April 17, 1934. B. H. CHRISTOPHER, JR 1,955,531

CONTINUOUS OUTLET

Filed June 16, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

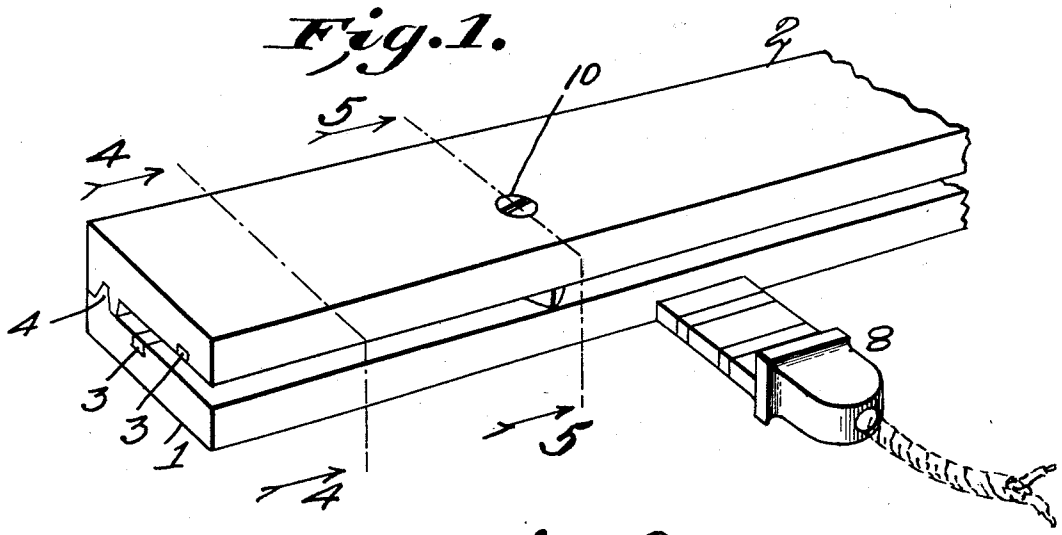


Fig. 2.

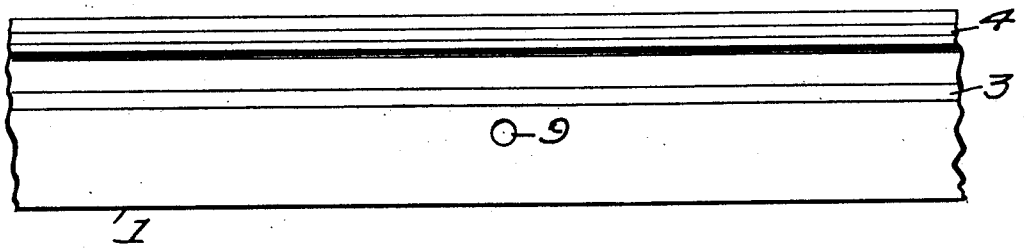


Fig. 3.

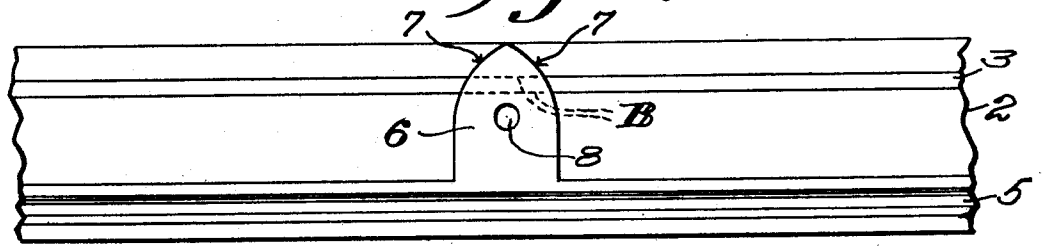


Fig. 4.

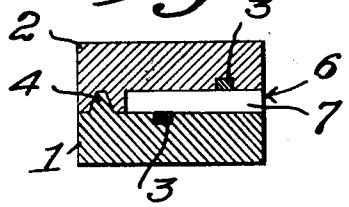


Fig. 5.



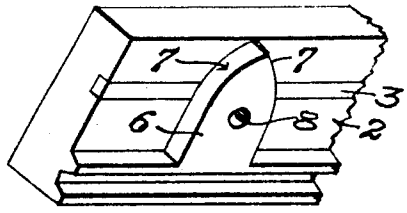
INVENTOR,
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CONTINUOUS OUTLET

Filed June 16, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 6.



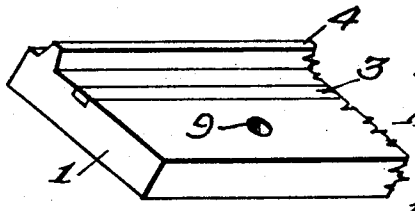


Fig. 12.

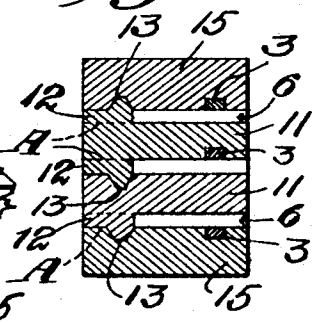


Fig. 7.

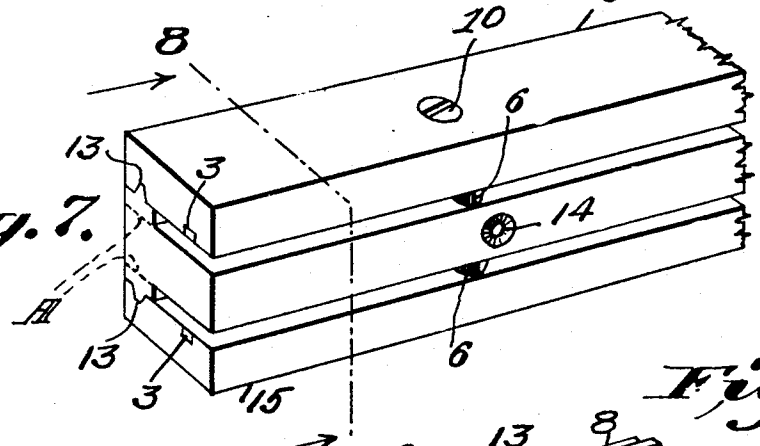


Fig. 9.

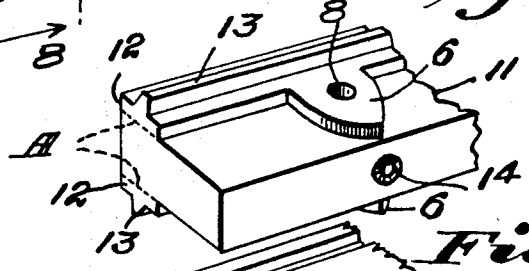


Fig. 8.

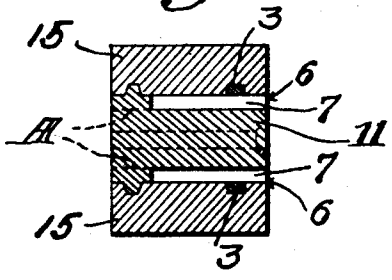
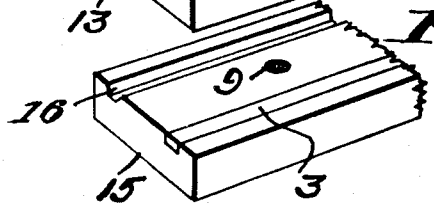


Fig. 10.



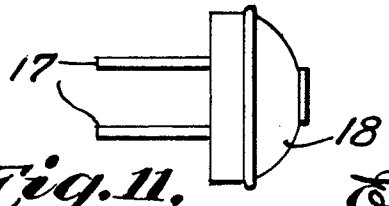


Fig. 11.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,955,531

CONTINUOUS OUTLET

Benjamin H. Christopher, Jr., Pine Bluff, Ark., assignor of one-half to Harvey S. Henning and Walter S. Henning, both of New Orleans, La.

Application June 16, 1932, Serial No. 617,664

5 Claims. (Cl. 247—3)

This invention relates to a continuous outlet.

An object of the invention is the construction of a simple and efficient continuous outlet to be placed around a room, shop, laboratory or any other type of enclosure, as a convenient outlet, to permit the use of lights, electric cleaners, fans, small motors, or any other type of electric appliances, at any point about the room, and to permit their being moved about the room at will, without the inconvenience of unusually long leads which are unsightly and a nuisance.

Another object of the invention is the construction of a continuous outlet formed preferably of two major sections constructed of any approved nonconducting material and which, as a completed unit, are suitably fastened to a wall at the baseboard, chair rail or any other place that the trim of the room might suggest, and said continuous outlet may be secured in a vertical or a horizontal position with the slot, or slots, either to the bottom, top, or side, as convenience may demand.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention comprises certain novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary, perspective view of my invention, showing a plug in perspective.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary, plan view of the primary section, while

Figure 3 is a similar view of the auxiliary section.

Figure 4 is a transverse section taken on line 4—4, Fig. 1, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 5 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 5—5, Fig. 1, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of the primary and auxiliary sections.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 8 is transverse sectional view taken on line 8—8, Fig. 7, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 9 is a fragmentary perspective view of the intermediate or auxiliary section of the embodiment shown in Fig. 7, while

Figure 10 is a fragmentary perspective view of one of the two primary sections of this embodiment.

Figure 11 is a view in elevation of a standard plug.

Figure 12 is a transverse sectional view of another embodiment, showing three slots or grooves, to be used for three phase power circuits.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 1 designates a male or primary section and 2 is the female or auxiliary section. Each section may be of any desired length, to suit the constructor or operator. Each section is provided with a longitudinally extending conductor 3.

On the primary section 1 and near one of its longitudinally extending edges is formed a longitudinally extending lip or rib 4. In the auxiliary section 2 and near one of its longitudinally extending edges is formed a longitudinally extending groove 5, into which extends the rib 4 when the two sections are assembled, as shown in Fig. 1.

Any desired number of outwardly extending separators 6 are formed upon the auxiliary section 2 for spacing the two sections apart at their front edges. Each separator 6 is provided, at its outer end with curved edges 7, so that no obstruction will be offered to the plug 8 when being inserted between the sections. This rounding or bevelling of the edges of the separator is desirable for the quick and easy insertion of the terminal plug. The separator 6 extends transversely across the conductor, or conductors 3, thereby assisting in holding the same in place. The conductor of the auxiliary section 2 extends under the separators of said section, as indicated by dotted lines "B", Fig. 3. Each section 2 is provided with an aperture 8 registering with a similar aperture 9 formed in the primary section 1. In these registering apertures 8 and 9 is positioned a screw 10, Fig. 5. The screw, or screws 10 serve to fasten the sections of the outlet together and may be used to fasten outlet to support. By any suitable means, the outlet may be secured to a support or wall in any desired position, such as a horizontal position or a vertical position.

The groove and rib structure, as described, constitutes an interlocking rib and groove means, preferably extending longitudinally of the outlet and positioned at one of its longitudinal edges, with the separating means extending transversely of the outlet, across the conductors.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 7 to 10, the intermediate or auxiliary section 11 is provided near one of its longitudinal edges with two shoulders 12. This is true of the auxiliary sections 11 in Fig. 12. The width of each shoulder 12 is

indicated by the dotted line "A". On each shoulder 12 (Figs. 8 and 12) is formed a longitudinally extending rib 13, and extending from the shoulder 12, transversely of the section, are separators 6, with apertures 8 therein for receiving the assembling screws 10. An opening or aperture 14 may be formed in the auxiliary section for attaching the outlet to a support, such as a wall, not shown. In this embodiment (Fig. 8) I employ two primary sections 15, each having on its inner face a longitudinally extending groove 16 (see Fig. 12 too) into which fits rib 13, and a conductor 3 is placed in the section and extends longitudinally thereof. In this embodiment, a double slot is produced (Fig. 7) into which the blades 17 of the standard plug 18 may extend for making contact with the conductors 3.

This type of outlet can be placed around a baseboard, chair rail and any other place the interior trim of the room might suggest.

The outlet will be of great value for use on laboratory tables, work benches, along the walls of shops, and any other conceivable place where electrical appliances might or would be used.

This continuous outlet is designed to permit the immediate connection of electrical appliances, at any point along the entire length of the erected continuous outlet by the simple means of "plugging in". With this outlet it becomes an easy matter to move floor lamps about the room, to any location desired, without the unsightly appearance of long lead wires. It becomes an easy matter to use a vacuum cleaner in any part of the room, without any fear of tangling the unwieldy or over long lead wire, about the furniture or other obstruction. Many other uses might be mentioned and innumerable others make the continuous outlet absolutely indispensable about the home, office, shop, laboratory and public buildings.

Electric current is supplied to the conductors 3 in any desired or suitable manner.

While I have described the preferred embodiments of my invention and illustrated the same in the accompanying drawings, certain minor changes or alterations may appear to one skilled in the art to which this invention relates, during the extensive manufacture of the same, and I, therefore, reserve the right to make such alterations or changes as shall fairly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a continuous outlet, the combination of two sections provided with a rib and groove structure only at one of their longitudinal edges and spaced apart at their other longitudinal edge, a plurality of transversely positioned separators integral with said rib and groove structure on one of said sections, each separator extending at its outer end to the open longitudinal edge of the sections, and conductors embedded in said sections extending across said separators and held partly in place thereby, substantially as shown and described.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a continuous outlet, comprising elongated sections closed together at one of their longitudinal edges and spaced entirely apart at their other longitudinal edge, a plurality of separators extending from said closed portion of said sections to the open spaced edge of said sections, said separators between said sections, conductors within said sections and extending across said separators, and said conductors exposed to contact within the space enclosed by the separated sections.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a continuous outlet comprising sections closed together at one edge and spaced entirely apart at their opposite edge, a plurality of transversely positioned separators between said sections, each separator extending to the spaced edges of said sections, conductors in said sections and extending across said separators, and said conductors exposed to contact within the space enclosed by the separated sections.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a continuous cutlet comprising elongated sections closed together at one of their longitudinal edges and spaced entirely apart at their other longitudinal edge, a plurality of separators between said sections, each separator provided with a broad inner end against the closed portion of said sections and with a narrow outer end at the marginal edge of the outer longitudinal edge of said sections, conductors within said sections and extending across said separators, and said conductors exposed to contact within the space enclosed by the separated sections.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a continuous outlet comprising sections closed together at one edge and spaced entirely apart at their opposite edge, a plurality of separators between the spaced portion of said sections, each separator provided with means for allowing the easy entrance of a plug between the sections and also for easily passing by said separator, conductors in said sections and extending across said separators, and said conductors exposed to contact within the space enclosed by the separated sections.

BENJAMIN H. CHRISTOPHER, JR.