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Lenhart

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[54] **ILLUSIONARY LIGHT APPARATUS**

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[51] **Int. Cl.**[5] **F21L 19/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **362/161**; 362/311

[58] **Field of Search** 362/161, 163, 166, 311, 362/806, 811

[56] **References Cited**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An illusionary light apparatus is provided which consists of an enclosure with at least a portion fabricated out of a one-way mirror glass and a light source is carried within the enclosure. When illumination is emitted from the light source and contacts the one-way mirror glass of the enclosure an optical illusion is created showing many light sources succeeding each other, theoretically forever, into the space beyond the light source, provided that the illumination surrounding the enclosure is less than the illumination emitted by the light source within the enclosure.

4 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

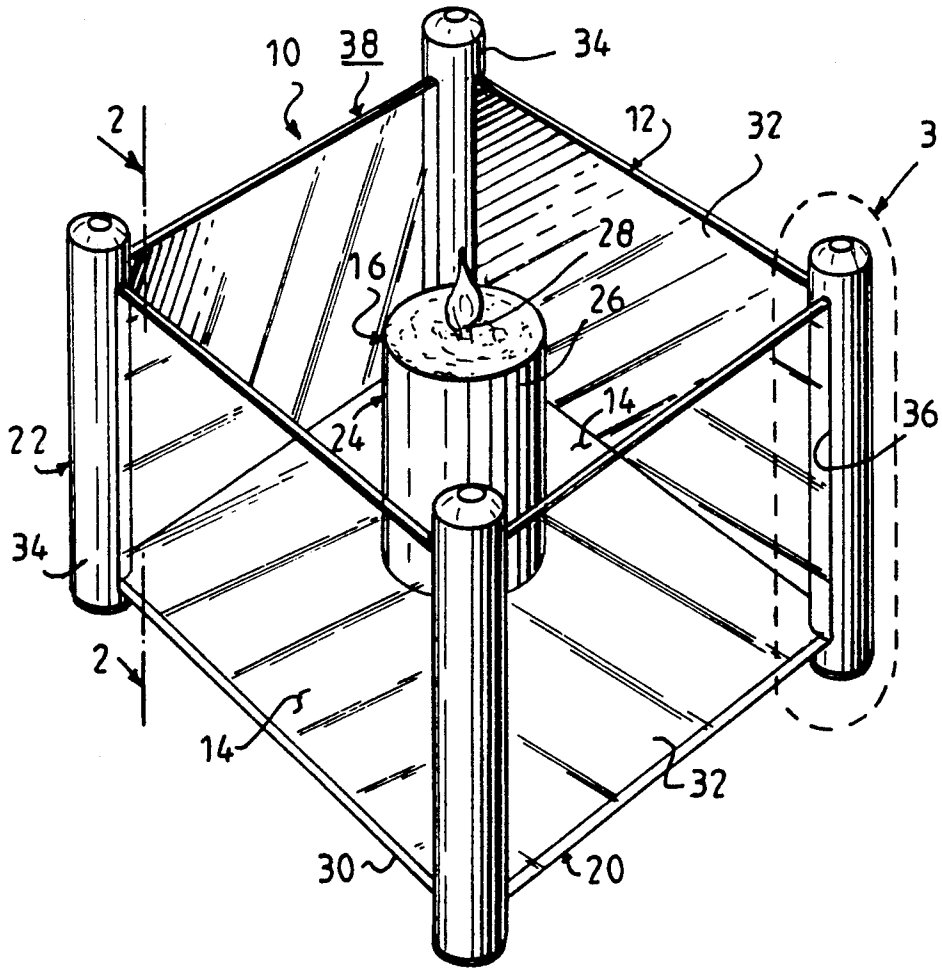


Fig. 1

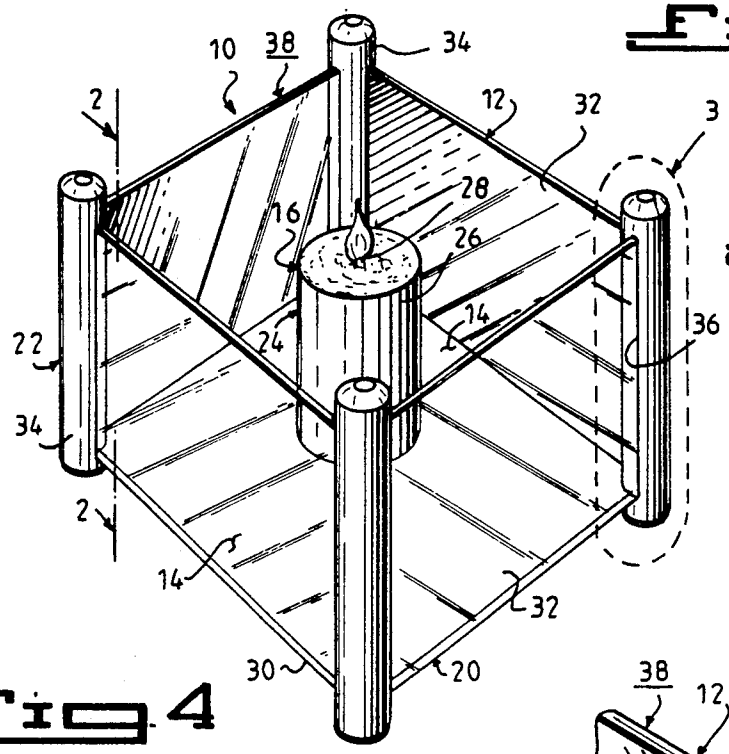


Fig. 2

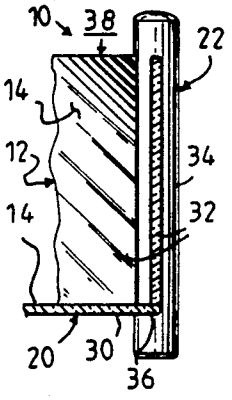
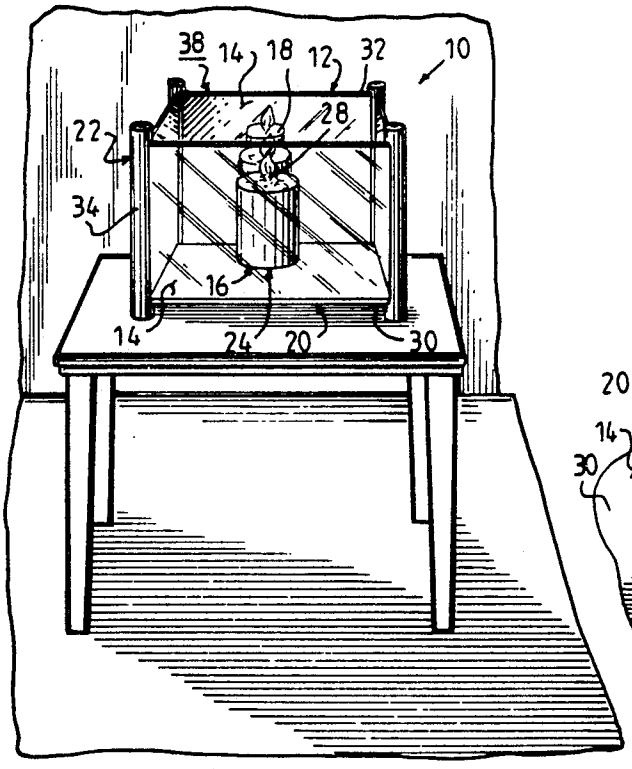


Fig. 4



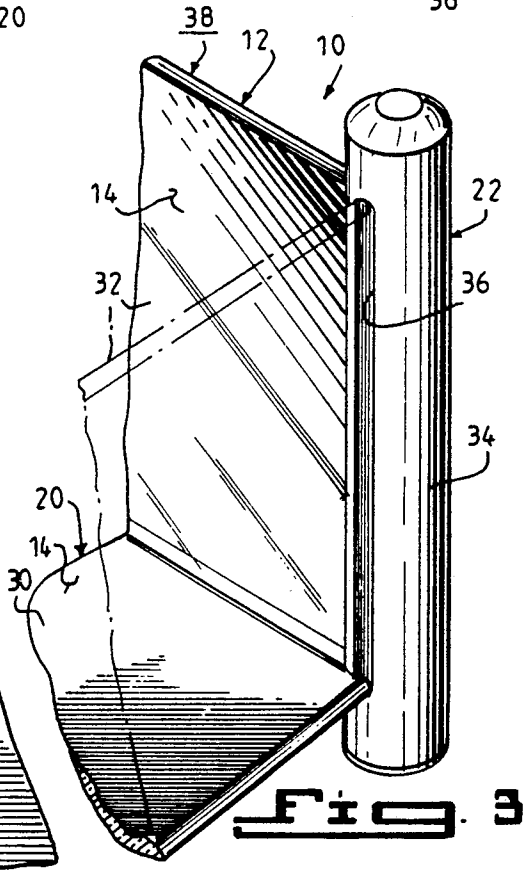


Fig. 3

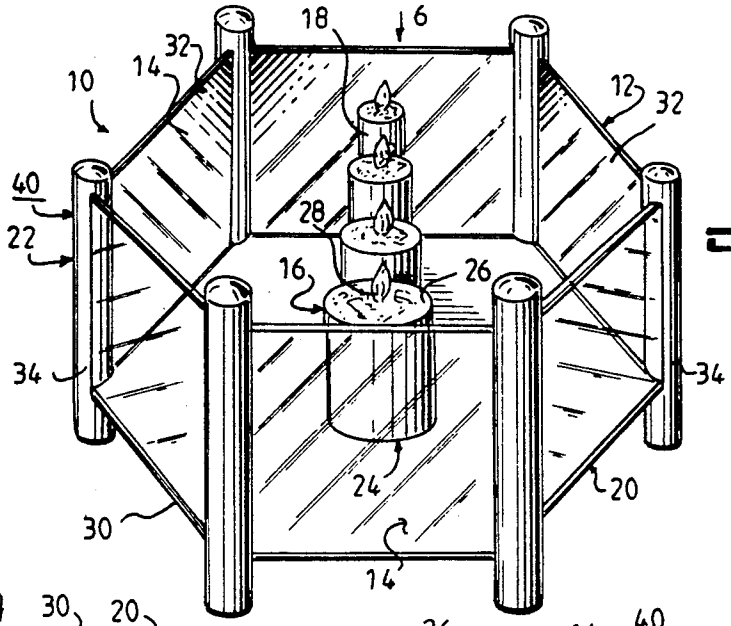


Fig. 5

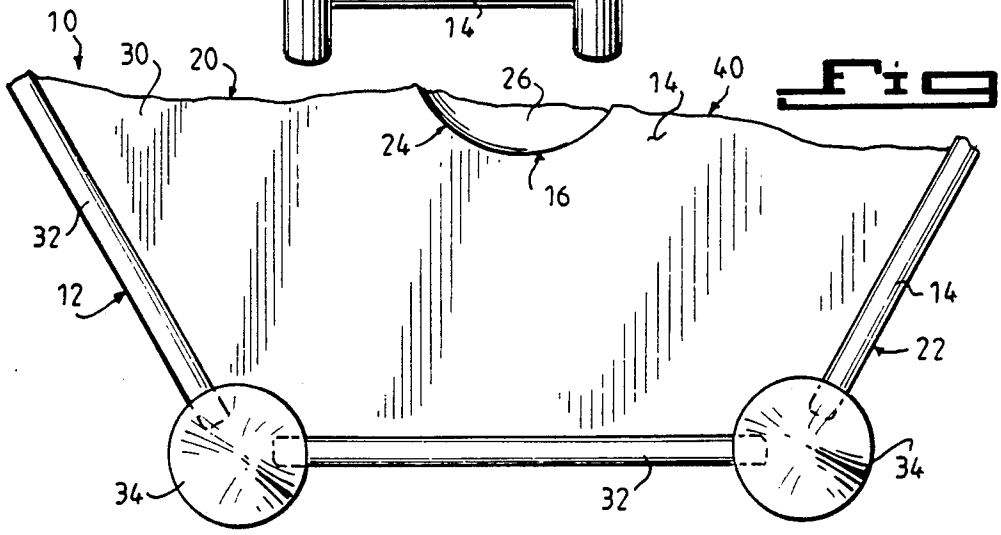


Fig. 6

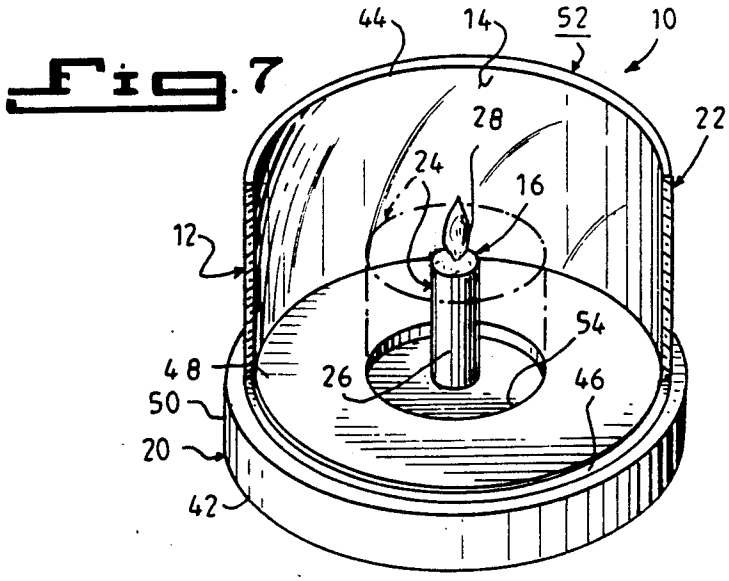
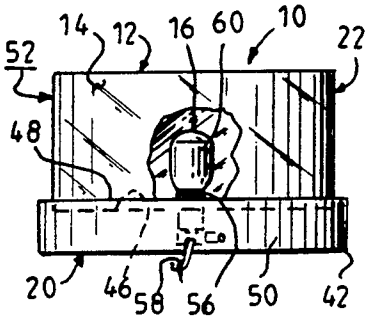


Fig. 7

Fig. 8



ILLUSIONARY LIGHT APPARATUS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The instant invention relates generally to lamps and more specifically it relates to an illusionary light apparatus.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Numerous lamps have been provided in prior art that are adapted to generate light, heat or therapeutic radiation therefrom. While these units may be suitable for the particular purpose to which they address, they would not be as suitable for the purposes of the present invention as heretofore described.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A primary object of the present invention is to provide an illusionary light apparatus that will overcome the shortcomings of the prior art devices.

Another object is to provide an illusionary light apparatus in which illumination emitted from a light source within an enclosure contacts a one-way mirror glass of the enclosure to create an optical illusion showing many light sources succeeding each other into the space beyond the light source.

An additional object is to provide an illusionary light apparatus in which the light source can be of any type of light producing mechanism.

A further object is to provide an illusionary light apparatus that is simple and easy to use.

A still further object is to provide an illusionary light apparatus that is economical in cost to manufacture.

Further objects of the invention will appear as the description proceeds.

To the accomplishment of the above and related objects, this invention may be embodied in the form illustrated in the accompanying drawings, attention being called to the fact, however, that the drawings are illustrative only, and that changes may be made in the specific construction illustrated and described within the scope of the appended claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a first embodiment of the instant invention.

FIG. **2** is a cross sectional view taken along line **2—2** in FIG. **1** with parts broken away.

FIG. **3** is an enlarged perspective view as indicated by arrow **3** in FIG. **1**, of a portion of the first embodiment showing one of the corner posts in greater detail.

FIG. **4** is a perspective view of the first embodiment placed upon a table.

FIG. **5** is a perspective view of a second embodiment of the instant invention.

FIG. **6** is a top view taken in direction of arrow **6** in FIG. **5** with parts broken away.

FIG. **7** is a perspective view of a third embodiment of the instant invention with parts broken away.

FIG. **8** is an elevational view of a fourth embodiment of the instant invention with parts broken away.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Turning now descriptively to the drawings, in which similar reference characters denote similar elements throughout the several views, the Figures illustrate an

illusionary light apparatus **10** which consists of an enclosure **12** with at least a portion fabricated out of a one-way mirror glass **14** and a light source **16** carried within the enclosure **12**. When illumination is emitted from the light source **16** and contacts the one-way mirror glass **14** of said enclosure **12**, an optical illusion **18** is created showing many light sources **16** succeeding each other, theoretically forever, into the space beyond the light source **16**, provided that the illumination surrounding the enclosure **12** is less than the illumination emitted by the light source **16** within the enclosure **12**.

The enclosure **12** includes a base member **20** to carry the light source **16** thereon and a side wall assembly **22** with at least a portion fabricated out of the one-way mirror glass **14** which is supported on the base member **20**. The light source can be a candle **24** fabricated out of a solid, usually cylindrical mass of fatty substance **26** and an axially embedded wick **28** that is burned to provide the illumination therefrom.

As shown in FIGS. **1** through **6**, the base member **20** is a bottom panel **30** fabricated out of the one-way mirror glass **14**. The side wall assembly **22** includes a plurality of side panels **32**, each fabricated out of the one-way mirror glass **14**. A plurality of corner posts **34** are to support and secure the bottom panel **30** and the side panels **32** together to form the enclosure **12**.

As shown in FIGS. **1** through **4**, the enclosure **12** further includes the bottom panel **30** being rectangular shaped. The side panels **32** are four in number, with each side panel **32** being rectangular shaped. The corner posts **34** are four in number, with each corner post **34** having slots **36** formed therein. The bottom panel **30** and the side panels **32** can be inserted within the slots **36** in the corner posts **34**, which when assembled together the enclosure **12** will become a rectangular shaped box **38**.

As shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**, the enclosure **12** further includes the bottom panel **30** being hexagon shaped. The side panels **32** are six in number, with each side panel **32** being rectangular shaped. The corner posts **34** are six in number, with each corner post **34** having slots **36** formed therein. The bottom panel **30** and the side panels **32** can be inserted within the slots **36** in the corner posts **34**, which when assembled together the enclosure **12** will become a hexagon shaped box **40**.

The base member **20** of the illusionary light apparatus **10**, as shown in FIGS. **7** and **8**, is a thick bottom platform **42** fabricated out of a durable material. The side wall assembly **22** is a continuous partition **44** fabricated out of the one-way mirror glass **14**.

The enclosure **12** further includes the bottom platform **42** being circular shaped and having an annular groove **46** within the top surface **48** proximate the circumference **50** thereof. The continuous partition **44** is a tube **52** sized to fit within the annular groove **46** within the top surface **48** of the bottom platform **42**.

The illusionary light apparatus **10**, shown in FIG. **7**, further contains the bottom platform **42** having a center circular recess **54** on the top surface **48** thereof. The light source **16** can be the candle **24** fabricated out of the solid, usually cylindrical mass of fatty substance **26** and the axially embedded wick **28** that is burned to provide the illumination therefrom. The bottom of the candle **24** can rest within the center circular recess **54** in the bottom platform **42** and be of a diameter no larger than the center circular recess **54**.

The light source **16**, as shown in FIG. **8**, can be an electric light socket **56** mounted within the center of the top surface **48** of the bottom platform **42**. An electric cord **58** is connected to the electric light socket **56** to carry electric current thereto. An electric light bulb **60** is connected to the electric light socket **56** to provide the illumination therefrom.

Other types of light sources **16** might be used, such as a high intensity fluorescent/"black" light, a neon light, a xenon light, a Lava Lite; a fiber optic light, a chemically produced light, a liquid crystal light, a projected light, a hologram and a laser light.

There are other types of candles **24**, such as a liquid candle that is simply a wick floating on a fuel source (oil), which can be utilized in the illusionary light apparatus **10**.

Other types of enclosures **12** might also be used, such as a lamp/lantern chimney; a hurricane lamp chimney; an enclosure made so that the front and side panels are one-way mirrors, the rear panel being a regular mirror with the enclosure fastened to a wall and an enclosure using a curved one-way mirror and a curved regular mirror.

LIST OF REFERENCE NUMBERS

10 illusionary light apparatus
12 enclosure
14 one-way mirror glass
16 light source
18 optical illusion
20 base member of **12**
22 side wall assembly of **12**
24 candle for **16**
26 cylindrical mass of fatty substance of **24**
28 wick of **24**
30 bottom panel for **20**
32 side panel for **22**
34 corner post for **22**
36 slot in **34**
38 rectangular shaped box for **12**
40 hexagon shaped box for **12**
42 thick bottom platform for **20**
44 continuous partition for **22**
46 annular groove in **42**
48 top surface of **42**
50 circumference of **42**
52 tube for **44**
54 center circular recess in **48**
56 electric light socket for **16**
58 electric cord
60 electric light bulb

It will be understood that each of the elements described above, or two or more together may also find a useful application in other types of methods differing from the type described above.

While certain novel features of this invention have been shown and described and are pointed out in the annexed claims, it is not intended to be limited to the details above, since it will be understood that various omissions, modifications, substitutions and changes in the forms and details of the device illustrated and in its operation can be made by those skilled in the art without departing in any way from the spirit of the present invention.

Without further analysis, the foregoing will so fully reveal the gist of the present invention that others can, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt it for various applications without omitting features that, from the standpoint of prior art, fairly constitute essential characteristics of the generic or specific aspects of this invention.

What is claimed is new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims:

1. An illusionary light apparatus which comprises:

a) an enclosure fabricated out of a one-way mirror glass, said enclosure includes a base member to carry a light source thereon, said base member is a bottom panel fabricated out of the one-way mirror glass, and a side wall assembly fabricated out of the one-way mirror glass which is supported on said base member, said side wall assembly includes a plurality of side panels, each fabricated out of the one-way mirror glass, and a plurality of solid corner posts with grooves to support and secure said bottom panel and said side panels together to form said enclosure; and

b) a light source carried within said enclosure, so that when illumination is emitted from said light source and contacts the one-way mirror glass of said enclosure, an optical illusion is created showing many light sources succeeding each other, theoretically forever, into the space beyond said light source, provided that the illumination surrounding said enclosure is less than the illumination emitted by said light source within said enclosure, said light source is a candle fabricated out of a solid, usually cylindrical mass of fatty substance and an axially embedded wick that is burned to provide the illumination therefrom.

2. An illusionary light apparatus as recited in claim **1**, wherein said enclosure further includes:

a) said bottom panel being rectangular shaped;
said side panels being four in number, with each said side panel being rectangular shaped; and

c) said solid corner posts being four in number, with each said solid corner post having grooves formed therein, so that said bottom panel and said side panels can be inserted within the grooves in said solid corner posts, which when assembled together said enclosure will become a rectangular shaped box.

3. An illusionary light apparatus as recited in claim **2**, wherein said enclosure further includes:

a) said bottom panel being hexagon shaped;

b) said side panels being six in number, with each said side panel being rectangular shaped; and

c) said corner posts being six in number, with each said corner post having slots formed therein, so that said bottom panel and said side panels can be inserted within the slots in said corner posts, which when assembled together said enclosure will become a hexagon shaped box.

4. An illusionary light apparatus as recited in claim **1**, wherein said base member is a thick bottom platform fabricated out of a durable material.

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