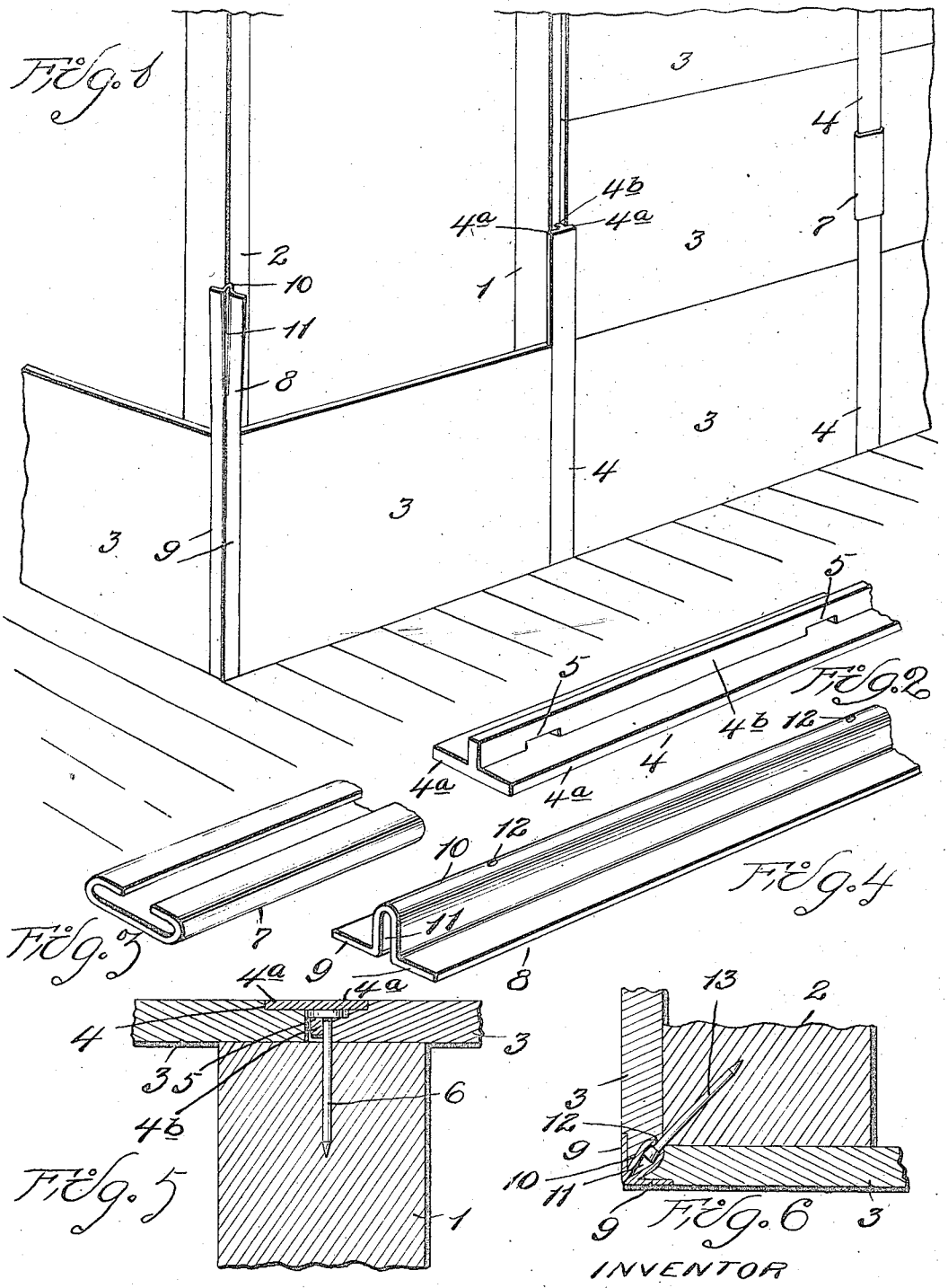
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WALL BOARD SEAM AND FASTENING STRIP

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INVENTOR

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## WALL-BOARD SEAM AND FASTENING STRIP.

Application filed July 3, 1921. Serial No. 483,274.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES BETZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Wall-Board Seam and Fastening Strip, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof.

This invention relates generally to fastening strips and, more particularly, to a certain new and useful strip adapted especially for securing or fastening material, such as "beaver board" sections or the like, to studding or other frame-work in the formation of walls and partitions.

The principal object of my present invention is to provide means in the form preferably of suitably elongated metallic strips of simple and inexpensive form and construction which may be readily nailed or otherwise fixed to the studding or other frame-work and by which wall-forming panels or sections, such as, for instance, sections of beaver-board or the like, may be conveniently, quickly, and efficiently secured and held in place and the joints or seams therebetween concealed.

With the above and other objects in view, my present invention resides in the novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter described and afterwards pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 shows in perspective a fragment of a wall comprising wooden-framing and rectangular oblong shaped sections of wall material, the latter being secured and held in place by joint-concealing securing devices or strips embodying my invention;

Figure 2 is a fragmental perspective view of one of the wall strips;

Figure 3 is a fragmental perspective view of a splice for the wall strips;

Figure 4 is a fragmental perspective view of one of the corner or angle strips;

Figure 5 is an enlarged sectional plan view showing a pair of wall-boards, a studding, and one of my wall strips as nailed to the studding and holding the two wall-boards in place; and

Figure 6 is an enlarged sectional plan view showing a pair of wall-boards, a studding, and one of my corner or angle strips as nailed to the studding and securely holding the wall-boards in relative angular disposition.

Referring now by numerals to the drawings, 1 designates an intermediate studding or post of a building-wall or partition, and 2 designates the corner or end studding of walls disposed relatively at an angle. 3 designates panels or sections of wall forming-material, such as, for instance, commercial "beaver board," adapted for location and for securement upon the studding 1 and 2 to complete the wall or partition. As is common, the wall boards or sections of material 3 are uniformly pre-sized and are ordinarily of rectangular-oblong shape. Ordinarily such wall boards are butt-fitted over a frame element and secured by nailing through the boards into the frame element. Obviously where headed nails are employed, the greatest precision and skill must be exercised to avoid a grotesque arrangement of nail heads, and obviously further where headless or "finish" nails are employed, the holding, at best, is insecure, even though a relatively great number of nails is used. It is also quite common today that in the handling of the wall-boards in commerce, much damage is done the margins—hence the ordinary wall or partition presents unsightly seams or joints between boards.

In the construction of a wall according to my invention, the boards 3 are substantially "butted" over a frame element, such as a studding 1, and secured by a strip 4 of preferably or substantially T-section whose flanges $4^a$ overlap the margins of the boards 3 and whose rib or web $4^b$ resides or is disposed, as shown, between the margins of the boards 3. At intervals the rib or web $4^b$ is provided with enlarged apertures such as the slots 5, whose trends are lengthwise of the web, and which are flush with the inside faces of the flanges.

Into each of the slots 5, the head of, preferably an ordinary "wire" nail 6 is placed with its shank disposed parallel with the web and at a right angle to the flanges, and by pressure upon or impacting of the strip 4 with the nails 6 so disposed, the strip is moved toward the studding, the nails sunk into the studding, and the flanges of the strip imbedded to flush with the outer surface of the wall-boards, as best shown in Figure 5.

To provide a substantially continuous strip of relatively great length, I preferably employ a substantially C-shaped splice or connecting member 7, as shown in Figure 3, which comprises hooked flanges for riding over the contiguous flanges $4^a$ of the strips 4, and whose function is to stiffen, as well as to conceal, a joint between two of the strips 4.

By preference the wall strips 4 are made of relatively heavy material, as by rolling, in order to provide against distortion in placement, and in order to provide rigidity or stiffness between securing points, such as the slots 5, to facilitate the fastening of the strip by a minimum number of nails. The modified form of strip 8 shown in Figures 4 and 6, is also substantially T-shape in cross-section, the same comprising oppositely presented flanges 9 and a substantially central rib or web 10, but whose rib or web is doubled forming a channel 11, and which is provided at spaced intervals with nail-perforations 12. This form of strip adapts itself admirably to corners as shown in Figure 6, and its placement and securement is obtained by the insertion of suitable nails 13 through the channel 11 and perforations 12, driving same into the studding 2, and then shaping and crimping the strip to imbed its flanges 9 in the adjacent boards and to close the mouth of the channel 11 to conceal the heads of the nails 13, as best seen in Figure 6.

My new strips may be inexpensively manufactured, and by the use of strips in accordance with my invention, I am enabled to quickly, conveniently, tightly, securely, and efficiently bind and fasten wall-boards or sections in place and form a substantially seamless, smooth wall or partition, the margins of the several sections being covered and the joints therebetween, both at corners and throughout the wall, being concealed. I may add that the strips enable the wall to more positively resist combustion; nails, or other fastening means of the wall sections are concealed; and cracking of paper or other wall surfacing material at seams is obviated.

I am aware that changes in the form and construction of my new fastening strips made be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a wall-board fastening and joint-concealing strip of stiff metallic material and of substantially T-form, the same comprising a single-wall rigid web and a pair of flanges presented outwardly from an end of and at an angle to the web, the web being provided with a series of spaced slots trending parallel with the under face of said flanges for accommodating only the heads of strip-fastening members when the shanks thereof are disposed parallel to the web.

2. A wall-board fastening and joint-concealing strip, the same including a pair of substantially T-shaped sections disposed end to end and each comprising a web and oppositely disposed flanges presented outwardly from the web, in combination with a substantially C-shaped member having engagement with the flanges of said sections for splicing the sections together.

3. In combination with a wall-forming element and a pair of wall boards, a fastening and joint concealing member for the boards in the form of a strip of substantially T-form, the same comprising a web and a pair of flange-sections oppositely projecting laterally from an end of, and disposed at an angle to, the web, the strip being disposed with its web between the boards and securingly engaging at its said flanges with and upon the outer marginal face of said boards, the web of the strip having spaced apertures, and securing nails for the strip and boards having engagement at said apertures, and disposed at their shanks parallel, with the web.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

CHARLES BETZ.