

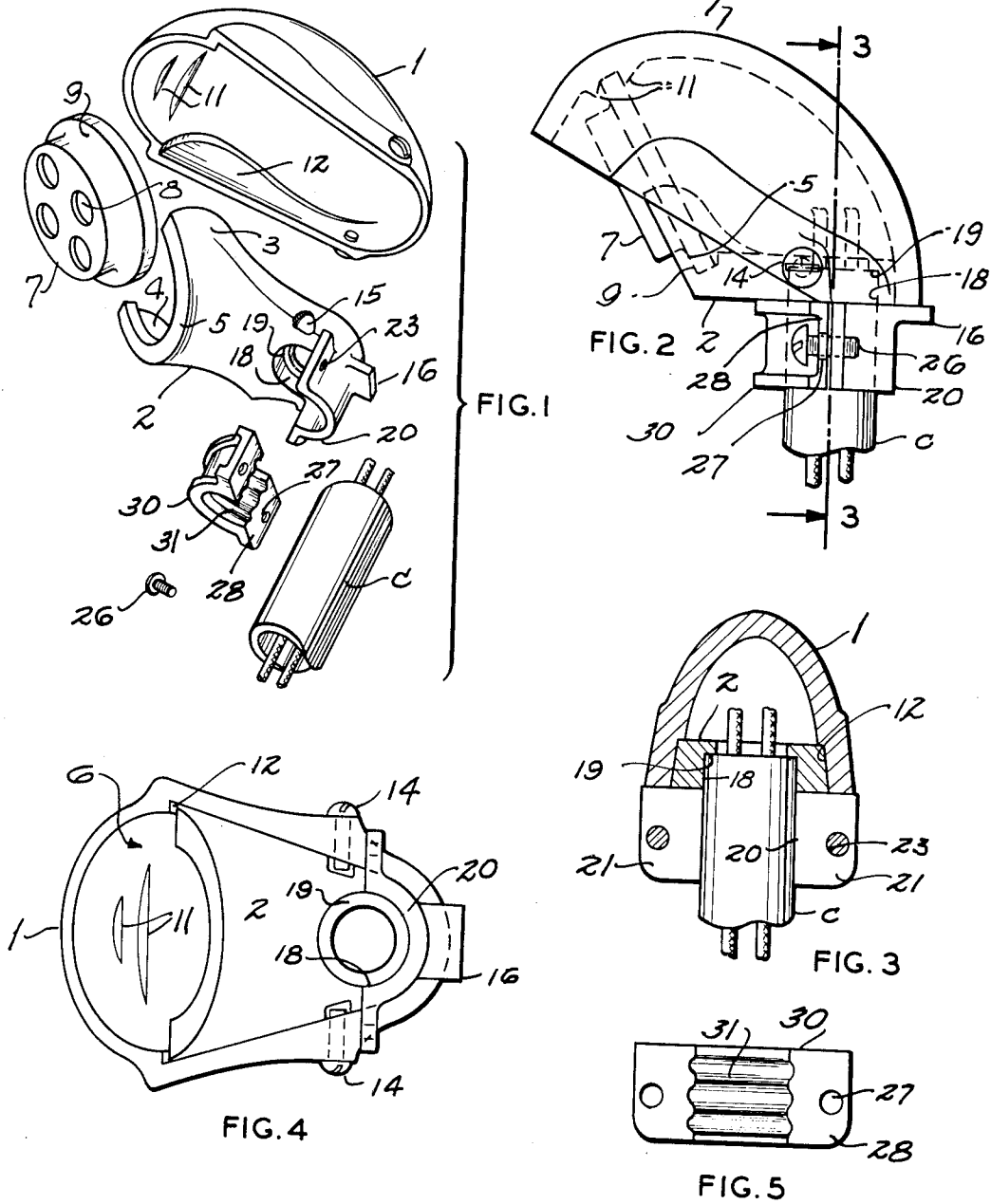
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W. L. GILL

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SERVICE ENTRANCE HEAD

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INVENTOR.
William L. Gill
BY
Rodney Bedell
Atty.

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SERVICE ENTRANCE HEAD

William L. Gill, Webster Groves, Mo., assignor to J. A. Weaver Company, St. Louis, Mo., a corporation of Missouri

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1 Claim. (Cl. 174-81)

This invention relates in general to electric installation fixtures and, more particularly, to a service entrance head for leading outside conduit-enclosed wires to points within a building.

The main object of this invention is to provide an entrance head adapted for secure and positive engagement upon conduits of varying outside diameter while providing full protection against entrance of water to the open upper end of the conduit. This object is attained by providing the entrance head with a base member having a socket for receiving the upper end of a conduit, and having a substantially continuous annular shoulder at the upper end of the socket for abutment with the upper ends of conduits varying in their outside diameters. A two-part adjustable clamp is positioned below the shoulder for tightly gripping the conduit, irrespective of its outside diameter.

Another object is to secure the head and conduit together without threading the conduit or without using a split ring and contracting sleeve with the head, as is customary.

These and other detail objects are attained by the structure shown in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is an exploded perspective view of a service entrance head embodying the present invention.

Figure 2 is a side view of the service head in assembled condition.

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a bottom view of the cap and base member.

Figure 5 is an inside elevation of the movable clamp.

In the drawings, the service entrance head comprises a hood-forming cap 1 and a base or mounting member 2, each being preferably of cast aluminum or of a suitable alloy. Base member 2 includes upwardly and forwardly projecting side portions 3, 4 interconnected by a U-shaped flange 5 for cooperation with the forward end of cap 1 to define an opening 6 within which is disposed an insulating plate 7 having a plurality of apertures 8 for passage through of electric cables. Insulating plate 7 is provided with an annular shoulder 9 for seating against flange 5 and in a groove formed in cap 1 by spaced ridges 11. For maintaining cap 1 and base member 2 assembled, cap 1 includes recesses 12 on its inner side face for receiving side portions 3, 4 and the sides of the cap are tapped for binding screws 14 which project into recesses 15 on base member 2. Extending rearwardly from base member 2 is a lug 16 upon which the adjacent lower margin of cap 1 rests.

The rear portion of base member 2 forms a cylindrical socket 18 for reception of the upper end portion of an electrical conduit c. The upper end of socket 18 presents an annular shoulder 19 for abutment against the upper

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edge of conduit c. The rear portion of base member 2 also includes a depending segmental clamping collar or fixed jaw 20, the inner face of which is continuous with socket 18. Collar 20 is provided with outwardly projecting lugs 21, each being tapped, as at 23, for clamping screws 26, which are received within registering apertures 27 in lugs 28 of a cooperating clamping collar or movable jaw 30.

The inner arcuate face of clamping collar 30 has substantially the same radius as that of clamping collar 20 and is provided with a plurality of ridges or serrations 31 for better gripping conduit c.

In use, base member 2 is positioned upon the upper end of conduit c with the upper margin thereof against continuous shoulder 19. Clamping screws 26 are then tightened for drawing clamping collars 20 and 30 toward each other for retainingly gripping conduit c therebetween. The electric cables sheathed within conduit c are led upwardly and through apertures 8 in insulating plate 7 seated on flange 5. Thereupon, cap 1 is positioned upon base member 2 and fixed thereon by binding screws 14. By the unique interrelationship of the parts, the head may be readily engaged upon, or removed from, a conduit, and will reliably remain in assembled condition.

As shown above, conduit c abuts shoulder 19 substantially throughout the area of its upper end. The relatively large width of shoulder 19 adapts it for seating conduits of varying outside diameter. The service head may grip conduits of different outside diameter. The friction clamp makes it unnecessary to thread the conduit to effect a secure assembly of the head and conduit.

The details of construction may be varied substantially without departing from the spirit of the invention and the exclusive use of those modifications coming within the scope of the claim is contemplated.

What is claimed is:

A service entrance head adapted for mounting on the upper end of a tubular pipe electric conduit, comprising a rigid one-piece inverted cup-like cap with a downwardly facing shoulder on its inner wall and spaced upwardly from the lower edge of the cap, a rigid one-piece support-engageable base member received in the lower portion of said cap and seated against said shoulder and having a horizontal top wall spaced downwardly from the upper part of the cap and provided with a through vertical cylindrical passage, retaining elements for said members, there being a downwardly facing continuous annular shoulder on said base member surrounding the axis of said passage for abutting the upper end of a conduit upon which the head is mounted, there being a horizontally-arcuate jaw integral with and depending from said top wall at one side of the passage axis, and a laterally movable arcuate clamping jaw mounted on said fixed jaw.

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