May 3, 1938. F. E. STINSON 2,115,935

VENETIAN BLIND VALANCE

Filed June 3, 1937

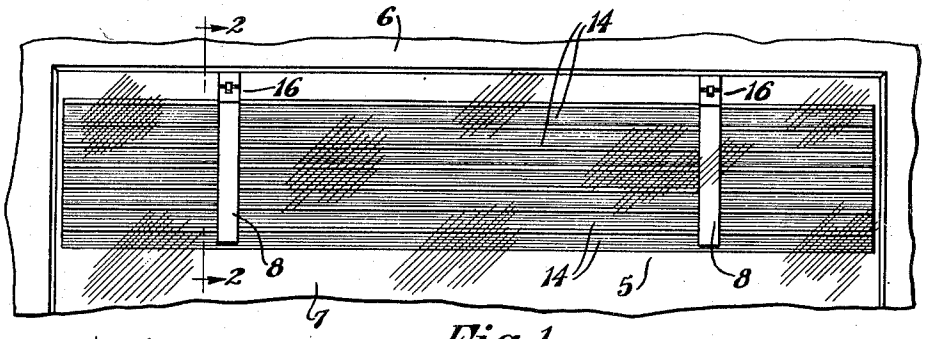


Fig. 1

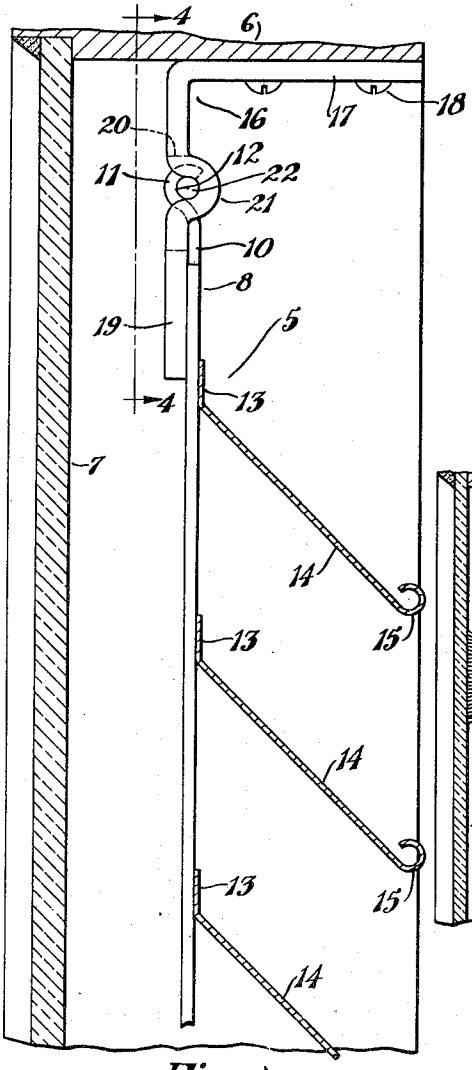


Fig. 2

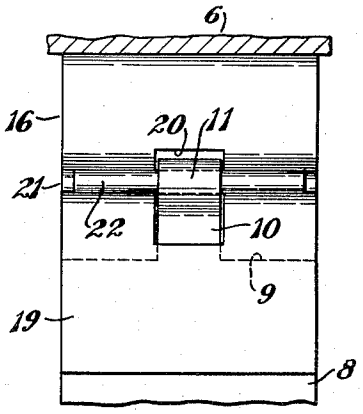


Fig. 4

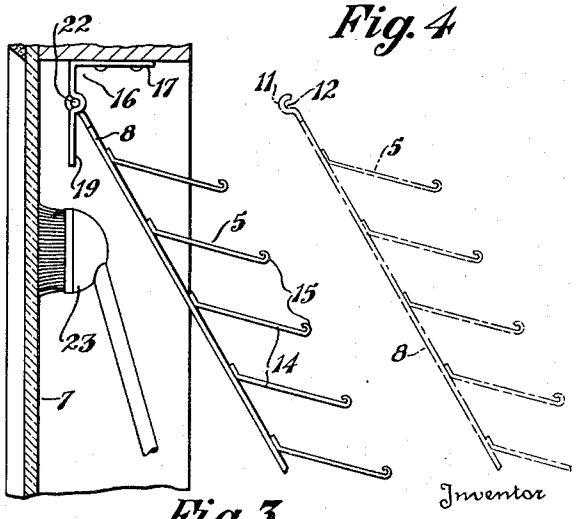


Fig. 3

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Patented May 3, 1938

2,115,935

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,115,935

VENETIAN BLIND VALANCE

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Application June 3, 1937, Serial No. 146,212

3 Claims. (Cl. 156—17)

The invention relates to Venetian blinds, and more particularly to Venetian blind valances for store or show windows and the like, and to the mounting bracket construction therefor.

Most store and show windows are provided with valances across the top thereof; and with the increasing use of Venetian blinds, there has arisen a demand for valances constructed to have the appearance and function of a Venetian blind. Such Venetian blind valances are not required to be adapted for raising, lowering or tilting the individual vanes.

A window valance is necessarily mounted quite close to the window glass, extending downward the desired distance from the top member of the window frame. Heretofore, Venetian blind valances have been installed by mounting the vanes on the long legs of L-shaped brackets, the short legs of which are secured to the top member of the window frame closely adjacent to the window glass. However, with such a construction, it is almost impossible to wash or clean the inner surface of the window glass in front of the valance. Moreover, it is impossible to remove the valance for any desired purpose without removing the preferably permanent, usually screw, connection between the brackets and the top member of the window frame; and such bracket removal is of course not to be desired.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a Venetian blind valance construction which will enable the same to be mounted immediately adjacent to a window glass and yet allow the immediately adjacent glass to be readily washed or cleaned.

Likewise, it is an object of the present invention to provide a Venetian blind valance construction in which the vane members may be readily, easily and quickly tilted, as a unit, to a position angular with respect to normal or usual position.

Moreover, it is an object of the present invention to provide a Venetian blind valance construction in which the vane members may be readily, easily and quickly removed, as a unit for any desired purpose, without requiring the permanent connection of the bracket construction thereof to be dismounted from the top member of the window frame.

Additionally, it is an object of the present invention to provide a tiltable and removable Venetian blind valance construction with means for normally maintaining the same in a desired relation with respect to the window glass which the valance dresses.

And finally, it is an object of the present invention to provide a Venetian blind valance construction which accomplishes the stated desiderata and overcomes the prior art disadvantages in an inexpensive and convenient manner.

These and other objects may be obtained by the parts, elements, constructions and combinations, comprising the present invention hereinafter claimed, a preferred embodiment of which is shown in the accompanying drawing and is hereinafter described in detail, and which may be stated in general terms as including, in Venetian blind valance construction, a plurality of L-shaped brackets adapted for having one leg of each secured to a top member of a window frame, an aperture in a portion of the other leg of each bracket, a pivot pin traversing each aperture, a series of angularly located longitudinally extending Venetian blind vanes secured in spaced relation to a plurality of upright members forming a Venetian blind valance unit, said upright members having hooks at their upper ends removably insertable through said bracket apertures for hanging from said bracket pins, and the lower ends of said apertured bracket legs holding said valance unit in a desired relation with respect to the window glass mounted in said frame.

In the accompanying drawing,

Figure 1 is a front view of a store window equipped with the improved Venetian blind valance construction;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged section taken on the line 2—2, Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing the valance tilted for window washing, in full lines; and showing in dot-dash lines how the valance unit may be removed; and

Fig. 4 is a view looking in the direction of the arrows 4—4, Fig. 2.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the various figures of the drawing.

The improved Venetian blind valance construction is indicated generally at 5 in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, wherein the top member of a window frame is indicated at 6, and the window glass being dressed by the Venetian blind valance is indicated at 7.

A Venetian blind valance unit includes two or more upright preferably sheet or strip metal members 8, and the upper end of each member 8 is notched at 9 to provide a reduced extremity 10, formed to a hook shape 11, open at 12. The valance unit is completed by welding or otherwise securing annular flanges 13 of preferably sheet or strip metal vanes 14, which may be bead-

ed at 15, to the upright members 8, as best shown in Fig. 2. The vanes 14, as shown, are preferably secured to the upright members 8 at uniformly spaced intervals and preferably extend angularly downwardly from the upright members 8, so as to be located in longitudinal positions adjacent the upper region of the window glass 7 (Fig. 1).

L-shaped brackets generally indicated at 16 have their upper leg members 17 preferably permanently secured by any suitable means indicated at 18 to the top member 6 of the window frame (Fig. 2); so as to locate their other leg members 19 closely adjacent to the window glass 7. The leg member 19 of each bracket 16 is provided with an aperture 20, and longitudinal portions of the leg members 19 are preferably formed half round, as indicated at 21, for receiving a pivot pin 22, which traverses each aperture 20. The pivot pins 22 may be secured by any suitable means, as by welding, to the half round portions 21.

The Venetian blind valance unit is mounted on the brackets 16 by inserting the hook portions 11 of the upright members 8 through the apertures 20 so that the hook members hang from the pivot pins 22; and the lower ends 19a of the bracket legs 19 extend downwardly a sufficient distance to securely hold the upright members 8 in any desired and preferably vertical position.

This is accomplished because, viewing Fig. 2, the valance unit hanging from the pivot pins 22 tends to rotate in a clockwise direction, due to the weight of the vanes 14 which are offset to one side of a vertical plane passing through the pivot pins 22. Thus, the location of the upright members 8 may be varied, within limits, by suitably locating the portions 19a of the brackets 16.

As best shown in Fig. 4, the width of each bracket 16 is preferably uniform with the width of the upright members 8 so that the members 8 and bracket legs 19 appear continuous from the outside of a window (Fig. 1) and simulate, in a measure, the tapes of an ordinary Venetian blind.

Referring to the full line position of the parts shown in Fig. 3, the valance unit may be readily and easily tilted to permit the window glass 7 to be washed with a tool 23. The open portions 12 of the hook members 11 permit the hook members to be disengaged from the brackets 16 for ready removal of the valance units for any desired purpose, as shown in dot-dash lines in Fig. 3.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a tiltable and dismountable Venetian blind valance construction in an inexpensive manner, overcoming the difficulties of prior Venetian blind valance constructions.

The embodiment of the improved Venetian blind valance construction illustrated and described herein is by way of example, and the scope of the present invention is not limited to the same, or to the particular details thereof, but is commensurate with any and all novel subject matter contained herein, and which may at any time properly under the patent laws be set forth in claims hereof or which may originate herein, the elements of any of the claims being intended to include their reasonable equivalents.

I claim:—

1. Venetian blind valance construction including a valance unit including upright members and spaced longitudinal vanes secured thereto, a plurality of mounting brackets adapted for being permanently secured to a window frame closely adjacent to a window glass, means tiltably and removably mounting said upright members on said brackets, and means on said brackets limiting movement of said unit toward the window glass.

2. Venetian blind valance construction including a valance unit including upright sheet metal members and spaced longitudinal sheet metal vanes secured thereto, a plurality of mounting brackets adapted for being permanently secured to a window frame closely adjacent to a window glass, parts on said upright members removably interengaging parts on said brackets tiltably mounting said unit on said brackets, said brackets also including parts engaging the upright members for holding the unit in predetermined relation to the window glass.

3. Venetian blind valance construction including mounting brackets adapted for being secured to a window frame closely adjacent to a window glass, each having a downwardly extending leg provided with an aperture, a pivot pin traversing each aperture, a valance unit including upright members and longitudinal vanes secured to the upright members, and each upright member having a hook at its upper end insertable through a bracket aperture for hanging on a pivot pin, whereby said unit may be tilted away from a window glass dressed by said valance.

FLOYD E. STINSON.