July 15, 1924. 1,501,320

C. L. DRACHENBERG

REFRIGERATOR

Filed March 1, 1923

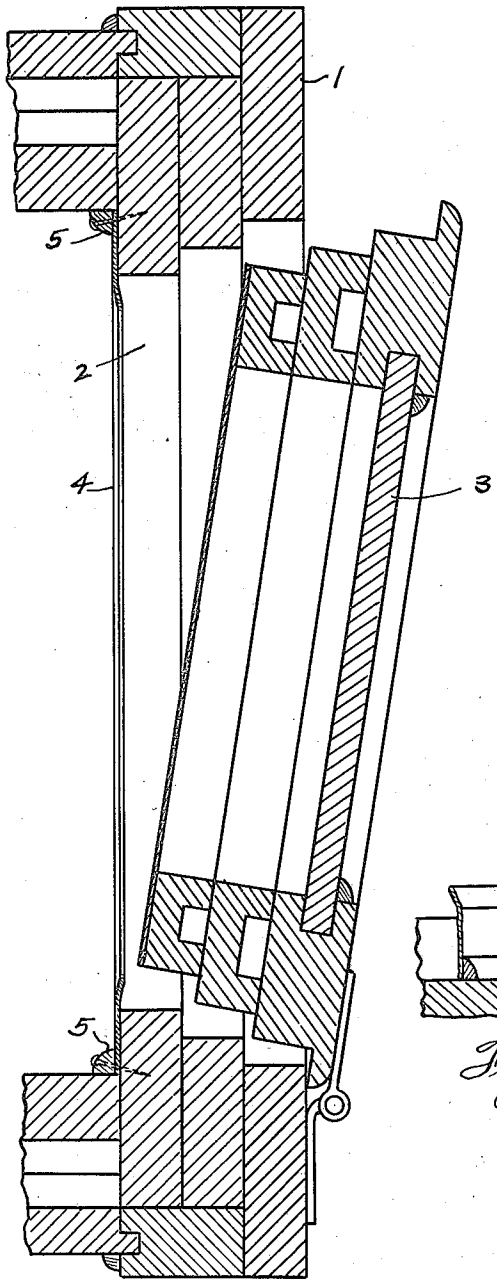



Fig. 1.

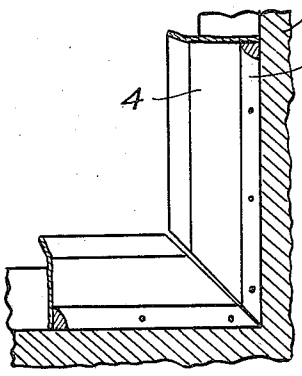



Fig. 3.

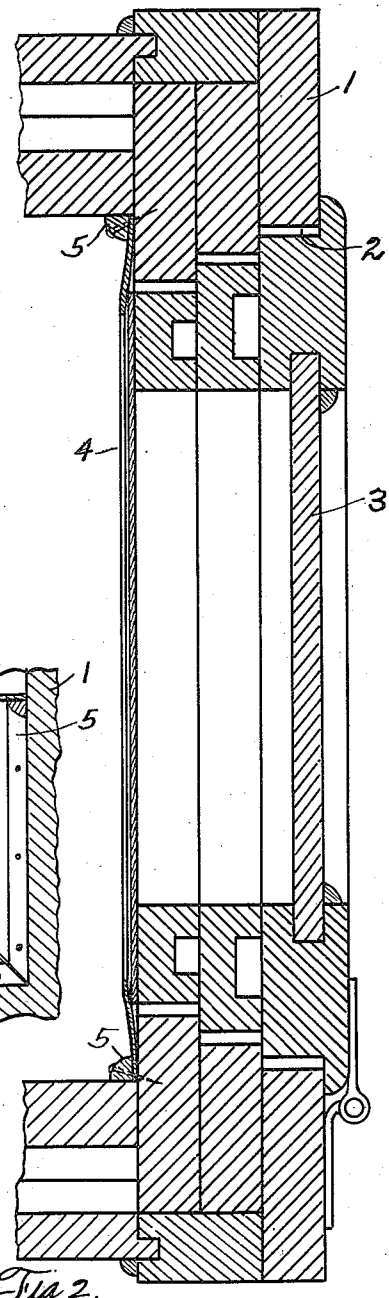



Fig. 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL L. DRACHENBERG, OF HOUSTON, TEXAS.

## REFRIGERATOR.

Application filed March 1, 1923. Serial No. 622,115.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CARL L. DRACHENBERG, citizen of the United States, residing at Houston, in the county of Harris and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Refrigerators, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a refrigerator door packing.

One object of the invention is to provide a refrigerator having an inside flexible metallic strip surrounding the door opening, and having a door which is somewhat thicker than the adjacent facing of the door opening and which, when closed, will press against said flexible strip so as to form a perfectly tight joint between the inside margin of the door and the flexible strip to shut off all circulation of air through the joints between the door and the facing of the door opening.

Another object of the invention is to provide a refrigerator door and a packing around the door opening so that the door, when closed, will form a perfectly tight fit and thus shut off all circulation of air through the door opening and which, at the same time, is of simple construction and may be cheaply and easily manufactured.

With the above and other objects in view the invention has particular relation to certain novel features of construction, operation, and arrangement of parts, an example of which is given in this specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a fragmentary transverse sectional view of a refrigerator taken through the door and showing the door partially open.

Figure 2 shows a view similar to that shown in Figure 1 with the door shown closed and,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary sectional view showing the door opening viewed from the inside of the refrigerator.

In the drawings the numeral 1 designates the refrigerator as a whole. This refrigerator has the door opening 2 and the door 3 hinged thereto to open and close said opening. The facing of the door opening is preferably stepped, as shown, and the margin of the door is correspondingly stepped so that the door will form three points of contact with the facing all the way around, as shown. Surrounding the door opening on the inside there is a metallic strip 4 which is mitered at the corners and which is flexible. This strip is preferably made of copper, although other material may be used and it is preferably secured in place by means of the quarter rounds 5 which are nailed in the angles as shown in the figures. The free margin of the strip 4 is preferably slightly curved outwardly and the inner face of the door, when the door is closed, projects inwardly slightly beyond the inner surface of the front wall of the refrigerator and thus presses against said strip 4 all the way around, said strip yielding slightly, as shown in Figure 2 and thus forming a very tight joint and preventing all circulation of air through the door opening. This construction greatly increases the efficiency of the refrigerator and makes it more economical in the use of ice and causes it to hold a lower temperature.

What I claim is:—

1. In a refrigerator having a door opening, a flexible metallic strip surrounding the door opening and lying closely against the inner side of the refrigerator wall and projecting outwardly beyond the facing of the door opening all the way around, and a door the margins of whose inner face press against said strip all the way around when the door is closed.

2. In a refrigerator having a door opening, a flexible metallic strip surrounding said opening all the way around and projecting outwardly beyond the face of said opening, a door hinged to the refrigerator and arranged to open and close said opening and whose inner face projects inwardly beyond the inner face of the adjacent wall when the door is closed, the margins of said inner face of the door pressing against the outer sides of the margins of said strip all the way around when the door is in closed position.

3. In a refrigerator having a door opening, a flexible metallic strip entirely surrounding said opening and lying closely against the inside of the refrigerator wall and having its free margin projecting outwardly beyond the door facing all the way around and being outwardly curved, and a door provided to open and close said opening, and the margin of whose inner

face presses against the outer side of said margin of said strip all the way around when the door is closed.

4. In a refrigerator having a door opening, a flexible metallic strip surrounding said opening, said flexible metallic strip being secured at one end in the corner formed by the side and front walls all the way around the door opening and lying closely against the inside of the refrigerator wall and having its free margin projecting outwardly from said door facing all the way around and being outwardly curved but substantially parallel with the inside door facing, a door provided to open and close said opening, the margin of whose inner face presses against the outer side of said outwardly curved flexible metallic strip all the way around when the door is closed.

5. In a refrigerator having a door opening, an outwardly curved flexible metallic strip surrounding said opening, said flexible metallic strip being secured at one end in the corner formed by the side and front walls all the way around the door opening and lying closely against the inside of the refrigerator wall and having its free margin projecting slightly out into the door opening all the way around and being substantially parallel with the inside door facing, a door provided to open and close said opening, the margin of whose inner face presses against the outer side of said outwardly curved flexible metallic strip all the way around when the door is closed.

6. In a refrigerator having a door opening provided with a surrounding facing, a flexible metallic strip surrounding said opening forming a rectangular frame-like structure all the way around and projecting from said door facing, a securing means forming a frame-like structure holding said metallic strip securely in the inside corner formed by the front and inside walls all the way around, a door hinged to the refrigerator and arranged to open and close said opening and whose inner face projects inwardly beyond the inner face of the adjacent wall when the door is closed, the margins of said inner face of the door pressing against the outer sides of the margins of said strip all the way around, causing said strip to move inwardly all the way around when the door is in closed position.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CARL L. DRACHENBERG.

Witnesses:
W. H. DUNLAY,
E. V. HARDWAY.