

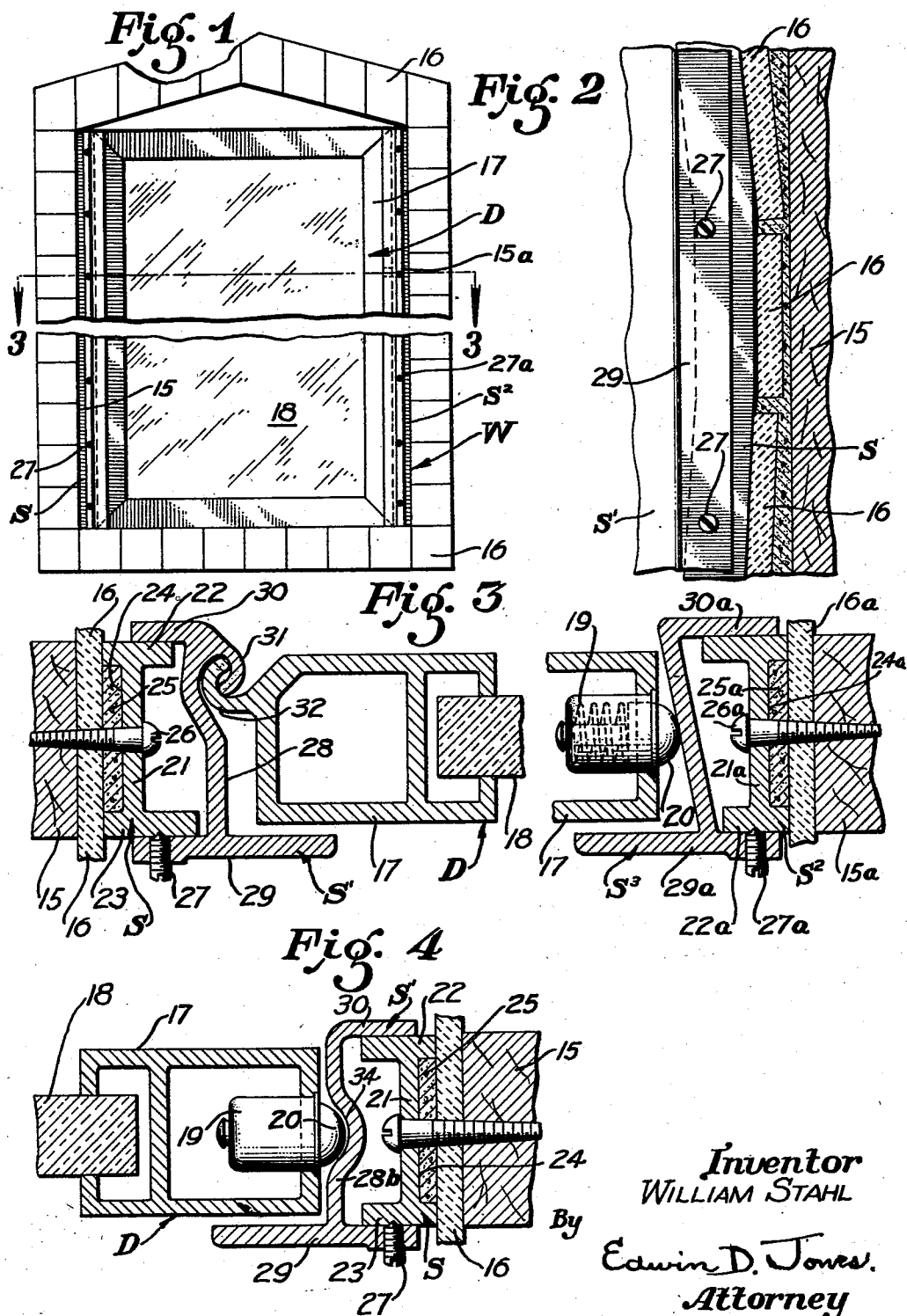
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ADJUSTABLE JAMB FOR SHOWER STALL DOORS

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## ADJUSTABLE JAMB FOR SHOWER STALL DOORS

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My invention relates to doors for shower stalls and the like, and wherein is frequently encountered the difficulty of hanging the door properly in the doorway so that it is movable without binding to open and closed positions, and of properly closing the doorway when in closed position. Such difficulty and the attendant disadvantages arise from two causes. First, that the doorway may be so built that it is not of uniform width from top to bottom, and hence its side walls are not parallel and vertical. Consequently, a door having parallel side edges cannot be properly hung in the irregularly shaped doorway. Second, that although the doorway may be built with parallel sides, when applying tiling as in shower stall doorways, frequently the tile pieces are irregularly laid, thus, producing an undulated surface and thereby destroying the parallelism of the finished sides of the doorway.

It is a purpose of my invention to cure the first of the above-recited causes by the provision of at least one door jamb, but preferably two, either one or both of which is adjustable to compensate for variation in width of a doorway and in such manner that the doorway is rendered uniform in width to allow proper hanging of the door.

It is also a purpose of my invention to provide a two part door jamb having a fixed part adapted to be secured to one vertical tile wall of the doorway, which is of sufficient flexibility to permit conformation thereof to the tiled surface, if irregular, so as to lie contiguous to such surface throughout its length, and thus form a closed joint between the two; and a rigid and straight part secured adjustably on the flexible part to provide a straight and vertical edge for the jamb.

A further purpose of my invention is the provision of a door jamb having formed therein a keeper for a door latch and where the keeper is effective to co-act with the latch to retain the door in closed position irrespective of any sagging of the door.

I will describe only two forms of door jambs embodying my invention, and will then point out the novel features thereof in claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view showing in front inside elevation the doorway and door of a shower stall, and two forms of door jambs applied to the doorway and embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing in outside elevation one of the jambs.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view similar to Fig. 3 showing a modified form of a latch keeper embodying my invention.

In Fig. 1, I have shown a doorway W of a shower stall looking from the inside thereof, and with a door D in closed position in the doorway. As shown in Fig. 3, the side walls 15 and 15a of the doorway are covered with tile 16 and 16a respectively, and it is against the tiled surfaces of these side walls that door jambs are secured, one for hingedly mounting the door D thereon, and the other as an abutment and latch-keeper for the door.

The door D is of conventional construction in that it embodies a metallic frame 17 of rectangular form spanned by a plate of glass 18. The frame at one free vertical edge is provided with a spring-pressed latch 19 having a rounded latching element 20 for engagement with the abutment jamb to retain the door in closed position, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The door mounting jamb comprises a wall strip S made of metal and having a web 21 provided at one edge with a narrow flange 22 and at the other edge with a wide flange 23, the two flanges extending a short distance to the left of the web (Fig. 3) to form a groove 24 on that side of the web in which a suitable sealing plastic 25 is received for sealing the joint between the strip and the tile 16 when applied to the latter.

As shown in Fig. 3, the strip S is secured against the tile 16 by screws 26 extending through the tile and into the wall 15. The tile 16 are seldom laid so as to form an even surface for the side of the doorway, they usually presenting an undulated or irregular surface, as illustrated in Fig. 2. In consequence, if a jamb comprising only on a single strip is employed, either gaps are left between the tile and the strip, or the strip is so distorted that it no longer provides a straight edge upon which the door may be properly hung.

In my invention the strip is constructed with sufficient flexibility to cause it to readily conform to irregularities in the surface of the tile to the extent of insuring a water-tight joint between the tile and strip through the use of the plastic 25. The door hanging jamb also includes a second strip S' secured to the strip S and upon which the door is directly hung. This strip S' is also formed of metal but is inflexible and so associated with the strip S as to be adjustable transverse-

ly thereon to assume a truly vertical position in which it may be permanently secured by the use of fastening elements, such as the set screws 27.

The door hanging strip S' comprises a web 28 having an inner flange 29 and an outer flange 30. The spacing of these flanges is such as to slidably embrace the outer sides of the flanges 23 and 22 and to thereby permit the strip S' to be adjusted transversely on the strip S. The set screws 27 are threaded in the flange 29 so that their pointed inner ends bite into the flange 23 when screwed home following adjustment of the strip S' to a vertical position, and thereby maintaining the strip in vertical position.

Thus it becomes apparent that whether the wall strip S is distorted from a straight edge by the unevenly laid tile, or the tile is evenly laid to present a flat surface or because in building the doorway the side wall 15 is not vertical so that the flat surface of the tile cannot be vertical by the use and proper adjustment of my two strip jamb, the strip S' will present a vertical edge to the door D for the proper hanging of the door thereon.

In the present instance I have shown a hinge of the type embodied in my United States Patent Number 2,136,729 issued November 15, 1938, for mounting the door D on the jamb, although it will be understood that any suitable form of hinge may be employed. One tongue 31 of the hinge is formed integral with the web 28, while the other tongue 32 is made integral with one vertical part of the door frame 17. Thus when the two hinge tongues engage each other as shown in Fig. 3, the door is hingedly mounted on the jamb strip S', and by reason of the adjustment of such strip to a vertical position, the door is properly hung to swing freely to open and closed positions.

The abutment jamb at the other side of the doorway is likewise made up of two strips, one strip S<sup>2</sup> being of the same construction as the wall strip S for the door mounting jamb but secured to the side wall 15a of the doorway with its narrow flange 22a to the inner side of the stall. The parts of this wall strip S<sup>2</sup> and the screws have been designated in the drawings by the same numerals as used for the same parts and screws of the door hanging jamb, except the exponent a has been applied. This is also true of the parts of the strip S<sup>3</sup> and the fastening elements.

The strip S<sup>3</sup> although mounted on the strip S<sup>2</sup> for transverse adjustment to assume a vertical position, differs from the strip S' in its construction of web. As shown in Fig. 3, the web 28a extends diagonally between the flanges 22a and 23a for the entire length of the strip. This construction of web provides a keeper for the latch element 20 which is effective to frictionally retain the door in closed position irrespective of

at what point along the length of the web the latch element engages. Thus should the door for any reason sag after initial hanging so as to change the vertical position of the latching element, the latter will still be effective to latch the door in closed position.

In Fig. 4, I have shown a modified form of web 28b for co-action with the latch element 20 to retain the door in closed position irrespective of variation in vertical position of the element as a result of sagging of the door. In this instance the web 28b is formed with a longitudinally extending groove 34 in which the latch element 20 is received.

In the two forms of door jambs the flanges 29 and 29a are of such width as to overlap the sides of the door frame when the door is in closed position to span the joints between the jambs and door against the passage of water outwardly of the stall. The flanges 29a have the added function of forming an abutment for the door to limit its inward swinging movement.

By the provision in my invention of two jamb structures both of which are transversely adjustable, either or both may be adjusted as the occasion may require to compensate for any variation in width of the doorway, or to lessen the width of the doorway to accommodate an off size door, and that in either event either rigid and straight strip S' or S<sup>3</sup> presents a truly vertical jamb upon which the door may be hung or a vertical or parallel abutment for the door.

Although I have herein shown and described only two forms of door jambs embodying my invention, it is to be understood that various changes and modifications may be made herein without departing from the spirit of my invention and the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A door jamb, comprising; a strip having spaced flanges; a second strip having spaced flanges between which the said flanges of the first mentioned strip are received to allow adjustment of said second strip laterally on the first strip; and fastening elements carried by one of said flanges of the second strip and engaging the confronting flange of the first mentioned strip for securing the second strip in adjusted position laterally on the first strip.

2. A door jamb, comprising; a strip having spaced flanges; a second strip having spaced flanges between which the said flanges of the first mentioned strip are received to allow adjustment of said second strip laterally on the first strip; and screws at intervals along the length of one of the flanges of the second strip, each screw having a pointed end and threaded in said flange to cause the pointed end to bite into the confronting flange of the first mentioned strip.

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