B. L. McMILLAN

PICTURE FRAME.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 29, 1915.

**1,223,409.** Patented Apr. 24, 1917.

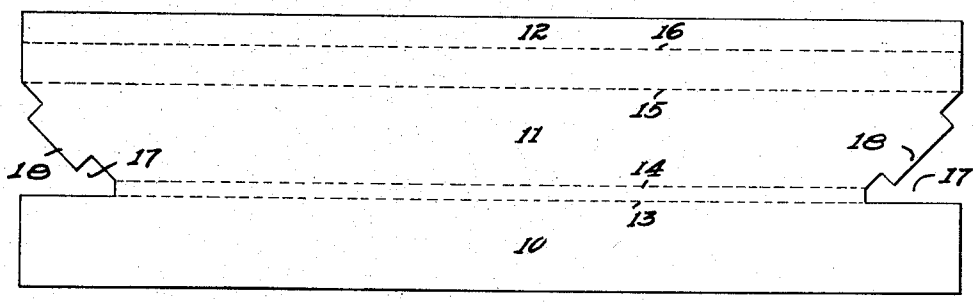


FIG. 1.

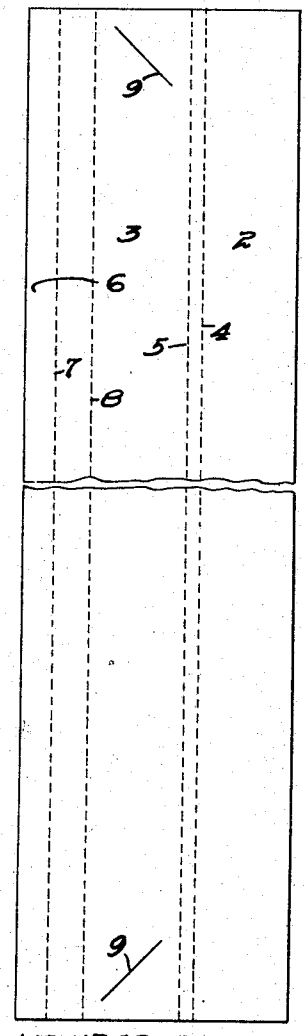


FIG. 2.

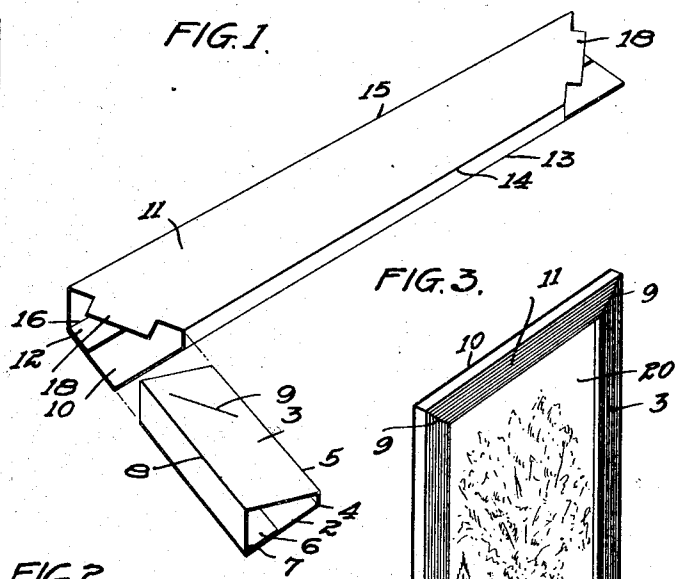


FIG. 3.

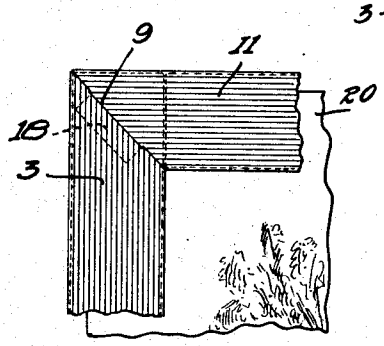


FIG. 4.

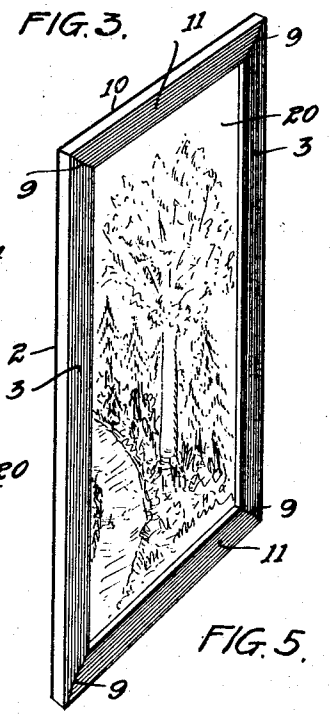


FIG. 5.

WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERTHA L. McMILLAN, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

## PICTURE-FRAME.

1,223,409. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 24, 1917.

Application filed October 29, 1915. Serial No. 58,610.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BERTHA L. McMILLAN, citizen of the United States, resident of Minneapolis, county of Hennepin, State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Picture-Frames, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a picture frame of simple, inexpensive construction adapted particularly as an advertising novelty or for window display advertising.

A further object is to provide a frame of flexible material, which can be cut and furnished in blank knock-down form and easily and quickly folded and assembled by art students or school children.

Other objects of the invention will appear from the following detailed description.

The invention consists generally in various constructions and combinations, all as hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification,

Figure 1 is a plan view of a blank of an end rail of the frame,

Fig. 2 is a similar view of a side rail,

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the rails folded, ready for use,

Fig. 4 is a detail view of one corner of a frame,

Fig. 5 is a view of the assembled frame, mounted on a suitable backing or card.

In the drawing, the blank is shown composed of panels 2 and 3, having parallel score lines 4 and 5 between them. A comparatively narrow flap 6 is formed between it and the panel 3 and similar score lines 7 and 8 are preferably spaced apart a greater distance than the lines 4 and 5, so that when the blank is folded to form the completed rail, it will present a beveled appearance, being thicker on one edge than on the other.

The panel 2 is folded inwardly under the panel 3 and their opposing surfaces glued together, thereby forming a hollow rail that is comparatively rigid. This rail is made of any suitable material, preferably a grade of paper which will score uniformly and be sufficiently stiff to prevent buckling or breaking down in handling. The paper, of course, may be of any suitable color and the gage may be varied, according to the size and depth of the frame desired.

When the blank is folded on the score lines, front and rear and inner and outer panels will be formed, the outer panels being wider than the inner ones, due to the difference in distance between the score lines 15 and 16 and 13 and 14, and the panel 11 will be inclined inwardly with respect to the panel 10 and present a beveled appearance to the frame.

The panel 3 is provided at each end with diagonal slits 9 terminating near the ends of the panel. The end rails comprise panels 10, 11 and 12, the panels 10 and 11 having score lines 13 and 14 arranged parallel between them and the panels 11 and 12 having score lines 15 and 16 between them, the lines 15 and 16 being spaced a greater distance apart, as in the rail above referred to. These blanks are folded in the same manner as described with reference to the side rail blanks. Each end rail blank is provided with a notch or recess 17 in the panel 11, said notch being irregular in form and provided on one edge with a tongue 18, which, when the blank is folded to form the end rail, is in position to slip into a slot 9 in the panel 3 of the adjacent side rail, the projecting ends of the panel 10 extending beneath the rear panel of the side rail and glued thereto, if desired, while the inner corner of the end rail will slip in between the panels of the end rail and the meeting ends of the two rails will have the appearance of a miter joint, the tongues at the ends of the ends rails being entirely concealed.

The rear panels of the rails will be flat and I prefer to mount them on a suitable backing or plate 20, which may be secured to the rails by glue or other suitable means.

I claim as my invention:

1. A picture frame comprising side and end rails, each composed of blanks of flexible material, rectangular, substantially, in form, and each having parallel score lines arranged in pairs thereon, the lines of one pair being nearer together than the lines of the other pair, said blanks being folded along said score lines to form front and rear panels and inner and outer panels, the inner panels being narrower than the outer ones through the difference in distance between

the score lines of the two pairs, and the front panels being inclined inwardly and backwardly from the outer toward the inner panels, and the ends of one pair of rails having means for engaging with the abutting ends of the other pair of rails.

2. A picture frame comprising side and end rails, each composed of blanks of flexible material rectangular substantially in form and each having parallel score lines arranged in pairs thereon, one pair of score lines being near the longitudinal edge of the blank and the other pair near the middle portion thereof, the latter being nearer together than the former, said blanks being folded along said score lines to form front and rear panels and inner and outer panels, the inner panels being narrower than the outer ones through the difference in distance between the score lines of the two pairs, and the front panels being inclined inwardly and backwardly from the outer toward the inner panels, said rails being open at the ends and the ends of one pair of rails having means for engaging with the abutting ends of the other pair of rails.

3. A picture frame comprising side and end rails, each composed of blanks of flexible material, rectangular, substantially, in form, and each having parallel score lines arranged in pairs running lengthwise thereof, said blanks being folded along said score lines to form front and rear panels and inner and outer panels, the inner panels being narrower than the outer ones, whereby the front and rear panels of each rail converge inwardly toward one another, the rear panels having flat faces for securing the edges of a picture thereto, and the ends of some of the rails having tongues formed thereon and being open to receive the abutting ends of adjacent rails, and said abutting ends having slits therein to receive said tongues.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of October, 1915.

BERTHA L. McMILLAN.

**Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."**