United States Patent

[11] 3,545,523

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[73] Assignee **Douglas Manufacturing Company**
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[54] **DRAPERY HOLDER**
6 Claims, 3 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** 160/348
[51] **Int. Cl.** A47h 13/14
[50] **Field of Search** ..... 160/348, 349, 349(D), 330; 24/198; 248/298; 211/89

[56] **References Cited**

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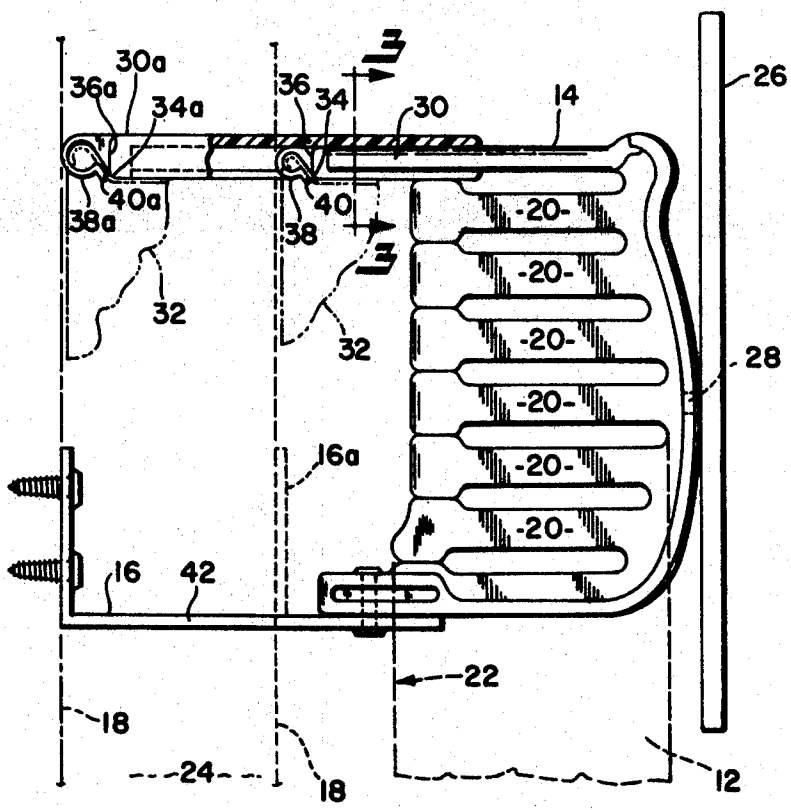
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Assistant Examiner—Philip C. Kannan
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ABSTRACT: A drapery holder mounted on a wall for holding drapery material in pleated fashion adjacent the wall, and around a window or door opening in the wall.



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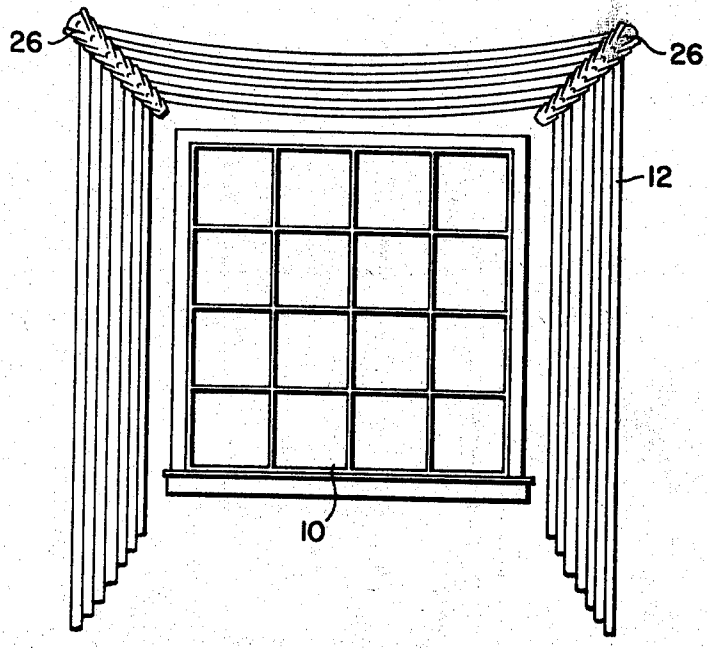


FIG. 1

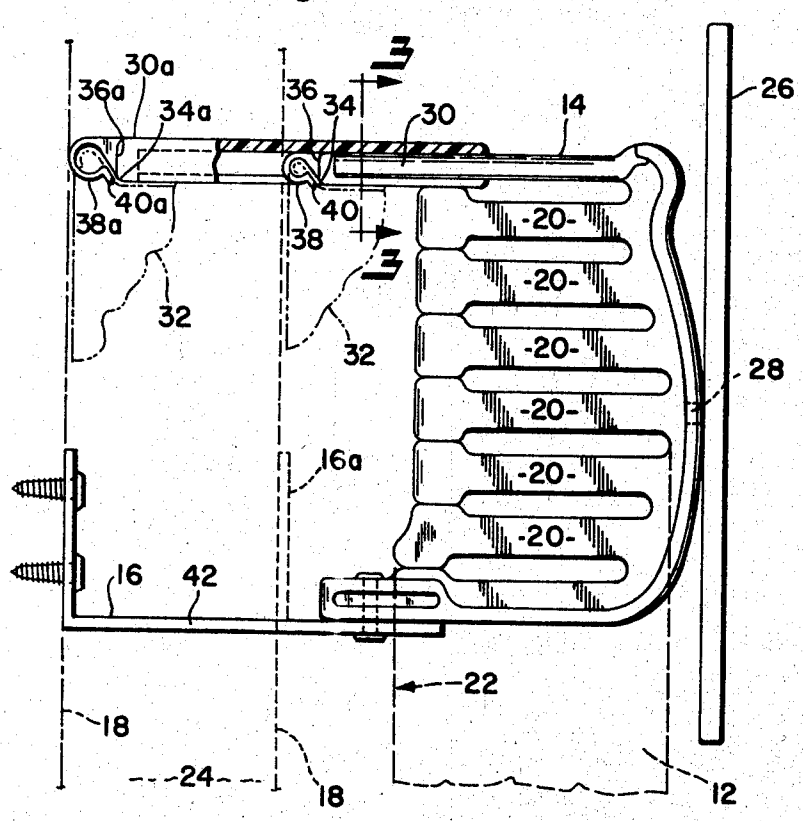


FIG. 2

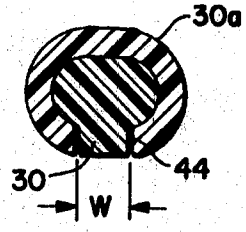


FIG. 3

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DRAPERY HOLDER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The drapery holder hereinafter described, is somewhat similar to that shown and described in U.S. Pat. No. 3,203,469, and copending Pat. application, Ser. No. 536,702, filed Mar. 23, 1966, now U.S. Pat. No. 3,417,807. These drapery holders and others presently on the market, are secured to brackets which are mounted either on moldings or trim surrounding the door or window openings, or on the wall surface adjacent the opening. In either case, the drapery holder is normally positioned on the bracket in spaced relation from the wall surface. Consequently, the pleated drapery material held by the holder, is also in spaced relation from the wall surface thus, leaving a rather unsightly space between the wall and drapery material held by the drapery holder. The purpose or object of this invention, is to provide a means for holding at least a portion of the drapery material in space covering relation between the wall surface and remaining drapery material held by the drapery holder.

Briefly stated, the invention is in a drapery holder for holding drapery material in pleated fashion in spaced relation from a wall surface and around a window or door opening disposed in said surface. An arm extends from the holder for grasping a portion of the drapery material and holding it is space covering relation between the wall surface and remaining drapery material held by the holder.

The invention will be better understood by having reference to the annexed drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a front view of a window with surrounding drapery material;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged side view of a drapery holder mounted on a bracket disposed on a wall surface; said view including a cutaway portion showing a fixed and extensible arm for grasping the drapery material to cover the space normally existing between the wall surface and remaining drapery material; and

FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken in the plane indicated by the line 3–3 of FIG. 2.

Referring generally to the drawing, there is shown a window or opening indicated at **10**. Drapery material **12** is hung in folded or pleated fashion around the window **10** to enhance its appearance. The drapery material **12** is held in position by a pair of drapery holders **14** secured at the upper corners of the window **10**. Each holder is mounted on a bracket **16**, which is secured either to the wall adjacent the window **10**, or molding, or casing surrounding the window **10**.

The drapery holder **14** is somewhat similar to that disclosed in the aforementioned patents, and comprises a plurality of fingers, e.g. fingers **20** having free ends facing or extended toward the wall **18**. It should be apparent to one skilled in the art that the pleats are formed in the drapery material by placing a fold of material **12** between adjacent fingers of the drapery holder **14**. The innermost edge or fall line **22** of folded material closest the wall **18**, is normally in spaced relation from the wall **18**, because the drapery holder **14** is positioned on the bracket **16** in spaced relation from the wall **18**. Thus, a rather unsightly gap, or space **24** is left between the wall **18** and fall line **22** of drapery material **12**.

A decorative shield is provided for covering the plain and unattractive holder **14**. Any suitable means, e.g. spring clips **28**, may be used to frictionally hold the shield **26** on the drapery holder **14**.

THE INVENTION

In one embodiment of the invention, an arm **30**, integrally formed with the drapery holder **14**, extends therefrom towards the wall **18**, and is utilized for grasping and holding the outermost fold **32** of drapery material **12** in space covering relation between the wall **18** and remaining folds of drapery material **12**. An abutment **34** is disposed on the free arm end **36** adjacent the wall **18**. A specially configured finger **38**, is resiliently mounted on the arm end **36** for grasping the outermost fold **32** of drapery material **12** and compressing it against the abutment **34**. In this particular embodiment, the finger **38** extends from the free arm **36** and is reversely bent forming a loop, facing inwardly toward the fingers **20** or the remaining drapery material **12** as shown in FIG. **3**, the finger **38** having a free end **40** adjacent the abutment **34**. The finger **38** is composed of plastic material which is comparatively thin in relation to the arm **30** or abutment **34** formed thereon. The free end **40** of the finger **38**, is resiliently displaceable from and towards the abutment **34**. Thus, the free finger end **40** and abutment **34** act as a pair of spaced grippers or abutments, between which the outermost fold or folds of drapery material is firmly grasped and held adjacent the wall **18**. Additionally, by the finger **38** facing inwardly toward the remaining drapery material **12**, additional folds as shown at **32** can be grasped and hidden behind the material **12**.

In another embodiment of the invention, a similarly configured arm **30*a*** is coupled to the drapery holder **14** and extends therefrom towards the wall **14**. As seen in FIGS. **2** and **3**, the arm **30*a*** is extensible from the drapery holder **14**, i.e. the arm **30*a*** is matingly configured to slide along, or telescopically move from the fixed arm **30**. The extensible arm **30*a*** is hollow, and at least partially surrounds the fixed arm **30**. The fixed arm **30** and extensible arm **30*a*** are oval shaped to keep them from rotating relative to each other.

The fixed arm drapery holder **14** can be utilized in most cases where smaller brackets **16*a*** are used. In such cases, the holder **14** is adjusted or positioned on the outstanding leg **42** of the bracket **16** in a manner as illustrated in U.S. Pat. No. 3,203,469, such that the free arm end **36** is adjacent, or in abutting relation to the wall **18**. The extensible arm **30*a*** is used when larger brackets **16** are provided. The convenience of having the extensible arm **30*a*** slideably mounted on a similarly configured fixed arm **30**, should be readily apparent.

Similarly, the extensible arm **30*a*** has an abutment **34*a*** disposed on its free arm end **36*a***. A finger **38*a*** is also provided at the free arm end **36*a*** for grasping the outermost fold **32** of drapery material **12**, and compressing it against the abutment **34*a***. The finger **38*a*** is similarly reversely bent in a loop and has its free end **40*a*** adjacent the abutment **34*a***, to provide a pair of grippers, between which the drapery material **12** is grasped and held adjacent the wall.

The extensible arm **30*a*** is packaged with each drapery holder **14**, including the fixed arm **30**. Thus, the complete unit is designed to accommodate varying gaps or spaces which might occur between the wall **18** and drapery holder **14**, or folded drapery material **12**. The abutment and free end of the finger on the fixed arm is not greater than the width W of the longitudinal opening **44** which is coextensive with the extensible arm **30*a***. The reason for this should be obvious in that the extensible arm **30*a*** telescopes and partially encloses the smaller similarly configured fixed arm **30**.

Thus, there has been described a new and different drapery holder having either a fixed or extensible arm for holding a portion of the drapery material in covering relation over a space that normally exists between the wall and adjacent folds of drapery material.

I claim:

1. In combination:
   a. A drapery holder positionable adjacent a surface and having spaced fingers with free ends facing toward said surface for holding drapery material in pleated and folded fashion in spaced relation from the surface;
   b. A bracket on one end of said holder for adjustably supporting said holder from the surface;
   c. A first arm on the opposite end of said holder extending towards said surface;
   d. Said first arm having means on the end thereof toward said surface for grasping the outermost fold of said drapery material; and
   e. A second arm carried by said first arm and extending toward said surface and having means on the end thereof toward said surface for grasping the outermost fold of said drapery material.

2. The combination of claim 1 wherein said first arm means includes an abutment, and a finger for compressing drapery material against the abutment.

3. The combination of claim 1, wherein said second arm means includes an abutment and a finger for compressing drapery material against the abutment.

4. The combination of claim 1, wherein the first arm means and the second arm means each comprise an abutment and a finger cooperating with the abutment to grasp said drapery material, each of said fingers extending toward said spaced fingers.

5. The combination of claim 1, wherein said second arm is telescopically mounted on said first arm.

6. The combination of claim 1 wherein said first arm means and said second arm means each include a resiliently mounted finger for grasping the outermost fold of said drapery material.