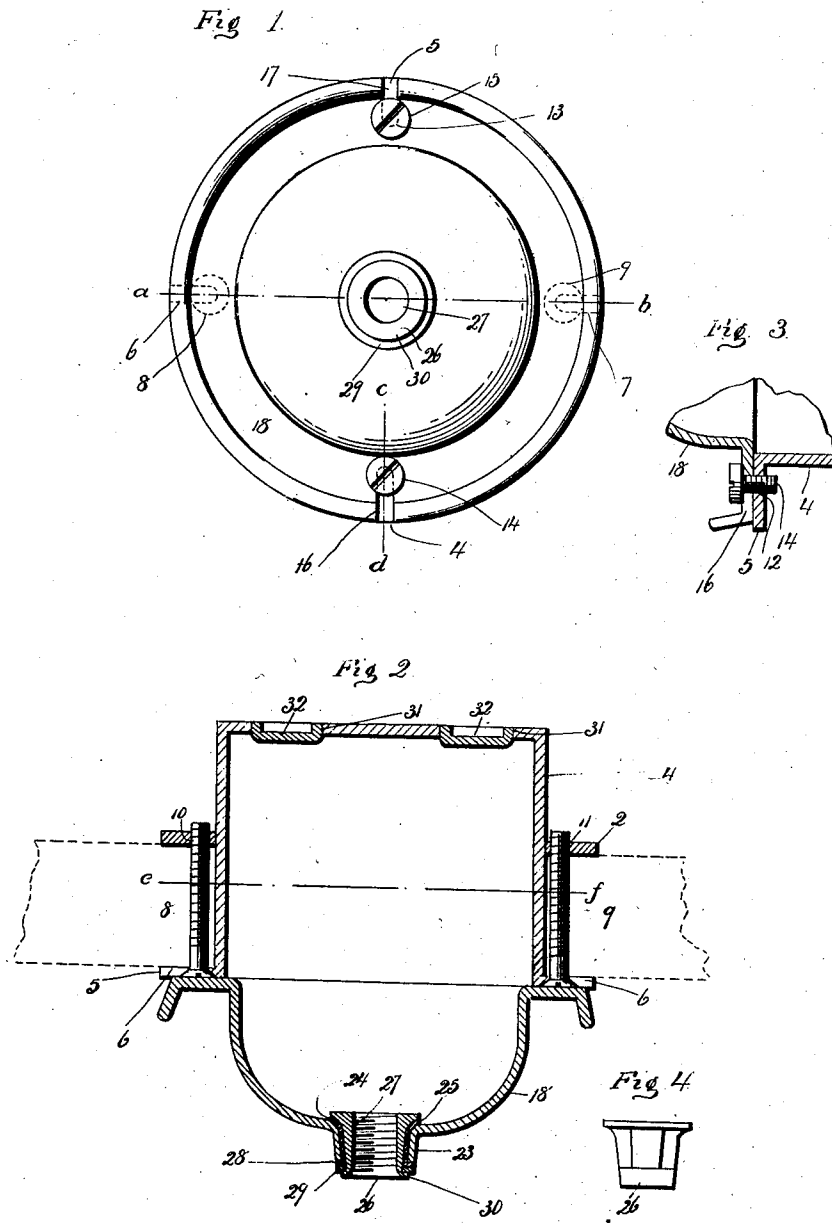


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ELECTRIC INSTALLATION OUTLET BOX.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1909.

932,196.

Patented Aug. 24, 1909.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

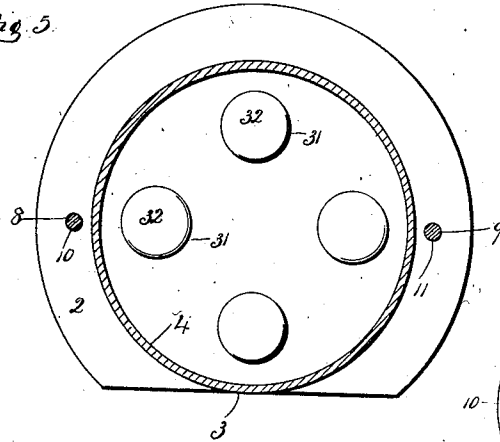


Fig. 6.

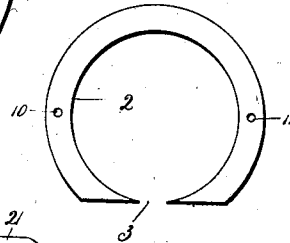


Fig. 7.

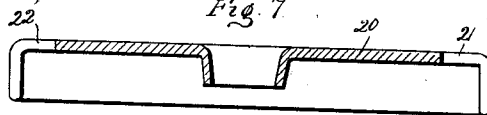
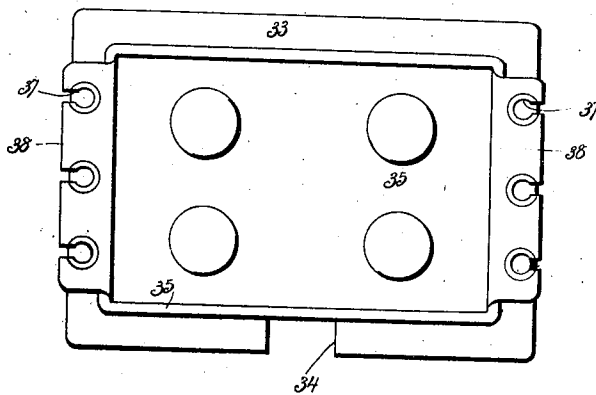


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WHEELER H. VIBBER, OF NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO THE
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ELECTRIC-INSTALLATION OUTLET-BOX.

932,196.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 24, 1909.

Application filed January 22, 1909. Serial No. 473,750.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WHEELER H. VIBBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at New London, in the county of New London and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Electric-Installation Outlet-Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the numerals of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1 a view in front elevation of an electric installation outlet box constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 a view in horizontal section on the line *a—b* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 a view in broken vertical section on the line *c—d* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 a detached view in side elevation of the threaded bushing which is insulated in the center of the cover. Fig. 5 a sectional view on the line *e—f* of Fig. 2, showing the ring-like anchor, the box and the anchor-screws. Fig. 6 a detached view of the ring-like anchor. Fig. 7 a sectional view of the flat cover which may be used with the box in place of the domical cover shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Fig. 8 a view in front elevation showing the application of my invention to a rectangular outlet-box designed to be used as a switch-box.

This invention relates to an improvement in electric installation outlet-boxes, the object being to produce a simple, effective and convenient box constructed with particular reference to being used not only in situations where there is an opportunity of fastening it to wood, but also in situations where there is no such opportunity, as when the plaster is applied to wire lath or to plaster-board, so called.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the construction and combination of parts to be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In carrying out my invention as shown in Figs. 1 to 6 inclusive, I employ a ring-like anchor 2 broken away on one side so as to leave an opening 3 between its ends, whereby one of its ends may be entered into a hole in the plaster much smaller in diameter than the anchor which is in this way introduced one end first, so to speak, into the space back of

the laths, whether the laths be the ordinary wood laths or wire laths or plaster-board which is used in place of laths. The cutting away of the ring on one side enables the cylindrical box 4 to be placed hard up against one side of a joist, in which case the flat edge or cut-away portion of the anchor will be lined up with the side of the joist, though it need not make contact therewith. By employing a broken ring-like anchor, I am enabled as described to introduce it one end first through a comparatively small opening in the plaster, into a space back of the lath where it will form an anchorage for the box 4. Furthermore the breaking away of a portion of the anchor enables it to be passed over the wires and avoids the necessity of passing them through it. The said box 4 is adapted in diameter to pass readily through the anchor 2 and is furnished at its outer end with a flange 5 standing at a right angle to it. This flange is formed at opposite points with radial slots 6 and 7 receiving anchor-screws 8 and 9 made long enough to enter screw-holes 10, 11, in the anchor 2, whereby the box is fastened to the anchor and so held in place in the wall or in the ceiling as the case may be. The said flange 5 has screw-holes 12 and 13 receiving short screws 14 and 15 which pass through radial slots 16 and 17 arranged opposite each other in the box-cover 18, which, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, is domical in form, though in some situations it may be replaced by a flat box-cover 20 having similar slots 21, 22, as shown in Fig. 7.

The domical cover 18 is preferably struck up from sheet metal and formed with an outwardly extending tapering polygonal sleeve 23 receiving a tapering polygonal thimble 24 of insulating material, formed at its inner end with a flange 25 which holds it against outward movement in the sleeve 23 into which it is introduced from the inside of the cover. The insulating thimble 24 receives a bushing 26 polygonal in exterior form, having a threaded opening 27 and also introduced from the inside of the cover, after which a washer 28 of insulating material is slipped over its projecting outer end so as to rest upon the outer edge of the sleeve 23 and the outer edge of the insulating thimble 24. A metal washer 29 is then slipped over the projecting outer end of the bushing 26 which is then expanded to form a retaining flange

30, whereby the two washers 28 and 29 are held in place. On account of the polygonal form of the sleeve 23, thimble 24 and bushing 26, the bushing is locked against rotation
 5 when the threaded nipple of the fixture is turned into the bushing.

Ordinarily the bottom of the box will be formed with four symmetrically arranged holes 31 through which the electric wires are
 10 passed into the interior of the box. In case all of these holes are not used they will be closed and sealed by shallow, cup-like sheet metal seals 32 driven into the holes 31. These seals may be at any time replaced inter-
 15 changeably in the holes in the bottom of the box according to the circumstances of its use.

It should be explained that when the anchor 2 has been introduced into place,
 20 back of the lath, it is held and positioned for the introduction of the box 4, by one of the anchor-screws 8 and 9, one of the said screws being entered into one of the two screw-holes 10 and 11 in the anchor. In this way the
 25 screw serves as a handle for the anchor, while the box is being introduced into the same. The provision of the flange 5 of the box with the open radial slots 16 and 17 permits the box to be readily engaged through one or the
 30 other of the said slots, with the head of this screw when the box has reached its final position. The screw is then turned sufficiently to draw the anchor and box into place after which the other screw is inserted through the
 35 other slot in the flange of the box, and then into the other screw-hole in the anchor.

In the construction shown by Fig. 8 of the drawings, the anchor 33 is made rectangular in form and considerably smaller in one di-
 40 mension than in the other, whereby it may be introduced narrow end first into an opening in the plaster smaller than the major dimension of the anchor. By preference this anchor will not be continuous but pro-
 45 vided with an opening 34 adapting it to be passed over the electric wires or cables. The box 35 is secured to this ring by means of anchor-screws (not shown) passing through slots 37 in flanges 38 extending outward from
 50 the ends of the box. In this modified construction the anchor is adapted to be worked through an opening in the plaster smaller than the flatwise area of the anchor, the same as the anchor shown in the preceding figures.

I claim:—

1. In an electric installation outlet box, the combination with an anchor constructed in form and size for bodily insertion through an opening in the plaster smaller in size than the flatwise area of the anchor, of a box inserted into the said opening after the anchor has been positioned back of the plaster, and screws passing through the box into the anchor for holding the box in place. 55

2. In an electric installation outlet box, the combination with an anchor having the form of a broken ring, whereby it is adapted to be passed through an opening in the plaster smaller in size than the flatwise area of the ring, of a box formed with a flange and adapted to be inserted into the said ring after the same has been positioned back of the plaster, and anchor-screws passing through the flange of the box into the anchor, whereby the box is anchored in place. 60 75

3. In an electric installation outlet box, the combination with an anchor constructed in form and size for bodily insertion into an opening in the plaster smaller than the flatwise area of the anchor, of a flanged box having open radial slots formed in its flange and constructed for insertion into the anchor after the same has been positioned back of the plaster, and anchor-screws passing through the said slots in the flange of the box into the anchor for holding the box in place. 80 85

4. In an electric installation outlet box, the combination with an anchor constructed in form and size for bodily insertion into an opening in the plaster smaller than the flatwise area of the anchor, of a box having a flange formed with open radial slots and constructed for insertion into the said anchor after the same has been positioned back of the plaster, a box-cover formed with slots and constructed to be applied to the box after the same has been fastened to the anchor, and screws passing through the slots in the cover into screw-holes in the flange of the box. 90 95 100

In testimony whereof, I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WHEELER H. VIBBER.

Witnesses:

MABEL B. LEWIS,
 THOMAS J. LUSK.