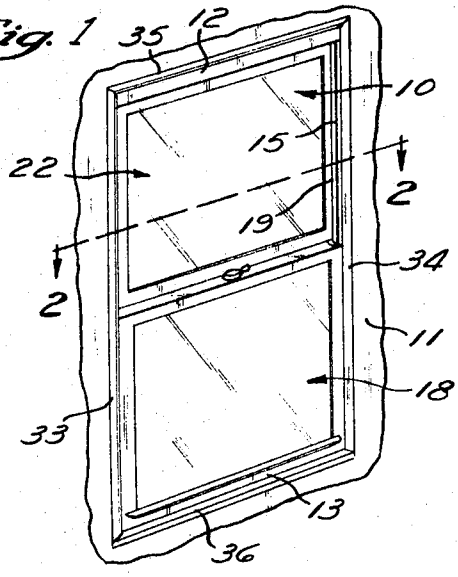
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PREASSEMBLED WINDOW UNIT

Filed May 17, 1967

Fig. 1



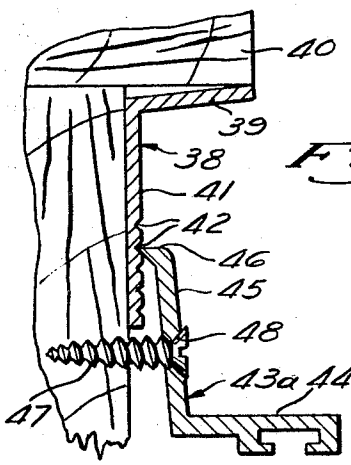


Fig. 3

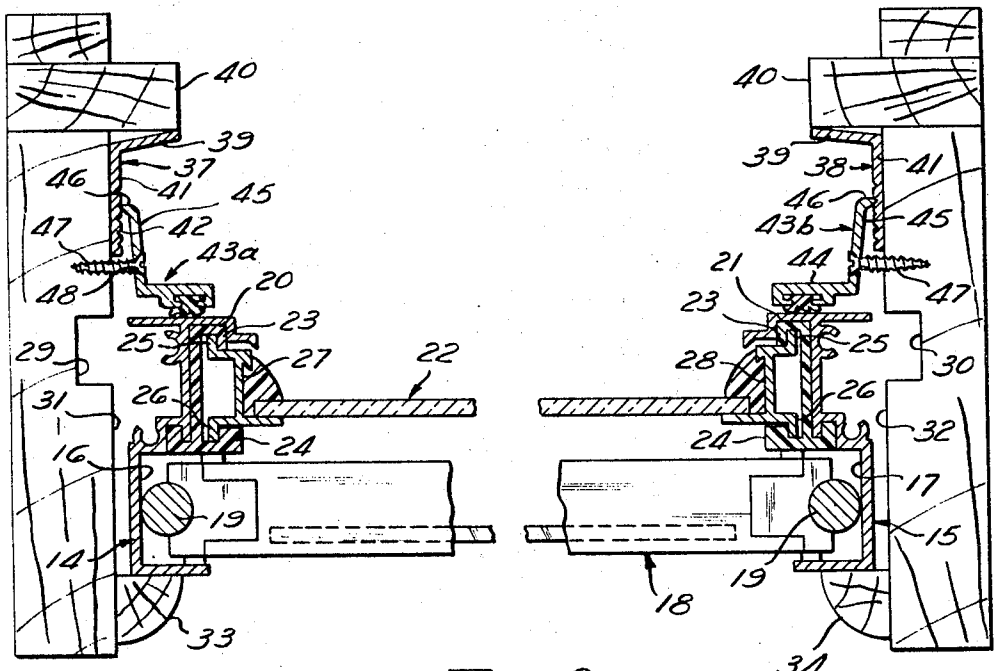


Fig. 2

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PREASSEMBLED WINDOW UNIT

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U.S. Cl. 49—457 5 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A window unit having side jamb members which are mounted against blind stops within a window opening by camming members which press the jamb members against the blind stops as the camming members are affixed to side members of the window opening. The jamb members are spaced from the side members of the window opening to permit expansion and/or contraction of the side members without affecting the alignment of the jambs. There is provided an interconnection between the jambs and a sash unit so that the sash unit retains the jambs in their pre-aligned condition.

Background of the invention

This invention relates to a pre-assembled window unit and, more particularly, to a prime window replacement unit. The invention is particularly suited for replacing wooden prime window units where the jamb members of the window opening are skewed or warped and are therefore not suited as guide tracks for replacement windows.

In prior art installations, the jamb members of the replacement unit are fastened to the side frame members of the window opening and if those side frame members are not parallel to each other, the replacement jambs become mis-aligned relative to their sash units. If the side frame members of the window opening are mis-aligned, therefore, the installer must employ care when the jamb members of the replacement unit are screwed to the frame members of the window opening. However, even when such care is employed, later shifting or warping of the side frame members of the window opening may pull the installed window jambs into a condition of mis-alignment.

Attempts have been made to overcome this problem by providing a prime window replacement unit having jambs which are spaced from the side frame members of the window opening. Such units, however, are installed by attaching a face portion of the jamb members of the replacement unit to one leg of an angle bracket and then fastening the other leg of the angle bracket to the side frame member of the window opening. Although such an arrangement facilitates the installation of a replacement window unit, later shifting or warping of the side frame members of the window opening pulls the jamb members of the replacement window out of alignment with respect to the window or screen sash members.

Summary

This invention overcomes many of these prior art problems, particularly those problems relating to post installation shifting of the side frame members of the window opening which tends to pull the jamb members of the replacement window out of alignment with their sash members. The invention contemplates an interlock between the jamb members and their sash units which minimizes mis-alignment of the jamb members during and after installation of the replacement unit. The invention further contemplates the provision of a retaining member which is adapted to retain a replacement window unit against a blind stop in the window opening without the necessity for a positive connection between the retaining member and the jamb members of the replacement unit. Such an arrangement permits shifting of the side frame members of the window opening and the window unit retaining means without a similar shifting of the jamb members of the replacement window unit.

Brief description of the drawings

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a replacement window unit mounted within a window opening according to this invention;

FIGURE 2 is a fragmentary cross sectional view, the plane of the section being indicated by the line 2—2 in FIGURE 1; and

FIGURE 3 is a fragmentary view of a portion of the arrangement illustrated in FIGURE 2, illustrating a unit retaining member according to this invention.

Description of the preferred embodiment

Referring now to the drawings, a prime window replacement unit **10** is illustrated. The unit **10** is mounted within window opening in a wall **11** and comprises a top frame member **12**, a bottom sill member **13**, and side jambs **14** and **15** which are connected at their ends to the top frame member **12** and the bottom sill member **13**. The jambs **14** and **15** are extruded sections having a first portion forming opposed tracks **16** and **17** respectively. A bottom window sash unit **18** is slidably mounted in the tracks **16** and **17** and conventional counterbalance members **19** may be provided to bias the unit **18** upwardly.

A second portion of each jamb **14** and **15** is provided with a sash guide track **20** and **21** respectively. The tracks **20** and **21** may be extruded sections of a suitable low friction plastic material to permit free vertical movement of a second window sash unit **22** and to thermally insulate the unit **22** from the jambs **14** and **15**. Each track **20** and **21** is provided with inwardly turned flanges **23** and **24** which cooperate with and retain outwardly turned flanges **25** and **26** which are provided on side rails **27** and **28** of the sash unit **22**.

The sash unit **22** is freely slidable in the tracks **20** and **21** and is retained in a raised position by detent means (not shown) provided on the sash unit **22** and cooperating with the tracks **20** and **21**.

The inwardly turned flanges **23** and **24** on the tracks **20** and **21** and the outwardly turned flanges **25** and **26** on the side rails **27** and **28** cooperate to retain the jambs **14** and **15** in parallel alignment prior to, during, and subsequent to the installation of the pre-assembled window unit **10** within a window opening.

The window replacement unit **10** is installed within a window opening by removing the wooden sash units from the opening and then removing the sash separating strips from their channels **29** and **30**. Each window unit **10** is designed so that the jamb-to-jamb dimension of each unit **10** is slightly less than the distance between side frame members **31** and **32** of the window opening. Side blind stop members **33** and **34** and top and bottom blind stop members **35** and **36** are temporarily removed from their nailed position within the window opening. The replacement unit **10** is then inserted within the window opening and the members **33–36** are nailed in place.

The window unit **10** is then pushed from the outside until the jambs **14** and **15** and the frame members **12** and **13** butt against the blind stops **33–36**. With the window unit **10** so positioned, a pair of spacer elements **37** and **38** are positioned against the members **31** and **32** respectively. The members **37** and **38** have a first leg **39** which butts against a storm window mounting strip **40** which is conventionally provided at the window opening. The members **37** and **38** are provided with a second leg **41** which engages the members **31** and **32**. Each leg **41** is

provided with vertical grooves **42** for a purpose which will hereinafter become apparent.

With the window unit abutting the blind stops **33–36** and with the members **37** and **38** in place, a pair of window unit retaining members **43***a* and **43***b* are installed in the following manner. Each retaining member **43***a* and **43***b* is provided with a first leg **44** which is butted against one of the jambs **14** and **15**. Each retaining member **43***a* and **43***b* further includes a second leg **45** having a pointed foot **46** which cooperates with one of the vertical grooves **42** in the leg **41** of the members **37** and **38**. A plurality of screws **47** are inserted through openings **48** in the leg **42** and are screwed into the members **31** and **32**. The legs **45** form an obtuse angle of more than 90° but less than 180° with respect to the legs **44** so that as the screws **47** force the legs **45** toward parallel alignment with respect to the members **31** and **32** the legs **44** are urged against the jambs **14** and **15** to thereby firmly clamp the jambs against the blind stops **33–36**. If desired, other similar retaining members (not shown) may be installed at the top and bottom portions of the window opening.

The invention is not restricted to the slavish imitation of the each and every detail set forth above. Obviously devices may be provided which change, eliminate, or add certain specific details without departing from the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A preassembled window unit mounted within a window opening comprising side jamb members having guide tracks therein, sash units mounted within said guide tracks, the side-to-side dimension of said jamb members being less than the horizontal width of the window opening, blind stop means extending vertically along the sides of the window opening and retaining one side edge of the jamb members within the window opening, retaining means for holding the other side edge of the jamb members within the window opening, said retaining means comprising a strip having an L-shaped cross section, said strip having a first leg engaging the jamb and a second leg extending along the window opening and away from said jamb, means extending through said second leg and into a wall of the window opening for fastening said second leg to the window opening, said first leg being urged into face-to-face engagement with the jamb by said fastening means as said second leg is fastened to said wall.

2. A preassembled window unit according to claim **1** wherein said first and second legs of said L-shaped strip define an angle greater than 90°.

3. A preassembled window unit according to claim **1** wherein said guide tracks and the vertical sides of at least one of the sash units form interlocking means for preventing outward lateral deflection of said jambs.

4. A preassembled window unit according to claim **3** wherein said interlocking means comprises an outwardly extending flange on the vertical side of one of said sash units and an inwardly extending flange on the guide track, said inwardly extending flange extending over said outwardly extending flange.

5. A panel unit mounted within a wall opening comprising blind stop means extending vertically along the sides of the wall opening and retaining one side edge of the panel within the wall opening, retaining means for holding the other side edge of the panel within the wall opening, said retaining means comprising a strip having an L-shaped cross section, said strip having a first leg engageable with the panel and a second leg extending along the wall opening and away from said panel, means extending through said second leg and into a wall of the wall opening for fastening said second leg to the wall opening, said first leg being urged into face-to-face engagement with the panel by said fastening means as said second leg is fastened to said wall.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

49—463, 505