Sept. 11, 1956 R. M. RUNGE 2,762,598

LIGHTING FIXTURE HANGERS

Filed Feb. 16, 1953

Fig. 1.

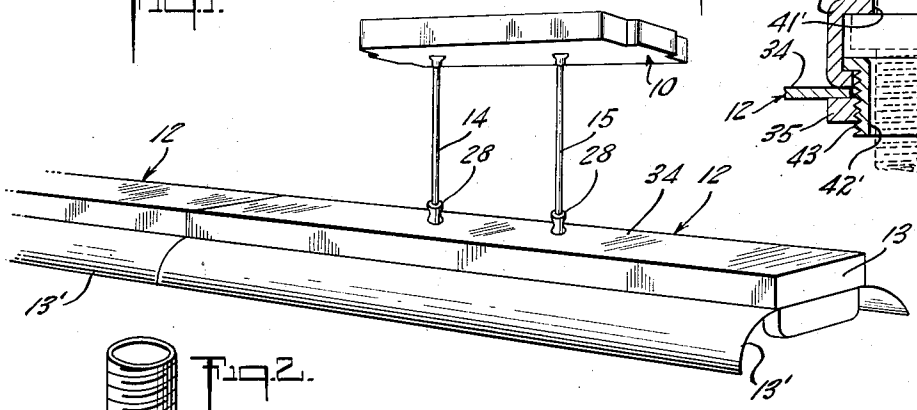


Fig. 5.

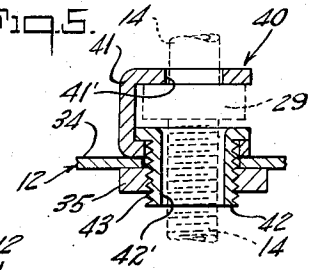


Fig. 2.

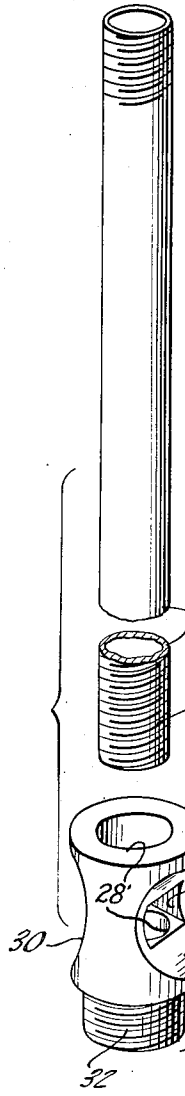


Fig. 3.

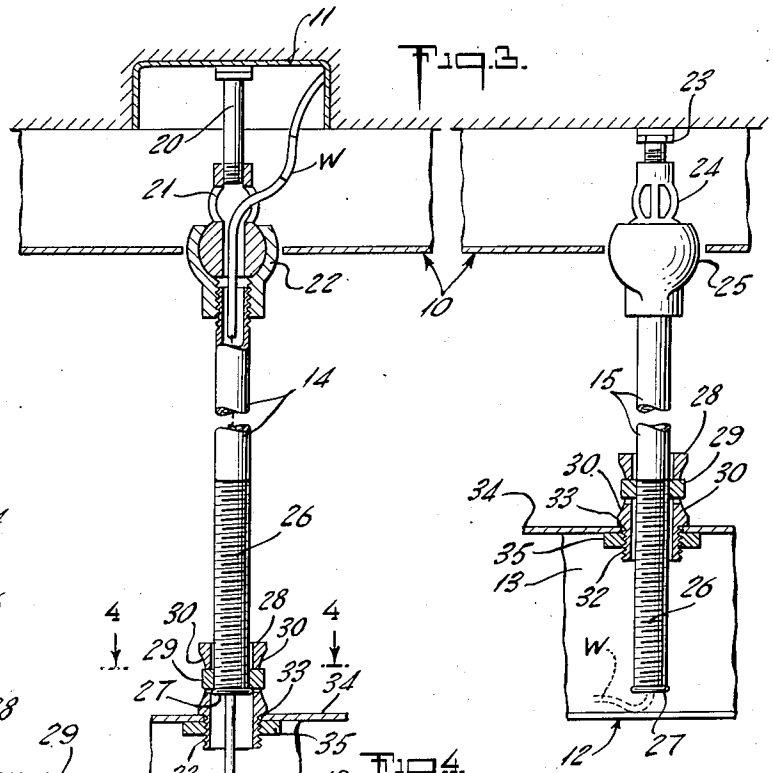
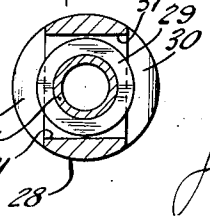


Fig. 4.



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LIGHTING FIXTURE HANGERS

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3 Claims. (Cl. 248—327)

The present invention relates to lighting fixture hangers and is more particularly directed toward lighting fixture hangers suitable for adjusting the height of the wireways of fluorescent lighting equipment.

It is customary to make fluorescent lighting equipment in units of relatively long lengths and to mount these units below the ceiling by means of suitable spaced stems one or more of which may be used to carry wiring from the ceiling down into the wireway. Owing to unevenness of the ceiling and irregular length of the various parts, it is often necessary to effect vertical adjustment of a wireway to level it, or to adjust adjacent wireways when assembled end to end to form continuous wireways or continuous equipment whereby proper vertical alignment may be had.

The present invention contemplates hanger means for mounting such lighting fixtures in a manner in which it is possible to easily adjust the height of the wireway so as to bring it even with the adjacent wireway, or make it level as desired. It is also an object of the present invention to provide such adjustable means which is inconspicuous, easily accessible for use after the fixture has been installed, and one in which the wiring is completely protected inside the lighting fixture at all times without any danger of injury to the wires.

Other and further objects will appear as the description proceeds.

The accompanying drawings show, for purposes of illustrating the present invention, one embodiment in which the invention may take form, it being understood that the drawings are illustrative of the invention rather than limiting the same.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a lighting fixture equipped with the improved leveling means;

Figure 2 is an exploded perspective view showing the stem of the lighting fixture with the adjustable mounting means;

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through the lighting fixture illustrating the adjustment of the fixture vertically;

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 3; and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view of a modified form of fitting.

In the drawings, a conventional lighting fixture canopy illustrated at **10** and conventional outlet box at **11**. The fluorescent lighting fixture unit is indicated generally at **12**, this unit having the usual wireway **13**, reflector **13'** and carrying lamp sockets and lamps not shown. The wireway **12** is supported by two pendent stems **14** and **15** which may be close together or near the ends of the fixture unit **12**. One of these stems, for example stem **14**, may be tubular and carry wiring while the other stem **15** may be tubular or a rod as desired.

In the drawing, the stem **14** is shown as being supported from the outlet box by a rod or nipple **20**, hickey **21** and conventional swivel joint **22** into which the top end

of the stem **14** is threaded as indicated. The other stem **15** may be supported in any suitable fashion, for example by a bracket or strap **23**, hickey or dummy **24** and swivel joint **25**. With this arrangement, the stems **14** and **15** hang pendent.

As shown in the drawings, both stems are threaded as indicated at **26**, **26** for a predetermined distance from the lower ends **27**, **27**. The lower end of the stem or rod is preferably flared out as indicated in the drawing or the threads are mutilated in any suitable manner so that a nut threaded on the stem cannot be removed. Before the mutilation of the threads at the bottom of the tube or rod, a tubular fitting **28** having a bare hole or passageway **28'** of larger internal diameter than the outside of the tube or rod, and the nut **29** is passed through a transversely extending opening **29'** threaded on the rod or tube. The fitting **28** is cut back so as to have lateral opening recesses **30**, **30** and is cut away as indicated at **31** to receive a nut **29** and provide room so that the periphery of the nut is available for manipulation to turn it on the threads **26**.

The lower ends of the fittings **28** are reduced and threaded as indicated at **32** and are adapted to pass through holes **33** in the top wall **34** of the wireway **12**. Nuts **35** are adapted to be received on the threads **32** and secure the fittings **28** to the top of the wireway.

In the installation of lighting equipment with the devices described, wiring such as W is passed down from the outlet box **11** through the hickey **21**, swivel **22** and tube **14** and out through the bottom of this tube into the wireway. The wireway is supported by the nuts **35** on the lower threaded ends **32** of the fittings **28**.

When one desires to raise or lower the wiring channel, it is merely necessary to manipulate one or both of the nuts **29** to secure vertical adjustment of the wiring channel. When the wiring channel is in its extreme lower position as indicated at the left of Figure 3, the fitting **28** passes down outside the enlargement **27** until the nut **29** engages this enlargement and prevents further lowering of the wireway or accidental separation of the parts. The wiring passes into the fixture as indicated.

When one desires to raise the wiring channel, it is merely necessary to turn the nut **29** in the proper direction to lift the fitting **28**. This will bring the bottom end **27** of the tube or rod closer to the bottom of the wireway and as threading **26** is of limited length, it is possible to make certain that the bottom of the wireway, or reflector which usually closes it, is not brought against the wiring which passes out under the end of the tube. In this way the raising and lowering of the wireway can be limited to an amount somewhat more than the vertical depth of the wireway and one can be certain that at all times the wiring is adequately protected.

In the modified form shown in Figure 5, the fitting **40** is made from a bent yoke **41** and a nipple **42**. The space between the top of the yoke and the head of the nipple provides room for the nut **29**. The holes **41'** in the top of the yoke and **42'** in the nipple provide passageways for the tube **14**, and the threads **43** at the bottom of the nipple **42** accept the nut **35**.

Since it is obvious that the invention may be embodied in other forms and constructions within the scope of the claims, I wish it to be understood that the particular form shown is but one of these forms, and various modifications and changes being possible, I do not otherwise limit myself in any way with respect thereto.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination, a lighting fixture having a horizontal wireway of substantial vertical depth and provided with a conduit opening in the top thereof, a tubular fitting secured to the top of the wireway and extending upwardly therefrom, the fitting having intermediate its ends a lateral cutout and upwardly and downwardly facing shoulders, a

tubular stem of smaller diameter facing shoulders, a tubular stem of smaller diameter than the inner diameter of the fitting and having a running thread along its lower end, and a traveling nut on the threads and between the shoulders, the lower end of the stem being multilated to prevent separation of the stem and nut, the length of the threading on the stem being such that when the nut is in its upper position the stem may extend nearly to the bottom of the wireway, so that wiring extending from the stem to the wireway is protected.

2. A lighting fixture support comprising a pendent rod having running threads near its lower end, a fitting having an oversize vertical passageway therethrough to receive the rod, a horizontal, transversely extending opening intermediate the fitting ends and intersecting the passageway to provide an upwardly and a downwardly facing internal shoulder about the passageway, and a nut disposed in the opening and through which the threaded rod extends, the upper and lower faces of the nut being adjacent the downwardly facing and upwardly facing internal shoulders respectively to prevent sliding the fitting along the rod, the nut being accessible through said transversely extending opening for turning the nut on the rod to effect vertical adjustment of the fitting along the rod, the lower end of the fitting being tubular and having a downwardly facing shoulder and being of reduced diameter below the last mentioned shoulder, and means on the reduced diameter portion for securing a lighting fixture body against the latter shoulder.

3. A lighting fixture support comprising a pendent rod having running threads near its lower end, a tubular fitting having an oversize vertical passageway therethrough to receive the rod, a horizontal, transversely extending opening intermediate the fitting ends and intersecting the passageway to provide an upwardly and a downwardly facing internal shoulder about the passageway, and a nut of lesser outside diameter than the outside diameter of the tube disposed in the opening and through which the threaded rod extends, the upper and lower faces of the nut being adjacent the downwardly facing and upwardly facing internal shoulders respectively to prevent sliding the fitting along the rod, the walls of the fitting at each end of the transversely extending opening having cut out portions adjacent the upper and lower faces of the nut which reduce the thickness of said walls and provide finger receiving recesses into which the nut protrudes for manipulation to effect vertical adjustment of the fitting along the tube.

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