# G. F. ELSTON DOUBLE DIODE Filed March 31, 1938

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BY

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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### **DOUBLE DIODE**

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#### 1 Claim. (Cl. 250-27.5)

My invention relates to electron discharge devices and more particularly to electrode assemblies and their supporting means within the tube.

- The object of my invention is to provide an electrode assembly of the unit mount construction which is easy to assemble, rugged in construction, and has good electrical characteristics. The electrodes of my improved tube comprise two diode units mounted in a single unitary
- 10 structure that is easy to assemble and mount in the envelope, and in which the spacing between cathode and anode remains constant during handling and use.
- My invention is defined with particularity in 15 the appended claim but one embodiment thereof is described in detail in the following specification and accompanying drawing in which: Figure 1 is a perspective view of an electron

discharge device embodying my invention, and

20 Figure 2 is a detail view of an anode constructed according to my invention. The mount shown in Figure 1, which is par-

ticularly adapted for a metal envelope, comprises a metal stem or header i with electrode lead-in 25 wires 2 sealed gas-tight in a glass disc or button

- 3 closing the central portion of the header. The electrode assembly comprises two parallel insulating spacers 4, such as sheets of mica, perforated with registering openings to receive and 30 support in insulated spaced relation anodes 5,
- cathodes 6, preferably of the indirectly heated type, and a transverse shield 7. The anodes are attached at their ends to the insulating spacers and are held in concentric spaced relation to their
- 35 respective cathodes. When assembled, the electrodes are attached, preferably by welding, to lead-in conductors 2, a metal shell is placed over the electrode and welded along its rim to the metal header 1, and the envelope is degassed,
- 40 sealed-off and attached to a conventional base. Each anode 5 is cylindrical and has a longitudinal flange 10. The anode may conveniently be made of an oblong sheet of metal, such as nickel, pressed across the middle to form a tubu-
- 45 lar portion or cylinder, with the end portions of the sheet forming two flaps 8 which are brought together and spot welded to make the longitudinal flange 10. The flange 10 may, if desired, be slightly longer than the tubular portion of the
- 50 anode to project beyond the ends of the anode and provide clearance between the ends of the anode and the spacers. The flange may be stiffened by ribs or channels pressed lengthwise along the flange. The ends of flange 10 are i5 formed with ears or tabs 11 integral with the flaps

8. The ears are inserted through perforations in the spacers and when spread as shown in Figure 1 draw the spacers into snug engagement with ends of the flanges of the two anodes. The two flaps 8 forming the longitudinal flange 10 are 5 bent perpendicular to the plane of the flange to form fins 12 and are provided at their ends near their outer edges with lugs 13 for engaging the spacers a substantial distance from the plane of the flange. The ears 11 hold the spacers in snug 10 engagement with the ends of the flange (0 and fins 12 to prevent tilting of the spacer and the lugs 13 effectively prevent rotation of the flange about an axis through the ears 11. To insure firm attachment of the anode to the spacer, the 15 distance between lugs 13 may be made slightly less than the width of the spacer so that the edges of the lugs may cut into the edges of the spacer. These two points by contact, cooperating with the third point of contact at ear 11, 20 secure the parts together. The assembly is additionally strengthened and the diode units are electrically shielded by the transverse shield or partition 7, preferably of metal, inserted at its ends in perforations in the spacers.

An electrode assembly constructed according to my invention is easy to assemble, is rugged in construction, has good electrical characteristics, and is inexpensive to make. The reduced number of parts minimize cost and facilitate as- 30 sembly of my improved device. The usual anode side rods and anode-to-spacer straps are eliminated. Longitudinal flange 10 with the perpendicular fins 12 are particularly rigid and are adapted, with the ears 11 and lugs 13, to prevent 35 movement of the spacers or anodes. The ears If at one end of the anodes are inserted in one spacer and the cathodes are placed in the anodes and one end inserted in perforations coaxial with the anodes, shield 9 is put in place, and the sec- 40ond insulating spacer is pressed into place. To lock the assembly in a rigid unitary structure it is merely necessary to bend or spread the ears 11 at the ends of the flanges. The assembly may then be placed on the header and the ap- 45propriate conductors secured, as by welding, to the electrodes.

Since many modifications may be made in an electrode assembly constructed according to my invention without departing from the scope 50 thereof, it is desired that my invention be limited only by the prior art and by the appended claim. I claim:

A unitary electrode assembly for electron discharge devices comprising a pair of parallel in- 55 sulating spacers, a cathode supported at its ends in said spacers, a cylindrical sheet metal anode around said cathode, said anode having a longitudinal flange, said flange comprising side-byside sheet metal flaps welded together and integral with the cylindrical anode, fins perpendicular to the plane of said flange integral with the edges of said flaps remote from said anode, means for firmly attaching said spacers to the ends of said flange and for preventing tilting of the spacers comprising an ear extension at each

end of said flange integral with the flaps extending through an opening in the spacers and a lug extension on each end of each fin, the lug extensions at one end of the fins being on opposite sides of and removed from the plane of said flange, and the edges of the lugs engaging opposite edges of the spacer, the distance between the edges of the lugs being slightly less than the width of the spacer between the lugs.

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