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M. NELSON ET AL

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METAL FURNITURE

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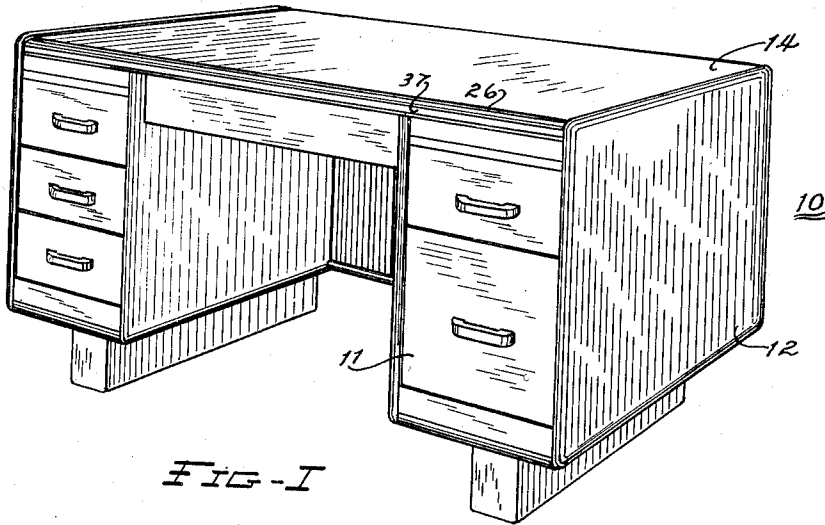


FIG-1

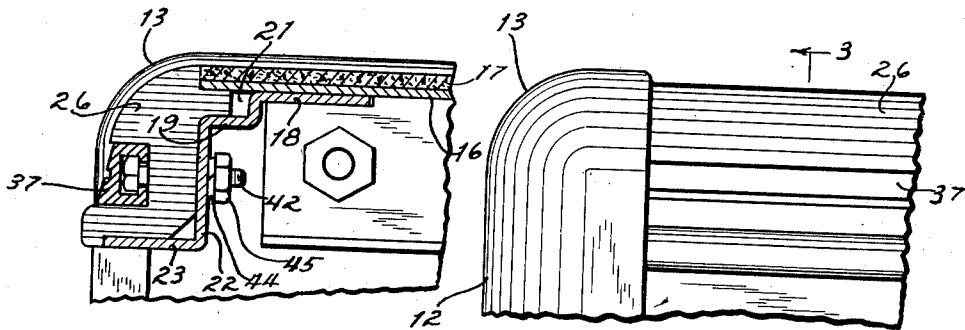


FIG-3

FIG-2

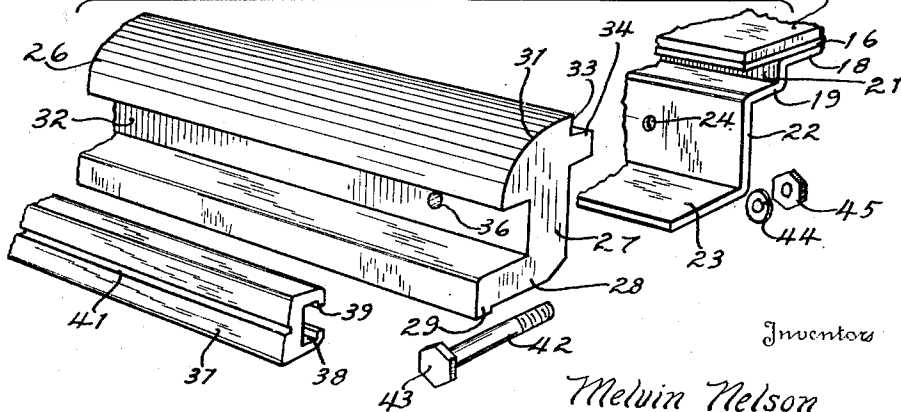


FIG-4

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## METAL FURNITURE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 311-107)

This invention relates to an improvement in an article of furniture and particularly to a molding or trim for finishing the surface edges thereof.

The invention is particularly directed to a novel treatment of the edges of the top of a table, chest, desk, or similar article. A flat top office desk, having unfinished vertical edges, is utilized to illustrate the applicability of the present invention to a flat surface to create a smooth rolled edge.

Prior to this invention the practice has been to provide straight edge metallic molding for the top of an article surfaced with wood, metal, or composition such as linoleum. It has also been the practice to roll the edge of a composition top for the purpose of eliminating the necessity of attaching a straight edge metallic molding.

The present invention is directed to and has for one of its objects the provision of a finish strip or molding for one or more edges of the top of an article of furniture.

Another object of the invention is to provide a non-metallic finish strip or molding for one or more edges of the top of an article of furniture.

A further object of the invention is to provide a finish strip or molding for the edge of the top of an article of furniture that serves to blend the top with a vertical frame or panel of said article.

A further object of the invention is to provide a finish strip or molding for the edge of the top of an article of furniture that is readily securable to said top and that is formed from a material adapted to readily blend with the material from which the top is formed.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a finish strip or molding for the edge of the top of an article of furniture that is adapted to carry an ornamental trim that serves to secure the molding to the top and that may be varied to change the artistic appearance of the article as a whole.

Other and further objects and advantages of the invention will be more fully understood from a consideration of the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing; and in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an article of furniture, such as a flat top desk, embodying one form of the invention;

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary eleva-

tional view of the invention as applied to the edge of the desk top;

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view, taken substantially on the line 3-3 of Figure 2, showing the method of securing the invention to a desk top; and

Figure 4 is an exploded view of the invention showing the method of assembly.

Reference is now had to the drawing wherein the numeral 10 is employed to designate a flat top office desk that serves to illustrate one of the many applications of use of the invention. The desk 10 comprises spaced pedestals 11, the outer panels 12 of which extend thereabove to provide end portions 13 for a desk top 14.

The top 14 may be comprised of a metal plate 16 to which is secured, in any conventional manner, a linoleum or other composition material 17. A molding or finish strip support 18 is secured adjacent the under face of the plate 16. This support may take the form of a continuous strip extending the full length of the top 14 or may be a number of suitably located brackets and comprises a downwardly offset portion 19 that cooperates with the plate 16 to form a recess 21. Substantially in vertical alignment with the edge of the top 14 is a downwardly extending flange 22 that terminates in an outwardly directed horizontal flange 23. A suitable opening 24 is made in the flange 22.

A finish strip or molding 25 is adapted to be applied to the support 18. The molding may be formed from any suitable material and of any desired shape. In the present instance, the strip is formed from extruded rubber and comprises a body portion 27 having a horizontal base portion 28 that is terminated along one edge in a downwardly projecting shoulder 29. The top 31 of the strip, in the present disclosure, is formed with a curved surface that extends laterally beyond the body portion 27 and cooperates with the base 28 to form a laterally opening recess 32. The upper edge of the curved portion of the top 31 is undercut and provides a shoulder 33 that is directly above a laterally directed portion 34. Suitable openings 36 are made in the body portion 27 and correspond in position and number to the openings 24 of the flange 22.

A trim member 37 is adapted to be mounted in and fill the recess 32 of the finish strip 26. In the present instance, the trim 37 is a metallic member of generally channel shape and includes a longitudinally extending recess 38. The opening into the recess is restricted by

flanges 39. The outer face of the member may be inclined, as shown in the drawing, to connect the lower edge of the top 31 with the base 28 of the strip 26. Any suitable ornamentation, such as one or more line-like recesses or ridges 41, may be provided for the purpose of enhancing the appearance of the member 37 and strips 26.

Reference is now had to Figure 4 in connection with the assembly of the finish strip 26 with the desk top 14. The strip 26, in the present disclosure, extends the full length of the top 14 and terminates at the end panels 12. This strip is mounted on the flange 23 of the support 18, the portion 34 being projected into the recess 21. Inasmuch as the base 23 of the strip is slightly wider than the flange 23, the shoulder 29 projects downwardly therebeyond and conceals said flange. The shoulder may be flush with or, as shown in the drawing, extend slightly beyond the front face of the desk. A number of bolts 42 are provided. The square or hexagonal heads 43 of these bolts are projected into the recess 38 of the channel shaped trim 37, and are movable therealong to become aligned with openings 35 in the strip 26. The trim 37 is then moved into the recess 32 and the bolts 42 project through the strip 26, and openings 24 in flange 22 of the support 18. Suitable lock washers and nuts 44 and 45 are applied to the inner ends of the bolts 42. When the nuts are turned down, the trim 37 is drawn inwardly toward the flange 22 of the support 18 and causes the shoulder 33 of the finish strip 26 to move into pressure abutment with the edge of the composition top 17. The proportions of the finish strip 26 are such that the upper edge of the curved surface thereof blends with the edge of the top 17 and, when these elements are in pressure abutment, no gap occurs, there being only a fine line to indicate that the finish strip 26 is not an integral part of the top 17.

In articles of furniture other than the type illustrated in the drawing, it will be necessary to

apply finish strips 26 to all four edges of the top 14. Under such circumstances, the ends of the strips 26 and trim 37 may be mitered or a suitable corner piece inserted, the corner piece being provided with a concealed bolt that may be secured to the support 18.

It will be understood that the contour of the strip 26 and the trim 37 may be varied as found desirable in finishing the top of different articles or of desks of other design, and also that the support 18 may be modified to carry a differently contoured strip and, therefore, these and other modifications or variations of the invention are contemplated insofar as they are within the spirit and scope of the claims.

Having thus set forth our invention what we claim as new and for which we desire protection by Letters Patent is:

1. A strip for finishing an edge of the top of an article of furniture comprising a body portion having a recess extending longitudinally thereof, ornamental means in said recess, a curved surface on said body portion directly above said recess, one edge of said surface being adapted to abut the unfinished edge of said top, means supporting said strip, and further means connecting said ornamental means with said support means, said further means being adjustable to secure said strip in pressure contact with said top.

2. A strip for finishing an edge of the top of an article of furniture comprising a curved surface having an edge adapted to be positioned substantially flush with the surface of said top, a support for said strip carried by said top, walls forming a longitudinally extending recess in the outer face of said strip, a channular trim member arranged in said recess with its side flanges lying close to said walls and with the channel faced inwardly, means carried in the channel of said trim member engageable with said support for securing said strip in abutment with said top.

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