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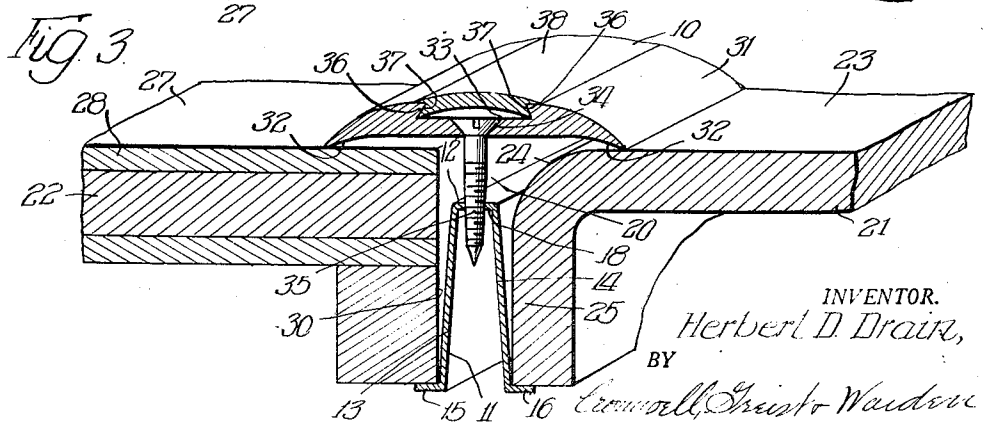
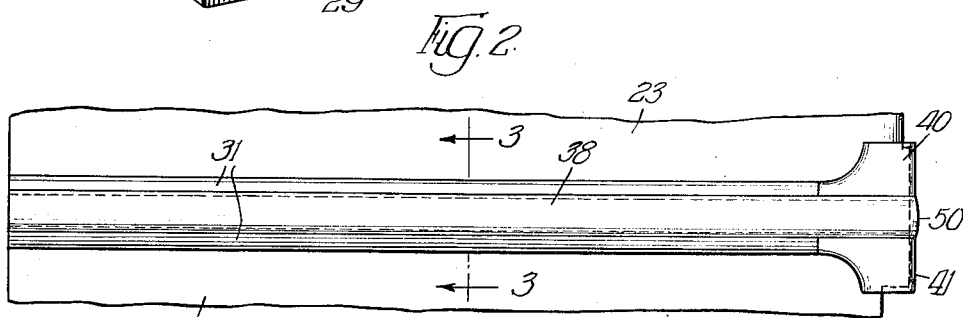
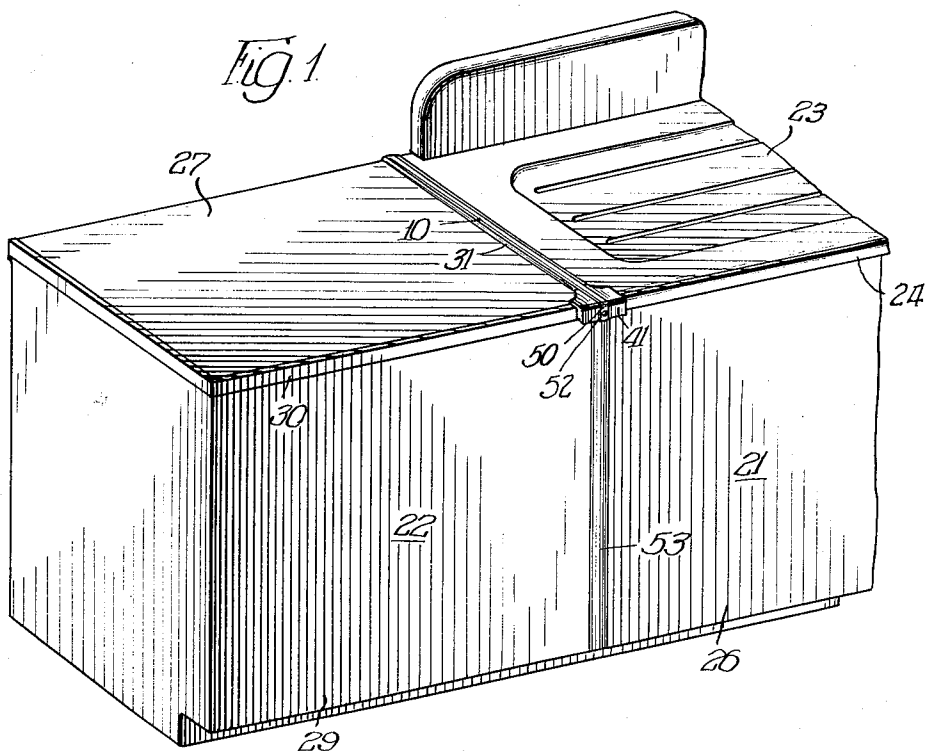
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2,599,322

TRIM CONNECTING ASSEMBLY

Filed July 1, 1949

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1



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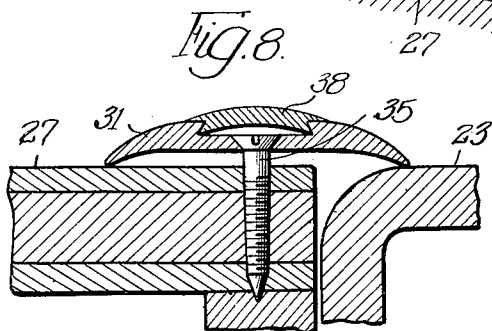
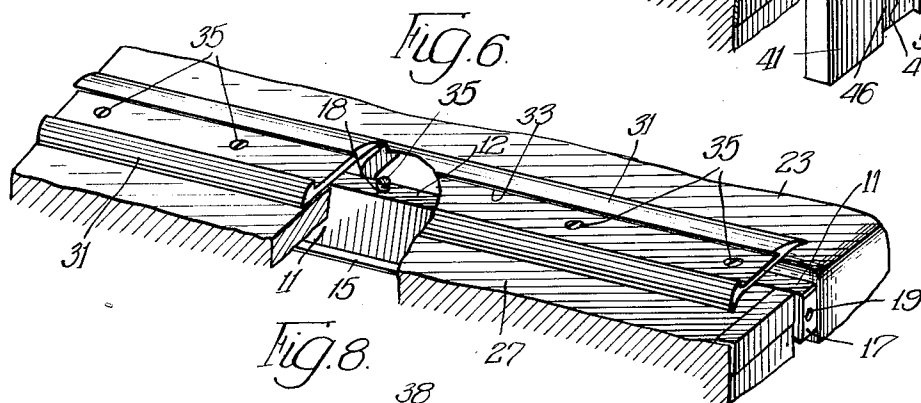
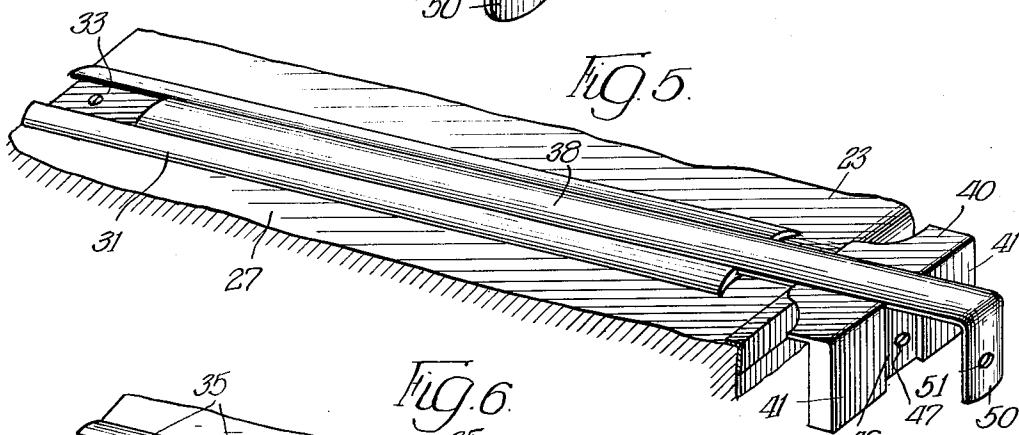
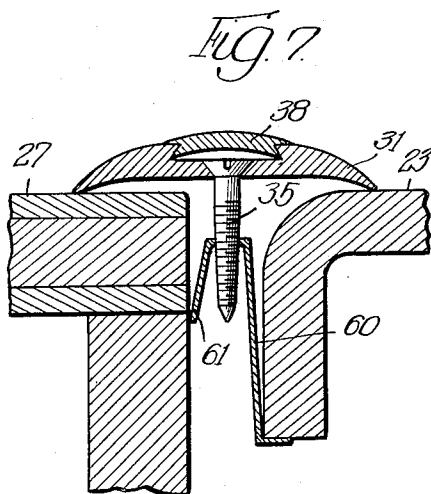
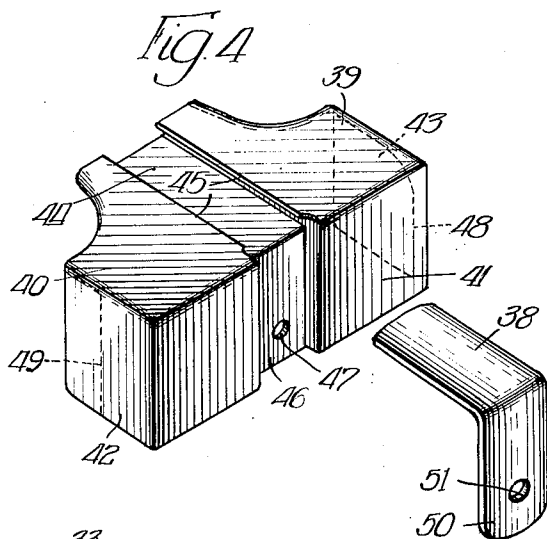
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TRIM CONNECTING ASSEMBLY

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2



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TRIM CONNECTING ASSEMBLY

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6 Claims. (Cl. 311-4)

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This invention is concerned with a trim connecting assembly for connecting adjoining kitchen sink and table top cabinet units.

A standard type of kitchen sink unit is provided commercially for installation along with other cabinet units of the table top type which comprises a compartmented base cabinet having a unitary sink structure mounted on the top thereof the edges of which are rounded and provided with a downwardly extending marginal flange of substantial depth which flange projects outwardly of the surfaces of the front and ends of the base cabinet. This type of sink is designed for installation adjacent to or between table top cabinets which generally comprise a linoleum or plastic covered top set on a base cabinet, with the edges of the top projecting outwardly some distance from the front and end surfaces of the base. When the sink unit is installed with the rounded edge or rolled rim of the metal sink abutted against the squared edge of an adjoining cabinet top a groove-like space between the units results which breaks the top surfaces and which is difficult to keep clean. Also variations in the width of the respective units frequently results in the front edges of adjoining units being out of alignment as well as being separated by a groove due to the rounded corners on the sink top.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a connecting strip assembly for closing the space between the top edges of adjoining sink and cabinet units, which connecting strip will provide a relatively smooth connection between the top surfaces of the units, which will assist in holding the units in rigid relation and which will join the front edge molding or trim of the cabinet unit to the front edge of the sink unit in a satisfactory manner.

It is another object of the invention to provide a trim strip connector assembly between adjoining sink and counter top cabinet installations, which will provide a relatively smooth surface between the adjoining top and front edge surfaces of the units, and which is readily adapted for installation with units of slightly different top widths and somewhat different edge constructions.

It is a more specific object of the invention to provide a trim strip connector assembly for joining the top surfaces and front edges of a rolled rim cabinet sink unit and an adjoining work top cabinet unit which assembly comprises a bottom strip member of inverted generally U-shaped cross section having laterally extending flanges

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along the bottom edges which are adapted to project beneath the bottom edges of the adjacent sink rim and cabinet top members with the body of the member positioned in the space between the units, a top connector strip member adapted to overlap the top marginal edges of the sink rim and cabinet top and to bridge the space between the units, fastener members for rigidly securing the top and bottom strip members to each other, a top cover strip member adapted to be interlockingly engaged with the top connector strip member to conceal the fastening members and provide a relatively smooth continuous surface between the top of the units, an adapter block member of generally rectangular shape which is positioned at the front edges of the units and a fastening member for securing the adapter block to a front flange on the bottom strip member, the connector block member being adapted to have its end walls cut away to conform to the contour of the front edges of the adjoining units and to provide a connection between the same.

These and other objects of the invention will be apparent from a consideration of the device shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a table top base cabinet unit and portions of an adjoining roll rim sink cabinet unit which are connected with a trim strip connector assembly made in accordance with the principles of this invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the trim strip connector assembly shown in Fig. 1 to an enlarged scale;

Fig. 3 is a cross section taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2 to an enlarged scale;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the front edge adapter block member and a portion of the top cover member;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the trim strip connector assembly shown in Fig. 1 with the connector assembly partially separated and in position for final installation;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the trim strip connector assembly shown in Fig. 1 with the front edge adapter block member and the top cover strip member removed;

Fig. 7 is a cross section similar to Fig. 3 showing a modified construction of the trim strip connector assembly; and

Fig. 8 is a cross section similar to Fig. 7 showing the trim connector strip assembly installed without the bottom connector strip member.

Referring to Figs. 1 to 6, there is illustrated a trim strip connector assembly which embodies

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the principles of the invention and which is illustrated in connection with a rolled rim cabinet sink unit installed adjacent to a table top cabinet unit, the latter having a top member with the marginal edges projecting an appreciable distance beyond the adjacent vertical wall surfaces but not extending beyond the front vertical wall surface of the unit the same distance as the front marginal top edge of the adjoining sink unit.

The trim strip connector assembly 10 comprises a bottom connector strip member 11 (Fig. 3) which is of inverted generally U-shaped section having a top or base portion 12 and side or leg members 13, 14 which terminate in laterally outwardly projecting flanges 15 and 16. At the front end the bottom member 11 (Fig. 6) is provided with an inturned flange or front wall 17. The base portion 12 is provided with spaced screw-receiving apertures 18 and the front wall section 17 is provided with a screw-receiving aperture 19. The bottom member 11 is adapted to be positioned in the space 20 between the opposed edges of the top of the sink unit 21 and the top of the adjoining table top cabinet unit 22.

As shown in Fig. 3, the sink unit 21 is provided with a unitary top member 23 having a rounded edge 24 and a down-turned apron or flange 25 which extends an appreciable distance below the top surface and forms an apron or rim around the front and ends of the base 26 on which the top 21 is supported. The flange 25 extends outwardly some distance from and overhangs the adjacent wall of the base 26. In the conventional arrangement the sink unit 21 is placed in alignment with and adjoining the table top cabinet unit 22. The latter is provided with a table or work top 27 which may be plywood covered with linoleum 28. At the front and end margins of the cabinet unit 22 the top 27 extends outwardly of the adjoining wall of the base 29 an appreciable distance and may be increased in depth to provide a relatively wide rim or edge at 30.

The bottom connector member 11 is adapted to be positioned in the space 20 between the sink unit 21 and the cabinet unit 22 with the flanges 15 and 16 extending beneath the bottom edges of the rim portions 25 and 30 of the units and with the base portion 12 of the member 11 facing upwardly. When in proper position the bottom connector member 11 forms an anchor or securing device for a top connector member 31.

The top connector member 31 is a relatively long flat strip or section of extruded aluminum, or similar material, which has sufficient width to extend over the marginal edges of the top 23 of the sink unit 21 and the top 27 of the cabinet unit 22. The top member 31 is curved slightly downwardly at the marginal side edges 32 to insure a line contact with the top surfaces of the units. The top member 31 is provided along its longitudinal center line with a shallow groove or recess 33 of substantial width and a series of spaced apertures 34 for receiving securing screws 35 which are adapted to be engaged in threaded relation in the apertures 18 in the bottom connector member 11. The side walls defining the groove 33 are tapered inwardly to provide a rib formation 36 for engaging in longitudinal sliding relation in grooves 37 provided in the side edges of a top cover strip 38 which is adapted to be positioned in the groove 33 for concealing the heads of the screws 35. The cover strip 38 is rounded on the top surface to conform generally

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with the top surface of the member 31 and is relieved on its inner or bottom surface sufficiently to clear any projecting heads of the screws 35. When the top connector member 31 is installed in proper position over the groove 20 it terminates short of the forward edge of both sink unit 21 and cabinet unit 22.

An adapter block member 39 is provided for positioning at the front edge of the adjoining units and is arranged to provide a connection between the unaligned front margins of the tops on the adjoining units. As shown in Fig. 4 the adapter member 39 comprises a top section for joining with the top connector member 31 having a widened forward portion 40, an angularly related front surface 41 and end flanges 42 and 43. The top portion 40 is provided with a central groove 44 which is adapted to align with and form a continuation of the groove 33 and which includes side wall rib formations 45 for reception in the grooves 37 on the cover member 38. The groove 44 extends to a vertical groove 46 in the front face 41 of the member 39. The front face 41 is apertured at 47 for a purpose which will be described. The side walls or flanges 42 and 43 of the block member 39 are relatively thin and are adapted to be cut away before final installation to conform to the front edges of the top members on the respective units 21 and 22, as indicated in dotted lines at 48 and 49, respectively. The front groove 46 is adapted to receive an angular end portion 50 on the cover member 38 which is provided with a screw receiving aperture 51 adapted to align with the aperture 47 in the groove 46.

The connector assembly 10 is installed on the units after they are placed in aligned and adjoining position by first inserting the bottom connector member 11 in the position shown in Fig. 6 and loosely supporting the same by screws 35 depending from the top connector member 31, the latter being positioned in its approximate location as indicated in Fig. 6. Thereafter the adapter block 39 is assembled with the top cover member 38 and the latter is slid into the groove 33 so that the portions of the walls 42 and 43 which are to be cut away to provide a fit may be marked or scored with a suitable tool. The end walls 42 and 43 of the adapter member 39 are then cut so that they conform to the front edges of the tops of the units. Thereafter the adapter block 39 is assembled with the cover strip 38 and with the top connector member 31 and all the members are properly located relative to the units. The top cover member 38 is slid forward to expose the heads of the screws 35 which may then be tightened to rigidly secure the bottom connector member 11 in clamping relation with the top connector member 31. The cover member 38 is finally positioned in the groove 33 with the adapter 39 in proper position at the front edge of the units and a screw 52 is positioned in the apertures 51, 47 and threadedly engaged in the aperture 19 in the bottom connector member 11. In this manner the entire assembly is rigidly secured in connecting relation with the cabinet units.

In some installations the overhanging marginal edge of a work unit may not extend downwardly the same vertical distance as the flange of the sink cabinet unit. A suitable filler strip may be nailed or otherwise fastened to the bottom surface of the overhanging edge of the cabinet unit for engagement by the flange 16 of the work cabinet unit. The space between the front

surfaces of the cabinet units 21 and 22 may be filled by a strip 53, secured in any conventional manner.

When it is desired to install the sink unit adjacent to a work cabinet unit which does not have an overhanging edge portion on the top, the connector assembly may be provided with a modified form of bottom connector member 60 in which one leg 61 is cut away for installation as shown in Fig. 7. The top connector member, the cover strip and the fastening screws are the same as in the first described form and are indicated by the same numerals. The members are installed in the same manner.

In some installations it may be possible to position the sink cabinet unit relatively close to the adjoining edge of a work cabinet unit as shown in Fig. 8. The bottom connector member may then be omitted entirely and the top connector member may be positioned off center relative to the edge of the work cabinet as illustrated and secured with screws 35 directly to the top of the work cabinet, the front adapter block and the cover member being secured by screw 52 directly to the front edge of the work cabinet.

While specific materials and particular details of construction have been referred to in describing the illustrated forms of the invention, it will be understood that other materials and details of construction are contemplated within the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A trim connector assembly for bridging the space between adjoining sink and cabinet units, comprising a bottom strip member of inverted generally U-shaped cross section having laterally projecting flanges arranged for positioning beneath the bottom edge of the flange on the top of the sink unit and the overhanging marginal edge of the top of the adjoining cabinet unit with the body of said bottom member extending upwardly in the space between the units when the assembly is installed therebetween, a top strip member having side flanges for bridging the top surfaces of the sink and cabinet units, said top strip having a relatively wide groove in the top surface thereof and being provided with spaced screw-receiving apertures in said groove, screws for connecting said top and bottom strip members in clamping relation to said sink flange and cabinet top and a covering strip to be secured in interlocking relation in said groove.

2. A trim connector assembly as recited in claim 1 and a block member, arranged for positioning at the front of said top strip to bridge the space between the front marginal edges of the top members of the adjoining units, said block member having portions which are adapted to be cut away to fit said block member to the front edges of said unit top members.

3. In a trim assembly for covering the space between adjoining sink and work table units which is characterized by a bottom strip member having laterally projecting portions arranged for positioning beneath adjoining marginal portions of the sink top and the work table top and a top strip member arranged for securing to said bottom strip member in position over the space between the adjoining surfaces of the sink and work table tops, a front edge connecting element having inwardly extending lateral edges which are adapted to be cut away to conform to the contour of said sink top and work table top front edges, and means for securing said front

edge connecting element to said bottom strip member.

4. In a trim assembly as recited in claim 3 wherein said top strip member and said front edge connecting element are provided with axially extending grooves, and a cover member adapted to be slidably positioned in the groove in said top strip member and having a portion receivable in the groove in said front edge connecting member.

5. In a trim connector assembly for bridging the space between adjoining sink and work table units which is characterized by a bottom strip member having laterally projecting flanges arranged to be positioned beneath the bottom edge of the marginal flange of the sink unit and the overhanging marginal edge of the work table unit, said bottom strip member having portions adapted to extend upwardly in the space between the units, a top strip member arranged to connect the top surfaces of the sink and table units, said top strip member having a longitudinal recess in the top surface thereof and being provided with fastener members for connecting said top and bottom strip members in clamping relation to said sink flange and said table top, a covering strip arranged to be secured in said recess, and an adapter block for connecting the front marginal edges of the sink and work table units, said adapted block having means for interlocking engagement with said covering strip.

6. In a trim connector assembly for bridging the space between adjoining sink and work table units which is characterized by a bottom strip member having laterally projecting portions arranged for positioning beneath projecting marginal portions of the sink top and the work table top with the body of said bottom strip member positioned in the space between the units, a top strip member arranged for extending over the space between the top surfaces of the sink and work table and having fasteners for connecting said top and bottom strip member in clamping relation to said sink top and work table top, said top strip member being provided with an axially extending fastener receiving groove, a front edge connector member having a groove arranged for positioning in alignment with the groove in said top strip member, a cover member slidable in said grooves, and means for securing said members in assembled relation.

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