

Jan. 10, 1961

J. METZINGER
DOOR PROTECTOR

2,967,333

Filed March 9, 1959

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

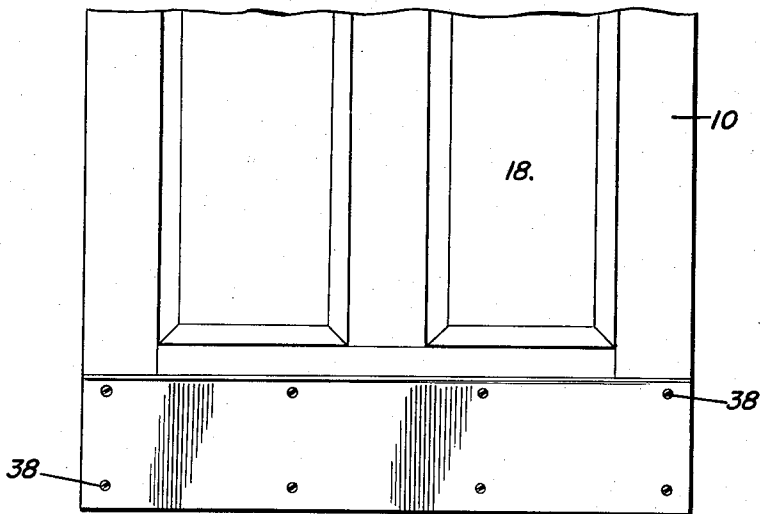


Fig. 2

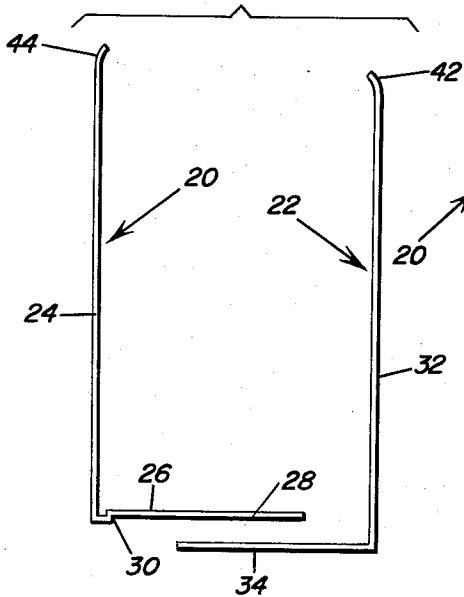
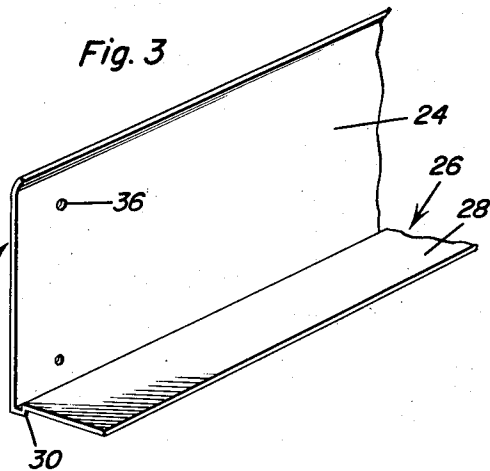


Fig. 3



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Fig. 4

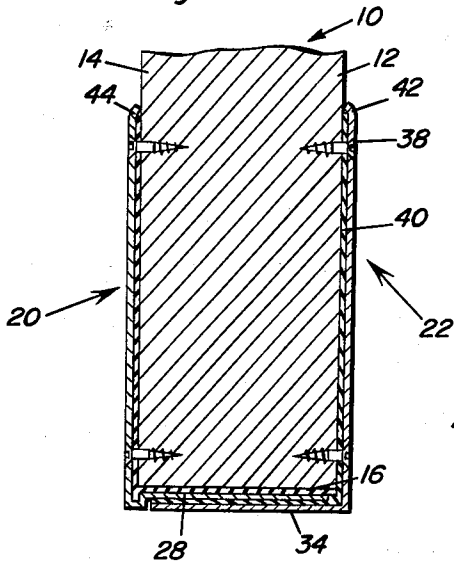


Fig. 5

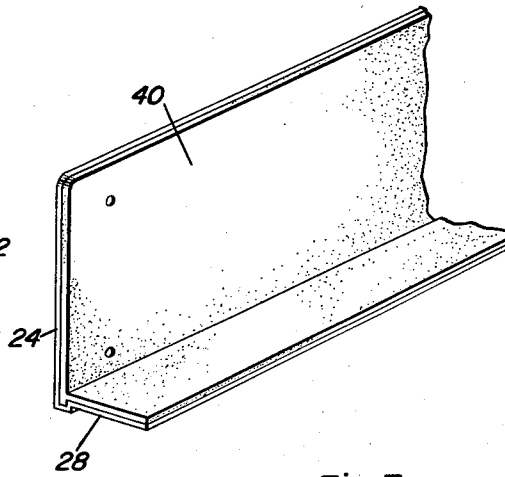
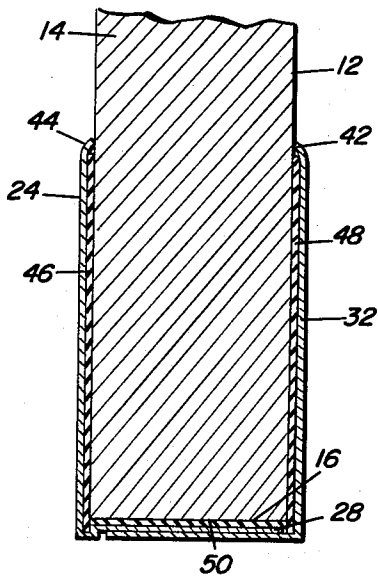
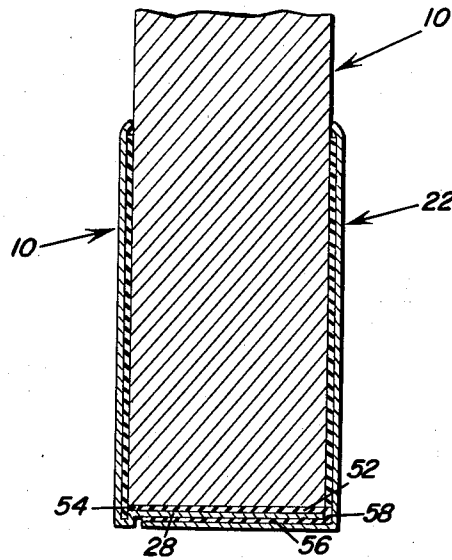


Fig. 7

Fig. 6



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DOOR PROTECTOR

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3 Claims. (Cl. 20—16)

This invention relates generally to means for protecting doors and more particularly to an attachment adapted to be affixed to the bottom portion of wooden doors to prevent injury thereto or rotting thereof.

Many utilizations of wooden doors require that the doors be exposed to effects which are detrimental thereto. For example, doors are often positioned in places where they are frequently contacted by water or other liquids and accordingly the wood tends to rot and often the rotting continues to such an extent that the door becomes useless for the intended purpose. Even when doors are protected from detrimental effects as water, they are, of course, often exposed to physical elements which may permanently mar or damage the door. The prior art reveals a multitude of devices for protecting doors from various abuses. The various teachings of the prior art are well known to the applicant and briefly, they often include specially constructed doors or simple plates fastened to conventional doors. These devices, of course, function appropriately to an extent and do achieve their intended objects satisfactorily. Herein, however, the applicant teaches the construction and utilization of novel means for protecting doors to prevent the same from rotting or being physically marred or damaged by, for instance, kicking or collision. Accordingly, it is the principal object of this invention to provide means for protecting doors from rotting or physical injury.

It is a further object of this invention to provide novel means for protecting doors which is simple in construction, and capable of easy installation on conventional door structures.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide novel means for the protection of doors wherein the means may be inexpensively manufactured and installed while being extremely efficient and reliable to prevent rotting and injury to the door structure.

In accordance with the above stated objects, below is particularly described the novel construction and utilization of the door protector comprising the invention and forming the subject matter of this application. In consideration of the well known adage that, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," the applicant has provided for a door protector including a pair of substantially L-shaped members, each defining longer and shorter legs. One of the pair of L-shaped members is provided with a shorter leg having an offset portion. In utilizing the door protector with a conventional door, the vertical longer legs of the L-shaped members are fastened adjacent the door faces with the shorter legs underlying the bottom door surface. The shorter legs overlie one another beneath the door adjacent the bottom surface and the offset portion on the shorter leg of one L-shaped member allows for the accommodation of the shorter leg of the other L-shaped member whereby a flush bottom surface is formed. It is contemplated that the L-shaped members be formed of a light metal as aluminum with the fastening means simply comprising wood screws. In order to particularly prevent rotting of the door caused by excessive moisture, the applicant

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provides seal means between the L-shaped members and the door. The seal means are disclosed below as comprising any of several embodiments. Broadly, it is contemplated that mastic may be placed on the inner side of the L-shaped members so that the gummy substance protects the wooden bottom portion of the door from water. A second broad teaching utilizes a neoprene coating for the seal member. A particularly novel construction of the neoprene coating includes a slotted portion which is adapted to receive the offset short leg of one of the L-shaped members. A further precaution introduced in the invention to prevent water from affecting the door, includes the novel concept of crimping the upper terminal portions of the longer vertical legs of the L-shaped members so as to aid in the general accomplishment of the objects of the invention.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary elevational view of a door incorporating the invention;

Figure 2 is an end elevational view illustrating the two substantially L-shaped members forming a portion of the invention;

Figure 3 is a perspective fragmentary view of one of the L-shaped members forming a portion of the invention;

Figure 4 is an end sectional view of the door illustrating a first embodiment of the invention;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating a sprayed L-shaped member;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating a second embodiment of the invention; and

Figure 7 is a fragmentary end sectional view illustrating a third embodiment of the invention.

With continuing reference to the drawings and initial reference to Figure 1, the numeral 10 represents a conventional wooden door structure and includes, as illustrated for example in Figure 4, door faces 12 and 14 and a bottom door surface 16. Though Figure 1 illustrates the door 10 having recessed sections 18 in the faces thereof, it will of course be appreciated that the teachings of this invention are well adapted to utilization with any type of door construction.

The invention includes the utilization of a first L-shaped member 20 and a second L-shaped member 22. The initial member 20 includes a vertical longer leg 24 and a horizontal shorter leg 26. The shorter leg includes an offset portion 28 which is separated from the remainder of the shorter leg 26 by a shoulder 30. The second member 22 includes a vertical longer leg 32 and a horizontal shorter leg 34 extending perpendicularly from the legs 32. Each of the vertical longer legs 24 and 32 include apertures as at 36 for accommodating wood screws 38 to fasten the members 20 and 22 to the door 10 in a manner such that the vertical longer legs 24 and 32 are retained adjacent the faces 12 and 14 while the shorter horizontal legs 26 and 34 underlie the bottom surface 16 of the door 10. As is illustrated in any of Figures 4, 6 and 7, the shorter leg 34 is adapted to be accommodated under the offset portion 28 of the shorter leg 26 of the initial L-shaped member 20. It is particularly to be noted that the invention may be utilized with doors of varying thickness inasmuch as the members 20 and 22 may be easily and efficiently moved closer together or spread further apart to accommodate the varying thicknesses. In any event, it will be noted that due to the offset portion 28 and the shoulder 30, the bottom sur-

face formed by the shorter legs 26 and 34 comprises a straight line.

In the initial embodiment of the invention, as is illustrated in Figures 4 and 5, mastic 40 is placed onto the inner surface of the members 20 and 22 so that a seal is formed to prevent water from rotting the bottom portion of the door 10. It will be particularly noted in Figure 4 that the mastic 40 is accommodated completely in the volume between the members 20 and 22 and the door 10 so that no voids or spaces are formed therebetween. The wood screws 38, of course, pass directly through the mastic 40 so as to secure the members 20 and 22 to the door 10. The mastic may be either sprayed or dispensed from a tube but in any event, it is contemplated that the mastic be placed on the members 20 and 22 prior to fastening them to the door 10. As a further precaution to prevent water from entering the space between the door 10 and the members 20 and 22, the upper terminal portions 42 and 44 of the vertical longer legs 24 and 32 may be crimped as is illustrated in Figures 4, 6 and 7.

In the embodiments illustrated in Figures 6 and 7, a neoprene coating is utilized in lieu of the sprayed mastic 40 illustrated in Figures 4 and 5. Initially referring to Figure 6, it will be noted that neoprene strips 46 and 43 are positioned adjacent the longer legs 24 and 32 and are preferably retained thereon by adhesive means. It will further be noted that the strips of neoprene 46 and 48 are positioned below the crimps 44 and 42. In the utilization of the device, when the wood screws 38 are driven into the door 10, the crimped upper terminal portions 44 and 42 are urged toward the door faces 14 and 12 so as to bear against the door faces to prevent entrance of water therebetween. Further, a bottom strip of neoprene 50 underlies the bottom door surface 16 above the offset portion 28 of shorter leg 26 of member 20.

In the embodiment of Figure 7, the neoprene strip 50 is abandoned in favor of a slotted neoprene member 52 which accommodates therebetween the offset portion 28 of the shorter leg 26 of the member 20. It will be noted in Figure 7 that the slotted neoprene member 52 includes a longer leg 54 and a shorter leg 56 connected by a bight portion 58. This latter embodiment obviously is more effective to prevent water seepage to the door 10 but, however, it is apparent that the cost of manufacture thereof would be slightly more expensive.

It is to be noted that though the invention has been disclosed principally for the purpose of protecting doors, the device may be utilized to repair already damaged doors if they have not been ruined to an excessive extent. It is further to be noted that seal means or gaskets utilizing materials other than that herein disclosed may be employed.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. In combination with a door defining a pair of faces and top and bottom surfaces, means for protecting the

bottom portion thereof to prevent injury or rotting comprising a first member, a second member, said first and second members being substantially L-shaped defining perpendicular longer and shorter legs, said first member including an offset portion in said shorter leg whereby the shorter leg of said second member may be received adjacent said offset portion overlapped with said shorter leg of said first member, and fastening means received through said longer legs for securing said first and second members adjacent to said door faces whereby said shorter legs underlie said bottom surface, said members being formed of metal, seal means received between the door and said members, said seal means including a slotted coating receiving said short leg of said first member.

2. In combination with a door defining a pair of faces and top and bottom surfaces, means for protecting the bottom portion thereof to prevent injury or rotting comprising a first member, a second member, said first and second members being substantially L-shaped defining perpendicular longer and shorter legs, said first member including an offset portion in said shorter leg whereby the shorter leg of said second member may be received adjacent said offset portion, and fastening means received through said longer legs for securing said first and second members adjacent to said door faces whereby said shorter legs underlie said bottom surface, said members being formed of metal, seal means received between the door and said members, said seal means including an inner Neoprene coating, a first portion of said Neoprene coating being slotted to receive said short leg of said first member, second and third portions of said Neoprene coating retained on the inner side of the longer legs of said members.

3. In combination with a door defining a pair of faces and top and bottom surfaces, means for protecting the bottom portion thereof to prevent injury or rotting comprising a first member, a second member, said first and second members being substantially L-shaped defining perpendicular longer and shorter legs, said first member including an offset portion in said shorter leg whereby the shorter leg of said second member may be received adjacent said offset portion, and fastening means received through said longer legs for securing said first and second members adjacent to said door faces whereby said shorter legs underlie said bottom surface, said members being formed of metal, seal means received between the door and said members, said seal means including an inner Neoprene coating, a first portion of said Neoprene coating being slotted to receive said short legs of said first member, second and third portions of said Neoprene coating retained on the inner side of the longer legs of said members, said longer legs of said members including upper terminal portions, said upper terminal portions being crimped inwardly.

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