Jan. 24, 1950 M. EISENBERG ET AL 2,495,514

ADJUSTABLE CORNICE AND BRACKET

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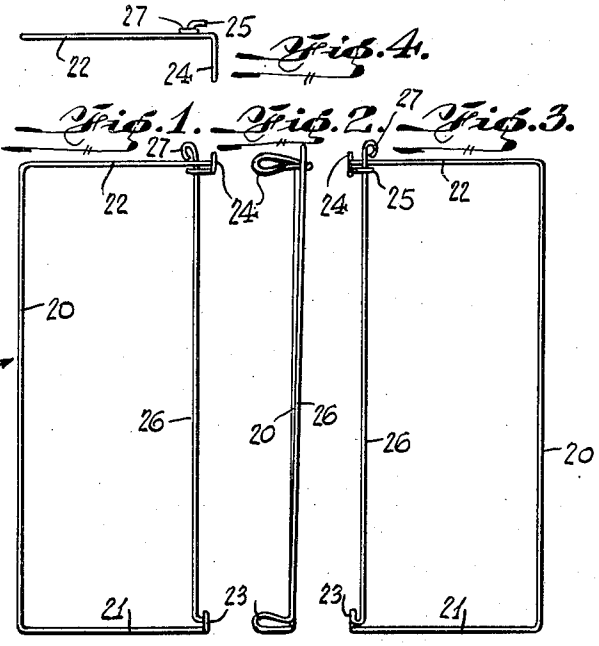



Fig. 4.

Fig. 1. Fig. 2. Fig. 3.

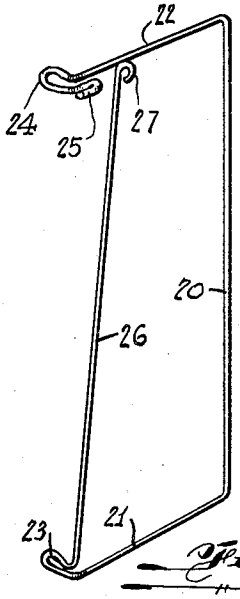



Fig. 5.

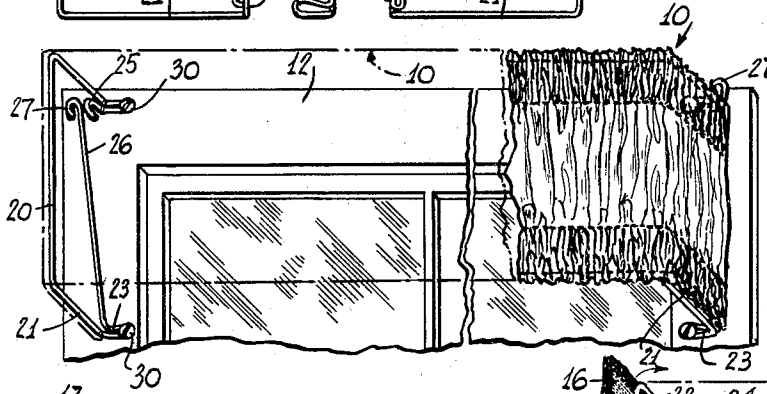



Fig. 6.

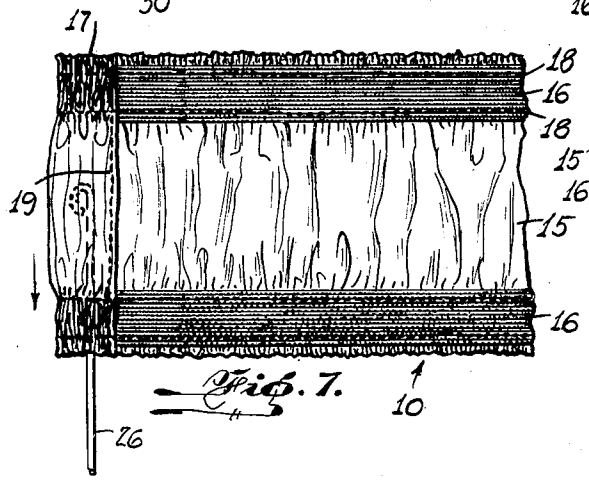



Fig. 7.

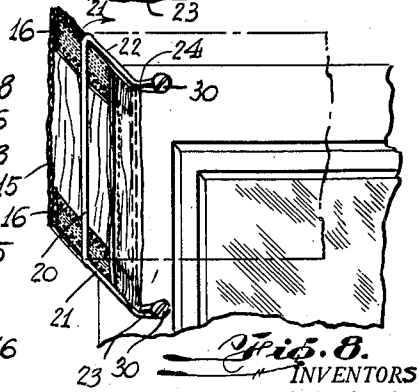



Fig. 8.

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## ADJUSTABLE CORNICE AND BRACKET

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5 Claims. (Cl. 160—21)

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This invention relates to a flexible and elastic adjustable cornice.

Window cornices are ornamental, horizontal projections within which curtains and draperies are hung, and they are conventionally made of relatively inflexible material, such as wood and metal. Some of them are fixed in dimensions and others are extensible and contractable within predetermined limits. Some cornices are provided with a fabric covering to harmonize or contrast with window curtains, drapes or the like.

The principal object of the present invention is the provision of cornices which are made of relatively flexible and relatively elastic material removably mounted on stretcher brackets made of wire or other suitable material, and which are secured on either side of a window frame. The cornices may be made of wholly elastic material or partly of elastic and partly of non-elastic material. In the preferred form of this invention, the cornices are made of ruffled or shirred non-elastic material such as textile fabric or plastic cloth, backed by means of two bands of elastic tape.

The wire stretcher brackets or supports by which the present cornice is mounted engage only the end portions of the cornice band, and intermediate said end portions the cornice band is entirely free. Since the cornice is made of ruffled textile or plastic cloth backed by means of elastic bands, it may be stretched to any desired length, within reasonable limitations, for adjustment to windows of many varying widths.

The wire stretcher brackets or supports are readily attachable to window frames by means of wood screws, nails or the like. They may be opened or closed by the simple expedient of flexing one of their parts. The cornice band is provided with looped ends so that it is simply a matter of slipping said looped ends over the flexed part of the two wire stretcher brackets to mount the cornice band on said brackets. By the same token the cornice band may be removed from the stretcher brackets by simply slipping their looped ends off the flexed parts of said brackets.

Many advantages over conventional cornices may be found in the elastic cornice constituting the present invention. In the first place, a cornice made in accordance with this invention is far less expensive than conventional cornices. In the second place, it produces a decorative effect which cannot be achieved by conventional cornices unless they be covered with the same material of which the present cornice is made. Covering a conventional cornice with the material of which the present cornice is made would certainly be unduly costly. Another advantage in the present cornice resides in its elastic adjustability since it may be made to fit windows of many sizes by simply stretching it to appropriate length. There is no real change in appearance between the present cornice stretched to one length and the same cornice stretched to another length. By contrast, all adjustable cornices of conventional construction do produce different effects depending upon their adjusted length. Their construction is generally, if not exclusively, telescopic, and it is obvious to the eye that they look different when they are extended to different lengths.

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Another important advantage which is inherent in cornices made in accordance with the present invention is the ease with which they may be mounted on wooden window frames. It is the type of job which the average housewife would willingly undertake.

A still further advantage is the ease with which fabric of the cornices of the present invention may be removed from their supporting brackets for cleaning, and as easily replaced.

A preferred form of this invention is shown by way of illustration in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view of one of the stretcher brackets of a cornice made in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is an edge view of said bracket, showing the bracket loops whereby the bracket may be attached to the window frame.

Fig. 3 is another side view thereof.

Fig. 4 is a top view of said bracket.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the bracket, showing the cornice band receiving portion thereof in flexed condition.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary view of a cornice made in accordance with the present invention, showing the cornice band mounted at one end on a bracket and showing another bracket in flexed

condition, ready to receive the opposite end of the cornice band.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary view showing one looped end of the cornice band being slipped over the flexed part of one of the stretcher brackets.

Fig. 8 is another fragmentary view showing one end of the cornice band mounted on one stretcher bracket, preparatory to swinging said cornice band around said bracket and bringing it to the stretcher bracket on the opposite side of the window.

A cornice of the present invention comprises a stretchable fabric or band **10** and two supporting stretcher brackets **11**.

Cornice band **10** shown in the drawing is mounted on two stretcher brackets **11**, one at each end or side of window frame **12**. The two brackets may be identical in every respect or one may be a right bracket and the other a left bracket. There is no difference in principle between the right and left brackets, and hence, it will suffice for present purposes to describe only one of them, to wit, bracket **11** shown in the drawing.

In the embodiment shown, cornice band **10** comprises a suitable length of textile or plastic cloth **15** having a pair of elastic bands **16** fastened thereto, longitudinally thereof, one on the top and one on the bottom, and being folded over at both ends to form end loops or hems **17**. The length and width of band **15** will vary in accordance with individual requirements and preferences. It should, however, be sufficiently long to fit relatively wide windows and yet, when ruffled or shirred, it should fit relatively narrow windows. The elastic bands are attached to the back of fabric **15**, each by means of two rows of stitching **18**, one along the top edge of the fabric and the other along the bottom edge thereof. These bands extend the full length of the fabric and they even may extend around the end loops of the fabric. In their contracted or relaxed state, the elastic bands are considerably shorter than fabric **15**. It is, therefore, necessary to ruffle or shirr the cloth when the bands are attached to it in order to reduce the length of the cloth to the length of the relaxed bands, the bands being attached while under tension. It is consequently possible to extend the length of the cornice as a whole by pulling the ruffles to less ruffled condition and placing the elastic bands under tension. The entire lengthened cornice is thereby placed under elastic tension. The end loops may be formed in any suitable way either with or without the elastic bands forming a part thereof. For example, the end loops may be stitched down by means of stitching **19**.

Referring now to the wire stretcher brackets which support the stretched cornice band, it will be seen that each bracket comprises a U-shaped stretcher member having a yoke **20** and a pair of arms or legs **21** and **22**, respectively, and a wall-engaging portion comprising a loop **23** being formed at the end of arm **21**, a second loop **24** being formed at the end of arm **22**, a hook **25** being formed adjacent loop **24**, and a locking arm **26** being provided on loop **23** for engagement with hook **25**, the free end of said locking arm being bent to form a loop **27**. The entire bracket is made of a single piece of wire, bent as shown in the drawing to form the yoke and arms aforementioned, the loops and hook aforementioned and the locking arm as well.

Loops **23** and **24** constituting the wall-engaging portion occupy a common plane and they project



at right angles with respect to arms **21** and **22**. It is by means of these loops and wood screws **30** that the bracket may be fastened to any suitable support such as a wooden window frame. The manner in which the bracket is fastened to the window frame is clearly shown in Figs. 6 and 8. The stretcher portion arms **21** and **22** are perpendicular to the window frame and they extend along parallel horizontal lines. Yoke **20** is disposed on a vertical line, parallel to the side posts of the window frame. Locking arm **26** is also disposed on a vertical line, parallel to yoke **20**, when it is engaged by hook **25**.

It is necessary to disengage the locking arm from its hook in order to slip the cornice band loop over it. The open end of the hook faces the window frame to which the bracket is attached, and it is, therefore, necessary to flex the locking arm in the direction of the window frame in order to disengage it from the hook. Its disengaged position is shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The loop of the cornice band may now be slipped downwardly over said locking arm as the arrow in Fig. 7 indicates. The locking arm may now be caused to reengage hook **25** to prevent the cornice loop from slipping off. The cornice band should now be brought forwardly as shown in Fig. 8, and then around yoke **20** of the bracket as the curved arrow in Fig. 8 clearly shows. The cornice band may now be stretched across the front of the window frame and around the yoke of the bracket on the opposite side thereof. The opposite end of the cornice band may now be attached to said opposite bracket in the same manner that its first-mentioned end was attached to the first bracket. The cornice is now mounted on the window frame and nothing more remains to be done.

The foregoing is descriptive of the preferred form of this invention, and it will be appreciated that this form may be modified and other forms may be provided within the broad scope and spirit of the present invention.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A stretcher bracket for a cornice of the character described, said bracket comprising a U-shaped member wherein the arms are disposed on horizontal lines, one above the other, and the yoke is disposed along a vertical line, said arms being provided with loops at their free ends for fastening by means of any suitable fastening means to a frame such as a window frame, one of said arms being also provided at its free end with a vertically extending locking arm and the other of said arms being provided at its free end with a hook to engage the free end of the locking arm.

2. A stretcher bracket for a cornice of the character described, said bracket having a pair of spaced vertically extending members around which a cornice band may be disposed, one of the vertical members being supported at the top and bottom by means of arms which are fastened to a window frame, the other vertical member being fastened at one end to one of said arms and being detachably hooked at its opposite end to the other of said arms.

3. A cornice for window frames and the like, said cornice comprising a band of longitudinal elastic material and a pair of stretcher brackets fastened to a window frame and around which said band is removably looped, each said stretcher bracket having a window-frame-engaging portion by which the bracket may be secured to the

window frame, a cornice band holding portion around which an end of the cornice band is looped and an outwardly extending portion over and past which the cornice band extends in the direction of the other stretcher bracket.

4. A cornice in accordance with claim 3, wherein the cornice band is made of ruffled fabric having a longitudinally elastic tape fastened to the back thereof.

5. A stretcher bracket for a cornice of the character described, said bracket having a pair of spaced members around which a cornice band of longitudinally elastic material may be stretched, one of said members being supported at the top and bottom by means of wall-engaging portions which are fastened to and extend outwardly from a window frame, the other of said members being fastened at one end to one of said wall-engaging portions and being detachably hooked at its opposite end to the other of said wall-engaging portions.



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