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J. L. KNIGHT

2,265,693

REFRIGERATOR CABINET GASKET

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Fig. 1.

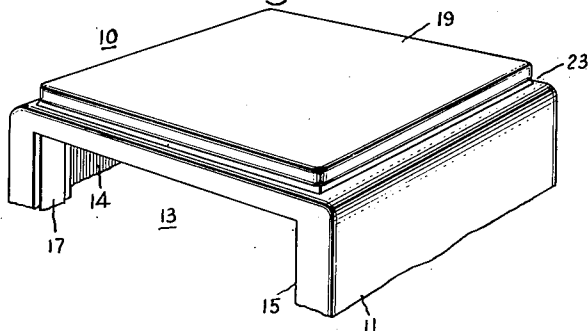


Fig. 2.

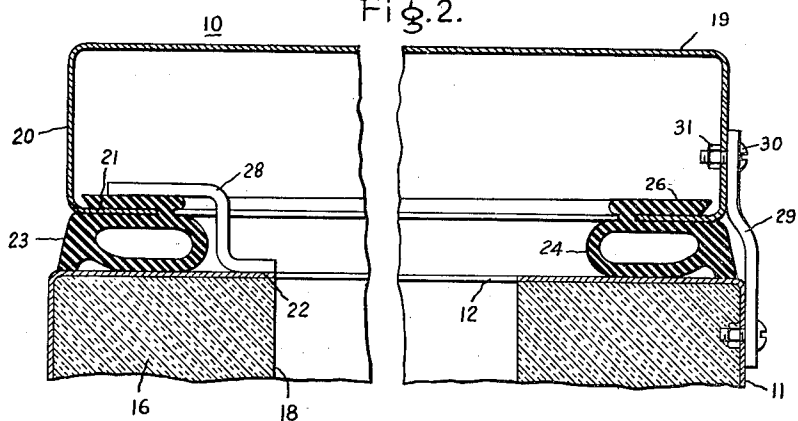
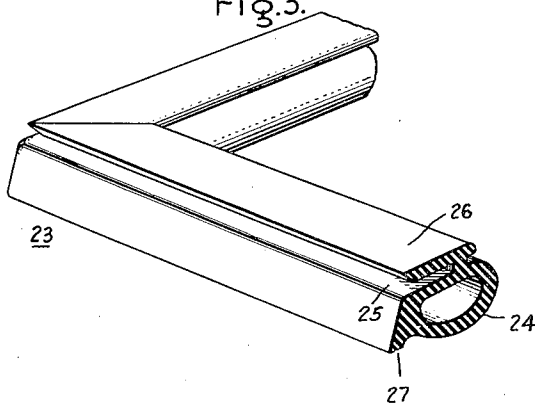


Fig. 3.



Inventor:
James L. Knight,
by *Harry E. Dunham*
His Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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REFRIGERATOR CABINET GASKET

James L. Knight, Erie, Pa., assignor to General Electric Company, a corporation of New York

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5 Claims. (Cl. 288-22)

My invention relates to refrigerators and more particularly to sealing means adapted for use in refrigerator cabinets.

The objects and advantages of my invention will become apparent as the following description proceeds and the features of novelty which characterize my invention will be pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this specification.

For a better understanding of my invention reference may be had to the accompanying drawing in which Fig. 1 is a perspective partial view of a refrigerator cabinet embodying the principles of my invention; Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view, partly broken away, of the refrigerator cabinet shown in Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is an enlarged partial perspective view of the sealing member or gasket shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Referring to the drawing, in Fig. 1 I have shown a refrigerator cabinet 10 embodying my invention. The cabinet includes an outer sheet metal casing or shell 11 having an opening 12 in the top wall thereof. The cooling or food storage compartment 13 is provided with an open-top inner liner 14 defining the bottom and side walls thereof. An opening 15 is provided in the front wall of the cabinet which is closed by a suitable heat insulated door, not shown. The space between the liners or casings 11 and 14 is filled with suitable heat insulation 16 and the space between the edges of the liners is closed by breaker strips 17 of suitable thermally resistant material. The upper portion of the heat insulation 16 surrounding the opening in the top of the cabinet may be covered by a moisture-proofed cloth band 18 in order to retard absorption of moisture by the insulating material. The food storage compartment 13 is designed to be cooled by a cooling element, not shown, inserted through the opening 12 in the top wall of the cabinet 10. A sheet metal cover 19 is provided to cover the cooling unit and the heat insulation placed in the top wall and is constructed with a downwardly extending peripheral flange 20 having an intumed portion 21 at the marginal edge thereof.

I have provided means for sealing the space between the flange 21 and the intumed flange 22 of the outer casing 11 in order to minimize further the entry of moisture into the heat insulation. This means takes the form of a gasket 23 of resilient material, such as rubber, having a hollow striking bead 24, one face 25 thereof being substantially flat. In order to retain or secure the gasket to the intumed portion 21 I have provided a lip 26 attached to the flat side or portion

25 and which extends substantially parallel thereto, thereby providing a recess for receiving the intumed portion 21 of the cover 19. The parts are preferably so dimensioned that there is frictional engagement on both sides of the portion 21.

There is provided a tangentially disposed portion 27 of resilient material, such as rubber, preferably integral with the gasket 23 and located at the outer edge thereof. This portion may slant or extend outwardly a small amount and is preferably thick enough to render the outer edge of the gasket relatively inflexible compared to the striking bead in order to minimize buckling under compression. The portion 27 is made substantially shorter than the minor axis of the generally elliptical striking bead 24 or, in other words, the length of the portion 27 is less than the thickness of the striking bead in the unstressed condition thereof whereby the portion 27 serves to limit to some extent the amount of compression possible in connection with the striking bead 24. The provision of the portion 27 tends more accurately to space the cover from the main portion of the cabinet so that the pressure on the gasket is evenly distributed. This construction also prevents excessive compression of the gasket thereby providing a gasket of increased length of life. Furthermore, by providing the portion 27 with a substantially flat outer surface, the appearance of the assembled cover and cabinet is improved.

The front edge of the cover 19 is held in place by members 28 suitably secured as by welding at one end to the flange 22 and engaging at the other end the lip 26 of the gasket. The rear edge of the cover is held in place by bracket members 29 suitably secured as by means of threaded fastening members 30 engaging correspondingly threaded nuts 31 secured to the inner surfaces of the cover and outer casing, respectively, as by welding, for example.

While I have shown a particular embodiment of my invention, I do not desire my invention to be limited to the particular construction shown and described and I intend in the appended claims to cover all modifications within the spirit and scope of my invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A gasket for refrigerator cabinets and the like, comprising a hollow striking bead of resilient material, and an integral portion of resilient material disposed tangentially of the outer edge of the bead, the length of the portion in the direction of the thickness of said bead being less

than the thickness of the bead in the unstressed condition thereof, and said portion having a substantially flat outer face.

2. A gasket for refrigerator cabinets and the like, comprising a hollow striking bead of resilient material and an integral portion disposed tangentially of the outer edge of said bead in the direction of the thickness of said bead, said portion having a substantially flat outer face. 5

3. A gasket for refrigerator cabinets and the like, comprising a hollow striking bead of resilient material, and an integral portion of resilient material tangential to the outer edge of the bead and extending substantially in the direction of the thickness of the bead, the length of said portion being substantially less than the thickness of said bead in the unstressed condition thereof. 10

4. A gasket for refrigerator cabinets and the like, comprising a hollow striking bead of resilient material, and an integral portion of re- 15

silient material tangential to the outer edge of said bead, the length of said portion being substantially less than the thickness of said bead in the unstressed condition thereof, said portion being of greater thickness than the wall of the bead.

5. A gasket for refrigerator cabinets and the like, comprising a hollow striking bead of resilient material having a flat side, and an integral portion of resilient material disposed tangential to the outer edge of said bead, a retaining portion projecting from said flat side and extending substantially parallel thereto, thereby providing a recess along one side of the gasket for the reception of the member to which the gasket is to be retained, the length of said integral portion in the direction of the thickness of said bead being substantially less than the thickness of said bead in the unstressed condition thereof. 20

JAMES L. KNIGHT.