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L. HOPP

2,172,282

ADJUSTABLE SHELF MOLDING

Filed Nov. 19, 1938

FIG. 1.

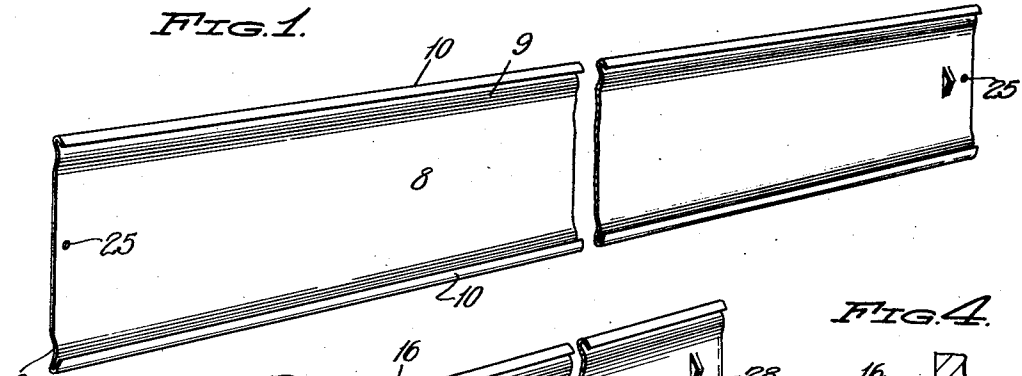


FIG. 2.

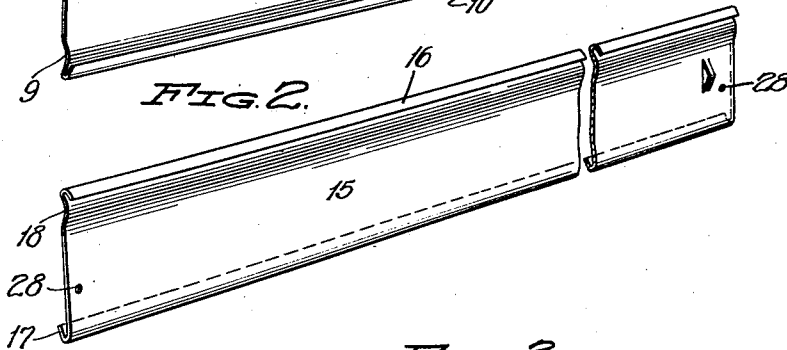


FIG. 3.

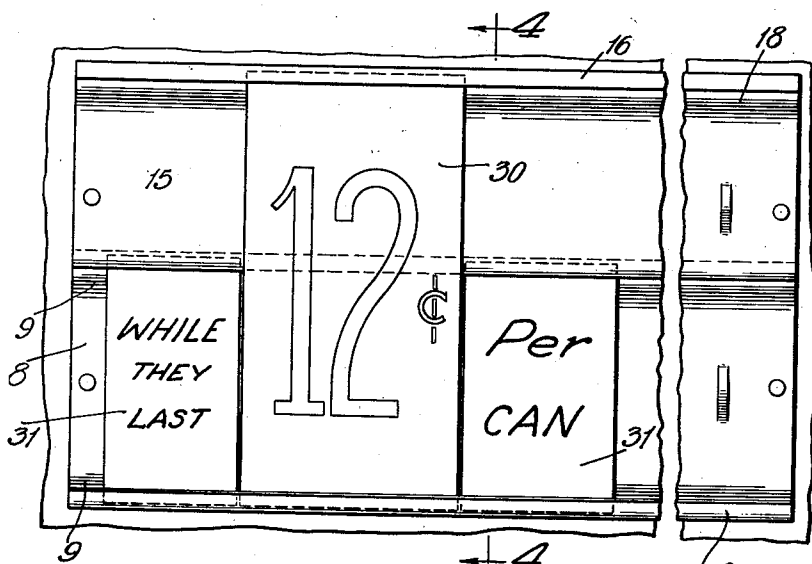


FIG. 4.

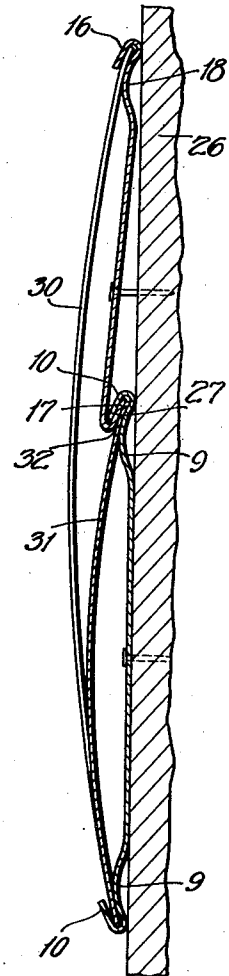
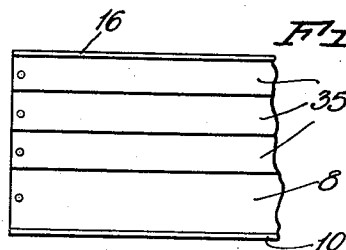


FIG. 5.



WITNESS:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ADJUSTABLE SHELF MOLDING

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2 Claims. (Cl. 40—16)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in shelf moldings and more particularly it pertains to shelf moldings employed for displaying prices and other information of goods or commodities displayed upon the shelves of stores.

Shelf molding of the type referred to as generally constructed consist of relatively long strips of material along two opposite side edges of which ticket retaining flanges extend and are constructed from various materials. The particular type of molding with which this invention is concerned however, is that type constructed from relatively thin sheet metal.

Although the standard sheet metal moldings are rarely made in widths which exceed three inches, there are occasions when moldings of greater width are required and it is the production of moldings of a width greater than standard width, which as above stated is approximately three inches, to which this invention more specifically pertains.

Widths up to three to three and one-half inches are formed on power operated die machines and are extremely accurate in construction presenting ticket retaining flanges of substantially uniform conformation throughout and in such moldings, the tickets are freely placed behind and readily removable with relation to the ticket retaining flanges and yet are retained against accidental displacement from a set position.

However, mainly because of a relatively small demand for moldings of greater than three inch width, it is not practical to have power operated die machines to construct such moldings and it is the common practice of manufacturers of these articles to produce by devices known as hand brake, moldings of greater width than approximately three inches when occasion so demands.

Hand break bending, however, seldom results in accuracy and uniformity of width and generally speaking, because of these irregularities the price tickets slide freely producing confusion, or are unnecessarily bulged when placed in position.

It is the primary object of this invention to provide a new and novel construction whereby the width of a standard die machine made molding, may be increased to any desired width without sacrifice of uniformity and efficiency.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a novel construction of shelf molding which will accommodate tickets of different widths in side by side relation, thus giving to the storekeeper a wider field of display of his goods and their prices.

Other objects of the invention will appear as the nature thereof is better understood and reference will now be had to the following specifica-

tion and claims and the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of standard shelf molding as generally constructed,

Figure 2 is a similar view of a separate molding element adapted for use in connection with a section of so-called standard molding in a manner to be hereinafter described, to increase the width dimension of the said standard molding,

Figure 3 is a view in front elevation illustrating the standard molding and the separate molding element combined to provide a molding having a greater width dimension than the standard molding per se,

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

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view in elevation illustrating a still further manner of use of the invention.

The standard molding is constructed from a relatively long strip of sheet metal and for the sake of clearer illustration, we will assume that said molding is of the greatest standard width, it being understood that by standard width is meant the greatest width in which moldings of this character may be economically produced upon die machines.

By reference to Figure 1, it will be apparent that the so-called standard molding comprises a main body portion 8, which in the form herein shown is in the main, substantially flat. Extending longitudinally of each side of the main body portion 8, there is a ticket retaining flange 10. Extending parallel with each ticket retaining flange 10, and preferably formed by bending the body portion, there is a bead 9. These beads 9 flex the tickets to produce tension therein, thereby producing sufficient friction between the tickets and the molding to retain the tickets against accidental displacement in the molding.

So far as described, the molding is not new, it being of a conventional form manufactured in any desired lengths, but in standard widths by die machines not usually exceeding three to three and one-half inches, since, because of the relatively small demand for widths greater than those mentioned, it is not economical to install die forming machines for the manufacture of molding in widths greater than three to three and one-half inches.

In Figure 2 I have shown what I term a separate molding element which in itself is not a complete molding but which may be employed in combination with a section of standard molding to increase the width thereof. The separate molding element may be of any desired width but it is understood that its width would never be greater than can be economically formed on die machines which in most instances is, as above

stated, approximately three to three and one-half inches.

By reference to Figure 2, it will be noted that this separate molding element comprises a main body portion 15 along one side edge of which, a ticket retaining flange 16 extends. The ticket retaining flange 16 is of substantially the same construction as are the ticket retaining flanges 10 heretofore described and extending along the body portion 15 in close proximity to and in parallelism with the ticket retaining flange 16, there is a bead 18 which functions in a manner similar to the heretofore described beads 9.

Extending along the opposite side edge of the body portion 16, there is a reversely bent flange 17 which extends or projects rearwardly of the body portion 15 as more clearly shown in Figures 2 and 4.

I will now describe the manner in which the separate molding element is combined with a length of so-called standard molding to increase the width dimension of the standard molding to a point where larger tickets may be employed therein.

When it is desired to increase the width of a length of standard molding, the standard molding is preferably placed in position and secured by nails, screws or the like which are passed through openings 25 into holding engagement with the shelf edge or other support herein designated 26, to which the molding is to be attached. With the standard molding in place, the separate molding element is positioned thereon with its rearwardly extending flange 17 in interlocking engagement with one of the ticket retaining flanges 10 of the section of standard molding as indicated at 27 in Figure 4. While I have herein shown the separate molding element as engaged with the upper ticket retaining flange 10 of the standard molding, it is obvious that by reversal of position of the separate molding element, it would as well be interengaged with the lower ticket retaining flange 10 of the standard molding. After this has been done, the separate molding element is secured to the support 26 by passing screws, nails or other fastenings through the openings 28 provided for this purpose.

As illustrated in Figure 4, when the parts are combined in the manner described, the ticket retaining flange 16 of the separate molding element cooperates with the lower ticket retaining flange 10 of the section of standard molding to retain relatively larger tickets, such as the ticket designated 30 in the drawing, and the purpose, namely, of increasing to any desired dimension the width of the standard section of molding is accomplished. Furthermore, the construction of the ticket retaining flanges 10 and 16 respectively of the standard molding and the separate molding element, and of the rearwardly extending or reversely bent flange 17 is such that when the two elements are combined, as shown, there will be sufficient space between the rearwardly extending or reversely bent flange 17 and the ticket retaining flange 10 with which it is engaged to permit of the free insertion of the adjacent edges of relatively smaller tickets 31, as designated by the reference character 32 in Figure 4.

By this arrangement it will be apparent that the present invention provides a new and novel construction whereby free and easy insertion and

removal of the tickets with respect to a ticket holding molding is obtained, since all of the parts are constructed in dimensions of width within the economic limitations of die machines for this purpose. Furthermore, the invention permits of the elements being formed upon die machines instead of on hand brake machines as heretofore stated, thus insuring a uniformity in the relation of the price ticket holding flanges with the result that the tickets may be freely moved along the molding when engaged behind the ticket retaining flange, a result which is almost impossible of attainment in moldings formed upon hand brake machines.

In Figure 5 I have illustrated a further use of the separate molding element. In this figure I have illustrated several of these elements which are designated therein as 35, secured to one another. In carrying out this form of the invention one of the separate molding elements is interengaged with the standard molding element in the manner heretofore described, the remaining separate molding elements being interlocked together by the engagement of the rearwardly extending or reversely bent flange 17 of each with the ticket retaining flange 16 of the adjacent separate molding element. By this construction and use of the parts, a molding can be provided, the width of which may be increased to any desired dimension.

While I have herein described the invention in its preferred form, it is to be understood that the invention is not to be limited to the specific construction and arrangement of parts herein shown, and that it may be practiced in other forms which rightfully fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A shelf molding of the type described comprising in combination, a main molding element including an elongated body portion, a ticket retaining flange extending along two opposite side edges of the body portion, and a separate molding element adapted for attachment to the main molding element with a portion thereof interlocking with one of the ticket retaining flanges thereof, and a ticket retaining flange extending along one edge of the separate element for cooperation with the other ticket retaining flange of the main molding element to retain a ticket in overlying relation with respect to both molding elements.

2. A shelf molding of the type described comprising in combination, a main molding element including an elongated body portion, a ticket retaining flange extending along each of two opposite side edges of the body portion, and a separate molding element, a ticket retaining flange extending along one edge of the separate molding element, said ticket retaining flange being adapted for cooperation with one of the ticket retaining flanges of the main molding element to retain a ticket in display position, and a reversely bent flange extending along the other edge of the separate molding element for interengagement with the other of the ticket retaining flanges of the main molding element to secure the main molding element and the separate molding element together to form the shelf molding.

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