartment 5. These undercut portions 7, however, terminate a distance sufficient from the inner end of the compartment or chamber 5 to provide stop shoulders 8.

A wall of the chamber or compartment 5, particularly the inner wall thereof, is provided with a slot 9 disposed lengthwise thereof and through which are directed the shanks 10 carried by a sliding button 11. The shanks 10 are also secured to a block 12 arranged within the chamber or compartment 5 for sliding movement. This block 12 carries a socket member 14 with which is adapted to be engaged in a conventional manner the illuminating unit L, preferably an incandescent light bulb. It is to be understood that the block 12 together with the socket member 14 and also the handle member 1 are of a material to assure proper grounding of the circuit for the unit L.

Mounted within the outer end portion of the chamber or compartment 5 is a fixed contact plate 15 maintained in desired position by a bolt 16 or the like. This plate 15 together with the bolt 16 are suitably insulated, as at 17, from the handle member 1. The bolt 16 also provides means whereby a conductor *a* may be maintained in electrical connection with the plate 15. This conductor *a* is adapted to be connected to a suitable source of electrical energy. Engaging within the groove or channel 6 is an elongated slide S

which, when in fully applied position, substantially closes the outer or open face of the chamber or compartment 5. The slide S is maintained in applied position through
 5 the medium of a shank 18 threaded in the outer end of the handle member 1 and carrying a head 19 overlying or lapping the adjacent outer end portion of the slide S.

The inner end portion of the slide S is
 10 formed to provide an outwardly disposed hood 20 which, when the slide S is in fully applied position, affords an opening 21 terminating closely adjacent to the keyhole slot 4 and through which opening suitable light
 15 rays from the unit L are emitted to illuminate the keyhole 4 and the surfaces immediately adjacent thereto so that a key can be readily inserted in said hole.

Upon movement of the sliding button 11
 20 in one direction the block 12 may be moved sufficiently to bring the contact 22 of the unit L into electrical engagement with the stationary contact 15 and vice versa. The button 11 may be readily operated by any
 25 one of the digits of a hand.

From the foregoing description it is thought to be obvious that a door handle constructed in accordance with my invention is particularly well adapted for use by reason
 30 of the convenience and facility with which it may be assembled and operated, and it will also be obvious that my invention is susceptible of some change and modification without departing from the principles and spirit
 35 thereof and for this reason I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise arrangement and formation of the several parts herein shown in carrying out my invention in practice except as herein-
 40 after claimed.

I claim:—

1. In combination with an operating handle for a door, said handle having a keyhole slot and also having a chamber, an illuminating means within the chamber, and means
 45 for directing the light rays from said illuminating member upon the outer surface of the handle member to illuminate the keyhole slot.

2. In combination with an operating handle for a door, said handle having a keyhole slot, and an illuminating unit within the handle, said handle having means causing
 50 the light rays from said illuminating member to shine upon the keyhole slot.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

WILLIAM E. BURKHOLDER.