No. 763,355. PATENTED JUNE 28, 1904.

W. F. BOSSERT.

ELECTRIC FIXTURE SUPPORT FOR OUTLET BOXES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 9, 1904.

NO MODEL.

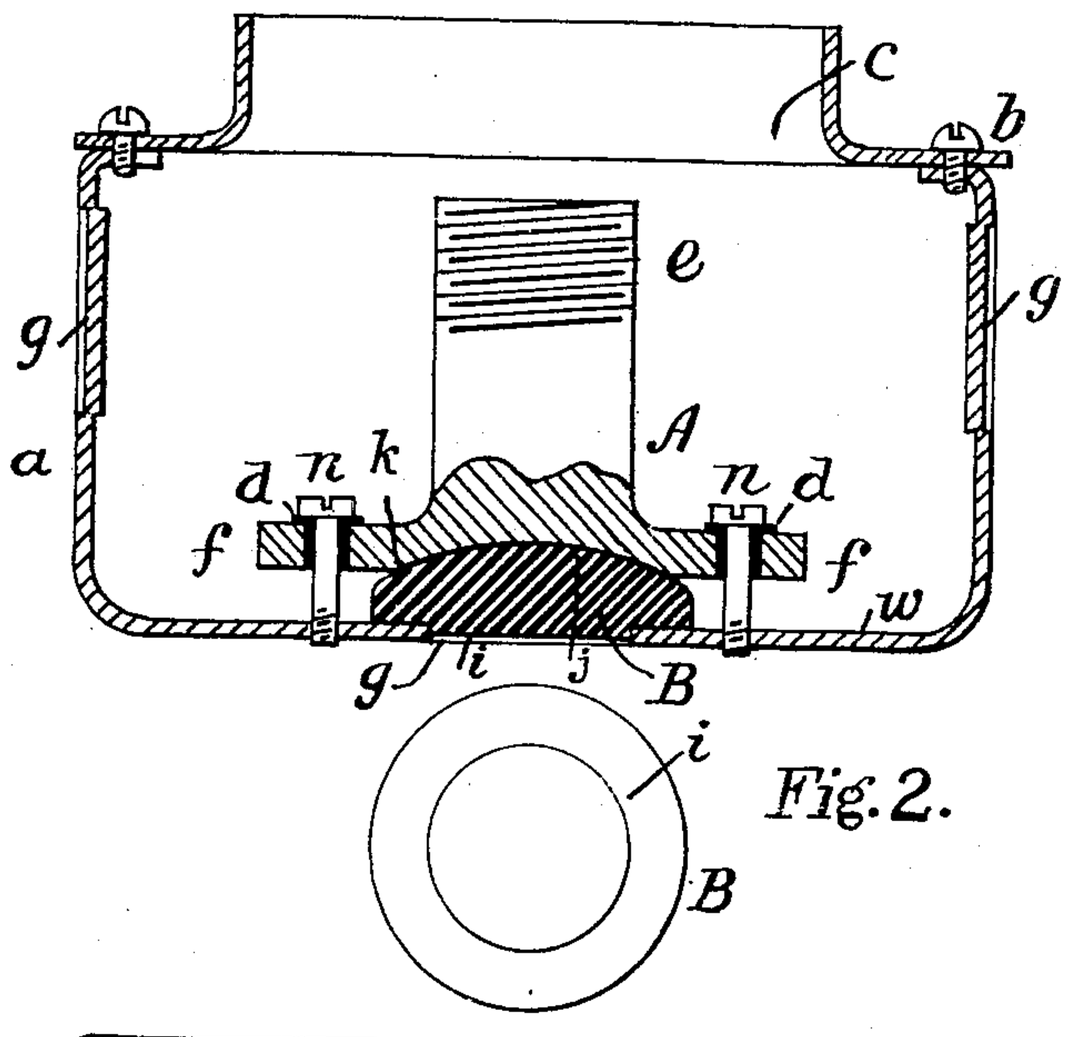

Fig. 1.

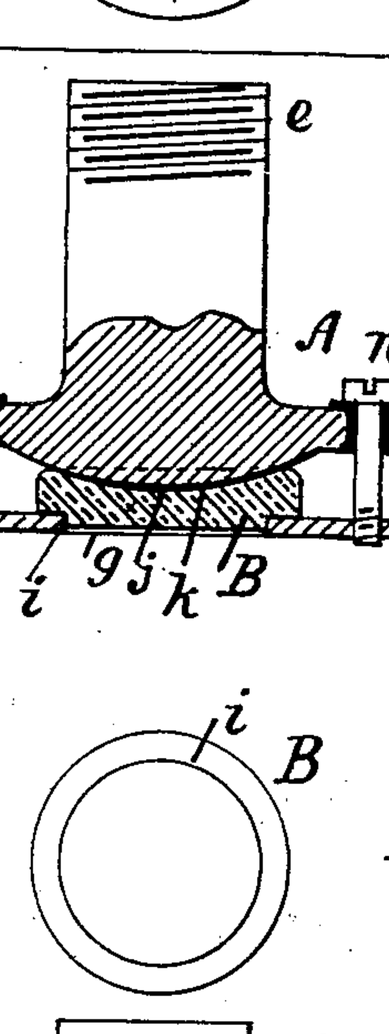

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

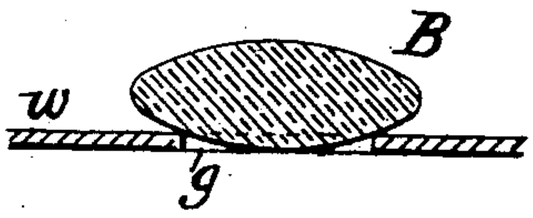

Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.

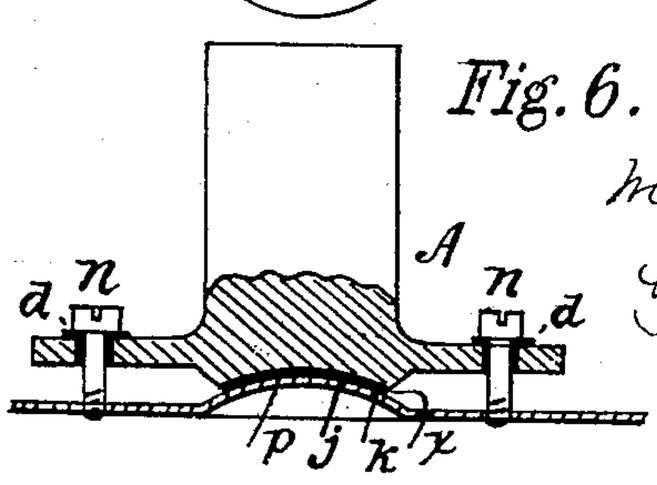

Fig. 6.

Attest.

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No. 763,355. Patented June 28, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. BOSSERT, OF UTICA, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE BOSSERT ELECTRIC CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, OF UTICA, NEW YORK.

ELECTRIC-FIXTURE SUPPORT FOR OUTLET-BOXES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 763,355, dated June 28, 1904.

Application filed January 9, 1904. Serial No. 188,296. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. BOSSERT, residing at Utica, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Electric-Fixture Supports for Outlet-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in interior-conduit outlet-boxes, and especially to the outlet-boxes provided with means for supporting inside thereof the electric-fixture supporting-lamps which are fed with current from the conductors entering in said box. The interior conduits and the boxes at which they terminate are placed in positiou before the plastering is applied to the walls, and it frequently happens that the outlet-box is not in alinement with the face of the plastering, and consequently the fixture does not present a true appearance with the face of the wall, which detracts greatly from the designed effect. To obviate this defect was the object of Patent No. 725,664, dated April 21, 1903, granted to me, and upon which this invention is an improvement. In the said patent a suitable spherical surface is provided within the box, in contact with which is a curved surface forming the inner end of a support for the electric-lamp fixture. The said support (and its curved surface) is firmly and adjustably held to the said surface within the box by bolts or screws which pass through arms from the said support and are threaded into the wall of the box, and by means of the bolts or screws the lamp-support may be accurately alined with the surface of the wall of the building. It is desirable in such boxes to insulate the lamp or fixture support or stem from the outlet-box in order to prevent any leakage of current and consequent resulting shocks to persons who come in contact with the apparatus, and to this end I provide means for effecting this result, which consists of interposing insulation between the surfaces of the lamp-support and the wall of the box, whereby the said support is electrically separated from the box, as I will now proceed to describe, and point out in the appended claims.

Of the drawings which illustrate the invention, Figure 1 is a sectional view of an outlet-box illustrating the invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of an element shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of an outlet-box, also showing the invention; and Fig. 4 is a plan view of an element shown in the previous figure. Figs. 5 and 6 are sectional views showing modifications of the structure of the invention.

In Fig. 1, *a* represents an outlet-box made from thin sheet metal and provided with partly formed and weakened openings *g*—that is, the metal is partly pressed out and can be fully forced out by a blow from a hammer—and an opening *g* is thus shown in the bottom wall *w* of the box. A cover *b* is represented as secured to the box *a* by screws, and it has a central opening *c*, surrounded by a flange. Within the box is a support A for an electrical fixture, which is screwed upon the outer end *e*, which is threaded for that purpose. The support A is mainly constructed as represented in the patent referred to, to which reference is made, and has its inner end provided with a hollowed-out or spherically-concaved surface *j*, and its periphery is provided with a plurality of arms *f*, having holes through which extend the bolts or screws *n* to the bottom wall of the box into threaded holes therein. The bolts or screws *n* are insulated from the arms *f* by the insulating-thimbles *d*. B is a detachable and independent disk of insulation, such as hard rubber or vulcanized fiber or other insulating material, and has an upper convex surface K, fitting into the concave surface *j* of the support A. The lower side of the disk has an offset *i*, which fits into the hole *g* in the bottom of the box and holds it firmly in place, and when the box is *in situ* by turning the bolts or screws *n* in and out of the bottom wall *w* the support A can be adjusted and brought into a right angle with the face of the plastering, whether the front of the box is in alinement or not, and then the bolts or screws will hold the two surfaces *j* and K to each other and to the bottom wall of the box, and at the same time the fixture-support A is fully insulated from the box *a* and from the metal conduits which enter

the same, and all danger of current leaking thereto is obviated.

Fig. 2 indicates the same features shown in Fig. 1, except that the curvature of the surfaces *j* and K is reversed, and the block or disk B is represented as and may be made of glass or porcelain or any vitrified material.

In Fig. 5 I represent a piece of insulation B of an oval cross-section, providing convex surfaces to be interposed between the bottom wall *w* of the box and the concaved surface of the support. Its lower curved side rests in and is centered in the hole *g* of the wall *w*. It will be readily understood that this interposed piece may be entirely spherical, if desired.

Fig. 6 represents the bottom wall *w* of the box as swelling up into its interior, the upper curvature or surface P fitting into the concaved surface of the inner end of the support A. In this case the interposed insulation *x* is attached to the support A and moves with it.

It will be understood that the intention of the invention is that the surfaces *j* and K shall be of opposite curvature, one of which will be of insulating material, so that the fixture-support A may be properly adjusted, combined with the adjusting arms and bolts or screws, whereby the support and its arms are moved as a whole whenever the bolts are lengthened or shortened as described.

What I claim is—

1. In an outlet-box, an opening in the bottom of the box with two or more bolt-holes about the same; a support for a fixture having a screw-thread at its outer end, and a spherical surface at its inner end, with bolt-holes at its integral periphery; an insulating-block between said outer end of the support and the bottom of the box adapted to rest in the opening thereof having a stationary spherical surface coinciding with the movable spherical surface of said support, with adjustable means for holding the said surfaces to each other and to the bottom of the box consisting of bolts or screws passing through the holes in the said periphery and through the holes in the bottom and insulated therefrom, as set forth.

2. A metal outlet-box having partly-weakened openings in its walls, one of which is punctured, and surrounded by a plurality of threaded holes; a support for a fixture having a screw-thread at its outer end, and a spherical surface at its inner end with a plurality of integral perforated arms, said perforations registering with the holes in the said wall, an independent and detachable insulating-piece interposed between the end of the said support and the wall of the box, having a stationary spherical surface engaging the movable spherical surface of the support with adjusting bolts or screws passing through the said arms and insulated therefrom into the said threaded holes, as set forth.

3. A metal outlet-box having partly-weakened openings in its walls, one of which is punctured, and surrounded by a plurality of threaded holes; a support for a fixture having a screw-thread at its outer end and a concave surface at its inner end with a plurality of perforations at its periphery registering with the holes in said wall, an independent and detachable insulating-piece interposed between the end of the said support and the wall of the box having a stationary convex spherical surface engaging the movable concave surface of the support on one side and resting in the said punctured hole on the other side, with adjusting bolts or screws passing through the perforations in said periphery and insulated therefrom into the said threaded holes, as set forth.

4. In an outlet-box, a support for a fixture having means at its outer end for securing the fixture thereto, and at its inner end a spherical surface, and insulated bolt-holes in its periphery; an independent and detachable insulating-piece between the inner end of the support and the wall of the box having a stationary spherical surface engaging the movable spherical surface on the inner end of the support, and adjustable means for holding the said surfaces to each other and to the wall consisting of bolts or screws passing through the said insulated holes into threaded holes in the bottom of the box, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 6th day of January, 1904.

WILLIAM F. BOSSERT.

Witnesses:
FREDERICK T. FOXENBERGER,
WM. H. MATTIN.