

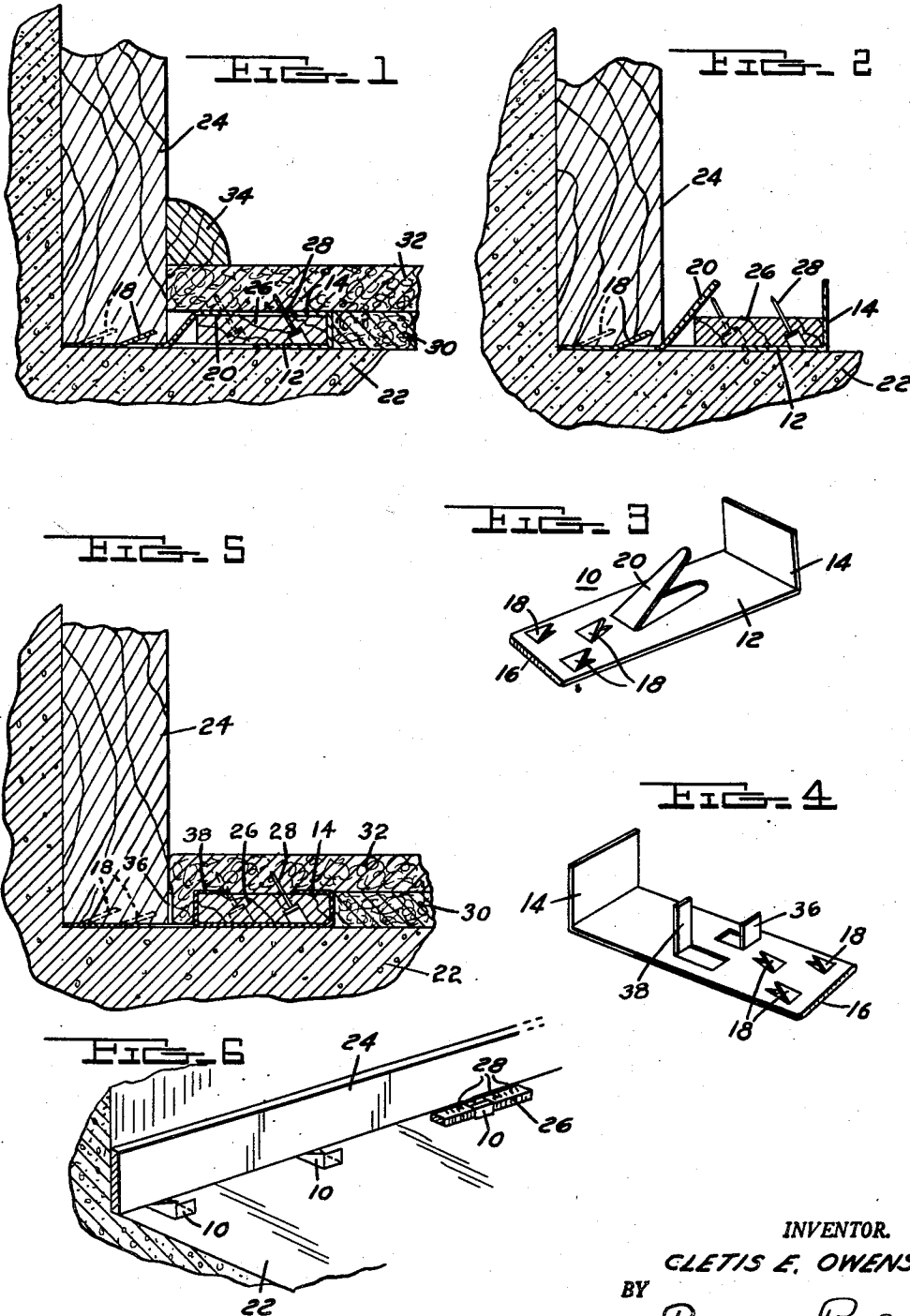
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ANCHORING MEANS FOR CARPET TACKING STRIPS

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ANCHORING MEANS FOR CARPET TACKING STRIPS

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This invention relates to the laying of carpets and particularly to an improved anchoring means for securing the margins of carpets in place alongside of the wall baseboards.

In the United States patent to Roberts No. 2,238,946 there is shown and described a form of carpet securing device having an elongated strip of wooden material from the upper surface of which protrude nail-like elements to which a margin of the carpet is secured. The strip is nailed to wooden floors and glued to cement flooring immediately adjacent to the wall of a room. Additional fastening means in the form of double pointed nails are suggested for securing the strip to the baseboard, each nail having one end driven into the side of the strip and the opposite end driven into the side of the baseboard. Considerable time and effort is required by the workmen in laying the strip and assuring positive securement in place. This is especially true of cement flooring where it has been the practice to either adhesively secure the strip to the floor or nail the strip to wooden plugs embedded in the floor. In the case of adhesive securement, it is necessary to allow some time to elapse for the adhesive material to take a permanent set. Even when properly laid, the strip is very likely to be pulled away from the adhesive material requiring the work to be done all over again.

An important general object of this invention is to provide an improved fastening means for positively anchoring the carpet in place and without altering or modifying the floor or impairing the exterior finish of the baseboard. Another important object of the invention is to provide an improved fastening means which speeds the carpet laying time and assures positive and permanent securement of the margins of the carpets alongside of the walls. A further important object of the invention is to provide an improved fastening means for carpets which is especially desirable for cement-type flooring and eliminates the necessity of employing adhesive substances and wooden plugs and the time and labor involved in the use of such materials.

In carrying out the objects of the invention, a carpet fastening means is provided which utilizes the baseboard for positive anchorage and in such a manner that it does not alter or impair the exterior finish of the baseboard. As exemplified by the embodiments of the invention herein illustrated, the fastening means includes a plurality of similar anchoring members each so designed that it may be slidably fitted or driven

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under the baseboard and interlock therewith against withdrawal. Means is provided for limiting the extent each anchoring member may be forced under the baseboard leaving a portion projecting outwardly from the baseboard. The projecting portion of each anchoring member is utilized to secure the margin of a carpet thereto and particularly as herein shown to be clamped to a carpet tack strip of the character illustrated in the aforementioned Roberts patent. Each anchoring member is preferably a one-piece metallic article formed out of sheet metal stock and shaped in a novel manner for interlocking engagement with the lower edge of the baseboard and for clamping engagement with the tack strip or other means utilized for securing the carpet in place. The anchoring members are shaped to be conveniently driven in under the lower edge of the baseboard and the floor over which it extends and to be clamped to the tack strip or other hold down means for the carpet.

Various other objects, advantages and meritorious features will become more fully apparent from the following specification, appended claims and accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a transverse sectional view through the corner formed by the juncture of a wall with a floor and showing the final assembled position of the parts of one of the anchoring members after the carpet has been laid,

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view similar to Fig. 1 but showing the position of one of the anchoring members preparatory to being clamped to a carpet tack strip,

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of an anchoring member illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2,

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of anchoring member,

Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view similar to Fig. 1 but showing the final installed position of the modified anchoring member of Fig. 4, and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view diagrammatically illustrating the manner of installing the anchoring members under a wall baseboard and the clamping of a tack strip thereto.

Referring to Fig. 3, a preferred form of anchoring member is illustrated and as shown is in the form of a one-piece metallic element generally indicated at 10. The anchoring member is preferably formed out of sheet metal stock, and being elongated in one dimension it assumes a band-like character. The members are bent to exhibit an L-shape configuration having a longer section 12 and a shorter or leg section 14. In installed position the longer section 12 extends

horizontally and lies flat against the floor. The shorter section 14 constitutes an upturned flange against which one side of a tack strip bears as hereinafter described and preferably extends to a height greater than the thickness of the tack strip.

The end section of the anchoring member 10 opposite to its upturned flange is driven in under a wall baseboard and is interlocked therewith. For this purpose the end section of the member is relatively thin and flat and its leading edge may be beveled or chamfered as indicated at 16. The part of the member which enters between the baseboard and the floor is provided with one or more upwardly extending projections which are preferably arranged so that it may pass under the baseboard with a minimum of resistance but positively engage and interlock with the baseboard when forces are applied tending to retrack the member away from the baseboard. Such projections preferably form integral parts of the anchoring member and are herein shown as prongs 18 struck out of the section 12 adjacent to the outer end thereof. Three such prongs are provided in the embodiment of the invention illustrated in Fig. 3 and they may be arranged in the triangular formation shown. The prongs 18 are relatively short and as shown are inclined toward the middle of the member and the flange 14. The prongs are preferably about a quarter of an inch in length and preferably inclined at an angle between 30° and 45°.

An upwardly extending projection is provided in the middle portion of the section 12. This projection is in the form of a relatively long prong 20 struck out of the anchor member and inclined in the same direction as the shorter prongs 18. The prong 20 is preferably inclined at an angle of approximately 45° and a length approximately twice that of the shorter prongs 18. The long prong 20 serves as a stop limiting the extent the anchor member may be inserted under the baseboard and also as one of the elements for clampingly engaging the carpet tack strip if such is employed to hold the carpet as hereinafter described. The prong 20 also serves to provide a clearance between the tack strip and the baseboard. The spatial relation of the prong 20 to the flange 14 is such that the tack strip may be snugly received therebetween with its upper surface below the upper ends of the prong and the flange.

Figs. 1, 2 and 6 illustrate the application of the anchor members 10 to a cement type of floor 22 and the combination of the anchor members with a wall baseboard 24 and a carpet tack strip 26 associated with the floor. A plurality of anchor members are provided for each baseboard of a room. The pronged end of each member is driven in under the baseboard 24 at spaced intervals which may be nine inches to a foot apart. The anchor members are each forced under the baseboard until the long prong 20 abuts the front side thereof. In this position as shown in Fig. 2, the short prongs 18 are received under the lower edge of the baseboard and incline upwardly and outwardly for biting engagement with the baseboard and in such a manner as to lock the anchor member from withdrawal. The longer prong 20 and the flange 14 of the anchor members thus secured to the baseboard form a series of cradles along the floor into which the tack strip 26 is fitted.

The carpet tack strip 26 may be constructed like that described in the aforementioned Roberts

patent and provided with a plurality of nails or brads 28 driven in from the lower surface of the strip at the same inclination such as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 and protruding from the upper surface thereof. The strip 26 is fitted between the flange and the long prong by first tilting the strip on its longitudinal axis and dropping it into the aligned series of cradles and then turning the strip back so that it lies flat on the sections 12 of the anchor members as shown in Fig. 2. The tack strip is clamped to the anchor members by folding or crimping the flanges 14 and the prongs 20 over the upper surface of the tack strip. The result is that shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 6 with the strip tightly clamped to the anchor members and held by the members to the baseboard. In this secured position, the base section 12 of each anchoring member projects from the wall side of the tack strip in substantially flush relation to the lower surface of the strip and contactually between the latter and the floor.

To secure a carpet in place by means of the anchor clamps 10 and the tack strip 26, a base layer of padding 30 is cut to cover the floor area between the tack strips extending along the baseboards of the room and laid over the floor with the edges of the pad substantially abutting the strips as shown in Fig. 1. The tack strips 26 and the pad 30 are preferably of substantially the same thickness. A carpet 32 having the dimensions of the room is then laid over the pad and its margins hooked to the slanting nails 28. A shoe molding 34 is laid over each margin of the carpet and nailed or otherwise secured to the adjacent baseboard to conceal the edges of the carpet.

Figs. 4 and 5 illustrate a modification of the invention wherein, in place of a single prong 20 having the dual function of limiting the insertion of the anchor member and of clampingly engaging the top side of the tack strip 26, two separate prong elements are provided. The anchor member of the modification is otherwise constructed as described in connection with Fig. 3 and like parts are referred to by the same reference characters. As illustrated in Fig. 4, the modified anchor member is provided with two upstanding prong elements 36 and 38 struck out of the material of the member. These prongs are preferably offset to one another both laterally and longitudinally of the anchor member. Prong 36 is preferably made so as not to extend to a height greater than the tack strip. Prong 38 is made longer than prong 36 so that it may be bent to overlie the top side of the tack strip and assist in clamping the same in position.

Fig. 5 illustrates the use of the anchor member of Fig. 4 and in addition differs from Fig. 1 by showing a variation of the manner of securing the carpet 32 in place. The prong end of the anchor member is driven in under the baseboard 24 in the manner previously described to interlock the prongs 18 with the lower edge of the baseboard. The extent to which the anchor member can be forced under the baseboard is limited by the shorter prong 36. A series of these anchor members are interlocked with the baseboard at spaced intervals as shown in Fig. 6. Thereafter the tack strip 26 is placed between the outer flanges 14 of the anchor members and the longer prongs 38, and the upper end portions of these two elements are turned over the tack strip to snugly hold the tack strip in place. Padding 30 is then overlaid upon the floor and brought up edge-wise against the outer sides of the tack strip. The

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padding is covered by a carpet 32 which in this instance may be cut a little oversize the dimensions of the floor. Each outer margin of the carpet is stretched over the protruding nails 28 of the tack strip and downwardly jammed or wedged into the space or clearance provided between the offset prongs 36 and 38 of the anchor members. The nails of the tack strip serve to anchor the margins of the carpet in place. The wedged edges of the carpet are snugly held between the baseboards and the tack strips. As a result, the usual shoe moldings 34 shown in Fig. 1 may be omitted if desired.

What I claim is:

1. An anchor clamp for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard having one end section thereof shaped to grippingly engage and hold a carpet tacking strip and having the opposite end section thereof shaped to enter between the lower edge of a wall baseboard and the floor over which the baseboard extends, said last mentioned end section shaped to define a flat end portion having a chamfered leading edge and being provided spaced inwardly from said edge with upwardly extending projections struck out of the section to overlie the same for penetrating the baseboard under which it is inserted for locking the member against withdrawal.

2. A device for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard comprising a member of thin flat metallic material having one end section thereof provided with upwardly extending portions adapted to be folded around a tacking strip for clamping engagement therewith, the opposite end section of the member being thin and provided with a beveled forward edge and insertable under a wall baseboard, said opposite end section provided with upwardly extending prongs struck out of the section and overlying the same for biting engagement with the baseboard.

3. An anchor clamp for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard comprising a one-piece member formed of sheet metal stock and elongated in one dimension, said member adapted to underlie a carpet tacking strip in crosswise relation thereto, one end portion of the member being upturned to provide a flange against which the outer side of the tacking strip bears, the opposite end portion of the member being insertable between the lower edge of a wall baseboard and the floor over which it extends and being provided with one or more relatively short upwardly extending prongs struck out of the portion and inclined away from the direction of the insertion for biting engagement with the lower edge of the baseboard, and the mid-portion of the member being provided with a relatively long upwardly extending prong struck out of said mid-portion of the member and of a length greater than the first mentioned prongs inclined in the same direction as the shorter prongs and adapted to engage with the front side of the baseboard and the inner side of the tacking strip and serve as a spacer limiting the distance to which the tacking strip may be brought up to the baseboard.

4. An anchor clamp for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard comprising an L-shaped member forming two perpendicularly related sections of unequal length, the longer section of the member being thin and flat and shaped for endwise insertion between the lower edge of a wall baseboard and the floor over which the baseboard extends, the end portion of the longer section opposite to the shorter section being provided with one or more pointed prongs

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inclined upwardly and toward the shorter section, said longer section exhibiting an upwardly projecting element formed from a portion of the longer section of the member between the pointed prongs and the shorter end section and having a length substantially greater than that of the prongs and adapted to be folded over a tacking strip seated between the shorter section and the element to hold the strip therebetween and serve as an abutment for engaging the front side of the baseboard to limit the extent the longer section of the member may be inserted thereunder.

5. An anchor clamp for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard comprising a member elongated in one dimension, one end portion of the member being upturned to provide a flange against which the outer side of a tacking strip may bear, the opposite end portion of the member being thin and flat and shaped for insertion between the lower edge of a wall baseboard and the floor over which the baseboard extends, said last mentioned end portion of the member being provided with one or more pointed prongs inclined upwardly and toward the flange, and the mid portion of the member being provided with a pair of substantially vertically extending elements, said elements being offset longitudinally of the member from one another so that one of the elements is closer to the flange than the other element, the element more remote from the flange serving as an abutment for engaging the front side of a baseboard to limit the extent the pronged portion of the member may be inserted thereunder and the other element cooperating with the flange to cradle a tacking strip therebetween.

6. An anchor clamp for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard comprising an elongated member having substantially uniformly spaced apart parallel side edges, said member provided with an upstanding flange at one end adapted to abut the outer edge of a tacking strip, the other end of the member chamfered at the edge to permit insertion of such end between a baseboard and the subjacent floor, one or more prongs struck out of the member adjacent said other end and extending upwardly toward the flange, an element struck out of said member between the side edges and spaced from the flange and extending angularly theretowards, said element adapted to cooperate with the flange to form a cradle for a tacking strip and adapted to limit the insertion of said member underneath the baseboard.

7. An anchor clamping device for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard comprising a member elongated in one dimension and having a thin flat end section, said section adapted to be slidably inserted beneath a wall baseboard and exhibiting at least one upwardly projecting prong for engaging and entering the baseboard to secure the member thereunder, an element upstanding from said section and adapted to abut the baseboard to limit the insertion of the member thereunder, and a pair of elements upstanding from the section and forming a cradle therebetween to receive and hold a tacking strip spaced outwardly from the first mentioned element.

8. An anchor clamp for securing a carpet tacking strip to a wall baseboard comprising a member elongated in one dimension and exhibiting an upstanding flange at one end adapted to abut and hold one edge of a tacking strip, the opposite end of the member adapted to be inserted

under a wall baseboard and exhibiting an upstanding prong for engaging the baseboard to secure the member thereunder, and a pair of elements upstanding from the member and spaced apart between the opposite end sections of the member with one element of the pair adapted to cooperate with the flange to cradle and hold a tacking strip therebetween and the other element adapted to abut the baseboard and limit the insertion of the member thereunder.

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