Aug. 27, 1968 E. F. VENZIE, JR 3,398,982

ATTACHMENT FITTING FOR PLASTER PANELS

Filed Jan. 12, 1967

FIG. 1

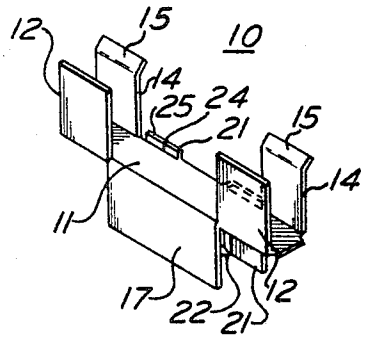


FIG. 2

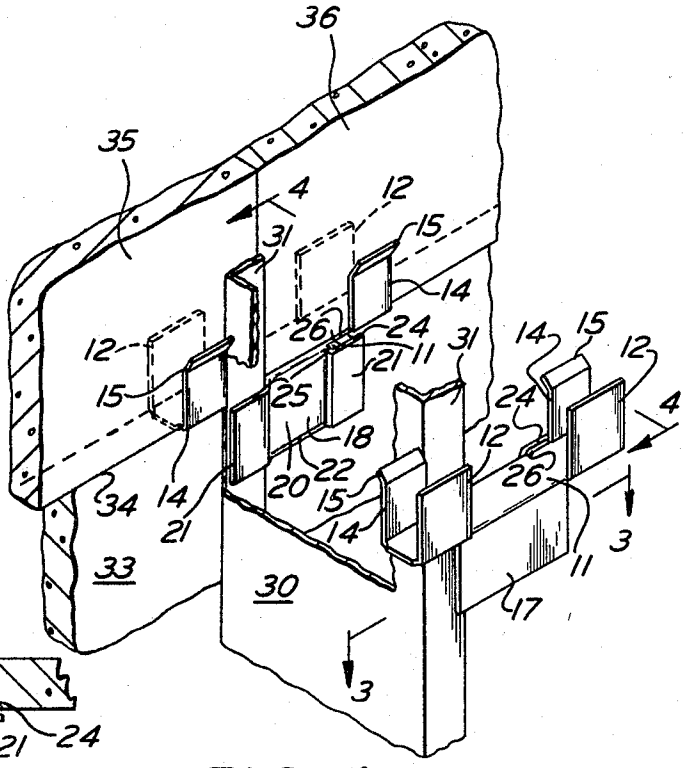


FIG. 4

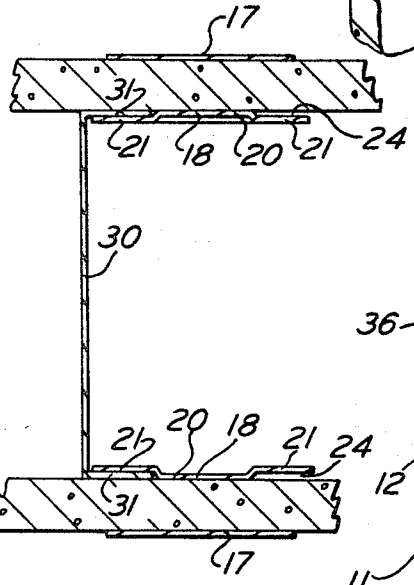
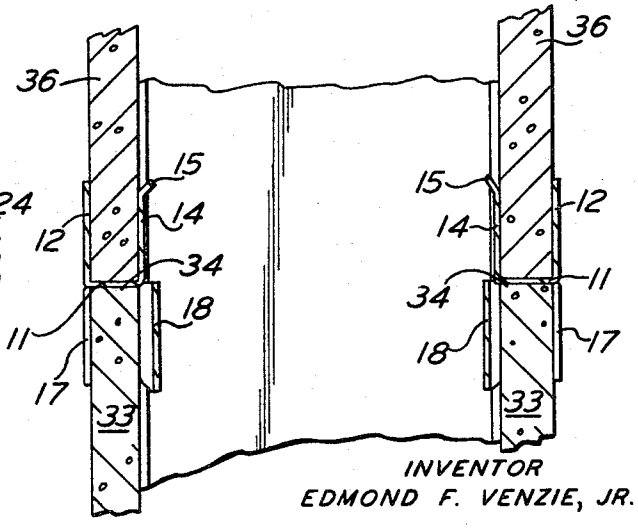


FIG. 3



INVENTOR
EDMOND F. VENZIE, JR.

BY

ATTORNEY

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ATTACHMENT FITTING FOR PLASTER PANELS

Edmond F. Venzie, Jr., Blue Bell, Pa. (% National Plaster Block Mfg. Co., 2238 N. 27th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19132)

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An attachment fitting for plaster panels that connects plaster panels together vertically and horizontally and to upright studs.

Field of the invention

This invention relates to attachment fittings for connecting plaster panels and for holding them together and to vertical studs.

Description of the prior art

The clips or fittings presently available for fastening plaster panels together and to lath are usually made of round wire. Such clips are prone to breakage, are easily distorted and do not provide the rigidity demanded by their users.

Other clips of metal stock have been used but they also fail to provide a satisfactory usable rigid structure. In addition two separate clips have heretofore generally been required, one to fasten the plaster panels together and one to fasten the panels to the stud or other support.

Summary of the invention

The principal object of the present invention is to provide an attachment fitting for plaster panels that is sturdy and has an inherent rigidity which is lacking in clips heretofore employed.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an attachment fitting for plaster panels, preferably made of sheet metal, that is inexpensive and light in weight.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an attachment fitting for plaster panels that is noncorrosive and of long life.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an attachment fitting for plaster panels that can me easily and quickly installed by unskilled help.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a single attachment fitting for plaster panels that replaces the multiple clips presently used.

Other objects and advantageous features of the invention will be apparent from the description and claims.

Brief description of the drawing

The nature and characteristic features of the invention will be more readily understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming part thereof, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a view in perspective of the attachment fitting in accordance with the invention;

FIG. 2 is a view in perspective showing the attachment fitting in installed position on both sides of a stud;

FIG. 3 is a horizontal sectional view taken approximately on the line 3—3 of FIG. 2; and

FIG. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken approximately on the line 4—4 of FIG. 2.

It should, of course, be understood that the description and drawings herein are illustrative merely, and that various modifications and changes can be made in the structure disclosed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views.

Description of the preferred embodiment

Referring now more particularly to the drawings and FIG. 1 thereof, an attachment fitting **10** is there illustrated and which is provided with a central body portion **11** of flat rectangular shape which extends horizontally the length of the fitting. The body portion **11** is of sufficient width to support one thickness of plaster panel, which in the embodiment illustrated is of three eights of an inch in thickness. The central body portion **11** as illustrated in the embodiment of FIG. 1 has a thickness of 18 gauge to provide a relatively flat appearance in place but any other thickness can be used if desired, but not so as to separate the panels in use. At each end of the central portion **11** a pair of outer or front tongues **12** and a pair of inner or rear tongues **14** are provided.

The tongues **12** and **14** are integral with body portion **11** extend vertically upwardly in parallel relation and are separated a distance sufficient to allow one thickness of plaster board to pass between them.

The rear tongues **14** each have an angularly inclined lip portion **15** at the top thereof and at a rearward inclination to guide the plaster panel upon insertion between the tongues **12** and **14**, and for locking, as pointed out below.

The central body portion **11** between the tongues **12** and **14** is provided with an integral vertical downwardly extending front retaining plate **17** and an integral vertical downwardly extending rear retaining assembly **18**.

The front plate **17** is preferably flat, of rectangular configuration and extends between the front tongues **12**.

The rear retaining assembly **18** has a central panel **20** and two struck out panels **21** joined by the central panel. The panel **20** has a rib **22** on the bottom thereof between and connecting the panels **20** and **21** and which provides a stiffening effect to the panels **20** and **21**.

The panels **21** which are struck out from panel **20** provide slots **24** between their upper edges **25** and the rear edge **26** of the central body portion **11** for insertion onto a wall stud.

As illustrated in FIG. 2 the attachment fitting **10** is shown in assembled position. The stud **30**, of conventional type with flanges **31**, may be fastened to any suitable surface or as shown here between a pair of plaster panels **33**. The fitting **10** is pressed over the flange **31** of stud **30** with the flange **31** entered into one of the slots **24** and is retained thereon by frictional engagement.

The lip portion **15** is inclined along the stud **30** and aids in locking in position.

The fitting **10** is slid down over the upper edge **34** of a plaster panel **33** with the front retaining plate **17** in front of the panel **33** and the rear retaining assembly **18** behind the panel **33** so that the plaster panel **33** is gripped between the panel **20** and front portion **17**.

Additional plaster panels **35** and **36** can be inserted down onto the top of body **11** and between one each of the tongues **12** and **14** respectively.

The fittings are preferably made as stampings of galvanized sheet metal and as shown involve a minimum of waste in their manufacture. Other suitable noncorrosive rigid materials may be used, if desired.

It will thus be seen that an attachment fitting has been provided with which the object of the invention are attained.

I claim:

1. An attachment fitting for plaster panels having front and rear faces and edges which comprises:

a flat central body portion for panel edge engagement having a side margin,

spaced pairs of front and rear panel face retaining members connected to said body portion and extending perpendicularly from one face of said body portion in parallel relation,

a front plate connected to said central body portion and extending perpendicularly from the other face thereof, and

a rear retaining assembly connected to said body portion and extending from said other face thereof in parallel relation to said front plate,

said rear retaining assembly including a central panel with two end panels connected thereto in offset relation,

said end panels having margins spaced from the central body portion to provide slots between said end panels and the body portion for insertion onto a stud flange,

at least a portion of each of said slots extending along said side margin of said central body portion.

2. An attachement fitting for plaster panels as defined in claim 1 in which:

said pairs of retaining members are disposed upwardly, and

said front plate and said rear retaining assembly are disposed downwardly.

3. An attachment fitting for plaster panels as defined in claim 1 in which:

the rear retaining members have locking portions spaced from said slots.

4. An attachment fitting for plaster panels as defined in claim 1 in which:

said rear retaining assembly includes a central panel with two end panels connected thereto in offset relation, said end panels have margins spaced from the central body portion to provide slots between said end panels and the body portion for insertion onto a stud flange,

said pairs of retaining members are disposed upwardly, and

said front plate and said rear retaining assembly are disposed downwardly.

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CARL W. TOMLIN, *Primary Examiner.*

W. L. SHEDD, *Assistant Examiner.*