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2,512,129

LAMP FIXTURE

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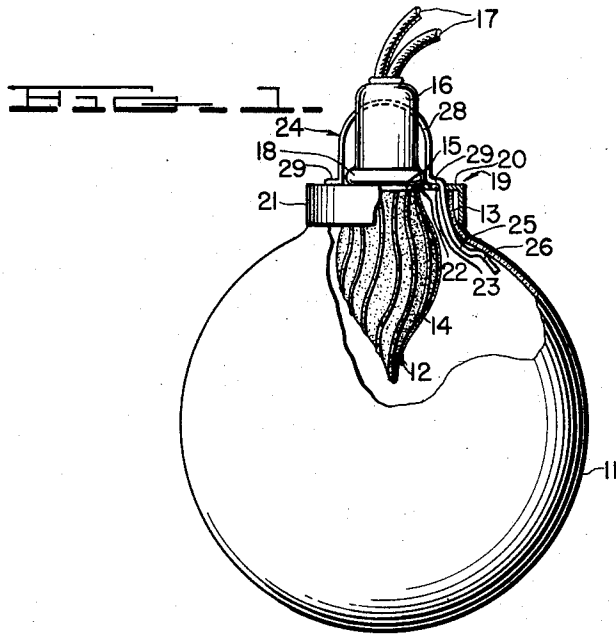


Fig. 2

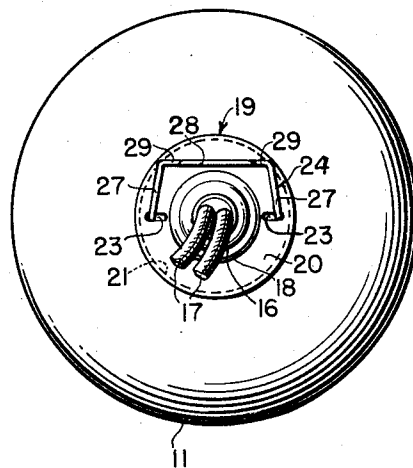
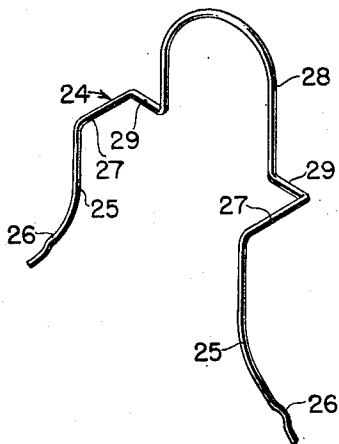


Fig. 3



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LAMP FIXTURE

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7 Claims. (Cl. 240-128)

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This invention pertains to an attachment for electric incandescent lamps and more particularly to a device for attaching a decorative globe or enclosure, such as a glass Christmas tree ornament, over an electric incandescent lamp. Christmas trees and other ornamental objects commonly are decorated with strings of electric lamps. Such decorations may be made more attractive and pleasing to the eye by attaching a decorative enclosure over the lamps. The globe or enclosure may be colored or have designs or figures thereon which will be outlined by the light shining through the walls thereof.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide a device, readily attachable to an electric incandescent lamp, for supporting a decorative globe or enclosure over the lamp.

Another object of the invention is to provide such a device which permits a globe readily and easily to be attached thereto or detached therefrom.

Still another object of the invention is to provide such an attaching device that may be used to support a decorative globe either over an electric incandescent lamp or independently thereof.

A further object of the invention is to provide a globe attaching device which comprises few and simple parts, which is cheap to manufacture, and yet which provides a secure support for the globe.

Other objects, advantages, and economies of the invention will be apparent from the following description and accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is an elevational view, partially in section, showing my device supporting a decorative globe over an electric incandescent lamp.

Figure 2 is a plan view corresponding to Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the spring clip which supports the globe.

Referring now to Figure 1, there is shown a globe 11 mounted over an electric incandescent lamp 12, of the small Christmas tree type. The globe 11 has a throat or neck 13 large enough to permit the insertion of the lamp 12 therein. The lamp has a bulb 14, containing a filament, and a threaded stem or base 15 mounted in a socket 16 provided with the usual electrical connections 17. The rim of the socket 16 is provided with a conventional annular bead 18. The globe attaching device comprises a carrier member 19 consisting of a disc shaped portion 20 provided with a depending annular collar 21. Centrally located in the carrier member 19 is a circular opening 22 for supporting the member in position on the lamp 12. The carrier member 19 is supported in proper position by inserting the base 15 of the lamp 12 through the opening 22 and attaching the base in the socket 16. The opening 22 in the carrier member 19 is large enough to fit over the base 15, but not large

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enough to slip over the enlarged bulb 14 of the lamp 12 or the bead 18 of the socket 16. Thus, the carrier member 19 is positioned properly on the lamp by being supported between the bulb 14 and the bead 18.

As an alternative supporting arrangement, not shown in the drawings, the opening 22 may be made large enough to slip over the top of the socket 16, but not large enough to slip over the annular bead 18. Thus, instead of supporting the carrier member 19 around the base 15 of the lamp 12, as shown, it may hang from the socket 16.

The carrier member 19 is provided with a pair of radially elongated openings 23 diametrically located on opposite sides of the central opening 22 and equally spaced therefrom. The inner ends of the openings 23 may merge into the central opening 22, not shown, and thus comprise slots radially extending from the opening 22. The globe supporting member is a clip, generally indicated by the numeral 24, formed of resilient metallic material. The clip 24 has legs 25 intended to project through the elongated openings 23 and to extend downwardly through the throat 13 and outwardly into yielding engagement with the inner wall of the globe or enclosure 11. The legs 25, near their lower extremities, may have an outwardly curved portion 26 to provide a smooth surface for engagement with the inner wall of the globe 11. The leg connecting portion of the spring clip 24 includes two relatively short substantially parallel arms 27, which support the clip on the upper surface of the carrier member 19 and extend substantially at right angles to the plane which includes the legs 25, and an upstanding substantially U-shaped portion 28 having short connecting extensions 29 joining the parallel arms 27.

From the construction thus far described, it can be seen that the U-shaped portion 28 of the clip 24 provides resiliency to aid in springing the legs 25 apart, and readily permits the legs to be drawn together for insertion into or withdrawal from the throat 13 of the globe 11. The elongated openings 23 in the carrier member 19 permit some freedom of movement to the upper ends of the legs 25 to allow the legs to be drawn together more readily. It also will be noted that the leg connecting portions 27, 28, and 29 are offset laterally from the central opening 22 so as not to interfere with the lamp socket 16.

The attachment of a globe or enclosure to my device is extremely simple. The device may be used with any globe or enclosure having an opening 22 large enough to permit insertion of the bulb 14 and the legs 25 of the clip 24. The device also may be used with a globe or enclosure that does not have a throat portion but merely has an opening 22 therein. The globe 11 is positioned against the carrier member 19 with the bulb 14 projecting into the globe through the opening 22.

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The legs 25 of the spring clip 24 are drawn together and pushed through the elongated openings 23 in the carrier member 19. Once clear of the openings 23 and the throat 13, the legs 25 spring apart and the curved portions 26 bear against the inner wall of the globe 11, thus seating the base of the throat 13 against the lower edge of the collar 21 and the rim of the opening 22 against the underside of the disc shaped portion 20, as shown in Figure 1. Varying the proportions between the length of the throat 13 and the width of the collar 21 will cause the globe to seat separately against either the underside of the disc shaped portion 20 or the lower edge of the collar 21. It is preferred, however, to arrange the proportions to cause the globe to seat as shown.

The globe 11 may be detached from the device by grasping the clip 24 by its U-shaped portion 23, and pulling the clip from the carrier member 19 while at the same time pressing together the depending legs of the U-shaped portion, or the carrier member or clip may be held and the globe pulled away. The legs 25 will be drawn together to release the globe 11 by bearing against the inner sides of the throat 13 of the globe.

While I have shown the carrier member 19 as having a disc shaped portion 20 provided with a depending annular collar 21, it will be obvious that the carrier member may be constructed in the form of a partial sphere, or may be dish-shaped to enable the globe to seat snugly thereagainst. Furthermore, while I have shown the U-shaped portion 28 of the clip 24 as being upstanding for greater ease of manipulation, it will be obvious that the same result will be had if the U-shaped portion lies in the plane which includes the arms 27, or in a plane lying at any angle between the one shown and the one which includes the arms 27. The U-shaped portion 28 also may be merely a continuation of the arms 27 without the connecting extensions 29. In addition, any angular variation of the arms 27 which serves to support the clip 24 in proper position in the openings 23 in the carrier member 19 may be employed. The globe or enclosure 11 has been illustrated as spherical in shape, but obviously other shapes of enclosures, including rectangular, oval, or irregular shapes may be supported by correspondingly shaped carrier devices.

While the attaching device is intended to support a decorative globe or other enclosure over an electric incandescent lamp, it is obvious that the device may be used to support a globe without a lamp therein. In the latter event, the U-shaped portion 28 of the clip may be attached directly to any support, or a clip having a U-shaped portion in the same plane as the globe engaging legs 25 may be substituted for the clip as shown.

Various other modifications will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention as set out in the following claims.

I claim:

1. An enclosure holder for an electric incandescent lamp having a bulb and a base adapted to be attached in a socket, comprising in combination a carrier member having a substantially flat portion provided with a supporting opening and two spring clip holding openings on opposite sides of said supporting opening, said member being adapted to be supported over the lamp in close proximity to the base thereof with the bulb projecting through to the under side of the carrier member, and an enclosure supporting spring

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clip having a pair of divergent downwardly extending enclosure engaging legs adapted to project through said clip holding openings beyond said under side of said carrier member and into supporting engagement with the inner wall of the enclosure, said clip having a resilient portion connecting said legs and offset laterally from said supporting opening when said legs are projected through said clip holding openings in order to avoid interference with the lamp base and socket.

2. The structure set forth in claim 1 in which the outer edge of the flat portion of the carrier member is provided with a depending collar adapted to surround the neck of the enclosure.

3. The structure set forth in claim 1 in which the carrier member is substantially disc shaped and the supporting opening is centrally located.

4. The structure set forth in claim 1 in which the spring clip holding openings comprise slots extending from the rim of the supporting opening.

5. The structure set forth in claim 1 in which the leg connecting portion of the spring clip has a section lying in a plane substantially parallel to the upper surface of said carrier member.

6. The structure set forth in claim 1 in which the clip holding openings are elongated in the direction of a common straight line.

7. A globe holder for an electric incandescent lamp having a bulb and a base adapted to be attached in a socket, comprising in combination a carrier member in the form of a substantially flat portion having a depending annular collar, said member being provided with a central supporting opening and two radially elongated spring clip holding openings on opposite sides of said supporting opening, said supporting opening being adapted to be fitted over the base of the lamp for supporting the carrier member between the bulb of the lamp and the socket with the bulb projecting from the under side of the carrier member, and a globe supporting spring clip having two divergent downwardly extending globe engaging legs adapted to project through said clip holding openings into supporting engagement with the inner wall of a globe, said clip being provided with a substantially U-shaped resilient leg connecting portion, whereby the upper ends of said legs are adapted to be moved radially inwardly in said clip holding elongated openings to facilitate the attachment to and removal of said globe from said holder, and said leg connecting portion being laterally offset from the plane of said legs to avoid interference with the lamp and the socket.

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