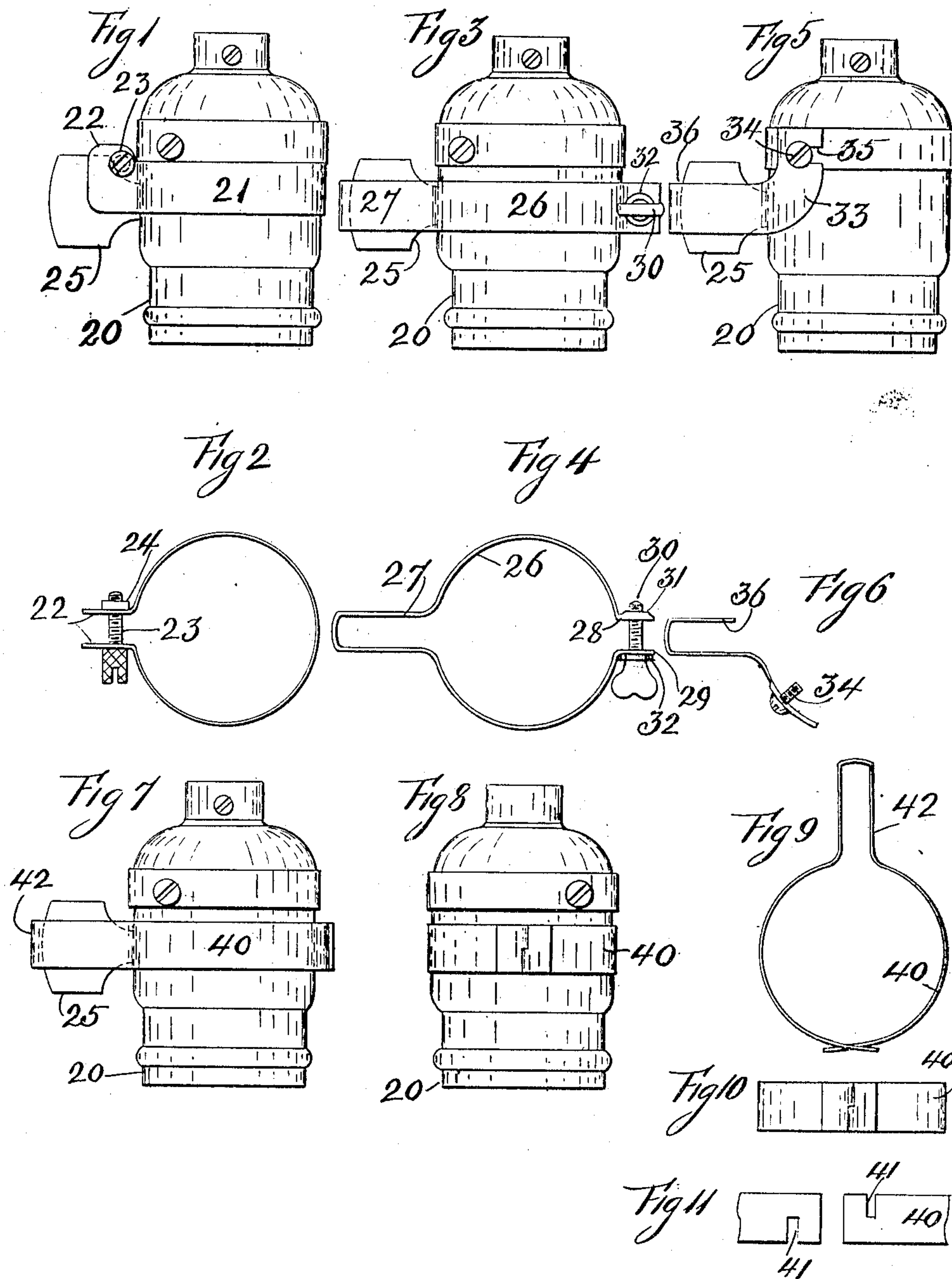


No. 875,830.

PATENTED JAN. 7, 1908.

M. LOEWENTHAL.  
SOCKET KEY CLAMP.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 6, 1906.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAX LOEWENTHAL, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

## SOCKET-KEY CLAMP.

No. 875,830.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 7, 1908.

Application filed June 6, 1906. Serial No. 320,440.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MAX LOEWENTHAL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Socket-Key Clamps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to means for clamping or holding rigidly in position the key of an electric socket, known in the arts as an "incandescent lamp key socket," after it has been turned to the "on" position so as to prevent it from being turned to the "off" position, or vice versa. This is found desirable whenever the key of the lamp socket is required to break more than one ampere at 250 volts or two amperes at 125 volts, the socket being designed for a maximum of 250 watts.

The internal mechanism of the socket is too delicate to withstand the breaking of a circuit carrying a heavier load than that mentioned and sparking will ensue. This, if repeated at frequent intervals will soon destroy the socket. By means of the invention this shortcoming is obviated for all sockets which may be called upon to carry a load of 300, 400, 500 watts, &c., which is the consumption of a number of domestic electric cooking and ironing utensils. The use of this clamp prevents not only the destruction of a key socket used for this extraordinary service, but also the resulting short-circuit within the socket with its attending disastrous results, and obviates the necessity of substituting a keyless for a key socket. The "clamp" or "stop" in its numerous different forms and means of application is easily attached to any existing lamp socket. The clamp holds the key of a socket permanently in position, while said clamp is attached to the socket.

The drawings illustrate a few specific designs and forms of construction of the invention, which is, however, in its broader conception, not limited to these details.

Figure 1 represents an elevation of an electric socket with the key clamp attached thereto, Fig. 2 shows a plan view of the key clamp in Fig. 1, Fig. 3 represents an elevation of an electric socket with another form of the key clamp, Fig. 4 is a plan view of the clamp shown in Fig. 3, Fig. 5 shows an elevation of an electric socket and a further modification of the clamp, Fig. 6 is a plan view of the clamp shown in Fig. 5, Fig. 7 is

an elevation of an electric socket with another modification of the clamp, Fig. 8 is a side view of Fig. 7, Fig. 9 shows a plan view of the clamp represented in Figs. 7 and 8, Fig. 10 is a front view of Fig. 9, and Fig. 11 is a fragmentary view of Fig. 10 with the ends of the clamp disengaged.

The socket is designated by the numeral 20, and around the body thereof is clamped the ring clamp 21, at the open ends of which project the ears 22, which are joined by the bolt 23 carrying the nut 24. The ears 22 bear against the sides of the key 25 of the socket, and prevent the latter being turned when in place.

In Figs. 3 and 4 the ring clamp 26 has formed therein the U shaped projection 27 which engages with the key 25 of the socket, and ears 28 and 29 project from the open ends of the clamp, the latter being joined by the thumb screw 30. A boss 31 extends from the ear 28, and a thread is formed in both the said boss and ear 28. The threaded end of the screw 30 engages with said thread. A washer 32 is located between the head of the screw 30 and the ear which carries said head.

In Figs. 5 and 6 the socket is shown with a bracket 33, having one of its legs bolted to the body of the socket by means of the screws 34, a slot 35 being generally formed in the leg 33, the other leg 36 of the bracket being U shaped and encircling the key 25 of the socket.

In Figs. 7 to 11 the socket has encircling around its body the ring clamp 40, the ends of which have notches 41, by means of which the said ends may be engaged. A U shaped projection 42 in the ring engages with the key 25 of the socket.

It will be noted that the devices shown and of which there may be many other modifications, securely and easily lock the key of the socket from breaking the circuit, and with a slight modification could be used to prevent establishing an open circuit.

Having described my invention I claim:

1. The combination of an electric socket, a detachable clamp held in place on the socket and bearing against the key thereof.
2. The combination of an electric socket, an adjustable clamp around the body thereof, a part of the clamp bearing against the key of the socket, and means to tighten the clamp in position.

3. The combination with an electric lamp key socket of a ring clamp around the body thereof, ears extending from the clamp and bearing against the key of the socket, and a  
5 bolt joining the ears to secure the clamp in place, and to prevent the key being turned.
4. The combination of an electric socket, an adjustable clamp around the body thereof and a portion of said clamp in the path of

action of the key of the socket, to prevent fully turning the said key.

Signed at New York in the county of New York and State of New York this 4th day of June, A. D. 1906.

MAX LOEWENTHAL.

Witnesses:

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MORRIS LEVY.