Dec. 6, 1927. 1,651,910

R. C. SCHEMMEL

COMBINED FINISHING WELT AND METAL CONTAINER

Filed Nov. 12, 1925

Fig. 1

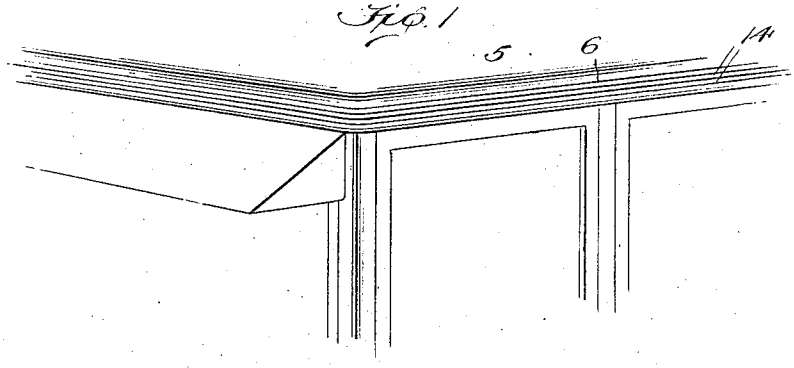


Fig. 2.

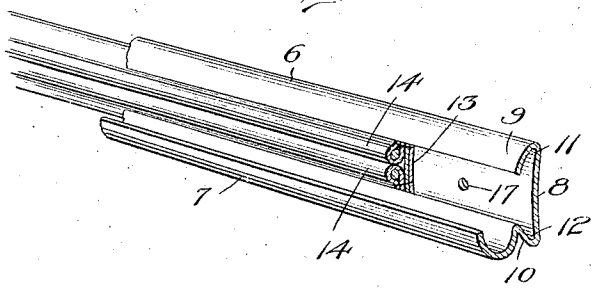


Fig. 4

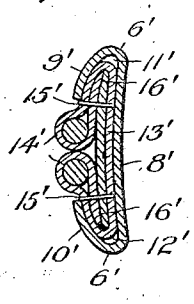


Fig. 3

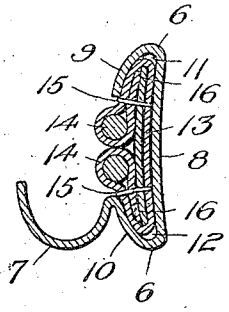
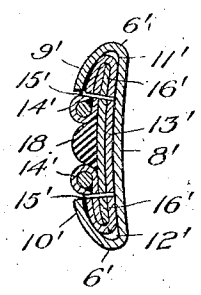


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMBINED FINISHING WELT AND METAL CONTAINER.

Application filed November 12, 1925. Serial No. 68,727.

My present invention relates to a combined finishing welt of relatively pliable material, and a channelled metallic container for the same, provided also with an underlying integral groove or gutter, arranged and adapted to impart a finished appearance to the tops of automobile or other vehicles, and to conduct water, in case of rain, from such tops, thereby preventing drip at doorways or windows.

The invention will be hereinafter particularly described and then pointed out by the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings which form part of this application for Letters Patent and whereon like numerals indicate corresponding parts in the several views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing one front corner of a closed automobile top, having the combined finishing-welt and drip-strip applied thereto;

Figure 2 is a relatively enlarged perspective view partly in section showing the combined and improved finishing-welt and drip-strip detached from a vehicle top;

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view through welt and drip-strip in assembled relation;

Figure 4 is also a transverse sectional view corresponding with Figure 3, but omitting the drip feature; and

Figure 5 is also a transverse sectional view, showing one modified form of welt within the embrace of its metallic container.

Reference being had to the drawings and numerals thereon, 5 indicates the top of a closed vehicle such as an automobile sedan, coach of coupé, and the numeral 6 designates a sheet metal welt-container and continuous drip-strip or gutter formed and adapted to extend across the front and along both sides of the vehicle top to the rear thereof, at which points it is open ended.

The channelled metallic container 6 is preferably made of relatively stiff sheet metal pressed or rolled to the desired shape, or it may be either cast or exuded in steel dies, but in any event is so shaped as to fit the body structure for which it is intended, and when desired may be provided with the underlying drip gutter 7 for catching rain or snow water and conducting it to the rear of and from the car roof.

The under surface or base portion of this metallic container 6, is adapted to contact directly with the surfaces to which it is ordinarily applied, and is cambered in cross section or slightly curved as at 8, to provide for neatness of joints at its upper and lower edges when applied, and from these edges the metal is rolled or curved inwardly in liberal folds over the body or said base 8, thus producing oppositely disposed welt-embracing flanges 9 and 10, and the resulting underlying deep pockets 11 and 12 of suitable depth each, for receiving the opposite sides of a finishing welt. The gutter 7 aforesaid is formed as a downward extension of the flange 10, best shown by Figures 2 and 3.

The particular finishing welt which I employ in cooperation with the channelled metallic container aforesaid, is that known to the trade as "Hidem" welt, and this welt per se, is covered by United States Letters Patent No. 1,226,600, issued to me under date of May 15, 1917. It comprises, generally stated, a body or base 13, of resilient material surmounted by a pair of centrally positioned contacting parallel independent beads 14 and 14. As shown the welt body or base 13, is made of layers of leather, leather substitutes, or other suitable flexible materials, securely stitched or otherwise fastened together as at 15, 15, adjacent the outer edges of both beads 14 and 14, thus providing a central longitudinal slot or cleavage between the independent but contacting beads 14 and 14, which cleavage greatly facilitates folding the welt longitudinally upon itself when desired, for the purpose of introducing it into the channelled container aforesaid.

Extending laterally from both beads 14 and 14 in opposite directions or outwardly, are side base flanges 16 and 16, constituting relatively flattened edges and being a continuation of the welt body or base 13. The finishing welt in practice is applied as follows: The channelled metallic container either with the drip member 7 as shown by Figure 3, or without it as shown by Figure 4, shaped to conform to the contour of a vehicle body or top as indicated by Figure 1, is secured in place by suitable fastening means such as tacks, finishing nails or screws (not shown), driven through nail holes such as 17. The welt is then doubled or folded longitudinally and centrally upon itself, and in this folded or doubled condition is readily

introduced between the opposing edges of the container flanges 9 and 10. Because of the slot or cleavage in the longitudinal center of the welt proper, that is to say the space between its beads 14 and 14, extending to its base, and because of the flexible nature of the structure, this welt is readily folded upon itself centrally so as to afford ample clearance between the edges of flanges 9 and 10 as aforesaid. When so placed the lateral flanges 16 and 16 of the welt at their edges rest upon the bottom of container 6 in a downwardly diverging condition, surmounted by the upstanding beads 14 and 14. Pressure then applied by means of a thumb or finger of the trimmer, upon said upstanding beads 14, 14, depresses the latter, and simultaneously forces both welt flanges 16 and 16 oppositely and outwardly, by a powerful toggle action, into the extreme depths of pockets 11 and 12 as shown by Figure 3 of the drawings, thereby most effectually and neatly seating the welt from end to end in its metallic container or channel, and cooperatively associating the said welt and container elements.

In introducing welts of the general character indicated into channelled metallic containers such as aforesaid, it is necessary that the welt be entered sidewise, and heretofore this has been done, to some extent, with comparatively narrow welt strips or fillers of elastic material, which yielded sufficiently to permit their introduction as aforesaid.

In applicant's invention and cooperative arrangement however, employing a relatively wide welt, there is no rubber filler contributing by its inherent elasticity, to the assemblage of parts, but on the other hand the necessary pliability of the welt member is insured by its continuous central longitudinal slot between beads 14, 14, without which it could not be introduced into the channelled container at all, but with which the welt is not only introduced with ease, accuracy and precision, but in a manner to insure permanency, reliability and efficiency.

In Figures 4 and 5 two of many possible modifications of this invention are shown by way of exemplification.

Figure 4 corresponds with the form of container hereinbefore described with omission only of the gutter or drip element 7, the corresponding parts bearing like reference numerals except that the same in Figure 4 are each primed.

Figure 5 includes a modified form of welt in a channelled metallic container corresponding with that of Figure 4, and here is to be seen a welt body or base 13′, side flanges 16′, 16′, surmounting beads 14′, 14′ the latter being somewhat spaced apart as shown, and a removable half-round filler 18 of resilient material introduced between the beads 14′, 14′, which in turn are securely clamped into cooperative relation by agency of the overlying side flanges 9′ and 10′ rising from the channelled metallic container or channel member, and terminating each adjacent to their respective beads 14′, 14′, as and for the purposes set forth.

Having thus described my present invention, its cooperative arrangement and combination of parts, what I now claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:

1. In a device of the character described the combination of a channelled metallic container having inwardly extending side flanges, and a finishing welt having laterally extending base flanges and slotted longitudinally upon its outer surface to facilitate folding upon itself and its introduction into said container.

2. In a device of the character described the combination of a channelled metallic container having inwardly extending side flanges, and a finishing welt surmounted by a pair of parallel independent beads and slotted longitudinally upon its outer surface to facilitate folding and its introduction into said container.

3. In a device of the character described the combination of a channelled metallic container having inwardly extending side flanges, and a finishing welt slotted longitudinally upon its outer surface to facilitate folding and including laterally extending base flanges and a centrally disposed bead upon each side of the slot aforesaid.

4. In a device of the character described the combination of a metallic container having inwardly extending side flanges, and a flexible finishing welt slotted longitudinally upon its outer surface to facilitate folding surmounted by a pair of contacting parallel surface beads, and outwardly extending base flanges clamped into operative relation beneath their respective container side flanges.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ROBERT C. SCHEMMEL.