June 6, 1967 I. WOLAR 3,323,770

LIGHTING FIXTURE HANGER

Filed Oct. 13, 1965

Fig. 1.

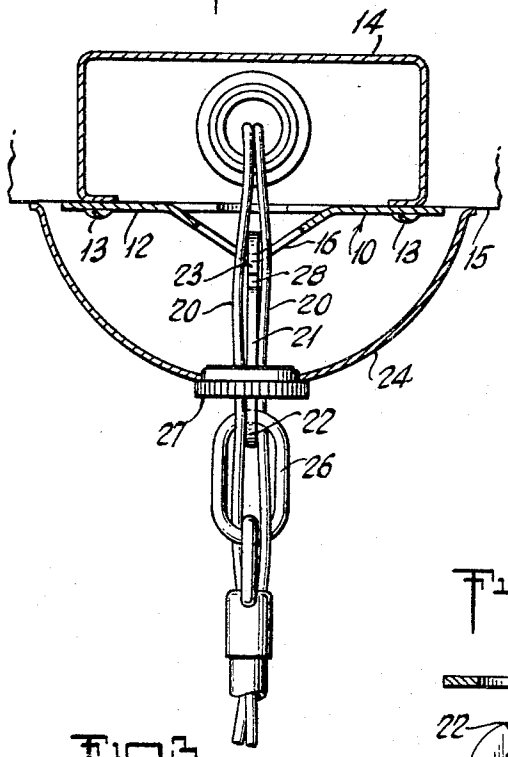


Fig. 2.

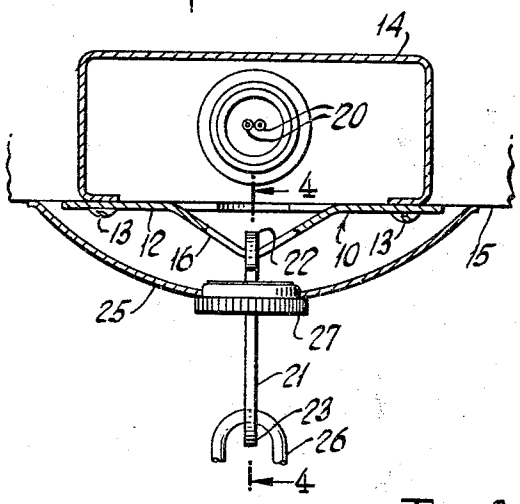


Fig. 3.

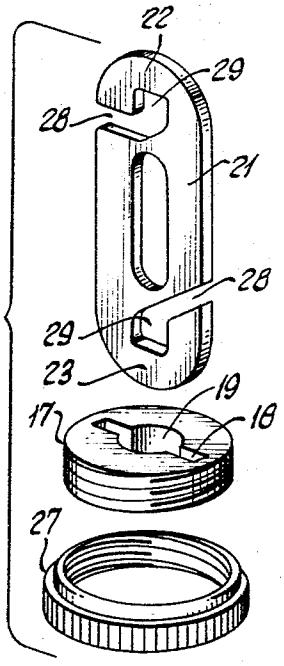


Fig. 4.

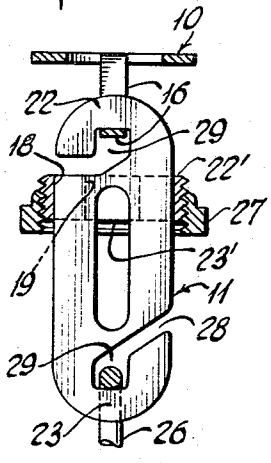


Fig. 6.

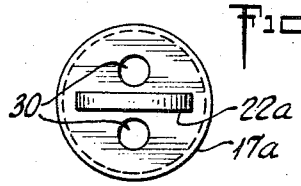


Fig. 5.

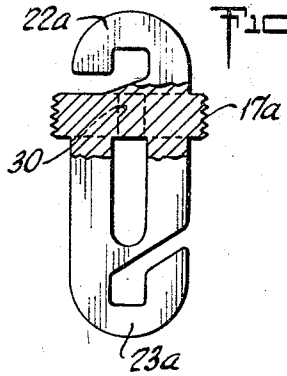


Fig. 7.

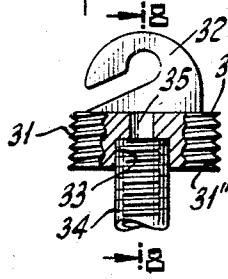


Fig. 8.

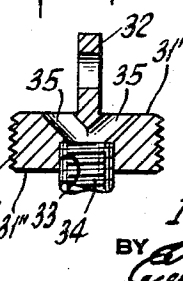
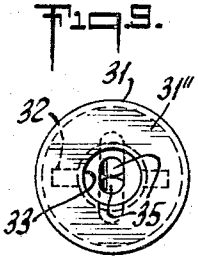


Fig. 9.



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LIGHTING FIXTURE HANGER

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to means for hanging a lighting fixture having double hook-like elements and a collar disposed in a position adjoining one of the hook-like elements and a nut threadably engaging the collar to support a canopy, the fixture hanger being invertible to accommodate canopies of different depths.

This invention relates to lighting fixture hangers and more specifically to a novel and improved hanger that will readily accommodate ceiling canopies of different sizes and permit attachment of lighting fixtures to horizontal and sloped ceilings.

Numerous hangers for lighting fixtures have been proposed, but known hangers were either adapted for use with a ceiling canopy of a specific depth or in the alternative a relatively complicated and expensive hanger was provided which included appropriate screw adjustments to accommodate canopies of different sizes.

This invention overcomes the foregoing difficulties and provides a novel and improved hanger which is characterized by its simplicity, versatility and relatively low cost. The hanger in accordance with the invention will accommodate different types of canopies of different depths and greatly simplifies the hanging of a lighting fixture. In many cases lighting fixtures are relatively heavy and awkward to handle and with known ceiling support devices involving threaded elements and the like and the possibility of damaging the fixture and even causing injury to the installer is substantial. With the improved ceiling support, in accordance with the invention, a simple hooking procedure is entailed which eliminates tedious procedures heretofore involved in hanging lighting fixtures.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a novel and improved hanger for lighting fixtures which will accommodate different sizes of canopies and afford safe dependable support for the fixture.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a novel and improved hanger and cooperating ceiling support for lighting fixtures.

The above and other objects of the invention will become more apparent from the following description and accompanying drawings forming part of this application.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a cross sectional view of a hanger and ceiling strap in accordance with the invention arranged to accommodate one type of canopy.

FIGURE 2 is a cross sectional view similar to FIGURE 1 wherein the hanger in accordance with the invention is positioned to accommodate a shallower canopy.

FIGURE 3 is an exploded perspective view of a hanger in accordance with the invention.

FIGURE 4 is a cross sectional view of the assembled hanger shown in FIGURE 3 and taken along the line 4—4 thereof.

FIGURE 5 is a cross sectional view of a modified form of hanger in accordance with the invention.

FIGURE 6 is a top view of the hanger shown in FIGURE 5.

FIGURE 7 is a cross sectional view of still another form of hanger in accordance with the invention.

FIGURE 8 is a cross sectional view of FIGURE 7 taken along the line 8—8 thereof.

FIGURE 9 is a bottom view of the hanger shown in FIGURE 7.

Referring now to the figures and more specifically to FIGURES 1 through 4, the hanger in accordance with the invention comprises a ceiling strap generally denoted by the numeral **10** and a hanger **11** for cooperation with the strap. The strap **10** is an elongated strip **12** of metal or other material having openings in the ends thereof for the accommodation of screws **13** which in the instant embodiment of the invention are used to fasten the strap **10** to an electric box **14** embedded in the ceiling **15**. The central portion of the strap **10** is provided with a downwardly extending loop **16** for engagement with the hanger **11** to support a fixture.

The hanger **11** comprises an annular collar **17** having an elongated slot **18** extending therethrough. The central portion of the slot **18** is enlarged as indicated at **19** to accommodate the wires **20**.

An elongated member **21** having hook-like portions or other suitable attaching means **22** and **23** on opposing ends thereof is secured within the slot **18** of the collar **17**. The member **21** is positioned relative to the collar **17** so that the hook-like member **22** is closely spaced to the surface **22'** of the collar **17**, while the hook **23** is at a substantial distance from the surface **23'** of the collar **17**. By having the hook-like member **23** spaced from the collar a greater distance than the hook-like member **22**, the hanger **11** can be readily adapted to accommodate both deep and shallow canopies, the deep canopy being denoted by the numeral **24** in FIGURE 1, while the shallow canopy is denoted by the numeral **25** in the FIGURE 2.

In hanging a lighting fixture with the novel and improved hanger in accordance with the invention, the improved strap **10** is first secured to the ceiling or the outlet box **14**, as the case may be. If the deep canopy **24**, as shown in FIGURE 1 is to be employed, the link **26** or other supporting means carried by the fixture is first attached to the hook-like portion **22** of the hanger **11**. The nut **27** is then disengaged from the collar **17** and is permitted to drop downwardly on the link **26** forming part of the fixture supporting means. The canopy **24** is then moved downwardly over the hanger **11**. When this has been accomplished, the lighting fixture with the hanger **11** attached is then engaged with the loop **16** forming part of the strap **10**. Since the hook **23** is formed by an inclined slot which terminates in an offset opening **29**, once the loop **16** engages the opening **29**, the weight of the fixture will prevent accidental disengagement of the hanger from the loop **16**. After the electrical connections are made in the customary manner, the canopy **24** is then raised until it contacts the ceiling **15** and the nut **27** is then engaged with the collar **17** to hold the canopy against the ceiling and at the same time slightly stress the hanger **11** to hold it permanently in engagement with the loop.

With the use of a shallow canopy such as the canopy **25**, as shown in FIGURE 2, the same installation procedure is employed except that the hook **23** on the hanger **11** is engaged with the fixture chain **26** and the hook **22** is engaged with the loop **16**.

In the embodiment of the invention previously described, the hanger **11** was formed of two separate element, namely, the collar **17** and the elongated member **21** carrying hook-like portions on each end thereof. If desired, these elements may be formed integrally as shown in FIGURES 5 and 6 by casting or other suitable procedure. In this embodiment of the invention the collar is denoted by the numeral **17*a***, while the closely spaced hook portion is denoted by the numeral **22*a*** and the op-

posing hook portion by the numeral **23***a*. In addition the collar **17***a* is provided with a pair of openings **30** through which the electric wiring may be threaded. It will also be observed that by making the collar **17** or **17***a*, as the case may be, of appreciable depth, the novel hanger in accordance with the invention will accommodate many sizes of canopies without necessitating tedious adjustments required with prior known devices.

A still further embodiment of the invention is shown in FIGURES 7 through 9. In this embodiment of the invention, the threaded collar denoted by the numeral **31** is provided with a hook-like portion **32** extending from one surface **31'** thereof. The other surface **31''** has a threaded recess **33** to accommodate a threaded rod or stem **34** which is attached to a lighting fixture to be supported. A pair of inclined openings **35** are provided in the collar **31** to accommodate the wiring as shown more clearly in FIGURES 8 and 9.

While only certain embodiments of the invention have been illustrated and described, it is apparent that alterations, modifications and changes may be made without departing from the true scope and spirit thereof as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A hanger for electric fixtures comprising an annular externally threaded collar, a hook-like member having a hook portion carried by and extending from one surface of said collar, said hook member adapted to engage a ceiling support, means extending from the other surface of said collar for engagement of said fixture, a canopy positioned against said ceiling and having a central collar receiving opening, and a nut threadably engaging said collar and bearing against the outer surface of said canopy to hold the latter against the ceiling and said hook member in engagement with said ceiling support, said means extending from the other surface of said collar comprising a second hook-like member having a hook portion spaced from the collar a distance greater than the first said hook portion.

2. A hanger according to claim **1** wherein each hook-like member includes a slot terminating in an opening offset from the center line of said slot.

3. A hanger for electric fixtures according to claim **2** including a cooperating ceiling support, said support comprising an elongated strip having means for attachment to the ceiling and a depending loop engaging one of said hook-like members, the other of said hook-like members engaging and supporting said fixture.

4. A hanger according to claim **1** wherein hook-like members are formed integrally one with the other to form a unitary structure, said collar includes an elongated slot extending therethrough and said structure is secured within said slot.

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