R. F. STODDARD.

ELECTRIC DISPLAY.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 14, 1920.

1,378,495.

Patented May 17, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

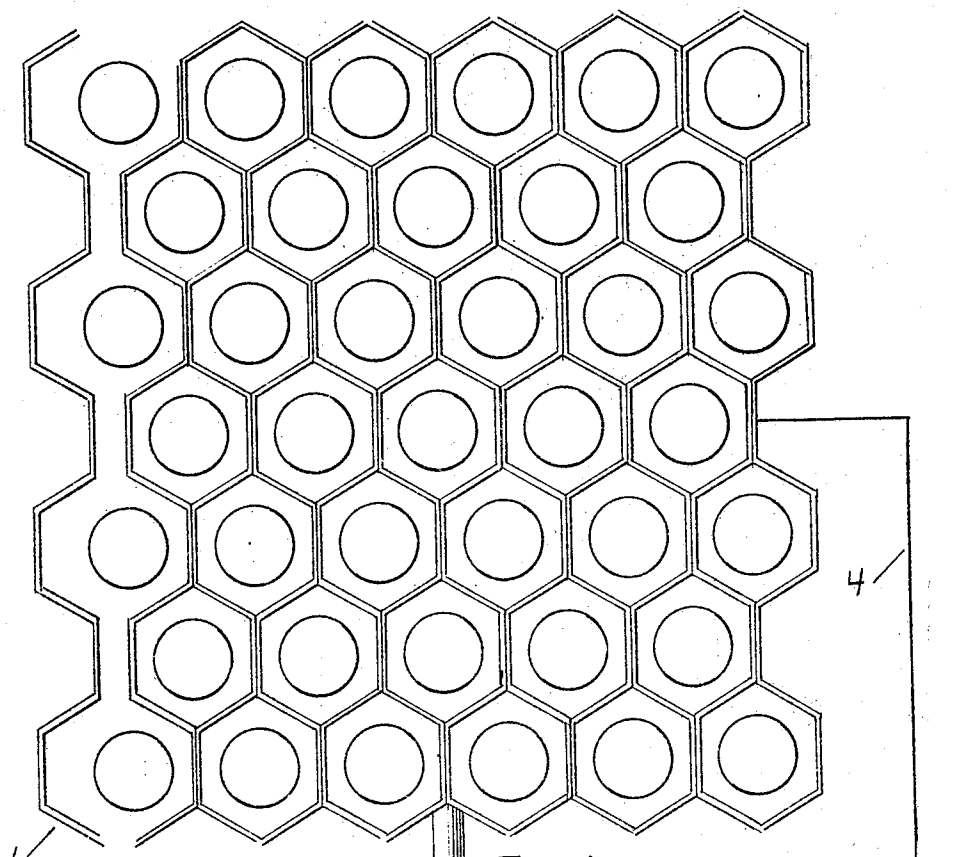


Fig 1.

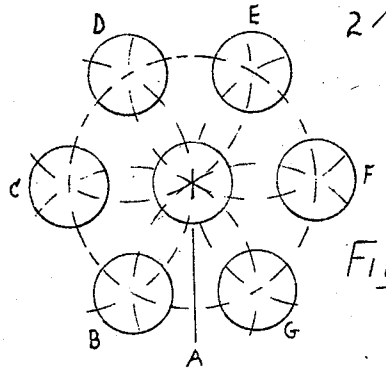


Fig 2.

WITNESSES

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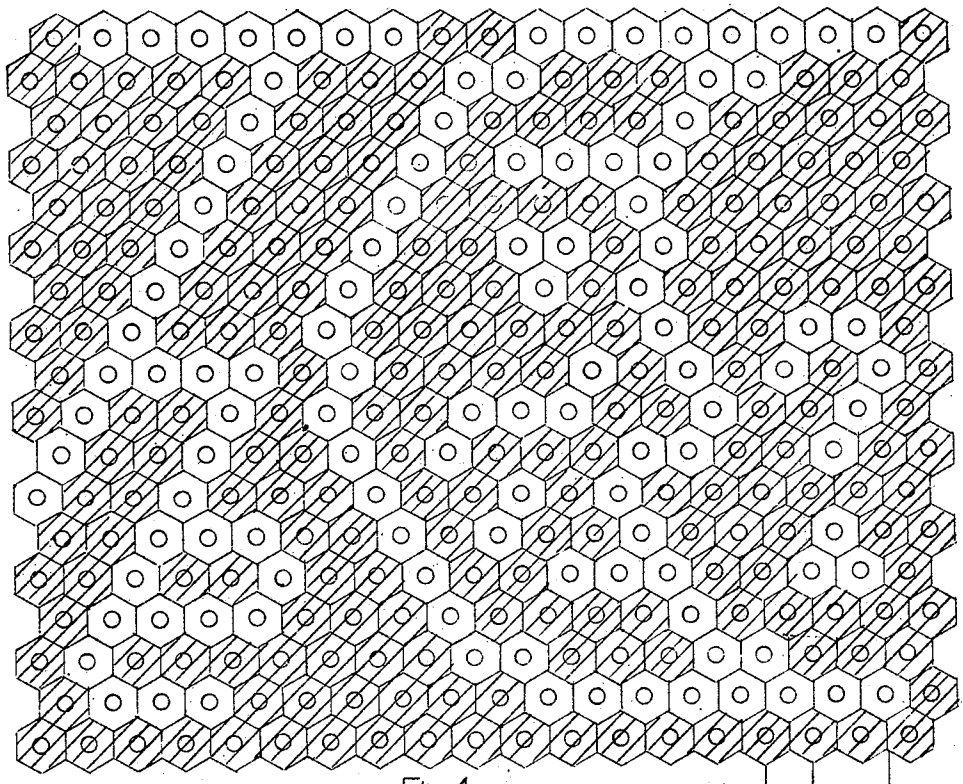


Fig. 1.

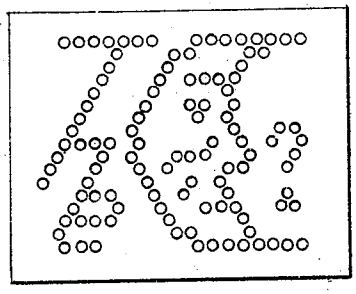


Fig. 4.

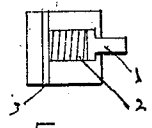


Fig. 3.

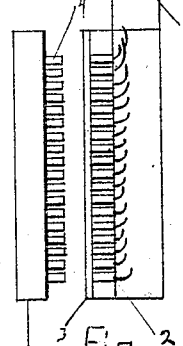


Fig. 2.

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BY

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RAY F. STODDARD, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

ELECTRIC DISPLAY.

1,378,495. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 17, 1921.

Application filed April 14, 1920. Serial No. 373,777.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RAY FRANK STODDARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and the State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Electric Display, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an electric display using incandescent lamps or other illuminating elements.

The object of this invention is to display letters, cartoons, or, if a certain display of this type were large enough it could have pictures worked out by lighting certain of the lamps.

The spacing of the lamps—as hereafter described—makes a compact display surface and by using hexagonally shaped cups, divides the light of one certain section of the surface from another which possibly should be dark.

The object of this type cup or lamp-box is to have one type that is interfitting and which is seemingly circular and which allows the lamps to be equally spaced.

By using lamps of a desirable spacing, where a central lamp is surrounded by six lamps, each lamp being equally spaced, and connected to relatively spaced contacts in one or a plurality of contact blocks.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1, Sheet 1, represents the display and a contact block, which controls it.

I have instituted a strip of metal or suitable substance to divide the light of the several lamps and to confine it to a certain area. The cup strip 1, shows the means of grouping the said strips around the lamps to form hexagonally shaped cups.

One side of each lamp is connected to a relatively spaced contact in a control block 3, wires being protected by pipe 2, while all of the other lamp contacts may be connected to wire 4, constantly.

Fig. 2, shows a means of finding the correct spacing of lamps on center, which is done by stepping off the radius of a circle around its circumference. This spacing provides the crossing of the largest number of lamp lines at a central point than any other spacing, it allows a horizontal line C—A—F, two diagonal lines D—A—G, and E—A—B, which are at 60 degrees when having solid lines of lamps in use; but when every other lamp in straight lines are used this spacing allows for six lines of light crossing at a central point, etc.

In Sheet 2, Fig. 1, represents a display with the unshaded portion representing lamps illuminating the interior of certain cups. On the left is the word "The," vertically spelled, the outline of the "moon" is in the center and on the right is an interrogation mark.

A wire of neutral polarity is shown connecting one side of all the lamps.

In Fig. 2, No. 1, represents a conduit containing all of the wires from the individual lamps to the relatively spaced contacts No. 2.

A sheet of paper or other insulating material is shown by No. 3, while No. 4, shows the contacts which protrude through the various perforations in the insulating sheet and make the electrical connection between the positive wire and the lamps.

Fig. 3, shows the contact No. 1, No. 2, the spring forming the tension and allowing the contact to actuate it may also be used as a conductor by having the container made of insulating material, in which case a plate would be required across the back of all the contact chambers No. 3, being the plate.

Fig. 4, represents a front view of the perforated insulation sheet through which the connections are made by the contacts.

As I have fully described the workings of my device I make the following claims for Letters Patent to be granted on:—

In an electric display, lamps or groups of lamps in staggered relation, equally spaced in desirable numbers and mounted in receptacles suitably fastened to a support, with desirable electrical connections for the illumination of the same, having abutting cup strips of suitable substance—preferably metal—comprising halves of hexagonally shaped cells or cups formed alternately in each side and being suitably arranged about each lamp or group of lamps and being fastened to the support in such a manner that said cells form horizontally straight lines and two sets of oppositely diagonally straight lines at sixty degrees, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

RAY F. STODDARD.

Witnesses:

HARRY GEBHART,

E. A. WOODWARD.