**ABSTRACT**

A drapery track assembly includes a wall plate securable to a wall, and a track-carrying member having at least one track for carrying curtain runners extending longitudinally of the member, said wall plate having interlocking means and said track-carrying member having interlocking means co-operative with the interlocking means of said wall plate by an interlocking action to secure the track-carrying member to the wall plate. The interlocking means of the track-carrying member may include a substantially vertical flange, and the interlocking means of the wall plate may include a lower forwardly projecting ledge and an upper downwardly projecting lip to enable the upper edge of the flange to be positioned behind the ledge and the lower edge of the flange to rest on the ledge. The track-carrying member may include a plate-like body from which the track is suspended. Preferably, the plate-like body extends forwardly from the wall plate in an upwardly inclined direction when the track-carrying member is secured to the wall plate attached to a wall.

1 Claim, 4 Drawing Figures
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DRAPERY TRACK ASSEMBLY

This invention relates to drapery track assemblies which are securable to a wall or ceiling and include means from which curtains can be suspended.

Drapery track assemblies have to fulfill several requirements. They should be inexpensive, and thus easy to manufacture from inexpensive material. They should have a small number of separate parts, and should be easy to secure to a wall or ceiling. Even though drapery track assemblies may have to be long in view of the wide windows commonly found in houses and elsewhere, they should be capable of being conveniently packaged and handled. Also, they have to be quiet and reliable in operation.

Most known drapery track assemblies lack at least one of these requirements, and thus it is an object of this invention to provide an improved drapery track assembly which substantially meets the above-mentioned requirements.

According to this invention, a drapery track assembly includes a wall plate securable to a wall, and a track-carrying member having at least one track for carrying curtain runners extending longitudinally of the member, said wall plate having interlocking means and said track-carrying member having interlocking means co-operable with the interlocking means of said wall plate by an interlocking action to secure the track-carrying member to the wall plate.

The interlocking means of the track-carrying member may include a substantially vertical flange, and the interlocking means of the wall plate may include a lower, forwardly projecting ledge and an upper downwardly projecting lip to enable the upper edge of the flange to be positioned behind the lip and the lower edge of the flange to rest on the ledge.

The track-carrying member may include a plate-like body from which the track is suspended. Preferably, the plate-like body extends forwardly from the wall plate in an upwardly inclined direction when the track-carrying member is secured to the wall plate attached to a wall.

The track may include two downwardly extending arms having free end portions spaced from and directed towards one another. The free end portions may extend in the same substantially horizontal plane. If desired, the track-carrying member may have two tracks for carrying curtain runners extending longitudinally of the member in side-by-side parallel relationship.

The plate-like body of the track-carrying member may have two spaced upwardly extending projections engageable with a ceiling to correctly position the body with respect thereto.

The track-carrying member may have means for securing a valance plate thereto. The valance plate may have means enabling it to be interlocked with the corresponding means of the track-carrying member. The track-carrying member may have a front plate depending from the front edge of the plate-like body; the front plate having means on its front surface for securing the valance plate thereto. This securing means may include two horizontal vertically spaced projections with grooves in their upper surfaces to receive complementary projections on the rear surface of the valance plate. Alternatively, the valance plate may be integral with the track-carrying member.

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The drapery track assembly according to the invention can be readily installed by first securing the wall plate to a wall, and then connecting the track-carrying member thereto by interlocking action. Alternatively, the track-carrying member can be secured to a ceiling, where this is more convenient, thus dispensing with the wall plate. In the case where the valance plate is not integral with the track-carrying member, it may readily be attached thereto, for example by the interlocking action referred to above.

The track-carrying member, wall plate and valance plate may be easily and inexpensively manufactured by extrusion of a suitable material, for example aluminum. Thus, the assembly is not unduly expensive, nor difficult to package and handle. Also, it will be appreciated that relatively few parts are involved. By the use of suitable curtain runners in the track, quiet and reliable operation is obtained.

It will be understood that terms such as horizontal, vertical, front and rear are used in this specification to facilitate the description of the various parts of the drapery track assembly, and that these terms refer to the attitude of the various parts after installation.

Embodyments of the invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, of which,

FIG. 1 is a sectional side view of a drapery track assembly with the wall plate secured to a wall,

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary front view of the assembly of FIG. 1, with the valance plate removed, showing one end of the assembly,

FIG. 3 is a sectional view showing the track-carrying member secured to a ceiling, and

FIG. 4 is a sectional side view of an assembly used with a false ceiling.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, FIG. 1 shows a drapery track assembly including a wall plate 1 secured to a wall 2 near a ceiling 3. The wall plate 1 has a vertical plate-like body 4 with a horizontal ledge 5 projecting forwardly from its lower edge. A horizontal flange 6 projects forwardly from the upper edge of the plate-like body 4, and a lip 7 projects downwardly and outwardly from the front end of the flange 6. The wall plate 1 is secured to the wall 2 by a series of longitudinally spaced countersunk screws 4a passing through the plate-like body 4.

The assembly also includes a track-carrying member 8 which has a plate-like body 9 at the rear edge of which is a vertical flange 10 extending above and below the body 9 at its junction therewith. The flange 10 can be interlocked with the wall plate 1 to secure the track-carrying member 8 thereto. To do this, the upper edge of the flange 10 is inserted between the lip 7 and the body 4 and is then moved angularly towards the body 4 to position the lower edge of the flange 10 over the ledge 5 of the wall plate 1. The weight of the track-carrying member 8 is then supported by the ledge 5, and the lip 7 prevents the flange 10 from moving away from the wall plate 1. The plate-like body 9 extends from the vertical flange 10 in an upwardly inclined direction so that the front edge of the body 9 is relatively close to the ceiling 3.

The body 9 carries two parallel longitudinally extending tracks 11. Each track 11 is formed by two arms 12 which extend downwardly from the body 9 and have free end portions 13 which are directed towards and
are spaced from one another so as to lie in the same horizontal plane. Each track 11 can receive curtain runners in known manner, and it provided with end stops (not shown) to retain the runners on the track.

The track-carrying member 8 also includes a vertical front plate 14 extending vertically downwardly from the front edge. The front surface of the front plate 14 carries two longitudinally extending horizontal and vertically spaced projections 15 with grooves in their upper surfaces. These grooved projections 15 receive complementary shaped and positioned projections 16 on the rear surface of a valance plate 17, whose front surface is suitably decorated. The valance plate 17 is assembled with the track-carrying member 8 by simply hanging it onto the front plate 14.

FIG. 2 is an end view of the assembly without the valance plate 17, and shows how a lower part of the front plate 14 and the tracks 11 are cut away at the end of the track-carrying member 8 to allow the curtain runners and stops (not shown) to be assembled with the tracks 11.

Referring now to FIG. 3, the assembly can be secured to the ceiling 3, omitting the wall plate 1, where this is more convenient. For this purpose, the body 9 of the track-carrying member 8 has a pair of spaced upwardly extending projections 19 which extend to a position in line with the front edge of the body 9 and the upper edge of the flange 10. The track-carrying member 8 is secured to the ceiling 3 by longitudinally spaced countersunk screws 9a passing through the body 9 between the projections 19. The projections 19 limit upward movement of the body 9 when tightening these screws 9a.

FIG. 4 shows how the assembly can be used with a false ceiling 20. In this case, the wall plate is used, but the valance plate 17 is omitted. The wall plate 1 is secured to the wall 2 at such a height that the lower edge of the front plate 14 of the track-carrying assembly 8 is level with the lower surface of the false ceiling 20. A gap between the front plate 14 and the ceiling 20 may be covered by an inverted T-shaped bar 21 secured to the walls or other fixtures in any convenient manner.

In a further embodiment, the front plate 14 is omitted, and the valance plate 17 is integral with the track-carrying member 18 and projects downwardly from the front edge of the body 9.

The wall plate 1, track-carrying member 8 and valance plate 17 may each be manufactured by extrusion of a suitable material, for example aluminum. Alu-