June 6, 1944. J. C. McCARTHY 2,350,790

TRIM FOR PLUMBING FIXTURES

Filed July 31, 1941

Fig. 1

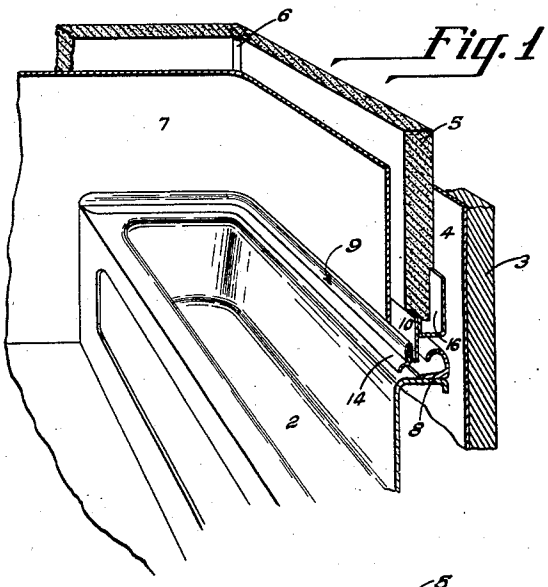



Fig. 5

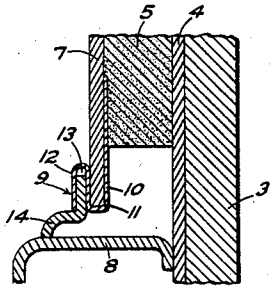



Fig. 3

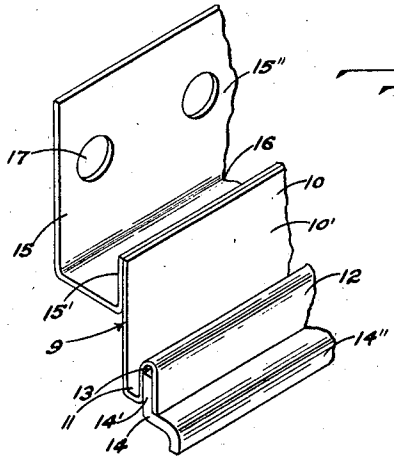
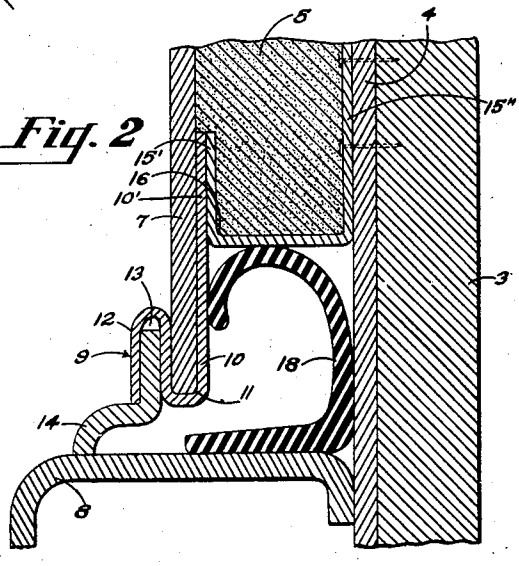



Fig. 2



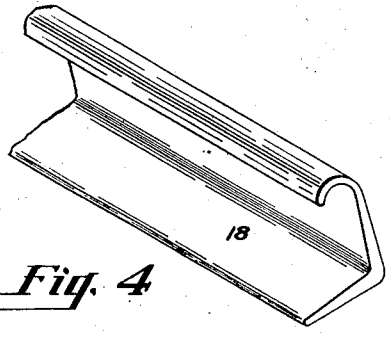




Fig. 4

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## TRIM FOR PLUMBING FIXTURES

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13 Claims. (Cl. 72—0.5)

This invention relates to decorative molding or trim for plumbing fixtures such as bathtubs, sinks, washtubs, lavatories or analogous articles and, more particularly, to a trim member for connecting or joining wall covering installed on the walls of a room and the rim or edge of a plumbing fixture in such manner as to obviate unsightly cracks or gaps therebetween and seepage or penetration of splashed water into the plaster and its subsequent infiltration into the backing of the wall covering and the adhesive used to secure it in place.

"Built-in" bathtubs, for example, as installed in dwellings or other buildings, are usually set into a nook in the bathroom and contact with the wall of the room on three sides, or they are located in the corner of the room and engage two walls of the room. In the installation of linoleum wall covering, such covering is adhesively secured to the plastered walls of the room and may extend to the rim of the bathtub. In some cases, the back surface of the covering adjacent the tub is covered with waterproof cement to prevent penetration of moisture to the back of the covering and subsequent deterioration of the covering. Linoleum type wall covering, of course, is composed of a thin layer of linoleum composition calendered on a woven fabric backing such as closely woven cotton sheeting.

It has been found when a tub is installed in a new house a substantially watertight joint can be formed by such means. However, as the structural members of the house or building expand or contract or when the house settles, the rim of the tub generally moves away from the wall covering and opens a considerable crack or gap between the tub and the covering. This is unsightly and detracts from the appearance of the installation as well as permits splashed water to seep or penetrate between the tub and the covering. Even though the rear surface at the edge of the wall covering be moisture resistant, because of the application of waterproof cement thereto in the installation of the covering, the plaster coating on the wall absorbs moisture and by capillary attraction transfers the absorbed moisture to the fabric backing of the wall covering. Absorption of moisture by the fabric backing deteriorates the wall covering with resulting loosening of the bond between it and the wall and in many cases seriously affects the complete installation requiring replacement of the wall covering.

The chief object of my invention is to provide a decorative trim member for connecting or joining linoleum wall covering installed on the walls of a room and the edge or rim of a plumbing fixture such as a bathtub, sink, washtub, lavatory or analogous article disposed adjacent thereto. An object of my invention is to provide means to eliminate or conceal unsightly gaps or cracks between the tub and the wall covering created by settling of the structure. A further object is to provide a substantially watertight joint between the installed wall covering and the rim of the tub. A still further object is to provide a joint construction between the rim of built-in bathtubs and the lower edge of installed linoleum wall covering which is effective to eliminate the objectionable appearance created by settling of the tub after the installation is completed and which serves to prevent penetration of water to the back of the covering. A still further object is to provide a trim member for bathtubs which is economical, easily and quickly installed, and which contains an element movable to conceal or hide any gap or crack between the rim of the tub and the installed wall covering.

This invention relates to a trim member for plumbing fixtures which comprises a web having a recess therein adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of a wall covering and a socket for the reception of a fixture engaging member, and a fixture-engaging member secured in said socket. Preferably the fixture-engaging member is frictionally held in the socket and is movable downwardly to conceal any gap or crack between the rim of the tub and the wall covering while it is so retained in the socket.

This invention further relates to a building construction which comprises, in combination, a plumbing fixture having a rim around its upper end, wall covering adhesively secured to the plastered wall of a room and spaced from the fixture, and a trim member disposed between and substantially closing the space between the fixture and the wall covering. The trim member comprises a web having a recess which receives the edge of the wall covering and a socket for the reception of a fixture engaging member, and a fixture engaging member frictionally retained in the socket and engaging the fixture. Preferably, a gasket is provided in the structure disposed rearwardly of the fixture engaging member and compressed between the rim of the fixture and the web, sealing the space therebetween to prevent penetration of splashed water rearwardly of the tub.

The attached drawing illustrates a preferred embodiment of my invention, in which

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of a

room having a wall covered with linoleum wall covering and a built-in bathtub connected and joined by the trim member of my invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional view in exaggerated scale of the building construction, illustrating the use of the trim member;

Figure 3 is an isometric view of the trim member;

Figure 4 is an isometric view of the gasket used to seal the building structure; and

Figure 5 is a sectional view, similar to Figure 2, illustrating the use of a modified form of trim member.

Referring to the drawing, there is shown in Figure 1 a built-in bathtub 2 placed in a corner of a room adjacent two walls of the room. It will be understood, of course, the tub 2 may be disposed in a nook in a room and thus engage three walls of the room. Generally, suitable studding 3 is provided to form supporting framework for the wall, which may be composed of plaster lath or plasterboard 4; a layer or coating of plaster 5 is placed thereover and forms the exposed surface of the wall prior to the application of the wall covering. The corners of the room may be rounded by means of fillet strips 6 composed of any suitable material. Linoleum like wall covering 7 is adhesively bonded to the plaster coating 5 and forms the decorative wall covering; the covering 7 extends adjacent, but not in contact with the upper edge or rim 8 of the tub 2, leaving an open space or gap therebetween. Disposed between the edge of the wall covering 7 and the rim 8 of the tub 2 is a trim member 9 which serves to fill the space between the covering and the rim of the tub and enhances the appearance of the finished installation. The member 9 may be formed of any suitable material which is water resistant, noncorrosive, and which may be economically and quickly shaped to desired form; preferably those portions of the trim member 9 exposed to view are formed of stainless steel, while those portions not exposed to view may be formed of a cheaper material such as cold rolled steel or, if desired, member 9 may be molded of any suitable plastic composition.

Trim member 9 comprises a web 10 which extends downwardly, outwardly and upwardly forming a channel or recess 11 adapted to receive the edge of wall covering 7. A flange 12 extends outwardly and downwardly from the web 10 and forms, in combination with the outer wall of the channel or recess 11, a socket 13 for the reception of a fixture engaging member 14. The flange 12 preferably is integrally united with the web 10. A second plate or flange 15 extends downwardly, inwardly and upwardly and forms a channel 16 for the reception of plaster coating 5. The downwardly extending wall 15' of the channel 16 and the downwardly extending portion 10' of web 10 are secured together by any suitable means, preferably, by electric welding or riveting. The upwardly extending backing portion 15'' of plate 15 contains a plurality of openings 17 to aid in bonding plaster in the channel 16 and is adapted to be nailed to the supporting framework of the wall to retain the trim member in predetermined position in the structure. The downwardly extending portion 10' of the web 7, which forms the rear wall of the recess 11, may be deformed by embossing, corrugating, or the like, if desired, to assist in bonding the linoleum wall covering in the recess.

Fixture engaging member 14 comprises an upper portion 14' adapted to be disposed within the socket 13 and to be retained therein by a frictional or force fit. The lower portion 14'' of member 10 is curved outwardly and downwardly and is adapted to engage the rim of the plumbing fixture 2. Member 14 is movable downwardly when the structure is in use to engage the rim of the plumbing fixture while frictionally retained in socket 13 and thus may be moved downwardly to conceal any crack or gap between the trim member and the tub created by settling of the tub or expansion and contraction of the structural members of the house.

The edge of the linoleum wall covering 7 disposed in the channel or recess 11 in the member 9 preferably is coated or embedded in a layer of waterproof cement to prevent direct access of splashed water to the backing of the covering. The recess 11 is so designed as to prevent the layer of cement being noticeable and hence it does not detract from the appearance of the finished installation.

A gasket 18 is disposed between the trim member 9 and the rim 8 of the tub 2 to seal the space therebetween and thus prevent penetration of splashed water rearwardly of the tub and its infiltration into the plaster coating and the backing of the wall covering. The gasket 18 is flanged as shown in Figure 4 and may be formed of rubber, artificial rubber or other flexible, resilient, water resistant material.

To aid in a full and complete understanding of my invention, I will describe the construction of a completed installation. Tub 2 is disposed in desired position, as shown in a corner of a room adjacent to a wall, although as previously discussed, it may be placed in a nook in a room in which case it would be adjacent three walls of the room. Gasket 18 is adhesively secured to the rear portion of the rim 8 of tub 2 as shown in Figures 1 and 2. Trim member 9 is secured in position with member 14 against the rim of the tub 2 and is fastened in such position by any suitable means; for example, member 9 may be nailed or bolted to the wall supporting framework of the room. Member 14 is disposed tightly against the fixture to ensure the maximum movement downwardly in the event the fixture settles. Trim member 9 is disposed, preferably, in such position that the lower wall of the plaster channel 16 engages and deforms or compresses gasket 18 to some extent; it will be understood the gasket may be placed between some other portion of member 9 and the rim 8 of the tub 2 since all that is required is that it seal the opening or space between the covering 5 and the rim of tub 2 to prevent seepage of splashed water rearwardly of the tub. That is, gasket 18 may be disposed in the structure rearwardly of the fixture engaging member and may be deformed between the rim 8 of tub 2 and any suitable portion of the trim 9 thus securely sealing the space therebetween and preventing penetration of water rearwardly of tub 2. Plaster coating 5 is then spread on the walls of the room and extends into and fills plaster channel 16 formed by plate 15 of member 9. It will be noted plaster coating 5 is spaced from the rim 8 of tub 2 which aids in preventing penetration of splashed water into the coating; it is also protected by the sheathing formed by plate 15. When the plaster coating 5 has dried to a suitable extent, the wall is in condition to receive the linoleum like wall covering 7. A layer of suitable adhesive is spread over the plaster layer 5 and the linoleum wall covering 7 is disposed thereon and is bonded to

the wall thereby. The lower edge of wall covering 7 fits into and nests in the channel or recess 11 in member 9 thus concealing it from view. Preferably, such edge of the linoleum wall covering 7 is embedded or covered with waterproof cement to obviate any possibility of direct penetration of water to the fabric backing of the covering and, if desired, such recess may be substantially filled with waterproof cement. The installation is now complete and ready for use. Fixture 14 is retained in the socket 13 of member 9 solely by forces of friction and may, of course, be moved downwardly to a further extent to close any gap or crack created by settling of the tub in use.

In Figure 5, I have shown a modified form of my invention particularly adapted for use in existing structures to eliminate unsightly gaps between the wall covering 7 and the rim 8 of the plumbing fixture. Trim member 9 is generally similar to that shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3 but does not include plate 15 forming a plaster receiving channel. Likewise, if desired, the gasket 18 may be omitted from the structure, the plaster coating 5 being preferably spaced from the rim 8 of the plumbing fixture to prevent infiltration of splashed water thereinto. Trim member 9 may be nailed through the plaster lath or plasterboard 4 to the wall supporting studding 3. Trim 9 comprises web 10 forming recess 11 for the reception of wall covering 8, and socket 13 for the reception of fixture engaging member 14 held therein by a frictional or force fit. Member 9 is secured in place in the structure and member 14 moved downwardly to engage rim 8 of the plumbing fixture thus concealing the gap or crack between the covering 7 and the rim 8 of the fixture.

Suitable snap-on fastenings or end stops may be provided to conceal the ends of the trim member, although this is generally not necessary since such ends are preferably shaped to present an attractive appearance. The trim member may be suitably curved around corners if desired but it is preferred to provide suitable corner members adapted to receive or engage an end of the trim member.

It will be understood plaster coatings may be omitted if desired and the trim member and wall covering installed adjacent or to the wall or building board. In such case, of course, the plate forming a plaster receiving channel may be omitted from the trim member.

While I have described my invention with particular reference to its use with linoleum wall covering, it will be observed it is also of advantage in connection with installation of similar or other types of wall covering such as ceramic tiling, decorated fiber or wallboard or the like in new or existing structures and enhances the appearance of the structure in which such coverings are used.

My invention provides a trim member for plumbing fixtures which adequately and satisfactorily closes the space between the rim of the fixture and the wall covering. Any crack or gap created by settling of the fixture may be closed merely by moving the fixture engaging member downwardly. The joint between the covering and the fixture is sealed to prevent penetration of splashed water rearwardly of the fixture. The plaster coating is spaced from the rim of the fixture which prevents infiltration of water therein and its subsequent transfer by capillary attraction to the back of the wall covering. The trim member of my invention permits an attractive installation to be obtained and effectively prevents deterioration of the covering by splashed water and the subsequent failure of the installation. It is inexpensive in manufacture and may be quickly and easily installed by unskilled workmen.

While I have described and illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood my invention is not limited thereto since it may be otherwise embodied within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A trim member for plumbing fixtures comprising a web extending downwardly, outwardly, and upwardly forming a recess for the reception of the edge of a wall covering, a plate extending downwardly, inwardly and upwardly forming a plaster receiving channel, the downwardly extending portions of said plate and said web being secured to one another, a flange extending outwardly and downwardly from the upwardly extending portion of said web and forming therewith a socket for the reception of a fixture engaging member, and a fixture engaging member frictionally retained in said socket, said member having a convex portion adapted to engage the fixture and being movable to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket.

2. In a building construction, the combination of a plumbing fixture having a rim around its upper end, wall covering adhesively secured to the plastered wall of a room and spaced from said fixture, and a trim member disposed between and substantially closing the space between the fixture and the wall covering, said member comprising a web extending downwardly, outwardly, and upwardly forming a recess which receives the edge of the wall covering, a plate extending downwardly, inwardly and upwardly forming a plaster receiving channel, the downwardly extending portions of said plate and said web being secured to one another, a flange extending outwardly and downwardly from the upwardly extending portion of said web and forming therewith a socket for the reception of a fixture engaging member, a fixture engaging member frictionally retained in said socket, said member having an arcuate portion adapted to engage the fixture and being movable with respect to the fixture while it is frictionally held in said socket, and a gasket disposed rearwardly of said fixture engaging member and compressed between the rim of the fixture and the plate sealing the space therebetween thereby preventing access of splashed water to the plastered wall of the room and subsequent infiltration thereof to the back of the wall covering.

3. A building construction according to claim 2 in which the gasket is adhesively secured to the rim of the plumbing fixture.

4. A trim member for plumbing fixtures comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of a wall covering, a flange extending from one of the walls of the channel shaped to define, in combination with said wall, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, and a fixture-engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with a plumbing fixture.

5. A trim member for plumbing fixtures comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge

of a wall covering, a flange extending from one of the walls of the channel shaped to define, in combination with said wall, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, and a fixture-engaging member secured in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with a plumbing fixture, said member being movable outwardly to engage the fixture while secured in said socket.

6. A trim member for plumbing fixtures comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of the wall covering, a flange extending from one of the walls of the channel shaped to define in combination with said wall, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, and a fixture engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with a plumbing fixture, said member being movable outwardly to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket.

7. A trim member for plumbing fixtures comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of a wall covering, a flange extending from one of the walls of the channel shaped to define, in combination with said wall, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, a fixture-engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with a plumbing fixture, said member being movable outwardly to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket, and a plaster receiving channel-shaped member secured to the opposite wall of the first-named channel and opening in the same direction as said first-named channel.

8. A trim member for plumbing fixtures comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of a wall covering, a flange extending from one of the walls of the channel shaped to define, in combination with said wall, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, a fixture engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with a plumbing fixture, said member being movable outwardly to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket, and a plate forming a plaster receiving channel, said plate extending from the other wall of said first-named channel, said plaster receiving channel opening in the same direction as said first-named channel.

9. A trim member for plumbing fixtures comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of a wall covering, a flange extending from one of the walls of the channel shaped to define, in combination with said wall, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, a fixture engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with a plumbing fixture, said member being movable outwardly to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket, said member including a socket engaging portion and an arcuate portion extending therefrom adapted to engage the fixture, and a plate forming a plaster-receiving channel, said plate being secured to the other wall of said first-named channel, said plaster receiving channel opening in the same direction as said first-named channel.

10. In a building construction, the combination of a plumbing fixture having a rim around its upper end, wall covering adhesively secured to the wall of the room and spaced from said fixture, and a trim member disposed between and substantially closing the space between said fixture and the wall covering, said member comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of the wall covering, a flange extending from one of the walls of the channel shaped to define, in combination with said wall, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, and a fixture-engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with the plumbing fixture.

11. In a building construction, the combination of a plumbing fixture having a rim around its upper end, wall covering adhesively secured to the wall of the room and spaced from said fixture, and a trim member disposed between and substantially closing the space between said fixture and the wall covering, said member comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of the wall covering, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, and a fixture-engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with the plumbing fixture, said member being movable outwardly to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket.

12. In a building construction, the combination of a plumbing fixture having a rim around its upper end, wall covering adhesively secured to the plaster wall of a room and spaced from the rim of said fixture, and a trim member disposed between and substantially closing the space between the fixture and the wall covering, said member comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of the wall covering, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, and a fixture-engaging member frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with the plumbing fixture, said member being movable to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket, and a gasket disposed rearwardly of said fixture engaging member and between the rim of said fixture and a portion of said trim member sealing the space therebetween to prevent access of splashed water to the plastered wall of the room and subsequent infiltration to the back of the wall covering.

13. In a building construction, the combination of a plumbing fixture having a rim around its upper end, wall covering adhesively secured to the plaster wall of a room and spaced from the rim of said fixture, and a trim member disposed between and substantially closing the space between the fixture and the wall covering, said member comprising an elongated channel-shaped web member adapted to receive and to conceal the edge of the wall covering, a socket opening in a direction opposite the direction of said channel, and a fixture-engaging member

frictionally retained in said socket throughout the length thereof and extending outwardly from said socket for engagement with the plumbing fixture, said member being movable to engage the fixture while frictionally held in said socket, and a gasket disposed rearwardly of said fixture-engaging member and compressed between the rim of said fixture and a portion of said trim member sealing the space therebetween to prevent access of splashed water to the plastered wall of the room and subsequent infiltration to the back of the wall covering.

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