Dec. 19, 1950 J. W. HOLLAND 2,534,673

VENETIAN BLIND SLAT

Filed June 11, 1945

Fig. 1

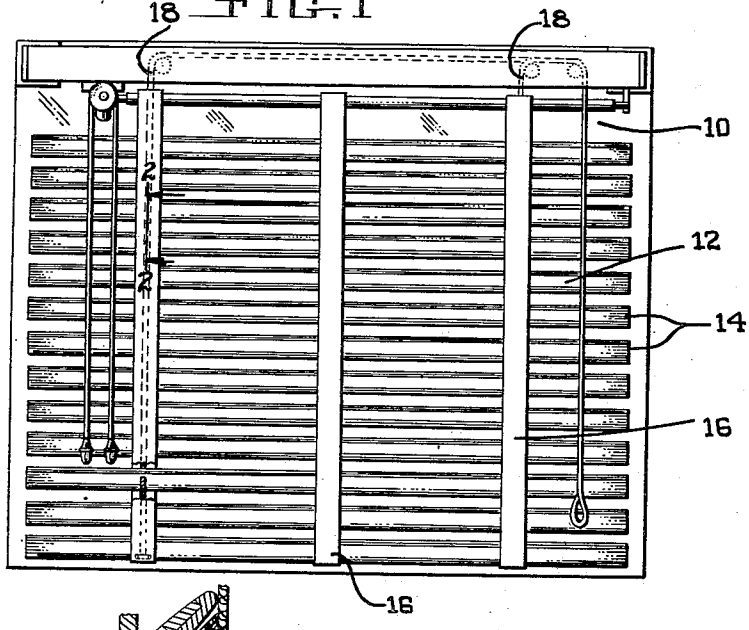


Fig. 2

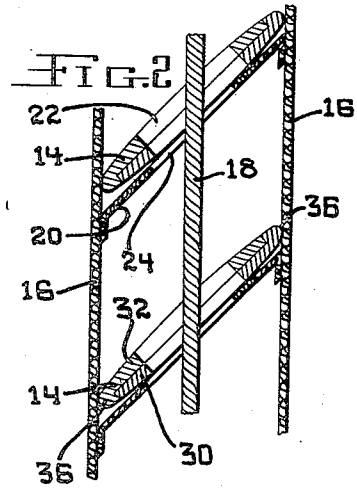


Fig. 3

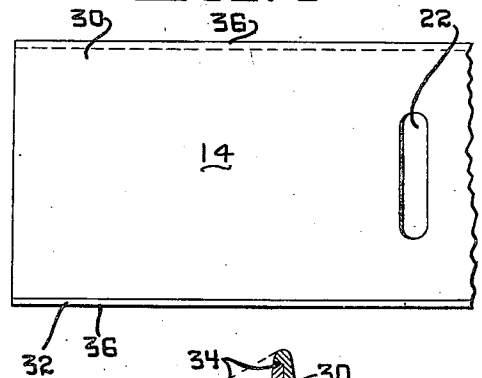


Fig. 4

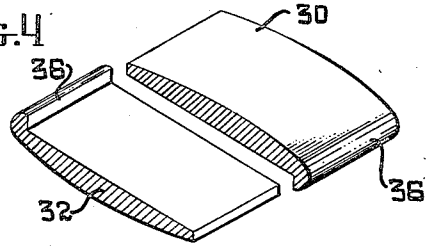
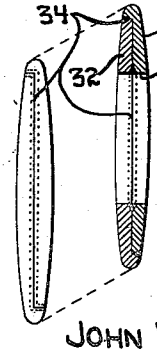


Fig. 5



INVENTOR
JOHN WARD HOLLAND
BY
Joulmin & Joulmin
ATTORNEYS

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VENETIAN BLIND SLAT

John Ward Holland, Dayton, Ohio

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3 Claims. (Cl. 160—236)

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This application relates to Venetian blinds and in particular to an improved slat therefor and a method of manufacturing the same.

The particular object of this invention is to produce a slat for a Venetian blind which is translucent and thus will transmit a predetermined amount of illumination through a window opening.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved method of manufacturing Venetian blind slats wherein the cost of the slat is reduced and the resulting product is of high quality.

Still another object is to provide a blind slat and method of making wherein the slat may be one color on one side and another color on the other side, thereby enhancing its value in decorative schemes.

Still another object is to provide a Venetian blind slat so formed that there are no rough edges thereon to wear the adjusting tapes and cords of the blind structure.

Still another object is to provide a two-color Venetian blind slat which is so constructed that the color on either side is predominant from that side throughout the adjustment of the blind from a closed to a horizontal position.

These and other objects and advantages will become more apparent upon reference to the following specification and accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a front view of a Venetian blind having slats constructed according to my invention;

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary section taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an enlarged plan view over a portion of a blind slat showing more exactly the proportions thereof;

Figure 4 is a perspective view showing the blind slat in the process of being assembled; and

Figure 5 is a view illustrating how the assembled blind is sealed along the edges thereof.

Referring to Figure 1, there is shown a window opening at 10 within which is suspended a Venetian blind generally indicated at 12 which comprises the slats 14, the adjusting tapes 16 and the pull cords 18. The mechanism for tilting the slats and for raising and lowering the blind may consist of any well-known devices and forms no part of the present invention.

The arrangement of the slats relative to their supporting tapes and cords is more particularly shown in Figure 2. In Figure 2 it will be observed that the slats 14 are suspended on the

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strips 20 which are secured at either end to the tilting tapes 16, it being understood that the tapes and strips are preferably fabric material. The slats 14 and the strips 20 are apertured as at 22 and 24 for receiving the lifting and lowering cord 18. Any predetermined spacing may be given the slats and they are shown in Figure 2 as being spaced so as somewhat to overlap when the blind is in its closed position. This represents the maximum spacing of the slats and they may be placed closer together if so desired.

The construction of the slat is more particularly shown in Figures 3, 4 and 5 wherein it will be seen to comprise a pair of strips 30 and 32 which are similarly shaped to an L configuration with a slightly convex back portion. Because of their similar shapes the slat halves are adapted for being assembled as indicated in Figure 4 into a unitary, uniformly shaped structure.

After the assembling together of the strips 30 and 32, the edge of the slat along the line where the halves join is sealed to prevent dirt, moisture or other foreign matter from gaining ingress to the space between the two strips.

This sealing, which is indicated at 34 in Figure 5, may comprise any process adapted for the particular material being employed in the construction of the said slat. For example, if the slat halves are made from a plastic material which is soluble in solvents, the seal may be effected by moistening the contiguous corners of the two strips with a suitable solvent and thereafter permitting the assembled slat to dry. In other cases the slat material may be softened by heat in order to effect a welding of the adjacent surfaces of the two strips.

While the use of a plastic material is preferred for the strips 30 and 32, it will be understood that this invention also contemplates the use of glass and other materials which could be suitably formed to the configuration of the strips and thereafter assembled in sealed relationship into the finished blind slat.

Referring again to Figure 2, an advantage of a blind slat constructed according to this invention will become apparent upon reference to the rounded ends 36 of the slats which lie in engagement with the tapes 16. This rounded edge, being perfectly smooth, inhibits wearing of the tapes as the blind is adjusted so that the blind retains its appearance and utility over a long period of use.

In the manufacture of the strips 30 and 32, I prefer that they be molded by any suitable process such as by the compression or injection molding

of plastics, but it will be understood that other methods, such as by extrusion, rolling or casting of materials in order to produce a strip of the desired configuration are within the scope of my invention.

A still further advantage to be gained from constructing the blind slat in halves according to this invention is that each half may be made from a material which is colored to blend with its surroundings. For example, several blinds could be placed at various windows in a house and all have the same color on the outside thereby to produce a uniform exterior appearance, while the insides of the blinds could be colored to match the particular decorative scheme of the room in which they were hung. Thus, without detracting from the exterior appearance of the house, blinds could be selected from a wide range of colors for internal decorative purposes.

While I prefer that blind slats constructed according to my invention be translucent in order to transmit light to the interior of the room, it will be understood that certain elements of this invention are not limited to the use of translucent strips. For example, the advantage of molding the slat in halves and thereafter assembling it in order to obtain the smooth rounded ends **36** obtains equally well whether the strips are translucent or opaque.

The convex side surfaces of the assembled slat is of advantage in connection with the transmission of light inasmuch as it prevents bright spots or strips of light from appearing on the interior surface of the blind. Rather, the light is emitted across the entire surface of each slat. The particular amount of light transmitted may be regulated by controlling the translucency of one or both of the strips **30**, **32**.

It will be understood that various modifications and arrangements in structure could be made without departing from the spirit of my invention and, accordingly, I desire to comprehend such modifications and substitutions of equivalents as may be considered to come within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a slat for Venetian blinds of symmetrical cross section constructed of two identical strips each of which consists of a body section having a convexly curved tip, said tips being joined to the body through only a portion of its cross sectional base width and having its unattached end terminating in a surface forming an internal angle with said body section, said body section terminating at the end opposite the curved tip in a surface forming an angle supplemental to that formed between the tip and body, the two strips being laid together with their complementary surfaces in contact and sealed along their contiguous edges.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a slat for Venetian blinds and the like having a relatively elongated configuration in cross section, with the end portions of said sections rounded and the side portions thereof convex, said slat comprising an identical pair of shaped strips, each of which consists of a body section having a semicircular tip, said tip being joined to the body through only a radius length of its base width and having its unattached end terminating in a surface forming an internal angle with said body section, said body section terminating at the end opposite the rounded tip in a surface forming an angle supplemental to that formed between the tip and body, the two strips being laid together with their complementary surfaces in engagement and the assembled slats being sealed completely along the edges to form a unitary structure.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a slat for Venetian blinds of symmetrical cross section constructed of two translucent strips of identical cross sectional configuration each strip being of different color and each of which consists of a body section having a convexly curved tip, said tips being joined to the body through only a portion of its cross sectional base width and having its unattached end terminating in a surface forming an internal angle with said body section, said body section terminating at the end opposite the curved tip in a surface forming an angle supplemental to that formed between the tip and body, the two strips being laid together with their complementary surfaces in contact and sealed along their contiguous edges.

JOHN WARD HOLLAND.

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