No. 863,847. PATENTED AUG. 20, 1907.

L. T. HATFIELD.

ELECTRICAL SOCKET SEAL.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 3, 1906.

Fig. 1.

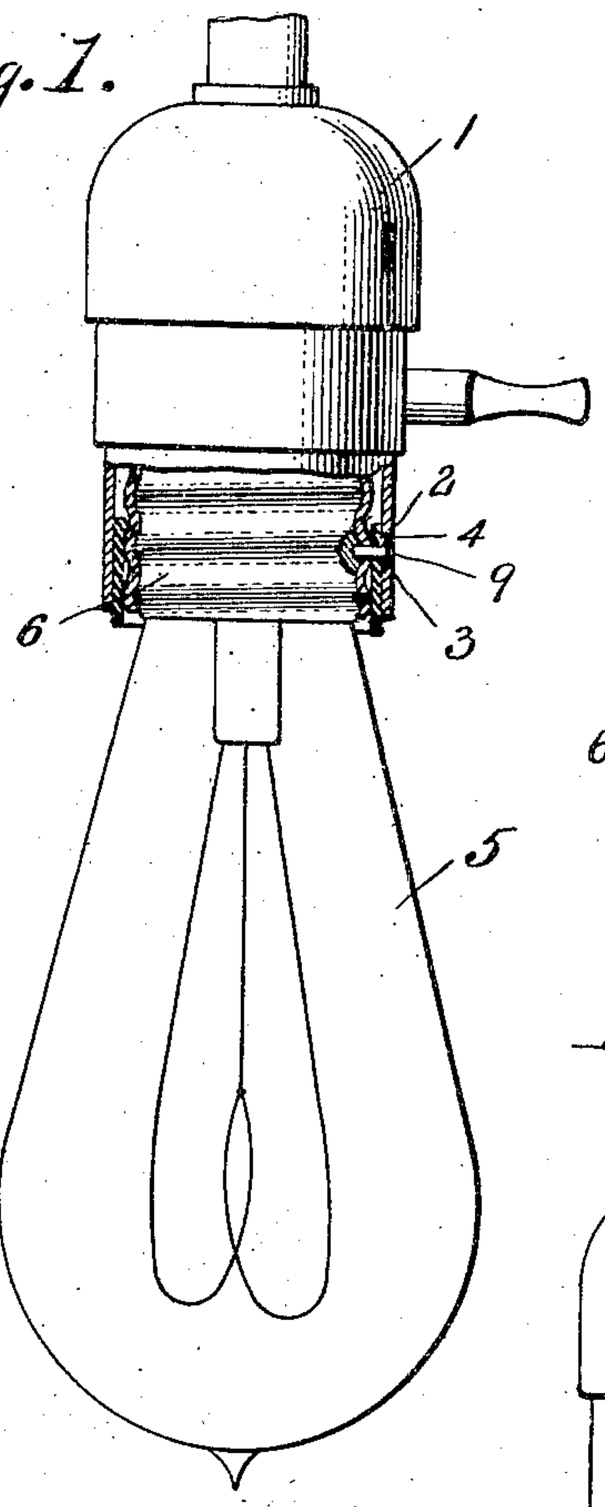


Fig. 2

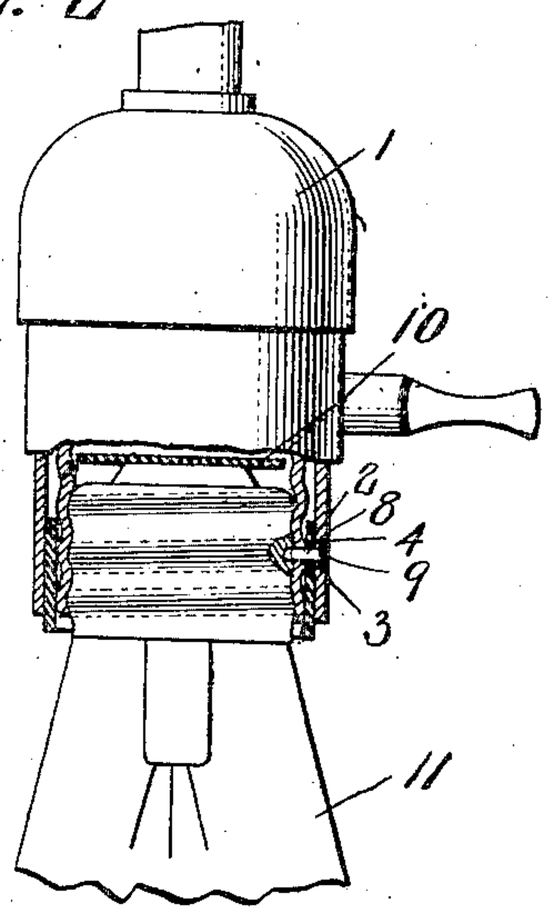


Fig. 7

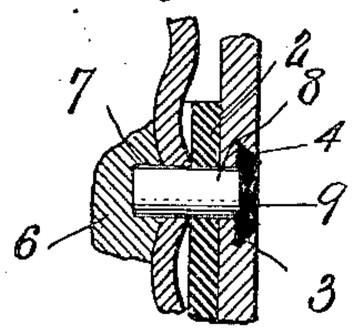


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 5.

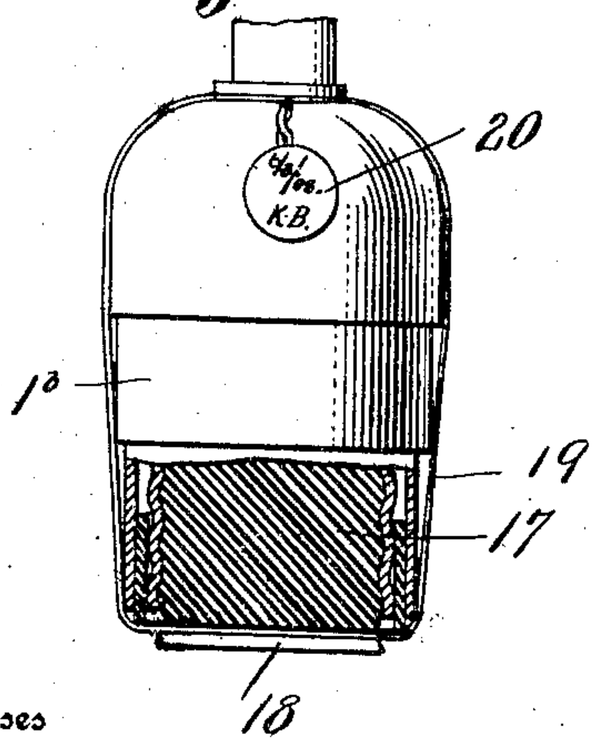
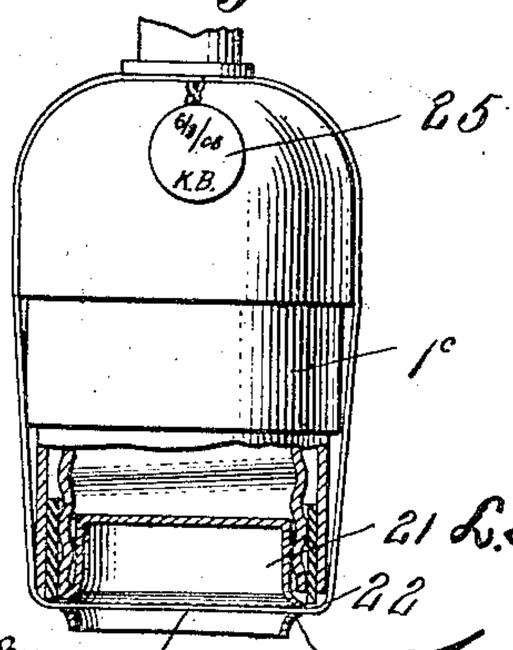


Fig. 6.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LLEWELLYN T. HATFIELD, OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.

ELECTRICAL-SOCKET SEAL.

No. 863,847. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 20, 1907.

Application filed August 3, 1906. Serial No. 329,119.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LLEWELLYN T. HATFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing in Sacramento, in the county of Sacramento and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electrical-Socket Seals, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to electrical socket seals.

In an application filed by me on the fourth day of October, 1905, serially numbered 281,290, I have claimed broadly a device for sealing sockets for electric lamps and other current consuming devices.

The present application has for an object to improve the form of the invention therein shown and claimed.

Other and further objects will appear in the following description and will be more particularly pointed out in the appended claims:

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a view of a spent or dummy lamp held in the socket, parts being broken away to show the manner of sealing the lamp in the socket. Fig. 2 is a sectional view showing a good lamp sealed in the socket, a non-conducting disk being interposed between a lamp contact and a socket contact. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of another embodiment showing a plug fitting within a socket and sealed therein; Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the same embodiment; Fig. 5 is a sectional view of another form of plug fitted in a socket and sealed therein; and Fig. 6 is a sectional view of still another form of plug. Fig. 7 is a detail view of the sealing means employed in Figs. 1 and 2.

Referring more particularly to the embodiment shown in Fig. 1, 1 indicates a socket having one of its walls provided with an opening, said opening having a narrow inner end 2 and an enlarged outer end 3 provided with a contracted mouth 4. A spent or dummy lamp 5 having a plug 6 is fitted in the socket and is provided with a recess 7 in its plug. To secure the lamp within the socket, a pin or key 8 of a length to fit at the same time within the recess 7 and the narrow inner end of the opening in the socket, is passed into the said recess and the said opening, and is held in position against surreptitious removal by a seal 9 pressed into the large inner end of the opening. The pin or key 8 acts as a locking means for the dummy or spent lamp and prevents the removal of the same except upon the destruction of the seal.

Instead of employing a dummy or spent lamp, I may employ an operative lamp 11 as shown in Fig. 2. In this instance, a non-conductive disk 10 is interposed between a contact of the socket and a contact on the lamp. The manner of securing the operative lamp in its socket is the same as employed in Fig. 1.

In Figs. 3 and 4, the socket 1^a is provided with two openings 12 in opposite walls, and a solid plug 13 made preferably of non-conductive material, is fitted in the socket and locked therein by a wire 14 which is passed through the openings 12 and through a transverse opening 15 in the plug. The ends of the wire are passed about the socket until they meet, and are secured together by a seal 16.

In Fig. 5, the socket 1^b is not changed, and a plug 17, formed preferably of non-conducting material such as wood, is provided with external threads and is screwed into the socket. To hold the plug against surreptitious removal, the plug is provided with a transverse groove 18 in one end and a wire 19 is fitted in the groove and has its ends passed about the socket and secured together by a seal 20.

In Fig. 6, the socket 1^c is not changed and the plug 21 is hollow, being formed of sheet metal or other sheet material. So as to prevent the plug engaging the inner contact of the socket, the plug is provided with an annular flange or rib 22 which engages the wall of the socket and limits the inward movement of the plug. The plug is locked in the socket by a wire 23 which, after being passed through openings 24, in that part of the plug projecting from the socket, is wrapped about the socket in any suitable manner and has its ends secured by a seal 25.

In all embodiments, the destruction of the seal would be notice to the company or dealer that access had been had to the current and a charge for the current could be made, the rules of the company fixing the charge.

It will be noted that in all embodiments of my invention, a non-current consuming plug is fitted in the socket and locking means holds the plug within the socket, the locking means being held by a seal.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination with an electrical socket, of a non-current consuming plug fitted in the socket, and a seal for the plug.

2. The combination with an electrical socket, of a plug fitted in the socket in spaced relation to one of the contacts of the socket, and a seal for the plug.

3. The combination with the socket, a non-conducting plug fitted in the socket, and a seal for the plug.

The foregoing specification signed at Sacramento California this 9th day of July, 1906.

LLEWELLYN T. HATFIELD.

In presence of two witnesses—
V. L. HATFIELD,
CORA BARNES.