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E. A. REINKE

DESIGNATION DEVICE

Filed June 8, 1926

1,644,084

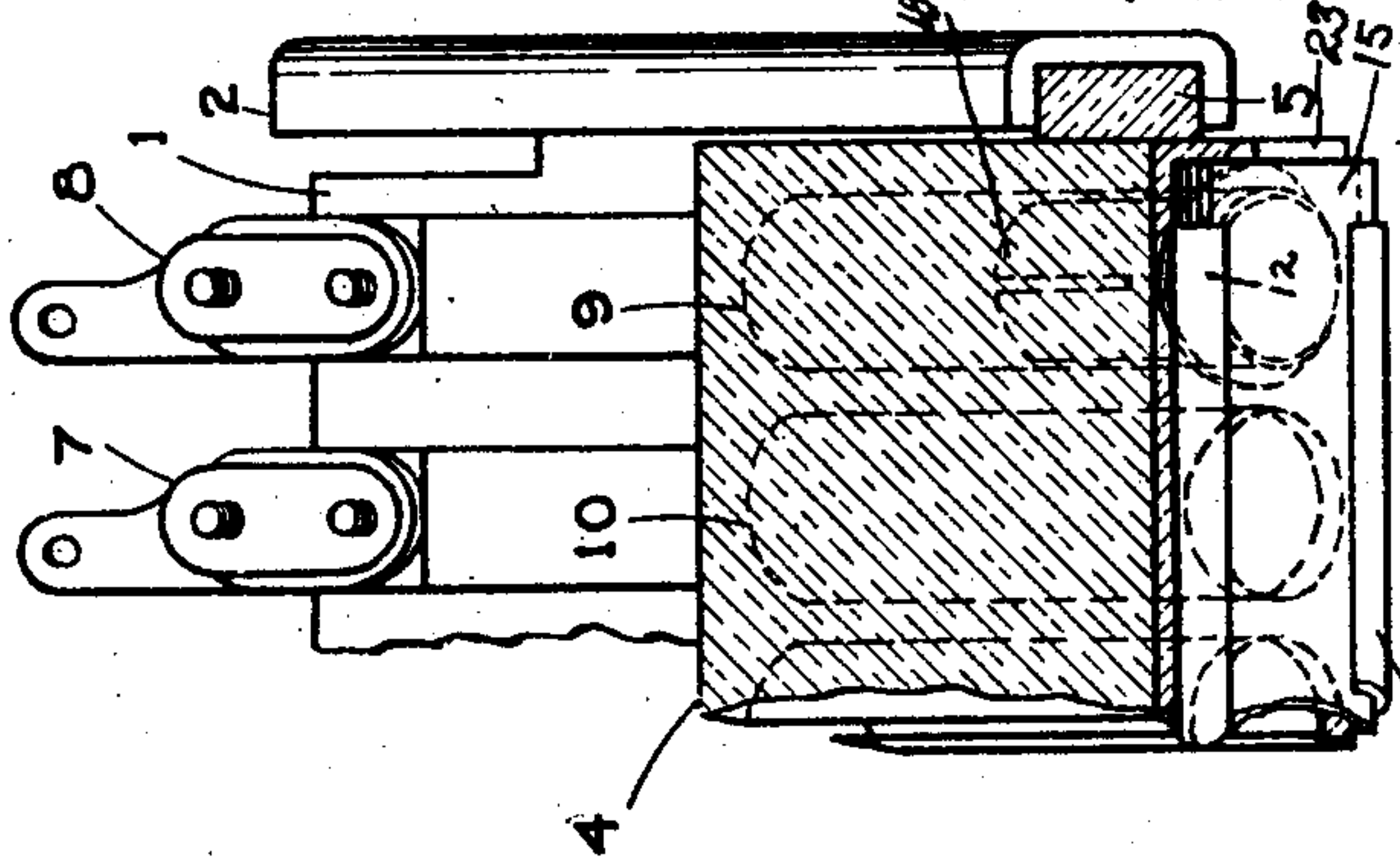


FIG. 2

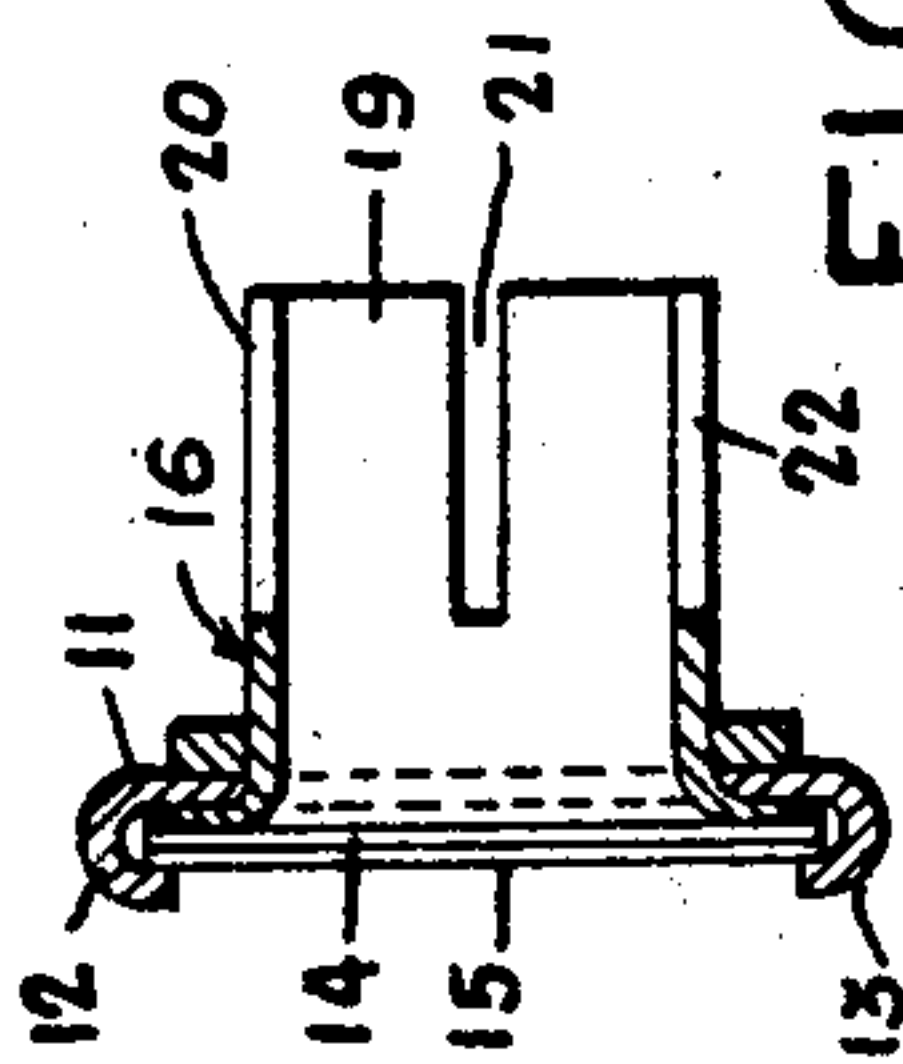


FIG. 4.

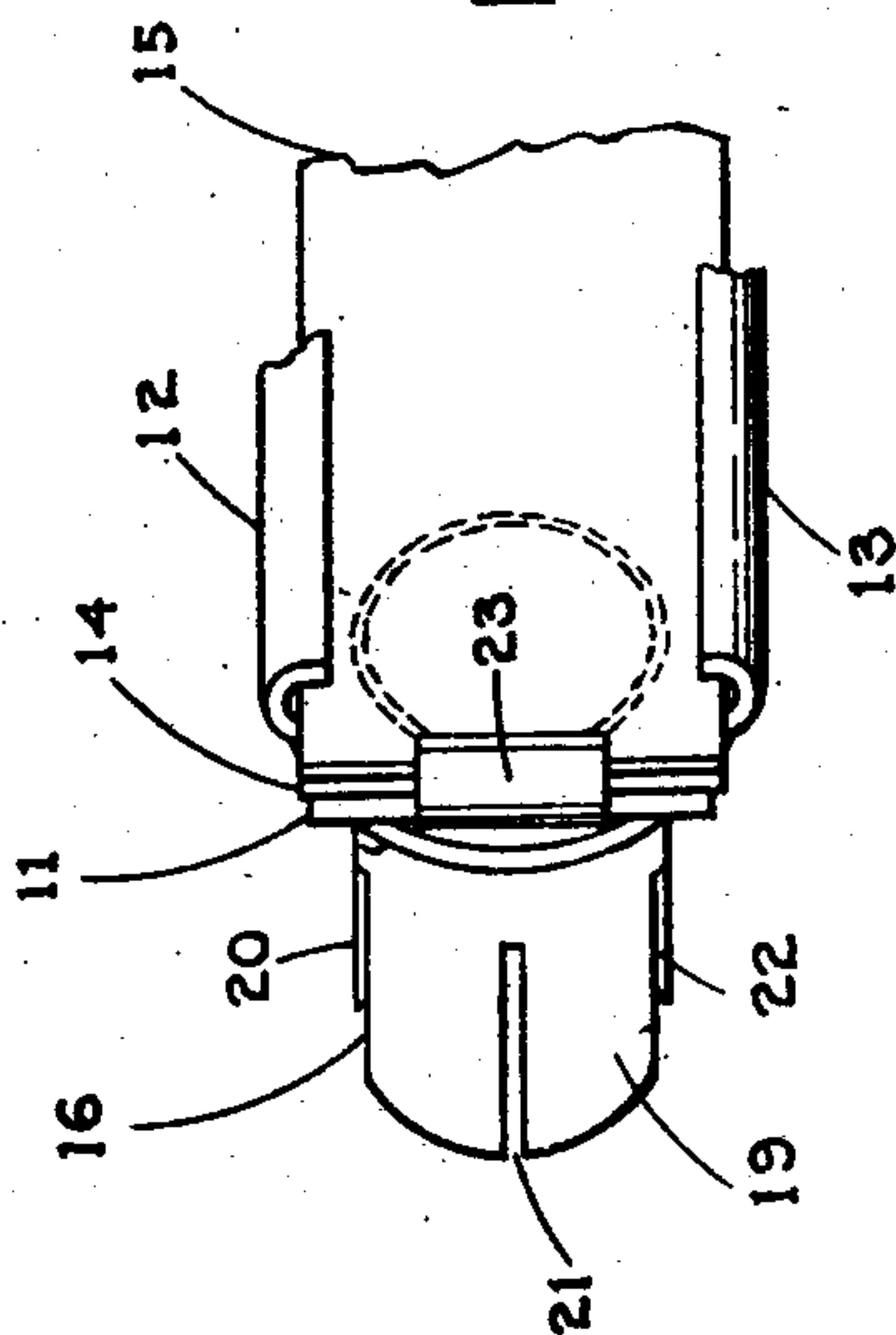


FIG. 3

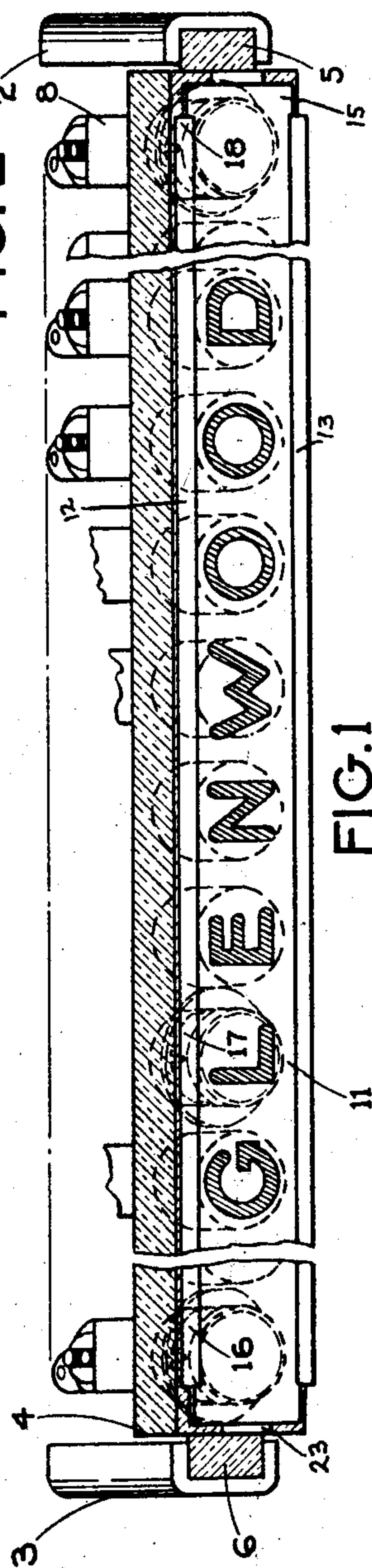


FIG. 1

INVENTOR
EUGENE A. REINKE

BY
Winfred T. Powell
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE A. REINKE, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE STROMBERG-CARLSON TELEPHONE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

DESIGNATION DEVICE.

Application filed June 8, 1926. Serial No. 114,593.

This invention relates to apparatus for designation purposes and more particularly to a combined lamp jack strip and designation strip.

5 One object of this invention is the conservation of space in connection with the mounting of outgoing trunk jacks, their associated busy lamps and the designation for said trunk jacks and lamps.

10 Another object of this invention is the provision of means whereby the ordinary individual lamp caps associated with switchboard lamps are dispensed with and in their place is provided a common strip upon
15 which may be printed the designation of the group of trunks with which said lamps are associated.

Another object of this invention is the provision of means whereby the light of one
20 lamp associated with one trunk of a group will illuminate a designation device which is common to several trunks of a group.

The jack strip of this invention may be similar to that disclosed in the patent to
25 Wotton No. 1,159,562, issued November 9, 1915, except that in this invention the individual lamp caps designated 48 in the above patent are dispensed with.

Although this invention is of particular
30 advantage in connection with busy lamps associated with outgoing trunks located at an A operator's position, it is not limited to this particular type of system, the limitation being particularly pointed out in the
35 appended claims.

It is customary in manual telephone systems to provide a strip of lamp jacks, with their associated lamps, which correspond to and are located either above or below the
40 strip of outgoing trunk jacks assigned to a particular distant exchange. In such a system it is customary to provide a designation strip usually above the lamp jack strip with the designation of the office to which these
45 trunks lead, indicated on said designation strip. This arrangement, of course, takes up considerable space since the trunk jack strip, lamp jack strip and designation strip occupy considerable space in the switch-
50 board, which is valuable.

In this invention the space heretofore oc-

cupied by the designation strip is available for use by strips of trunk jacks and lamp jacks since the designation strip is located in front of and attached to the strip of lamp
55 jacks.

Referring to the drawing, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a single lamp jack strip to which is attached the designation strip holder in accordance with this invention. 60 It is assumed in this case that this strip contains the usual number of lamp jacks, for example 20, although in this figure the strip has been cut up into three sections to simplify the drawing. Fig. 2 is a perspective
65 view of one end of the lamp jack strip, which is shown tilted towards the observer more than Fig. 1, in order that the lamp jacks and the associated apparatus may be more clearly shown. Fig. 3 is a perspective
70 view of one end of the designation strip holder with one of its associated thimbles, which is for the purpose of attaching this designation strip holder to the lamp jack
75 strip. This figure also shows the metal designation strip holder together with the paper designation strip upon which the designation is printed and the transparent strip of celluloid or other material. Fig. 4
80 is a transverse vertical cross-section through the thimble 16 of Fig. 1. Corresponding reference numerals applied to the different figures refer to the same detail of the apparatus.

As shown in these drawings the strip of
85 lamp sockets comprises a sheet metal frame or support having a main portion 1, upon each end of which are formed ears 2 and 3 for fastening said strip in a switchboard. An insulating block 4 of formica or other
90 suitable material is held in place by means of the projections 5 and 6 attached to ears 2 and 3 by means of screws or other suitable attaching arrangements.

Attached to the main portion 1 are lamp
95 jack assemblies 7, 8 and other sockets making up a complete set of the required number, for example 20. These lamp jacks are mounted on the main portion 1 in such a position that they are in alignment with the
100 holes 9, 10, etc., which are located in the insulating block 4. The small switchboard

lamps are inserted through these openings in the insulating strip and contact with jacks such as 7 and 8.

The designation strip holder shown attached to the lamp jack strip in Fig. 1, but more clearly shown in Fig. 3, consists of a sheet of brass or other metal 11, having over turned portions 12 and 13 which form a channel for holding the paper designation strip 14 and the transparent strip 15. Designation strip 14, preferably consists of some transparent paper such as onion skin paper while transparent strip 15 consists of a transparent material such as celluloid, which serves to hold the paper designation strip in place and to protect it from becoming soiled or damaged. Portion 23, which is bent up at an angle at each end of the metal holder is for the purpose of forming a stop to prevent the paper and celluloid strips from shifting endwise in the holder.

As shown in Fig. 1 the designation strip holder is approximately of the same length as the insulation block and it is attached to this block by inserting the three thimbles 16, 17 and 18 into openings in the insulating block 4. This metal designation holder has circular openings in alignment with the openings in the insulating block and these openings, including those associated with thimbles 16, 17 and 18, allow the light from the associated lamps to shine through and illuminate the designation strip.

The thimbles, which are integral with the holder portion of the designation strip holder are each composed of a cylindrical shell 19, as most clearly shown in Fig. 3. This shell is provided with slots 20, 21, 22 and an additional slot in the rear of the thimble (which is not shown in Fig. 3) and for the purpose of forming spring sections, which sections are spread slightly so that upon insertion of the thimbles into the openings in the insulation block they serve to clamp the designation strip holder in position. It will thus be seen that the lettered designation strip may be easily removed from the switchboard since the complete designation strip holder including the paper designation strip and the celluloid strip may be taken out by simply pulling it forward until the thimbles disengage the openings in the insulation block.

Upon the paper designation strip is printed the designation of the exchange with which these lamps are associated. For example, in Fig. 1 all lamps of this strip are associated with the "Glenwood" exchange. It will be understood that a designation strip may be divided into groups, for example the first 5 lamps of the strip shown in Fig. 1 may be associated with the Glenwood exchange, in which case the word Glenwood would be abbreviated or the letters would be made small enough so that they would

extend over the space occupied by only 5 lamps. Another exchange designation would then be printed on a succeeding portion of the strip associated with the lamps of that exchange.

In the operation of the system to which it is assumed this invention is applied, when the A operator receives a call for a subscriber in a distant exchange, she inserts the calling plug into a jack associated with the exchange as indicated by the designation shown in Fig. 1. The particular jack which she chooses will be one associated with a lamp which is not lighted, this being an indication that the trunk is in its idle condition. It is assumed that the system in which this operation takes place is of the straight forward trunking type, that is where the A operator plugs into an idle trunk jack leading to the wanted exchange and does not make use of the well known order wire system.

It will be noted that since there are no individual lamp caps associated with the lamps of this invention, the rays of light are not confined to the individual lamp which is lighted, but they spread out behind the paper designation strip and illuminate the complete word associated with one exchange.

It will be understood that, although this invention has been described in connection with a particular portion of the operation of a telephone system, it relates to a designation device which may be used for other purposes.

What I claim is:

1. In combination, a lamp jack strip provided with openings into which lamps are inserted, a designation strip holder provided with holes in alignment with said openings, and means for attaching said designation strip holder to said lamp jack strip.

2. In combination, a lamp jack strip provided with openings into which lamps are inserted, a designation strip holder provided with holes in alignment with said openings, and spring means for attaching said designation strip holder to said lamp jack strip.

3. In combination, a lamp jack strip provided with openings into which lamps are inserted, a designation strip holder provided with holes in alignment with said openings, and means for attaching said designation strip holder to said lamp jack strip, said means including a thimble forming a part of said designation strip.

4. In combination, a lamp jack strip provided with openings into which lamps are inserted, a designation strip holder provided with holes in alignment with said openings, and means for attaching said designation strip holder to said lamp jack strip, said means including a plurality of thimbles forming a part of said designation strip engaging the sides of certain of said openings.

5. In combination, a lamp jack strip provided with openings into which lamps are inserted, a designation strip holder provided with holes in alignment with said openings, and means for attaching said designation strip holder to said lamp jack strip, said means comprising a thimble through which one of said lamps is inserted into one of said openings.
6. In combination, a lamp jack strip provided with openings into which lamps are inserted, a designation strip holder provided with holes in alignment with said openings, and means for attaching said designation strip holder to said lamp jack strip, said means comprising thimbles through which said lamps are inserted into said openings, said thimbles frictionally engaging sides of said openings.
7. A designation device comprising a holder having a plurality of circular openings therein, a plurality of hollow thimbles secured in certain of said openings, the free end of each thimble being split whereby it is rendered resilient, and a translucent strip having a designation thereon mounted on said holder to cover said openings.
- In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 5th day of June A. D. 1926.
- EUGENE A. REINKE.