O. H. ALLEN.

CONNECTOR FOR BEAD CHAINS.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 22, 1912.

1,157,917. Patented Oct. 26, 1915.

Fig. 1.

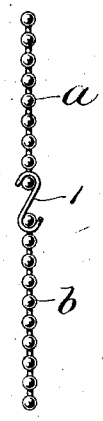


Fig. 2.

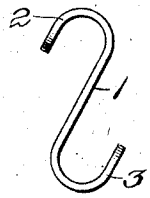


Fig. 3.

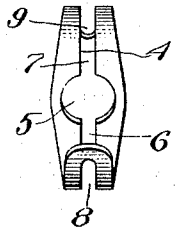
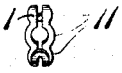


Fig. 6.



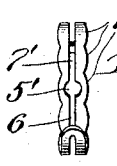


Fig. 7.

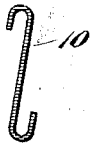


Fig. 4.

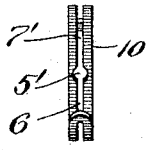


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.
Theresa Guggenheim
Louise A. Jordan

Inventor.
Oscar H. Allen,
by Clyde L. Roge
his attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR H. ALLEN, OF BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

CONNECTOR FOR BEAD-CHAINS.

1,157,917. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 26, 1915.

Application filed November 22, 1912. Serial No. 732,328.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR H. ALLEN, resident of Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Connectors for Bead-Chains, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to connectors or splicers for chains of the type known as bead chains and which are commonly used for the pulls in electric lamp sockets.

The prime objects of the invention are to provide a splicer for chains of the above and similar types, simple, neat in appearance and effective and which can be produced at a minimum of cost.

A further specific object of the invention is to provide a device which is adapted to combine the functions of a splicer with those of an insulator interposed in the chain.

The above and other features and objects of the invention will be better understood from the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and will be thereafter pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 shows in elevation, a bead chain with a splicer constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of one form of my improved splicer; Fig. 3 is a front view thereof; Fig. 4 is a side elevation of another form of the splicer adapted to also serve as an insulator; Fig. 5 is a front view of the form shown in Fig. 4; Fig. 6 is a front view of a splicer of the general type shown in Fig. 3 but specially fashioned to match the chain in appearance; and Fig. 7 is a front view of the general type of splicer and insulator shown in Fig. 5 but likewise specially fashioned to correspond in appearance with the chain.

The bead chain sections *a*, *b* are connected by the splicer generally designated 1 as seen in Fig. 1, this splicer as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 being formed of sheet or plate metal bent to form hooks 2, 3 at either end, these hooks being shown as turned on opposite sides so that the device is of S configuration. The central intermediate connecting portion 4 of the splicer is formed with a large aperture 5 which may be considered in the nature of a button-hole, the splicer having slots 6, 7 extending from this central aperture to near the ends of the hooks as seen at 8, 9. It will be clear that with this slotting of the stock of the splicer the sides thereof will have a considerable degree of resiliency and in practice the central aperture 5 is made a little smaller than the size of the beads of which the chain is composed so that as the end bead of a chain section is presented thereto it may be pressed therethrough whereupon the connecting web of the chain is slid along the slots 6 or 7, until the bead fits in the seat formed therefor within one of the hooks 2 or 3 it being understood that these hooks are of a size to snugly hold the bead and fit the same as apparent from Fig. 1. This manner of construction of the splicer is advantageous and desirable for the reason that while permitting the ends of the chain to be easily interengaged with the splicer, after being engaged therewith there is practically no danger of accidental disengagement as is the case with usual forms of splicers and it is to be specially observed that this is true without any after manipulation of the splicer such as the bending in of the hook ends after the beads are seated therein.

To enable my improved splicer to serve a function as an insulator I preferably form it of fiber or like material as seen at 10 in Figs. 4 and 5 this form being preferably somewhat longer than the metallic one just described but having a central button-hole aperture 5′ in like manner as the preceding form with slots 6′, 7′ extending therefrom to near the ends of the hooks.

In accordance with a further feature of the invention I form the splicer of a scalloped configuration as seen at 11, 11′ in Figs. 6 and 7, as I have found that with this form the connector has a more ornamental appearance and is less conspicuous in the chain.

I am aware that the details of construction of the device can be considerably varied as to the form and arrangement of the hooks and in other respects without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I therefore refer to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope thereof.

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

1. A splicing connector for bead chains formed of strip material bent to S-shape with a slot extending lengthwise and centrally thereof through its intermediate por-

tion to near its ends, with an enlarged central aperture for receiving beads therethrough in either direction, said aperture being slightly smaller than the size of a bead to be received therethrough whereby the bead may be pressed through the same by the yielding of the material, the extremities of the device being bent back on the central portion to form restricted passages between the ends and such central portion of a size slightly smaller than the beads whereby the beads may be frictionally held by spring pressure in the hook seats so formed.

2. A splicing connector for bead chains formed of strip material bent to S-shape with a slot extending lengthwise and centrally thereof through its intermediate portion to near its ends, with a central bead receiving aperture, the extremities of the device being formed as hook seats adapted to hold the beads with a spring pressure.

3. A splicing connector for bead chains formed of thin flat stock to S-shape with a slot extending lengthwise through the central portion thereof to near the ends of the S-hooks, there being an enlarged bead receiving aperture intermediate said slot through which the beads at the ends of the respective chain portions may be passed in opposite directions and then slid along said slot to find seats in the respective end hooks.

4. A splicing connector for bead chains formed of thin flat stock bent to S-shape with a slot extending through the intermediate portion thereof to near the end of the S-hooks, with an intermediate bead receiving aperture, the hook seats at the extremities of the device being adapted to hold securely the end beads of chain portions to be united, and the sides of the device being fashioned to present a scalloped configuration simulating a bead chain in appearance whereby it is rendered inconspicuous in use.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

OSCAR H. ALLEN.

Witnesses:
JOHN MCCARTY,
GEORGE C. FRIEL.