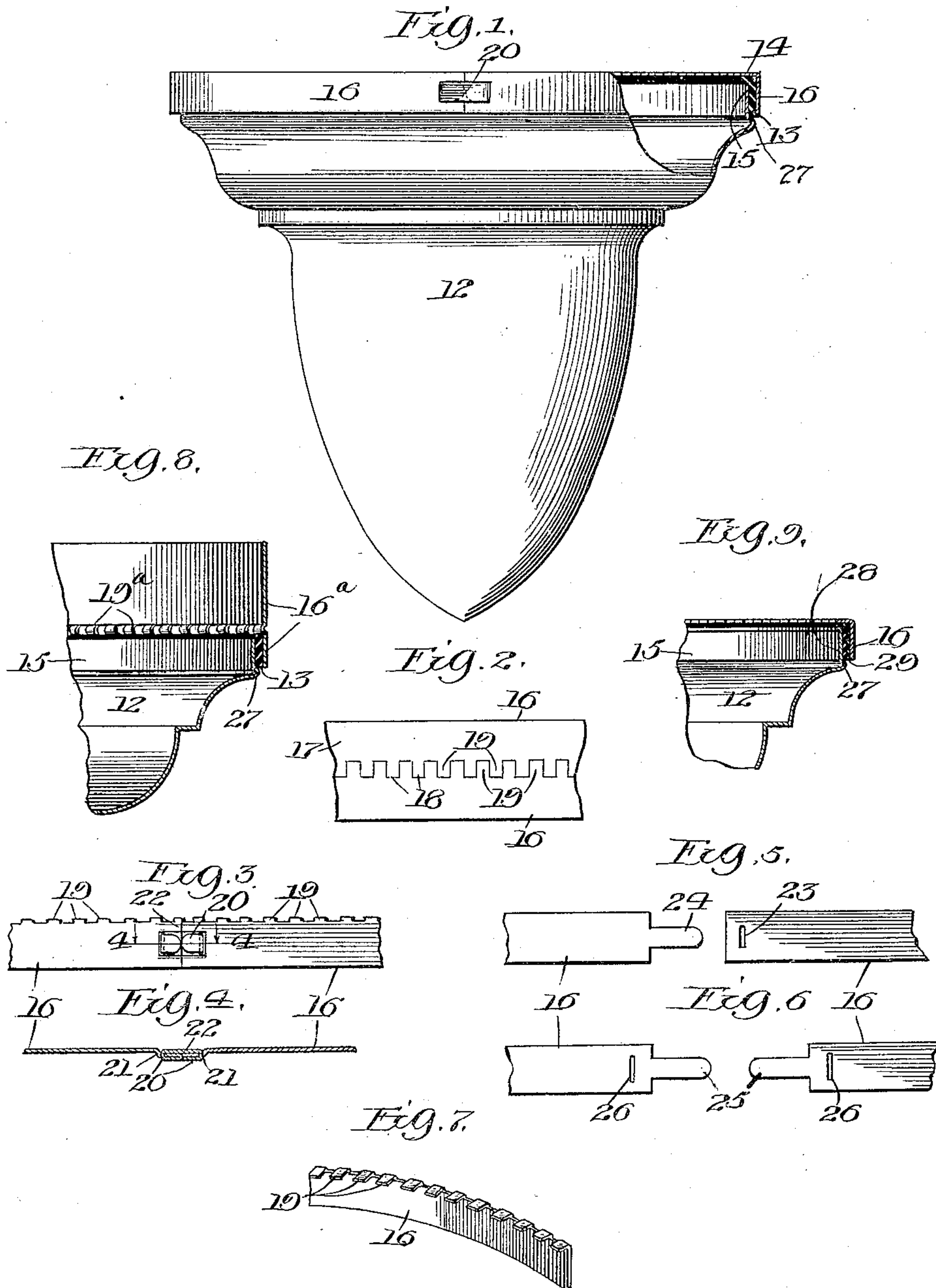


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CANOPY INSULATOR.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 19, 1907.

917,238.

Patented Apr. 6, 1909.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMUND E. BECHTOLD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CANOPY-INSULATOR.

No. 917,238.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 6, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDMUND E. BECHTOLD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Canopy-Insulators, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in that class of insulators, or means for insulating, which are particularly adapted and designed for use in connection with canopies, such as are employed for electric-light fixtures or combination-fixtures, that is, fixtures which may be used for electric-lighting or gas illumination, in order to insulate them from the walls and ceilings of rooms or other supports therefor, but which are also applicable to and may be used for insulating analogous devices, and the objects of the invention are to provide flexible insulators or insulating means of the above-named character, which may be carried in stock, in the form of long strips, or in coils, so that they can be cut into the desired lengths to suit the various sizes, styles and shapes of canopies manufactured by different firms, and which shall be adapted for ready application to canopies or other devices of circular, rectangular, polygonal, or other shapes, or easily removed therefrom to permit repairs or refinishing.

Another object is to provide means for protecting the insulating material and for firmly holding it in place, and so as to afford moisture and dust proof insulation.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be disclosed in the subjoined description and explanation.

The invention consists in certain novel features of the construction, combination and arrangement of the parts of the insulator, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, which serves to illustrate my invention—Figure 1 is a view in elevation of a canopy partly broken away illustrating the annular bead thereon, and showing one form of the invention applied to its enlarged or upper end. Fig. 2 is a face view of a portion of a blank out of which the metal protecting strips for holding and protecting the insulating material is formed. Fig. 3 is an inner view of a portion of the metallic protecting or holding strip for the insulating material, showing the means

of securing its meeting ends together. Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3. Figs. 5 and 6 are external views, showing portions of the protecting strip separated, and illustrating modified means for connecting their meeting ends together. Fig. 7 is a fragmental perspective view of a portion of the protecting strip. Fig. 8 is a sectional view of a portion of a canopy, showing a modified form in the construction of the protecting strip applied thereto; and Fig. 9 is a similar view of like parts, showing a modification in the construction and arrangement of the insulating material.

Like numerals of reference refer to corresponding parts throughout the different views of the drawing.

The reference numeral 12 designates a canopy of the ordinary or any preferred construction, but which in the present instance is shown as substantially bell or conical shaped, and which may be mounted on a fixture (not shown) so as to cover the juncture of the fixture with the wall pipe or wire, and which canopy it is desirable to insulate from the wall or other support in order to prevent the current becoming grounded on account of the moisture in the wall or support, or by reason of its electric conductivity.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing I have shown the canopy 12 as having applied thereto on the exterior of its enlarged end a strip of insulating material 13, which may be made of fiber, mica, vulcanized rubber, okonite, or other suitable material, and has its upper or outer portion bent inwardly to form a flange 14 to rest on or be located beyond the free end of the rim 15 of the canopy. This material is held in position on the canopy by means of a protecting and holding strip 16, which is preferably of metal and of a width to correspond with the desired width of the insulating material 13, which is first placed on the periphery of the enlarged end of the canopy, and when in the form of okonite tape or rubber friction tape, so that its upper portion will overlap the free end of the rim 15 of the canopy, and thus form the inwardly projecting flange 14, but it will be understood that if less flexible insulating material, such as fiber, mica or vulcanized rubber, is employed, the flange 14 may be otherwise formed or produced.

The protecting or holding strip 16, as

before stated, is preferably made of metal, and in order to economize in the material used, and also in order to provide the strip with a flange, which when applied to the canopy will be an inturned one without materially decreasing the flexibility of the metal, I prefer to form two of such strips 16 out of a single blank or strip 17 (see Fig. 2) which I accomplish in the following manner.

The strip 17, which may be of any suitable size and material, but preferably metal, is divided longitudinally at about its middle on an offset line 18, which offsets are preferably rectangular in shape, as shown, so as to form, when the pieces 16 formed out of the single piece 17 are separated, a series of spaced-apart projections 19 on the adjacent edges of the pieces 16, which projections may be turned to substantially right angles to the pieces 16, as shown in Fig. 7, so that when the protecting strip 16 is applied to the outer surface of the insulating material the spaced projections 19 will overlap the flange 14 of said material, as will be readily understood by reference to Figs. 1 and 9 of the drawing.

While I prefer to make the strips 16 out of a single piece of metal 17 as shown in Fig. 2 and above-described, yet I do not desire to be limited to this method, nor do I wish it understood that the projections 19 and their intervening spaces shall be rectangular in shape, as it is evident that they may be otherwise formed, so as to provide flexibility to the metal strips. In order to secure the meeting ends of the strips 16 together, I prefer to form each of them near their said ends with a transverse slot 20 and an outwardly projecting offset portion 21 to receive a link 22, formed of flexible material, which has its ends passed from the outer surface of the strip 16 inwardly through the slots 20 and then clenched on the inner surface of the strip 16, as shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 4 of the drawing, thus providing a fastening for the meeting ends of the strip 16, which will be flush with the inner surface thereof, so as not to interfere with the insulating material. Instead of using this method of fastening the meeting ends of the strip together, I may provide the strip near one of its ends with a transverse slot 23 and the other end of the strip with a tongue 24, which may be inserted in said slot and bent backwardly upon itself, so as to firmly hold the ends together, as will be understood by reference to Fig. 5, or I may form each of the meeting ends with a tongue 25 to be passed alternately inwardly and outwardly through slots 26 near their meeting ends, and then bent back upon themselves, so as to firmly hold the ends of the strip together.

In some instances where it is desired to

provide means to fit the canopies around moldings or pipes without interfering with the insulation, I provide a protecting or holding strip 16^a, which may have its ends provided with any of the above-named means for securing them together, or otherwise, and which is formed at a suitable point between its edges with a series of spaced apart and inwardly bent loops or portions 19^a, which, when the strip is placed in position on the canopy 12 and insulating material 13, will rest on the outer or free edge of the latter, as is clearly shown in Fig. 8 of the drawing, in which view the canopy 12 is shown as being provided with an annular external bead 27 located at a suitable distance from the free end of the rim 15 thereof, so that the insulating material 13 may rest thereon. By reference to the above-mentioned figure of the drawing, it is apparent that the upper or outer portion of the strip 16^a, which is insulated from the canopy 12, may be provided with an opening or openings, through which a pipe or a piece of molding or other obstruction on the wall or support may be passed without destroying the insulation.

In Fig. 9 is shown still another modification, in which the canopy 12 is provided with an annular bead 27 at a suitable distance from the free edge of its rim 15, and on which a piece of fiber, mica or vulcanized rubber 28 located on the outer surface of the rim 15 may rest at its lower edge, and around the piece or material 28 may be placed okonite tape, rubber or friction tape 29, which may have its upper portion inturned, as shown, and may be held in position by means of a protecting and holding strip 16 of the same construction as that shown in Figs. 1 and 7 and above-described.

From the foregoing and by reference to the drawing, it will be readily understood and clearly seen that insulating means constructed according to my invention is adaptable for application to canopies of various shapes and sizes, and that it may be readily applied thereto or removed therefrom, and that the protecting and holding strips can be made in standard lengths or sizes, with or without any of the disclosed means for securing their meeting ends together, and carried in stock to be supplied to the trade on demand.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is—

In a canopy insulator, the combination with a canopy having an external annular bead at a distance from its rim, of insulating material located on the canopy and resting at one of its edges on said bead, a protecting and holding strip surrounding said material and provided with inturned spaced apart

projections above the edge of the material
opposite that which rests on the bead and
above the free edge of the rim of the canopy,
the said strip being provided near each of its
5 ends with an outwardly extending upset por-
tion, and a link presenting its ends inwardly
of the strip and located in the said slots and
upset portions to secure the ends of the
strip together.

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