Feb. 5, 1957 M. WASSERMAN 2,780,283

SKYLIGHT CONSTRUCTION.

Filed Dec. 23, 1952

FIG. 2

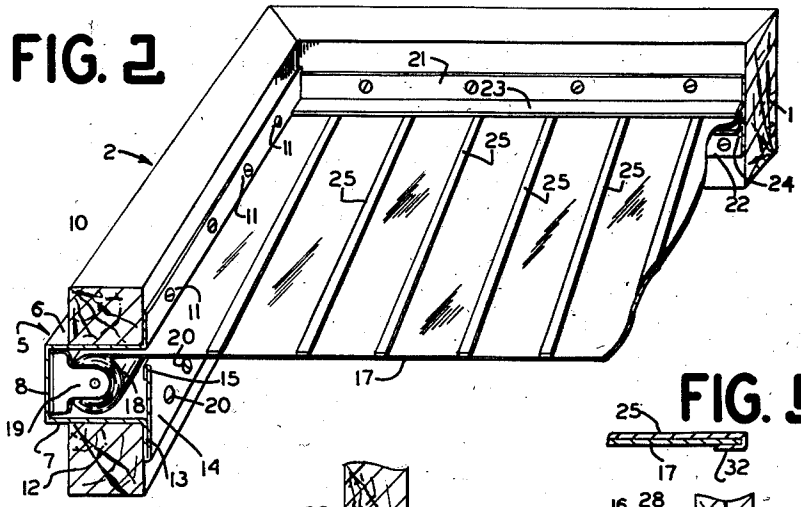


FIG. 5

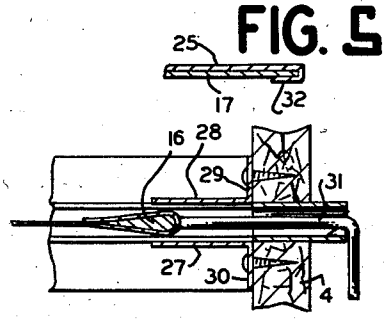


FIG. 4

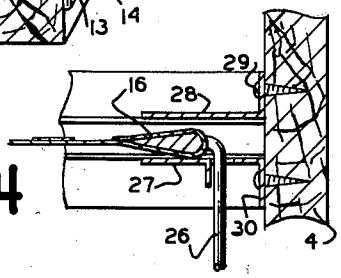


FIG. 3

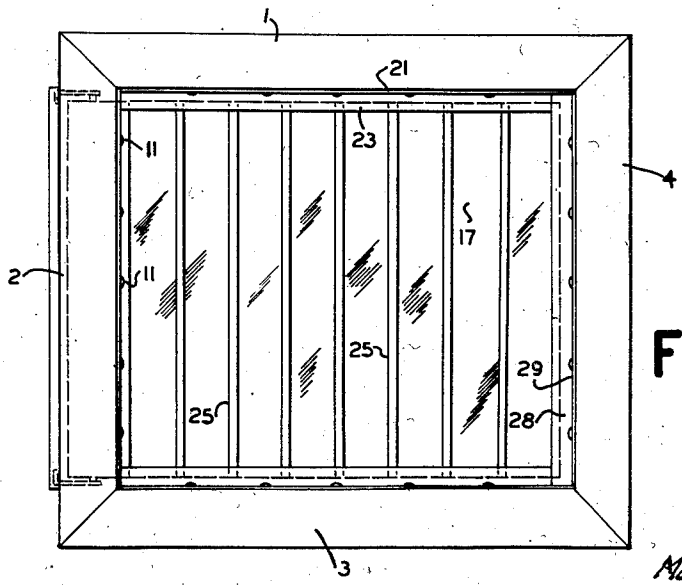


FIG. 1

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2,780,283

SKYLIGHT CONSTRUCTION

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Application December 23, 1952, Serial No. 327,637

1 Claim. (Cl. 160—26)

The present invention relates to a skylight construction and more particularly to the general type shown in my copending application, Serial No. 275,896, now abandoned, which relates to a well construction for the skylight opening in which there may be a space between the skylight dome at the top of the well and the ceiling at the bottom of the well.

As in my copending application, the construction may include a ceiling dome providing a substantially dead air space between the skylight dome and the ceiling dome.

Where the present construction is used on school buildings and also in homes, it is desirable to provide a curtain or shade which may be drawn across the well and completely shut off the light in the well.

The present invention is concerned more particularly with the structure involving the curtain or shade which is preferably drawn in general horizontal direction across the well. This construction will apply generally to rectangular, circular, or other shaped wells and in all cases may be used to completely seal the well opening so that no light will pass through it. Where the well opening is transparent, it is desirable to provide a construction in which the curtain is not visible from the floor, and there is also a distinct merit in doing this where the ceiling dome is transparent since the well should be clear in order to avoid elements in it casting shadows as far as possible.

In the present invention the stored curtain is out of sight inside the wall of the well and is drawn out in such a manner that substantially no light passes through the well between the walls and the well and the curtain on any side. The structure is simple, efficient and easy to install and is also accessible for removal or repair if desired. Without further describing the merits and advantages of the present invention, the invention will be described in connection with the drawings annexed hereto, in which:

Figure 1 is a view looking downward into the well with the top skylight dome removed.

Figure 2 is a perspective view partly in fragmentary section showing detailed construction of the well and curtain installation.

Figure 3 shows a detail in which the curtain is brought through the wall of the well.

Figure 4 is a detail showing the cord brought downward in the well, and,

Figure 5 is a modified detail of the structure shown in Figure 2.

Referring more particularly to Figures 1 and 2, the curbing of the well may be formed with side walls **1**, **2**, **3** and **4** which may enclose the roof opening and over which the skylight dome is mounted.

Referring more particularly to Figure 2, it will be noted that the wall **2** is provided with an opening or slot in which a curtain frame support **5** is secured. This curtain frame support is formed with top and bottom walls **6** and **7** and a rear wall **8** and has an upwardly extending flange **9** lying flush with the top section **10** of the curb wall or

wall of the well to which the flange **9** is secured by suitable screws **11**, **11**. The lower wall **7** of the curtain support structure rests on the lower section **12** of the well wall in its cut out portion and this wall **7** is also provided with a downwardly extending flange **13** which has a reversely bent section or plate **14** which extends upward across the opening or slot and is finished off in an inwardly bent end section **15**.

The distance between the upper end of the section **14** and the top end of the slot where the edge of the flange **9** begins, is sufficient to allow the curtain **17** with its end rod **16**, Figures 3 and 4, to be drawn through. The curtain **17** comes from a roll **18** which is pivoted at its ends on a bracket **19** extending from the back wall **8** or either of the other walls of the curtain holding frame **5**. This curtain roll **18** may be of the usual type with a tensioning spring on the inside of the rod supporting the roll so that the curtain will be drawn back in place when it is released. A series of screws **20** may be used to secure the lower section of the curtain supporting frame to the well or curb walls **12** of the well structure.

The curtain **17** is maintained in a horizontal position by upper and lower angle flanges **21** and **22** which are mounted on the sides of the well and which have extending plates **23** and **24** extending over the side edges of the curtain on both sides of the well. The curtain will rest upon the lower flanges **24** and the cross straps or reinforcements **25** extending transversely across the curtain may be secured to the curtain **17** in any desired manner. These cross straps preferably extend all the way across the curtain and over the edges of the flanges **24**, so that the curtain will not sag at the center or at the edges when drawn over the well.

Attached to the end of the curtain is a cord **26** which may pass through a hole in a wall flange **27** attached at the end of the well opposite to that from the slot where the curtain is drawn out of its containing enclosure. This supporting flange which may be an angle beam is secured to the wall **4** by any suitable means. Instead of using an angle plate or member, a channel member may be used with the upper plate element **28** running parallel and spaced from the angle arm **27**.

The plates or flanges **27** and **28** may be formed as a channel member or as shown, the plate **28** may be separately secured by an upwardly extending bracket **29** to the wall **4**, similarly as the bracket **30** of the angle **27**.

Figure 3 shows a slight modification of the structure in which the curtain rod **6** has a cord **31** extending through a hole in the wall **4** and at the back end of the wall the cord may be passed downward through a hole in the ceiling outside of the well.

In place of forming the side supporting elements for the curtain as a channel member, the top element may be removed if desired, but it is preferable to retain the top flange member **23** since this also aids in guiding the curtain and maintaining it always in the channel. The supporting straps **25** may also be attached to the curtain as shown in Figure 5 which shows a transverse section. Here the straps **25** are carried over the edges of the curtain and secured or clinched by binding the ends of the straps **25** over the lower parallel margins of the curtains as indicated by the section **32**.

While the structure has been shown as applied to a rectangular shaped skylight opening, it may also be applied to a circular skylight opening as shown in my copending application Serial No. 275,896.

In this case the curtain is drawn over the full diameter of the well and for this purpose the side channels are recessed in the well and the curtain is also mounted in the well tangential to one side of the same. The side channels will then be perpendicular to the curtain when it is rolled up and will occupy substantially a rectangular area

when pulled outward having the same width as the diameter of the well.

Having now described my invention I claim:

In a skylight construction having walls defining a well extending below a skylight, means for shutting out the light passing through the well comprising an opening formed in one of the walls intermediate its upper and lower terminal portion, a frame having a top, a bottom and a rear wall disposed in the opening, said rear wall closing the rear of the opening, an upwardly extending flange formed on the inner edge of the top wall of the frame and secured to the wall containing the opening immediately above the opening, a second flange formed on the inner edge of the bottom wall of the frame, said second flange having a front portion extending upwardly and terminating short of the top wall of the frame and having a second portion extending downwardly and secured to the wall containing the opening immediately below said opening, a roller mounted in the frame and carrying a curtain adapted to be drawn through the space between the top of the first portion of the second flange and the top wall

of the frame and across the well, a number of reinforcing straps secured to and extending translationally across the full width of the curtain, a pair of horizontal flanges mounted on opposite walls of the well adjacent the wall containing the opening and defining tracks for the sides of the curtain and the ends of the reinforcing straps, and an additional pair of horizontal flanges mounted on the wall of the well opposite the frame adapted to support the forward end of the curtain when the curtain is drawn across the well.

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