April 18, 1933. H. H. LEHERE 1,904,318

FRAME

Filed July 6, 1931

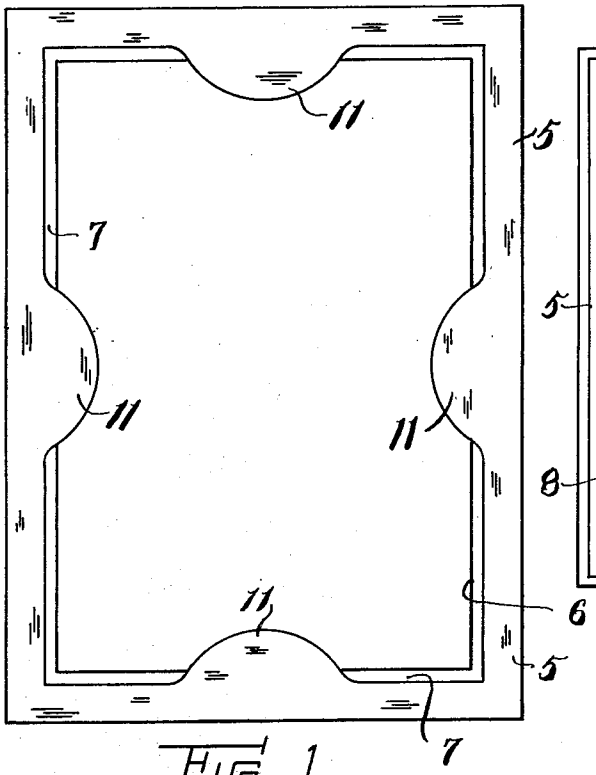


FIG 1

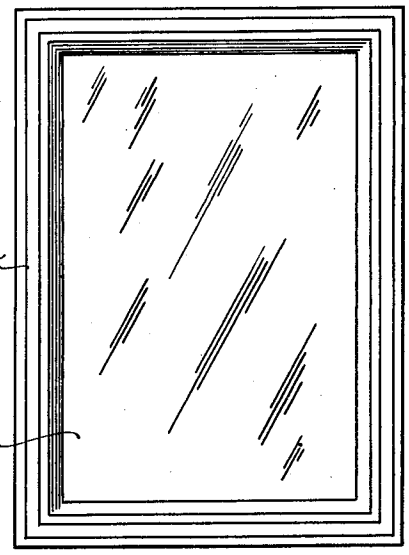


FIG 2

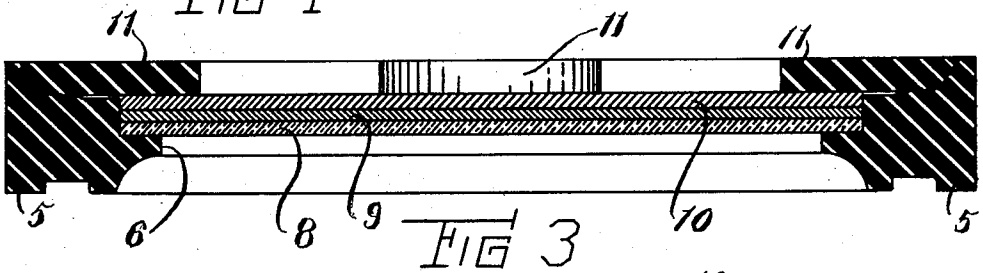


FIG 3

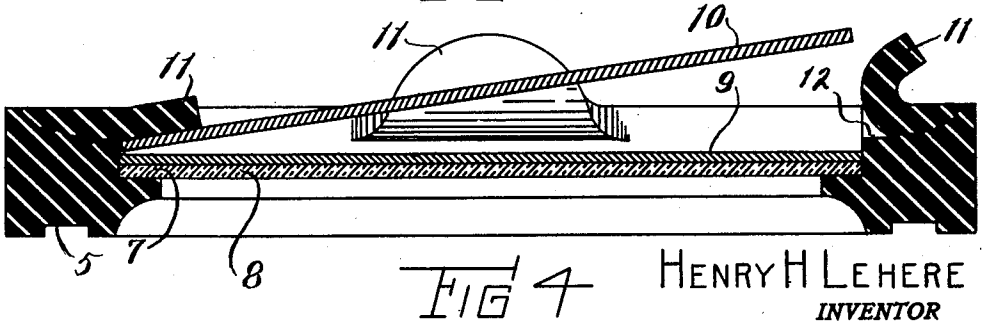


FIG 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FRAME

Application filed July 6, 1931. Serial No. 548,780.

This invention relates to improvements in frames for pictures, mirrors, etc.

Objects of the invention are to provide a frame of simple, durable construction, which may be manufactured at a low cost and which will be very convenient in use.

A particular object is to provide a frame having elastic flaps for securing the picture, mirror, or other article in the frame whereby the framed article will be yieldably held in position within the frame by the inherent elasticity of said flaps.

A further object is to provide a suitable frame composed of rubber to provide a relatively hard frame body having elastic rubber flaps, formed integrally therewith for yieldably holding a picture or other article therein.

An additional object is to provide a one-piece frame which will include efficient means for yieldably securing a picture, mirror or other article therein.

The above objects are accomplished and additional ends are attained by the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein I have shown a preferred form of the invention, it being understood that the invention is capable of various adaptations and that changes and modifications may be made or resort had to substitutions which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawing like characters of reference are employed to denote like parts as the same may appear in any of the several views and in which:—

Figure 1 is a rear, elevational view of a frame constructed in accordance with this invention,

Figure 2 is a front elevational view showing the same with an article framed therein,

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view taken as indicated by the lines 3—3 of Figure 1, the same being taken with an article framed therein,

Figure 4 is a similar view illustrating the manner of inserting the article in the frame.

Proceeding now to a detailed description of the invention with reference to the particular adaptation thereof disclosed in the drawing, the numeral 5 is used generally to denote a frame body which is composed of one piece of rubber. While the frame 5 may be of any suitable form, in the drawing I have shown it constructed in ordinary form.

The main portion of the body 5 is preferably composed of a hard rubber composition. The frame is provided with the opening 6 of the desired shape and size. The opening 6 is offset larger at the rear side of the frame to provide a shoulder 7 against which the glass 8 is positioned. The picture or other article 9 to be framed is positioned against the glass 8 and a sheet of cardboard 10 or other relatively stiff material is positioned against the rear side of the picture to hold the same flat against the glass 8. The frame 5 is provided along the rear edge thereof with a plurality of elastic flaps 11 which project forwardly beyond the edges of the opening 6. The flaps 11 are preferably formed integrally with the frame 5 to form a unitary structure.

While any suitable number of flaps 11 may be employed, in the drawing I have shown four flaps, one projecting forwardly from each of the four sides of the frame.

The numeral 12 denotes a slot which is formed in the body 5 along the inner or forward face of each flap 11. The slot 12 projects into the body 5 a sufficient distance to permit the flap 11 to be turned back as shown in Figure 4.

In constructing a frame in accordance with this invention, the distance between the flange 7 and each flap 11 is arranged to provide the amount of space required to receive the article to be framed.

In use, the article to be framed is inserted under the flap 11 at one side of the frame. The other flaps 11 are bent back as shown in Figure 4 and the article to be framed is positioned on the flange 7 to cover the opening 6. As the flaps 11 are composed of relatively soft elastic rubber, the resilient nature of this material will cause the same to immediately assume a normal position whereby the article

to be framed will be yieldably, yet securely held in position within the frame.

A frame manufactured in accordance with this invention is preferably formed in a mold. The mold is filled with an unvulcanized hard rubber compound in which are inserted the flat portions 11 which are formed of an unvulcanized soft rubber compound. The whole is then enclosed in a mold and the frame is vulcanized so that the elastic flaps 11 and the main body of the frame 5 are integrally joined to form one piece of material.

While I have shown a hard rubber frame 5 the main body of the frame 5 may be molded or otherwise formed of any suitable material and the flaps 11 suitably secured thereto to function as above described.

Having thus illustrated my invention and described the same in detail, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a frame of the class described, a frame body composed of one piece of hard rubber, said body having an opening therein for exposition to view the article to be framed, and soft rubber flaps on the rear side of said frame, said flaps projecting inwardly beyond the edge of said opening.

2. In a frame of the class described, a unitary body composed of hard rubber, said body having a frame opening and elastic flaps formed integrally with said body for retaining an article in said frame.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

HENRY H. LEHERE.