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AWNING COVERING

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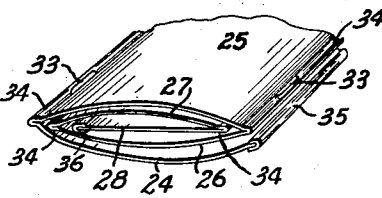
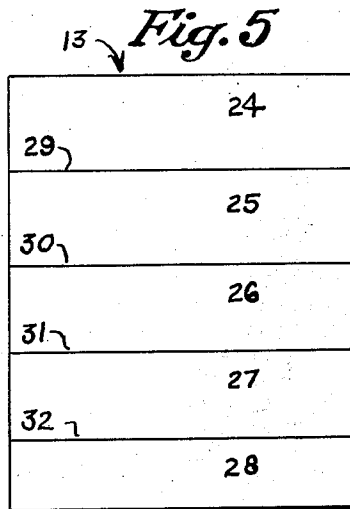
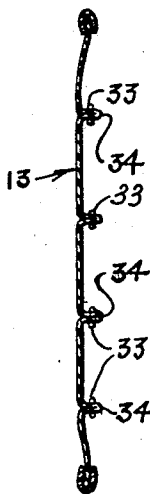
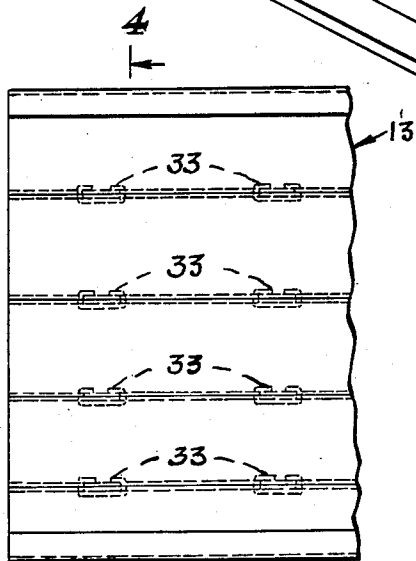
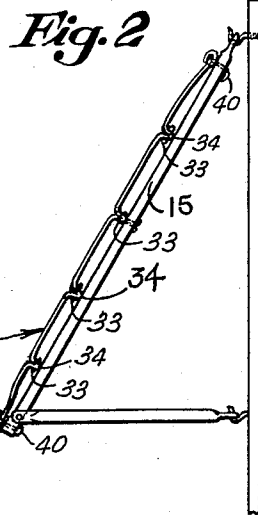
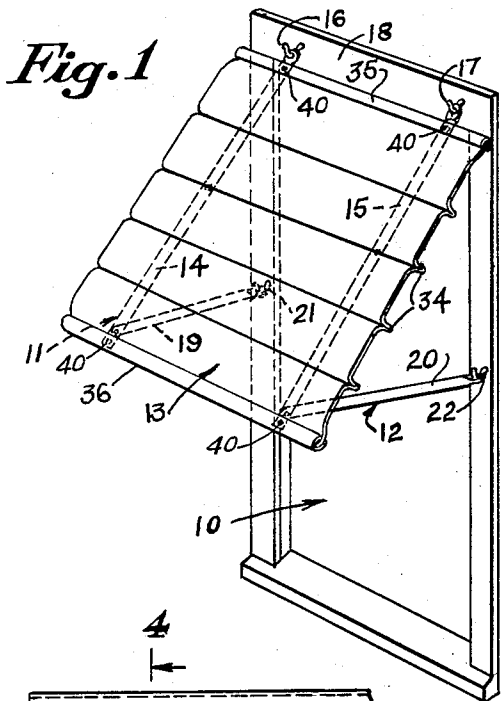


Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 6

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AWNING COVERING

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1 Claim. (Cl. 160—45)

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This invention relates to improvements in the coverings for awnings and to a method for the formation thereof.

It is an object of the instant invention to provide an awning covering of light weight from a sheet of plastic material.

Another object is to provide an awning covering requiring substantially less labor in the formation thereof than known similar devices.

A further object is to provide an awning covering in which the quantity and quality of the transmitted light can be varied by the use of colored transparent and/or translucent plastic sheets.

Other objects of the instant invention will become apparent in the course of the following specification.

In the attainment of these objectives, the improved awning covering is constituted of a sheet of plastic material. The sheet is divided into a plurality of integrally formed sections by folding each section back upon the successive section adjacent the line of fold and securing the superposed surface portions together to form spaced ridges for supporting the covering on the known outwardly and downwardly directed side arms of the awning frame. In lieu of the single sheet, a plurality of separate sections may be fastened together in a similar manner. The free edges of the uppermost and lowermost sections are secured to cross rods or bars one of which is attached at the top of the side arms of the awning frame and the other at the bottom thereof.

The invention will appear more clearly from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings showing by way of example a preferred embodiment of the inventive concept.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the improved awning covering constructed in accordance with the principles of this invention;

Figure 2 is an end view of the awning covering shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary front or top view of the awning covering shown in Figure 1 but on an enlarged scale;

Figure 4 is a sectional view along line 4—4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a plan view of the blank from which the covering may be formed; and

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of the covering when removed from the frame and folded.

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Referring now in greater detail to the drawings where like reference numerals indicate like parts, reference numeral 10 (Fig. 1) indicates a vertical opening in any building structure, 11 and 12 the outwardly and downwardly inclined frames on opposite sides of the opening which support the awning covering; and 13 the improved awning covering for the frames.

The vertical opening 10 is the usual type of framed opening made in a building for the admission of light and air. However, the subsequently described awning covering 13 is suitable for closing other openings in the building, for use in the manufacture of tents, beach shelters, and the like.

The frames 11 and 12 for supporting the awning covering 13 in a downwardly and outwardly inclined position over the opening 10 are constituted of the similar outwardly and downwardly inclined side arms 14 and 15 and the braces 19 and 20. At the top, the side arms 14 and 15 are provided with openings or other means for attachment to the hooks 16 and 17, respectively, which may be threaded in the cross member 18 at the top of the opening 10. The side arms 14 and 15 are held in the outwardly and downwardly inclined position by the braces 19 and 20. The inner ends of the braces 19 and 20 may be provided with suitable openings for insertion over the hooks 21 and 22, respectively, with the hooks being attached at the sides of the framed opening. Obviously, other suitable means could be provided for maintaining the side arms in the outwardly and downwardly inclined position, and any suitable means may be used for securing the outer ends of the braces to the downwardly inclined ends of the side arms.

The covering 13 for the previously described frames may be made from the rectangular blank of semi-rigid plastic material shown in Figure 5. The plastic material may be 10 gauge and flameproof, tinted, and translucent. The blank or sheet has a length greater than the length of the side arms 14 and 15 and a width greater than the perpendicular distance between said arms. The sheet is separated into the rectangular sections 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 by folding or creasing in the same direction along the spaced longitudinal lines 29, 30, 31, and 32 with the surface portions of successive sections adjacent or contiguous to the fold or crease lines superposed. The superposed surface portions, always on the same side of the sheet, are attached together by sewing or welding, by the staples 33 (Figures 3 and 4), or by any other suitable means. In order that

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the covering may be compactly folded for storage (Fig. 6), the outer section 24 has a width equal to that of the adjacent section 25. The section 26 has a width $\frac{5}{8}$ " less than that of section 25, section 27 a width $\frac{5}{8}$ " less than that of section 26, and section 28 a width $\frac{5}{8}$ " less than that of section 27. While integrally formed sections have been described and illustrated, it is possible to use separate sections and even separate sections of different color.

The free longitudinal edge of the outer section 24 may be held by the top cross rod or bar 35 and the corresponding edge of the outer section 28 by the cross rod or bar 36. Each cross bar may have a longitudinal slit in which the free edge of the corresponding strip parallel to the fold line is inserted and held therein under pressure. Of course, other means could be used for attaching the strips to the cross bars.

Openings may be provided adjacent the end extremities of the cross bars and aligned openings in the side arms for the insertion of any known fastener releasably securing the cross bars to the side arms.

In operation:

The rectangular sheet or blank shown in Figure 5 having a width at least equal to the perpendicular distance between the side arms 14 and 15 and a length greater than the length thereof is creased or folded, always in the same direction, along the spaced longitudinal lines 29, 30, 31, and 32 to form the spaced ridges 34 on the bottom surface of the sheet. To give rigidity to the structure, the surface portions of the strips or sections contiguous or adjacent the lines of fold are superposed and fastened together by any suitable means such as the staples 33. The free edges of the outer sections parallel to the fold or crease lines are then attached to the cross bars and the cross bars removably attached to the side arms by any suitable means 40 with the spaced ridges supported thereby. An one or more of the ridges may be removably attached to the side arms as shown in Figure 2.

Since the covering requires only two rigid members as compared with known awning frames,

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it can be readily removed from the side arms and even folded, so that the covering of subject application has greatly simplified the storage problem for awnings. Obviously, the free ends of the covering can be reinforced by any suitable means.

While there is above disclosed but one embodiment of the structure and the method for the formation thereof, it is possible to produce still other embodiments without departing from the inventive concept herein disclosed. Hence, it is desired that only such limitations be imposed on the appended claim as are stated therein or required by the prior art.

What is claimed is:

A covering for the downwardly and outwardly directed side arms of an awning frame, the covering comprising a rectangular blank of bendable material, the blank being divided into two outer sections and a plurality of intervening sections by spaced fold lines, said lines being parallel to one edge of the blank and the widths of one of the outer sections and its adjacent section being substantially equal, the width of each successive section being progressively less than the width of said outer and adjacent sections, the adjacent surface portions of successive sections on the same side of the blank adjacent the fold lines being superposed, means for securing the superposed surface portions together to form ridges, means for removably securing the free marginal edge of one of the outer sections parallel to the fold lines to the side arms adjacent the tops thereof with the ridges supported by the side arms, and means for removably securing the free marginal edge of the second outer section parallel to the fold lines to the side arms adjacent the bottoms thereof.

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