

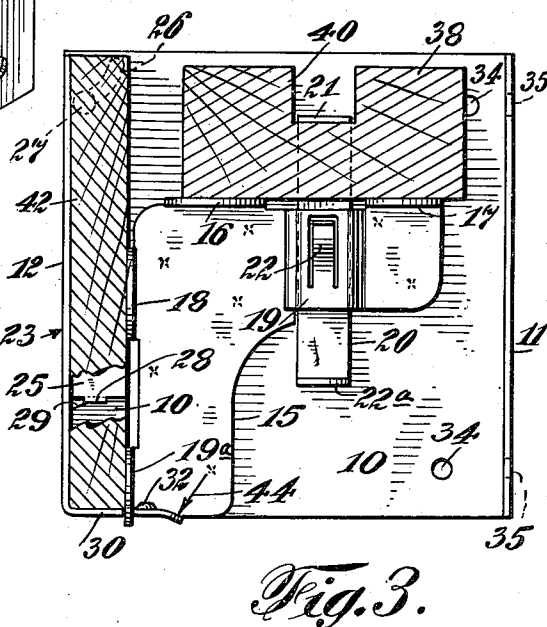
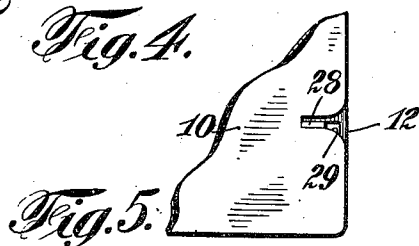
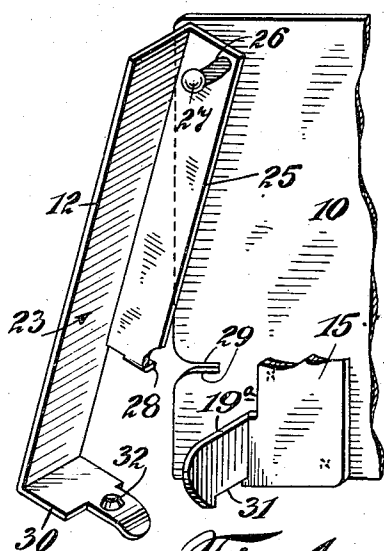
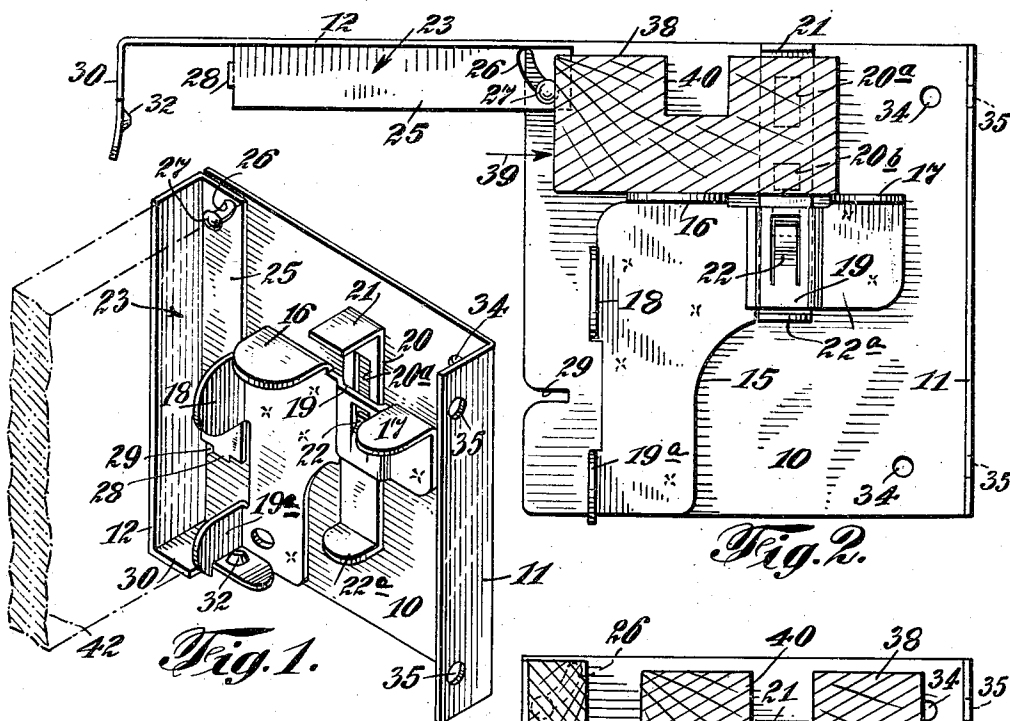
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**2,200,510**

VENETIAN BLIND BRACKET

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## VENETIAN BLIND BRACKET

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11 Claims. (Cl. 156—17)

This invention relates to Venetian blinds, and more particularly to mounting brackets which are affixed adjacent to the top of a window frame for supporting a Venetian blind.

5 Ordinarily, a Venetian blind is detachably suspended from a "head-bar" that is affixed adjacent to the top of a window frame. In some instances this "head-bar," or suspension bar, is omitted and the blind suspended directly from  
10 the window frame. This has resulted in the upper slat of the blind (the tilt slat, or "tilt-bar") being sometimes designated as the "head-bar," with corresponding confusion of terms. It is to be understood, however, that in this specification, the term "head-bar" is employed in accordance  
15 with the more frequent usage to designate the suspension bar that is located above the tilt-bar of the blind.

In many instances the head-bar is mounted on  
20 brackets, one placed on either side of the window frame. Associated with the head-bar is mechanism for tilting the blind and adjusting its height; and frequently this mechanism is concealed by a valance, sometimes in the form of a  
25 board.

The general object of the present invention is to provide an inexpensive, mechanically adequate bracket for mounting a Venetian blind head-bar and valance.

30 Another object of the invention is to provide such a bracket which can be economically and satisfactorily fabricated from sheet metal on a quantity production basis.

A further object of the invention is to provide  
35 such a bracket which can be used for either "inside" or "outside" mounting of a Venetian blind. In so-called "inside" mounting, the Venetian blind hangs within the window frame, with the front edges of the untilted slats approximately  
40 flush with the front face of the window frame. In so-called "outside" mounting, the slats of the blind are longer than the distance between the jambs of the window frame; and the blind hangs on the room side of the window frame, though  
45 adjacent to the window frame.

The drawing shows a left-hand bracket embodying the present invention, i. e., a bracket for supporting the left-hand ends of the head-bar and valance as viewed from the room side of the  
50 window. It will be understood that a right-hand bracket is also used with each Venetian blind to support the right-hand end of the suspension bar and valance. However, only the left-hand bracket has been specifically disclosed since it  
55 will be understood that the right-hand bracket

is of the same construction but of opposite hand.

Fig. 1 of the drawing is an isometric view of the bracket showing a fragment of the valance in dot dash lines.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the bracket with a  
5 head-bar shown in cross section. The head-bar is shown in an intermediate position which it occupies during its movement into final position on the bracket.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the bracket, showing  
10 in cross section the suspension bar and valance as supported by the bracket.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary isometric view showing  
15 details of a swinging flange which retains the valance in mounted position.

Fig. 5 is a detailed view of certain parts as  
seen from the side of the bracket opposite to that shown in Fig. 3.

A flat stamped sheet metal plate 10 is provided at its rear edge with a vertical flange 11 and at its  
20 front edge with a vertical flange 12 (Fig. 3). Flange 11 is integral with the plate 10, but flange 12 is movably attached to the plate, as will be explained later.

Welded or otherwise suitably secured to the  
25 side of plate 10 is a sheet metal stamping 15 of inverted L-shape, having horizontal wings 16 and 17 and vertical wings 18 and 19a. All of wings 16, 17, 18 and 19a project laterally from plate 10, perpendicularly thereto, in the same direction as  
30 flanges 11 and 12. At 19 the metal of L-shaped plate 15 is pressed to form a guide channel as best seen in Fig. 1. Before stamping 15 is welded to plate 10, a vertically extending keeper 20 is  
35 positioned in the guideway 19 so that it will be vertically slidable in the guideway after the stamping 15 has been welded in place. At its top keeper 20 is provided with a laterally extending finger 21, and at its bottom it is provided with  
40 a laterally extending finger 22a. Both of these fingers extend laterally from the plate 10 in the same direction as flanges 11 and 12.

If desired, the metal of stamping 15 at the  
45 guideway 19 may be formed (optionally) into a spring finger 22, which frictionally engages the sliding keeper 20. The shank of keeper 20 may (optionally) be provided with an aperture 20a which receives finger 22 and relieves the spring  
50 pressure thereof while the stamping 15 is being welded to plate 10. Also one or more apertures such as 20b may (optionally) be provided along  
55 keeper shank 20 to make snap engagement with spring finger 22 when the keeper finger 21 is depressed into place in the top groove of head-bars of different standard heights.

Flange 12 is part of a swinging member designated as a whole by 23. This member has a second flange 25 which lies against the surface of plate 10. The upper end of flange 25 is provided with a curved slot 26, pierced by the shank of a rivet pin 27 which is affixed to plate 10. Thus member 23 is swingably secured to plate 10 by a pin-and-slot connection formed by pin 27 and slot 26. The lower end of flange 25 is formed into a laterally projecting finger 28 which enters a notch 29 in the forward vertical edge of plate 10 when member 23 is in vertical position; see Figs. 1, 3, and 5. The lower end of flange 12 is formed into an L-shaped spring finger 30, the end portion of which is of reduced width and fits in cut-out 31 in the bottom of flange 19a. A protuberance 32 projects upwardly from spring finger 30 and snaps, or latches, behind flange 19a when the swinging member 23 is moved into vertical position.

When the bracket is placed in position for an inside mounting, it is secured to the side face of the window jamb by means of screws inserted through suitable holes such as 34 (two shown). When the bracket is placed in position for an outside mounting, it is secured to the room side of the window frame by means of screws placed through holes 35, 35 in flange 11.

When member 23 is swung upwardly into a horizontal position and also shifted upwardly as an entirety by means of slot 26, it assumes the position shown in Fig. 2. This positioning of swinging member 23 permits head-bar 38 to be moved sidewise into position on the bracket by movement in the direction of arrow 39 (Fig. 2). It will be noted that the upward movement of the swinging member 23 by virtue of the pin-and-slot connection at 26, 27 provides the necessary clearance for the insertion of the head-bar 38 beneath the flange 12. As the head-bar is being inserted, the keeper 20 is, of course, in its uppermost position. With the head-bar in final position on flanges 16 and 17, the keeper 20 is pulled downwardly by grasping finger 22a, thus moving finger 21 into the conventional groove 40 in the top of the head-bar. After a Venetian blind (not shown) has been suspended from the head-bar 38 in a conventional manner, a valance 42 may be placed in position against vertical flanges 18 and 19a. The swinging member 23 is then swung downwardly with movement of the slot 26 on pin 27 toward the position shown in Fig. 4. Further inward movement of member 23 causes finger 28 to enter slot 29 and thereby prevent downward movement of member 23. Also protuberance 32 snaps behind flange 19a, thereby latching the member 23 in the position shown in Fig. 3. To remove the valance, pressure is applied to finger 30 in the direction of the arrow 44 (Fig. 3), thereby depressing spring finger 30 and permitting the valance to be released. Without pressure in the direction of the arrow 44 it is very difficult to unlatch finger 30 from flange 19a.

It will be seen that horizontal flanges 16 and 17 form means for supporting the head-bar 38. Keeper 20 prevents accidental shifting of the head-bar on the supporting flanges 16 and 17. Vertical flanges 18 and 19a constitute means for positioning the valance. The swinging member 23, and especially flange 12 thereof, constitutes means for retaining the valance in final position.

In compliance with the patent statutes, I have disclosed the best form which I have contemplated applying my invention, but it will be un-

derstood that the disclosure is illustrative of the invention and not limiting.

What is claimed is:

1. A Venetian blind bracket comprising: a vertical plate to be affixed adjacent to a window frame, head-bar supporting means projecting from one side of the plate, valance-positioning means projecting from the same side of the plate and engaging the valance at a point removed from its upper and lower edges, and releasable valance-retaining means spaced forwardly from said positioning means to secure a valance between said retaining means and said positioning means, said retaining means being attached to said plate adjacent to the forward edge thereof.

2. A Venetian blind bracket as in claim 1, in which the plate is of stamped sheet metal, and in which there is secured thereto a stamping having flange means constituting the head-bar supporting means and the valance-positioning means.

3. A Venetian blind bracket as in claim 1, in which a stamping is secured to the plate, the stamping including the head-bar supporting means and the valance-positioning means, the stamping also including a vertical guideway and having a head-bar keeper slidable in said guideway.

4. A Venetian blind bracket as in claim 1, in which the valance-retaining means is swingably attached to the plate, and means are provided to latch the valance-retaining means in valance-securing position.

5. A Venetian blind bracket as in claim 1, in which there is a pin-and-slot connection between the plate and the valance-retaining means, to permit the valance means to be swung outwardly and shifted upwardly to provide clearance for the insertion of a head-bar.

6. A Venetian blind bracket as in claim 1, in which there is a connection between the plate and the valance-retaining means providing outward and upward movement of the valance-retaining means that gives clearance for the insertion of a head-bar, and in which there is means to prevent downward movement of the valance-retaining means when it is in valance-securing position.

7. A Venetian blind bracket comprising: a vertical plate having laterally extending vertical flanges extending along its front and rear edges, the flanges projecting on the same side of the plate, the rear flange being integral with the plate and the front flange being movably attached to the plate; and valance-positioning means spaced rearwardly from the front flange to cooperate therewith in securing a valance.

8. A Venetian blind bracket comprising: a vertical plate having a notch in its forward edge, valance-positioning means spaced from said forward edge, swingable valance-retaining means attached to the plate, and a finger on said valance-retaining means entering said notch when the valance-retaining means is in valance-securing position.

9. A Venetian blind bracket comprising: a vertical plate to be affixed adjacent to a window frame, head-bar supporting means projecting from one side of the plate, valance-positioning means projecting from the same side of the plate, and releasable valance-retaining means spaced from said positioning means to secure a valance between said retaining means and said positioning means; said construction being one in which a stamping is secured to the plate, the stamping

including the head-bar supporting means and the valance-positioning means, the stamping also including a vertical guideway and having a head-bar keeper slidable in said guideway.

- 5 10. A Venetian blind bracket comprising: a vertical plate to be affixed adjacent to a window frame, head-bar supporting means projecting from one side of the plate, valance-positioning means projecting from the same side of the plate, and releasable valance-retaining means spaced 10 from said positioning means to secure a valance between said retaining means and said positioning means; said construction being one in which there is a pin-and-slot connection between the 15 plate and the valance-retaining means, to permit the valance means to be swung outwardly and shifted upwardly to provide clearance for the insertion of a head-bar.

11. A Venetian blind bracket comprising: a vertical plate to be affixed adjacent to a window frame, head-bar supporting means projecting from one side of the plate, valance-positioning means projecting from the same side of the plate, 5 and releasable valance-retaining means spaced from said positioning means to secure a valance between said retaining means and said positioning means; said construction being one in which there is a connection between the plate and the 10 valance-retaining means providing outward and upward movement of the valance-retaining means that gives clearance for the insertion of a head-bar, and in which there is means to prevent downward movement of the valance-retaining 15 means when it is in valance-securing position.

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