Sept. 30, 1958 W. P. KESSLER 2,853,748

GLAZING STRIP

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Fig. 1.

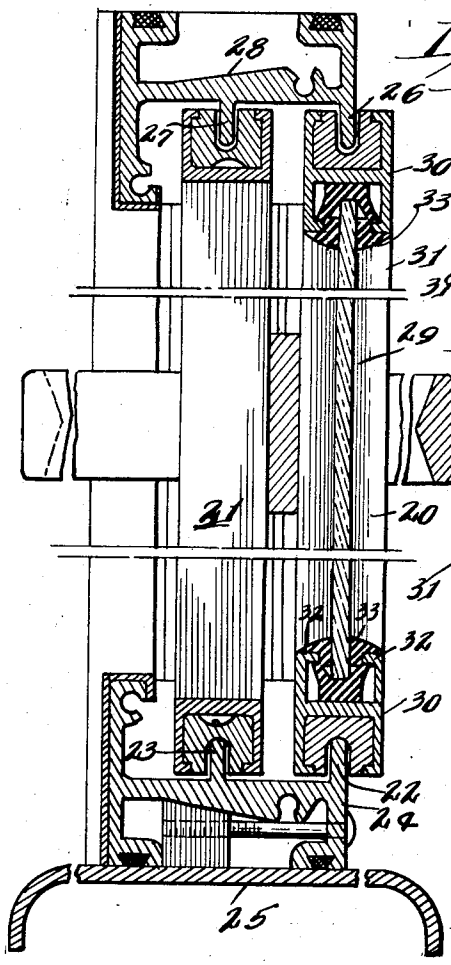


Fig. 2.

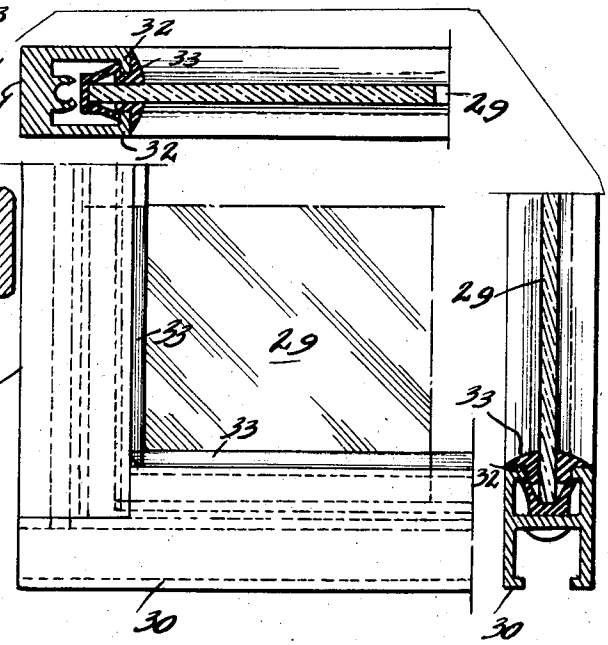
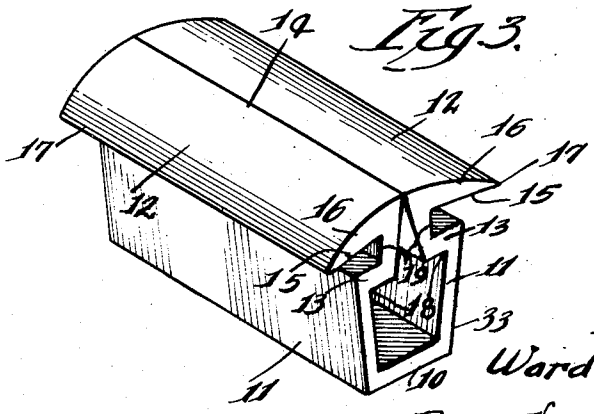


Fig. 3.



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GLAZING STRIP

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This invention relates generally to an improvement in the means for resiliently holding a panel member, usually glass or other translucent material, within a supporting frame. My particular adaptation of my invention constitutes a novel glazing strip employed in the assembly of the translucent panels and supporting frame members forming the sliding doors of my Shower Bath Enclosure disclosed in my concurrent application, but it is obvious that the invention may be used for more general purposes.

Heretofore, putty has been generally used in glazing sash, forming a relatively resilient means of holding the fragile glass in the supporting frame and at the same time sealing the margins against leakage of air, water, etc. Pile fabric has been similarly used. Putty tends to harden, crack and disintegrate with age and pile fabric affords poor protection to the leakage of water or moisture. These disadvantages become quickly apparent when the sash or panel is subjected both to frequent movement and exposure to water or moisture.

An object of my invention is to provide a resilient glazing strip, formed by extrusion, of a plastic material, such as rubber, and constituting an effective seal against water, moisture, air and other elements.

A further object of my invention is to provide a glazing strip facilitating the assembly of the panel being glazed and its supporting frame.

A further object of my invention is to provide a glazing strip of such form that its internal stresses hold the margins of said strip in tight contact with adjoining surfaces of the panel and frame members.

A further object of my invention is to provide a glazing strip which can be telescoped about the outer margins of the glass or translucent panel and thereafter inserted into fixed channels in the supporting frame members, effecting insulation therebetween.

Further objects, advantages and novel features of the invention will be particularly mentioned or will become apparent from the further description herein.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a partial cross-sectional view of a shower bath enclosure showing my glazing strip disposed in the sliding doors.

Figure 2 is a front view of part of a shower door showing the corner assembly with corresponding cross-sectional end views.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a portion of my glazing strip with the end in cross-section showing the molded design before assembly.

Corresponding numerals of reference refer to like parts throughout the different views.

While I have shown and described herein, for illustrative purposes, a preferred embodiment of my invention, it should be understood that considerable variation in the details of construction may be employed, without departing from its spirit and scope.

Referring to Figure 3, my glazing strip, molded, preferably by extrustion, of plastic material, such as rubber, and as viewed in cross-section, possesses, as an integral unit, the bottom portion **10**, the two upwardly extending side wall portions **11, 11**, and the two outwardly extending lip portions **12, 12** from said side walls respectively. Each of said side walls **11, 11**, extends upwardly in spaced apart relationship from the opposite outer margins of the bottom **10**, at an angle of inclination less than 90°, for a part of its height, then inwardly, on a plane parallel with said bottom plane, forming the shoulders **13, 13**, then continues upwardly at an angle of inclination greater than 90° until the inner surfaces thereof contact each other centrally at **14**, then flares off in the outwardly extending lip portion **12**, which lip portion lies in a flat plane on its bottom side **15** and slightly curved plane on its upper side **16**, reducing in thickness so as to form a relatively sharp edge at its outer margin **17**. The conformation of the side walls above described form the inner partial recess **18, 18**, for the purpose hereinafter described, and the outer recess **19, 19**, which is of a height and depth sufficient to accommodate the adjoining surfaces of the frame member, as more particularly described hereafter.

The inner width of the bottom **10** should approximate the thickness of the panel of glass or other translucent material so that said strip will fit snugly against its outer margins. The thickness of the bottom and side walls varies with the weight of the panel being supported and should be such as to give sufficient strength to the strip to avoid breaking or tearing. By extending the upper portion of the side walls **11, 11** at an angle greater than normal, when the glazing strip is telescoped on the outer margins of the panel, the outer surfaces of the panel spread the said upper portions of the glazing strip apart from each other, thereby causing the outer edges **17, 17** of the lip portions **12, 12** to be pressed tightly against the adjacent surfaces of the frame members, preventing the entry of moisture or other elements.

While my improved glazing strip can be used for varying purposes, I have shown its adaptation to a sliding door in a shower bath enclosure in Figures 1 and 2. While not shown in complete detail, it is to be understood that said enclosure consists of two parallel, slightly overlapping, doors, supported in a surrounding frame having upper and lower horizontal members and vertical side rails, disposed in the open side of a bath recess.

Referring to Figure 1, the doors **20, 21**, slide upon the longitudinal guide rails **22** and **23**, respectively, of the lower horizontal member **24**, which rests upon the upper rim of the bath tub **25**, and are supported in position by the guide rails **26** and **27**, respectively, on the upper horizontal member **28**. The doors **20** and **21** are similar and comprise the panel **29** of glass or other translucent material and the supporting frame, which has the horizontal members **30, 30**, and the vertical side rails **31, 31**. Both the horizontal members **30, 30** and the side rails **31, 31** are channeled, as shown, the channel side walls of each terminating in the inturned legs **32, 32**.

In assembly, my glazing strip, designated generally as **33**, is telescoped upon the outer margins of the panel **29**, which enter and fill the channel formed by the bottom **10** and the side walls **11, 11**. At the corners, I cut the strip **33** from the bottom to the shoulder **13**, so that the corners are turned without bunching or otherwise disturbing the smooth continuity of the lips **12, 12**. The horizontal members **30, 30** and vertical rails **31, 31** are then placed in position and fastened together, the inturned legs **32, 32** of the channel side walls engaging and conforming to the recesses **19, 19** of the glazing strip. In the above operation, when the panel **29**, with the glazing strip **33** attached, is pushed into the channel

formed by the side walls of said horizontal members and side rails, respectively, or vice versa, the recesses **18, 18** permit the compression of the shoulders **13, 13,** allowing the inturned legs **32, 32** to pass over the shoulders and engage the channels **19, 19** of the glazing strip **33,** after which the shoulders resume their normal position as shown in Figures 1 and 2. When so assembled the panel of glass or other material is insulated and cushioned against the rigid frame members and with the lips **12, 12** firmly pressing against the adjacent surfaces of the frame members, an effective seal against water or other elements is created.

Having shown and described my invention, I claim:

1. In a panel holding frame, a plurality of channeled frame members each having parallel side walls joined by an integral web and with their respective lateral side wall margins inturned forming oppositely disposed spaced apart inturned legs, a resilient glazing strip, channel formed in cross-section, disposed in the channel formed in each of said members by said side walls and inturned legs having a longitudinally extending bottom portion and spaced apart longitudinally extending integral side wall portions which extend respectively from the lateral side margins of said bottom portion on a plane having an angle of inclination less than 90° to the plane of said bottom portion for a distance constituting part of the height of said side wall portions, thence extend inwardly for a short distance forming a shoulder, thence extend toward each other on an angle of inclination greater than 90° to the plane of said bottom portion for a distance not greater than the central point of contact, thence flare outwardly from each other at a sharp angle, said flared portions diminishing in thickness terminating in a sharp marginal edge, said shoulders and flared portions forming a recess therebetween upon the outside surface of each of said wall portions accommodating said adjacent oppositely disposed legs of said frame members respectively, and a panel having its lateral margins disposed in the channel of said glazing strip.

2. In a panel holding frame, a channeled frame member having parallel side walls joined by an integral web and with their lateral side wall margins inturned forming oppositely disposed spaced apart inturned legs, a resilient glazing strip, channel formed in cross-section, disposed in the channel formed in said member by said side walls and inturned legs having a longitudinally extending bottom portion and spaced apart longitudinally extending integral side wall portions which extend respectively from the lateral side margins of said bottom portion on a plane having an angle of inclination less than 90° to the plane of said bottom portion for a distance constituting part of the height of said side wall portions, thence extend inwardly forming a shoulder, thence extend toward each other on an angle of inclination greater than 90° to the plane of said bottom portion for a distance not greater than the central point of contact, thence flare outwardly at a sharp angle, said flared portion diminishing in thickness terminating in a sharp marginal edge, said shoulders and flared portions forming a recess therebetween upon the outside surface of each of said wall portions accommodating said oppositely disposed legs of said frame member respectively and a panel having its lateral margins disposed in the channel of said glazing strip.

3. In a panel holding frame, a plurality of channeled frame members each having parallel side walls joined by an integral web and with their respective lateral side wall margins inturned forming oppositely disposed spaced apart inturned legs, a resilient glazing strip, channel formed in cross-section, disposed in the channel formed in each of said members by said side walls and inturned legs having a longitudinally extending bottom portion and spaced apart longitudinally extending integral side wall portions which extend respectively from the lateral side margins of said bottom portion on a plane having an angle of inclination less than 90° to the plane of said bottom portion for a distance constituting part of the height of said side wall portions, thence extend inwardly for a short distance forming a shoulder extending longitudinally on the exterior surfaces of each of said side walls and a partial recess extending longitudinally formed by the inner surfaces of said side walls, thence extend toward each other on an angle of inclination greater than 90° to the plane of said bottom portion for a distance not greater than the central point of contact, thence flare outwardly at a sharp angle, said flared portion diminishing in thickness terminating in a sharp marginal edge, said shoulders and flared portions forming a recess therebetween upon the outside surface of each of said wall portions accommodating said oppositely disposed legs of said frame member respectively and a panel having its lateral margins disposed in the channel of said glazing strip, the exterior side surfaces of said panel abutting the adjacent interior surfaces of said glazing strip and with said marginal edges in intimate contact with the outer surface of the respective adjacent inturned leg.

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