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C. SCHERLE

RAILROAD SWITCH LAMP

Filed June 28, 1923

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

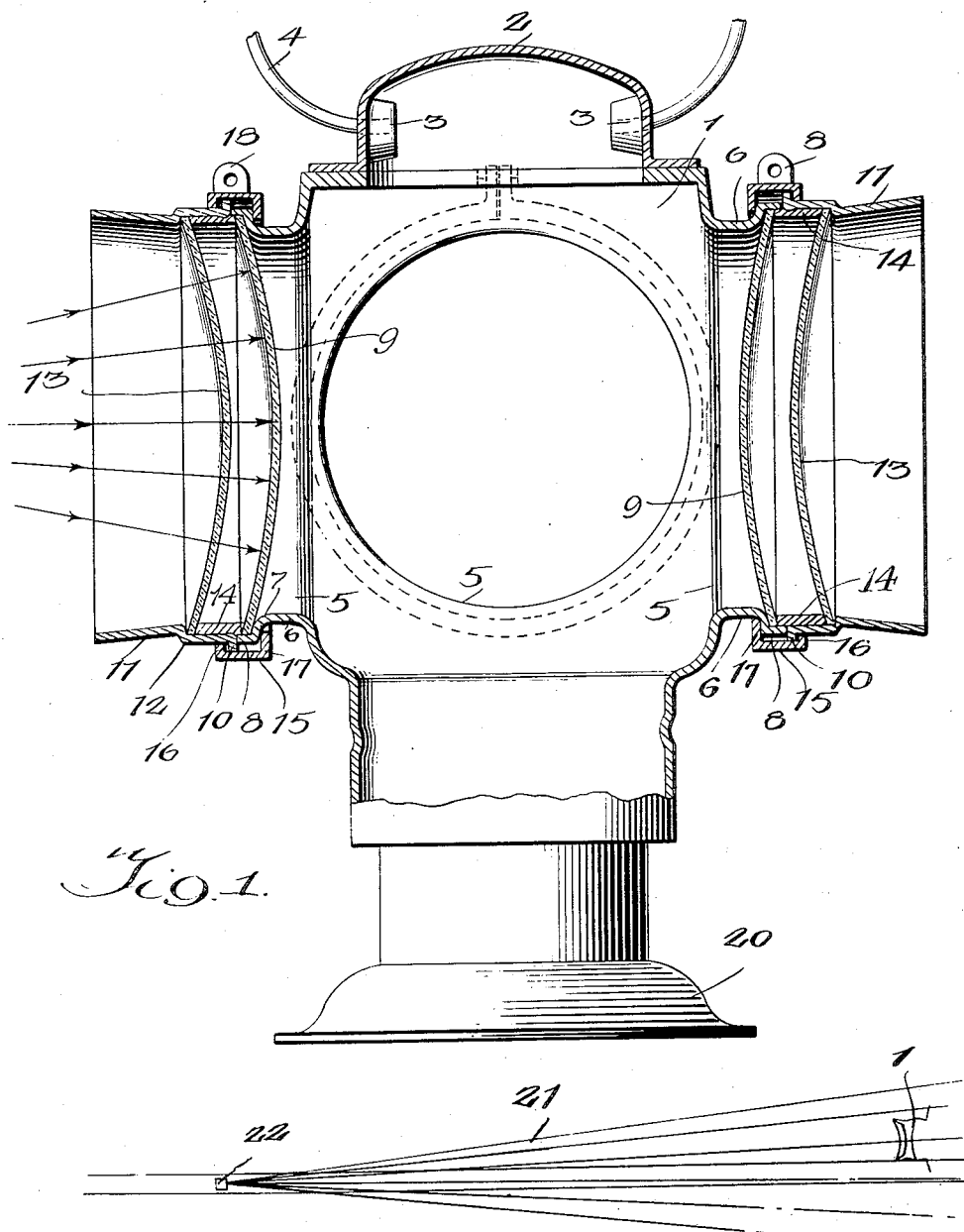


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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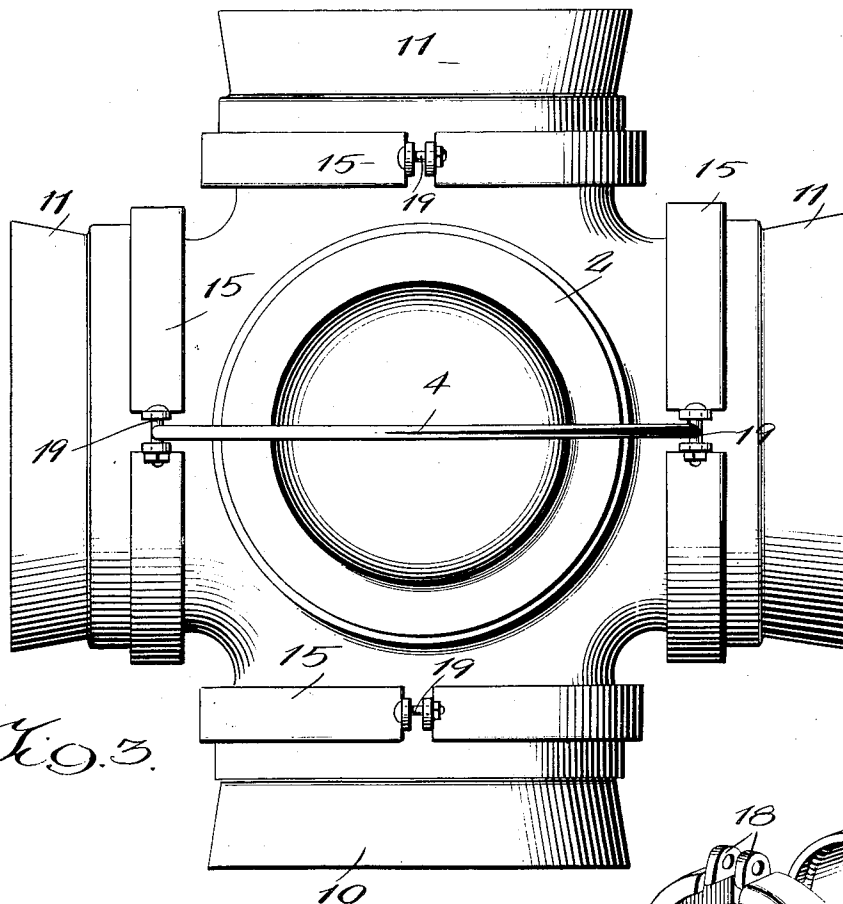


Fig. 3.

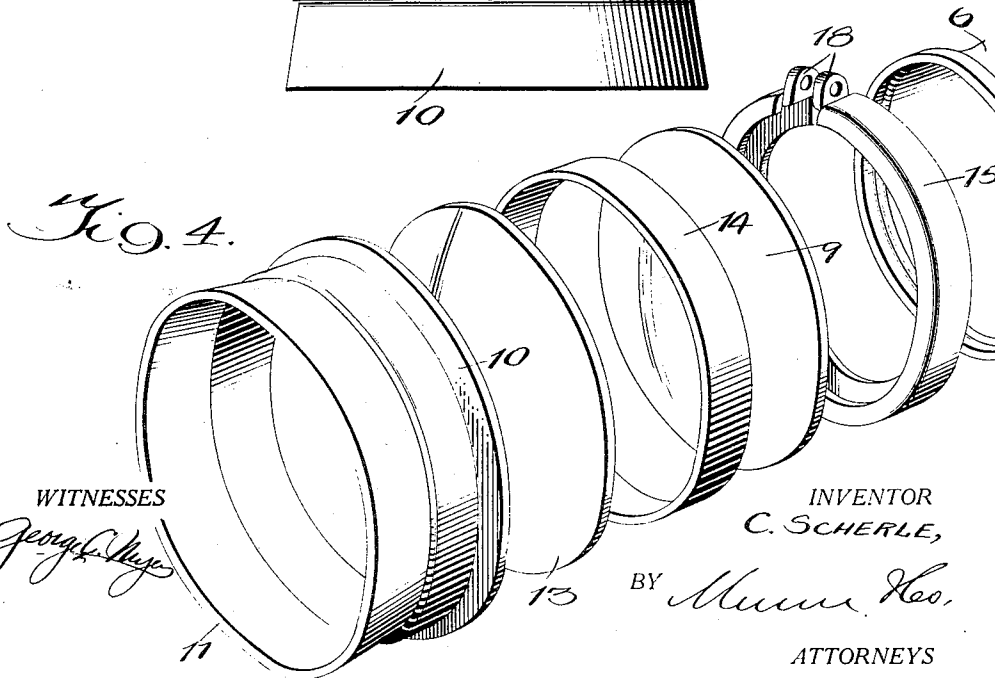


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES SCHERLE, OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

RAILROAD SWITCH LAMP.

Application filed June 28, 1923. Serial No. 648,367.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES SCHERLE, a citizen of the United States; and a resident of San Antonio, in the county of Bexar and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Railroad Switch Lamps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to railroad switch lamps and has for its object the provision of a device capable of automatically producing illumination at the switch by the reflection of the light projected from the usual headlight of an approaching engine.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a device capable of producing illumination at a switch by reflected light and thereby eliminating the necessity of constant attention by workmen for maintaining a source of illumination in the lamp.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a switch lamp having reflectors and transparent colored mediums for determining the rays reflected, the reflectors and mediums being removably secured in cooperative relation to each other in the lamp.

This invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description, in view of the accompanying drawing forming a part of the specification; nevertheless it is to be understood that the invention is not confined to the disclosure, being susceptible of such changes and modifications, which shall define no material departure from the salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a vertical section in elevation of the lamp constructed according to my invention.

Figure 2 diagrammatically shows the projection of light on the reflector.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the lamp.

Figure 4 is a view in perspective of the reflectors and their cooperative transparent mediums and connecting parts in disengaged relation.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a casing which may be of any shape and provided with a circular cap 2 in which the ends 3 of the handle 4 are secured. The opposite faces of the casing has openings 5 embraced by tubular members 6. Laterally disposed annular flanges 7 are provided at the ends of the tubular member and from

which extend flanges 8 concentric with the tubular members 6 but of a larger diameter. A shoulder is formed where the flange 8 joins the flange 7 and upon which rests the periphery of a concave reflector 9.

Abutting the end of the flange 8 is a laterally projecting flange 10 formed on the inner end of a tubular member 11. This tubular member is provided with a shoulder at 12 which receives the periphery of a colored transparent medium 13. An annular ring 14 located between the mirror 9 and the transparent medium 13 spaces these two members apart.

A split ring 15 having inwardly projecting spaced flanges 16 and 17 at the peripheries of the said ring are adapted to lock the tubular member 11 to the tubular member 6 and likewise secure the mirror 9 and the transparent medium 13 in position before the opening 5. The flange 17 of the ring 15 engages the outer surface of the lateral flange 7 on the tubular member 6 while the periphery of the flange 16 of the ring 15 engages the outer wall of the tubular member 11. At the ends of the split portion of the ring are provided laterally projecting perforated ears 18 which are adapted to be clamped together by means of a bolt 19.

The casing is provided with the usual base member 20 for positioning the lamp at the crossing.

In operation, the lamp is placed at the crossing and alined with the tracks so that a pair of the diametrically disposed openings 5 will be alined with the tracks while the other two openings will be located at a right angle to the tracks. As an engine approaches the switch the beams 21 from a headlight 22 will be projected upon the lamp 1 with the rays passing through the transparent medium 13 and striking the reflector 9. The rays that are reflected from the mirror 9 through the transparent medium 13 back to the engineer will have the same force and effect as if a source of light is maintained within the casing 1. Due to the curvature of the mirror 9 the rays of the headlight 22 which are reflected by the mirror 9 will be seen at a considerable distance from the lamp.

This construction eliminates the employment of care-takers for the lamp since a source of light need not be maintained within the casing.

What I claim is:

1. A railroad switch lamp comprising a casing having flanged openings, a reflector supported by the flange across the opening, 5 an open-ended cylindrical member having one end abutting the flanged opening, a transparent medium supported by the cylindrical member, a ring spacing the transparent medium from the reflector, and means 10 for locking the cylindrical member to the flanged opening of the casing and likewise for locking the transparent medium and the reflector in position.

2. A railroad switch lamp comprising a 15 casing having flanged openings, a concave reflector supported by the flange across the opening, an open-ended cylindrical member having one end abutting the flanged opening, a concave transparent medium supported by the cylindrical member, a ring 20 spacing the concave transparent medium from the reflector, and means for locking the cylindrical member to the flanged opening of the casing and likewise for locking the concave transparent medium and the concave 25 reflector in position.

3. A railroad switch lamp comprising a casing having flanged openings, a concave

reflector supported by the flange across the openings, an open-ended cylindrical member 30 having one end laterally flanged and abutting the flanged openings in the casing, a concave transparent medium supported by the cylindrical member, a ring spacing the transparent member from the reflector, and 35 means for engaging the flange at the opening in the casing and the flanged cylindrical member for locking said cylindrical member to the opening and likewise for locking the transparent medium and the reflector in po- 40 sition.

4. A railroad switch lamp comprising a casing having flanged openings, a concave reflector supported by the flange across the openings, an open-ended cylindrical member 45 having one end laterally flanged and abutting the flanged openings in the casing, a concave transparent medium supported by the cylindrical member, a ring spacing the transparent member from the reflector, 50 and a split ring having spaced interned flanges in engagement with the lateral flange of the opening in the casing and with the outer wall of the cylindrical member.

CHARLES SCHERLE.