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82
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April 11, 1939. D. E. HUNTER 2,153,868

METAL LINING FOR WALLS OF INSULATED CABINETS

Filed Aug. 19, 1937

Fig. 1

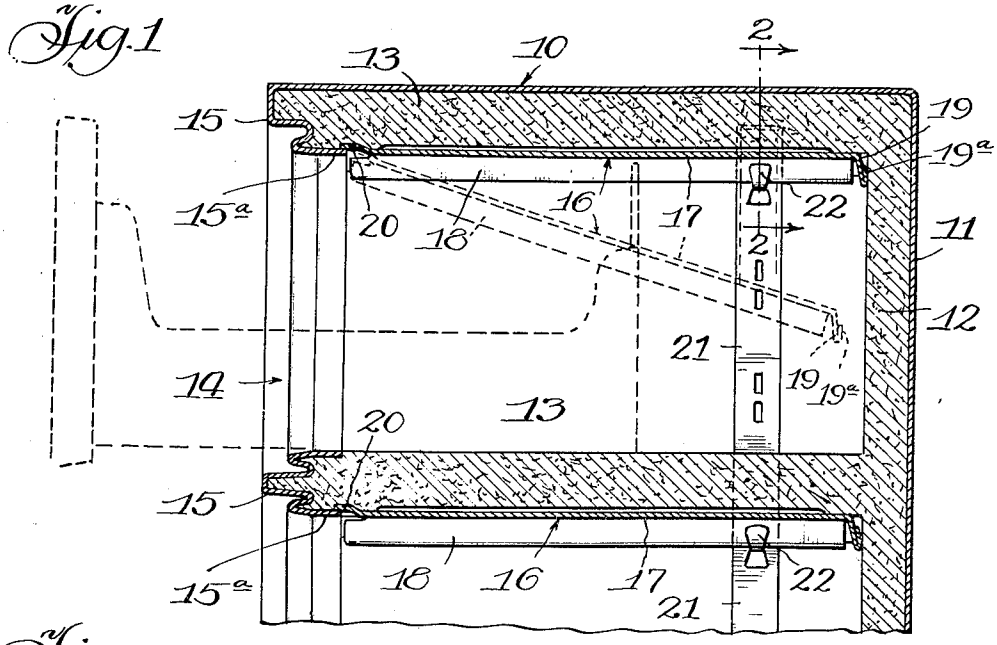


Fig. 2

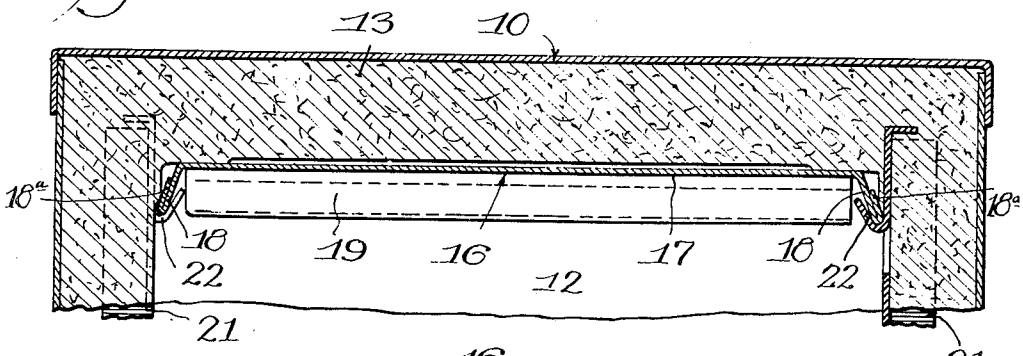
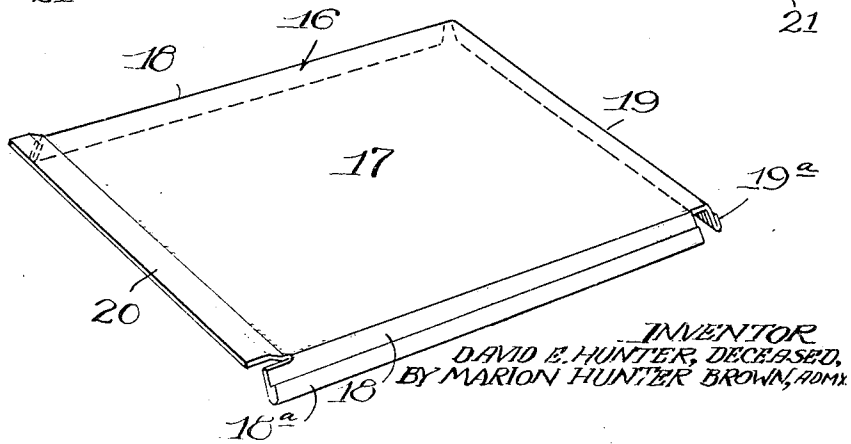


Fig. 3



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82 AND RELATED DEVICES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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METAL LINING FOR WALLS OF INSULATED CABINETS

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5 Claims. (Cl. 109—82)

This invention relates to an improvement in insulated filing cabinets of the kind comprised of an outer sheet metal case and of inner walls or partitions or both made of gypsum or the like.

In insulated cabinets of the kind, the inner walls including the top walls of the cabinet and of the drawer compartments provided by the partition walls, are without protection or covering except by a coating of paint. Said top walls are thus exposed to abrasion and damage by metal tabs on the guide cards in the file drawer, or any sharp objects contained in the folders rising above the intended level, when said drawer is moved into or out of its compartment.

One object of the invention is to provide a metal lining for such top wall to shield and protect it from abrasion and damage to the insulation material. Another object of the invention is to provide a metal lining of the kind which may be readily and easily applied and secured in place against said wall without direct connection through the insulation to the outer metal case, thus avoiding heat conduction to the interior of the compartment in case of fire.

The advantages of the invention will appear more fully in the following specification.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view showing the upper part of an insulated filing cabinet with the improved metal lining applied thereto.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view of the cabinet on a somewhat enlarged scale in a plane indicated by the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the novel lining ready for application to the top wall of a compartment of a filing cabinet.

Referring now to that embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawing: 10 indicates the cabinet as a whole, 11 indicates the outer metal case, and 12 indicates the insulation lining which comprises all the inner walls of the cabinet including the top walls 13, 13 of the compartments into which it is divided. 14 indicates the front hollow metal frame which is fixed to or made a part of the metal case 11 and includes vertically spaced bars or rails 15, 15 which limit and support the said walls 13, 13.

16 indicates the improved lining for the top wall of a compartment. Said lining consists of a metal panel 17, somewhat less in length and width than the length and width of the wall to which it is to be applied, having depending tension flanges 18, 18 at its lateral edges, a similar depending flange 19 at its rear end and upwardly offset horizontal flange 20 at its front end. The bottom edges of the lateral flanges 18 are spaced apart a distance slightly greater than the width of the top wall to which the lining is to be applied.

Upright metal bars 21 are, as shown and preferably, embedded in the insulation of the side walls of the cabinet near the rear of the compartments. Said bars are cut to provide tongues 22 which normally lie in the plane of the bar, but which are adapted to be bent upwardly upon the bar. Said tongues are so spaced below a top wall 13 that when thus bent each tongue will engage the bottom edge of a lateral flange 18 of the lining 16 to support the panel in close contact with the top wall, as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

To apply the improved lining 16 to the top wall of a compartment of a cabinet, it is introduced completely into the compartment, with its panel 17 somewhat inclined downwardly from front to rear. It is then brought forwardly and upwardly (its lateral tension flanges 18 yielding in their engagement with the side walls of the compartment to permit such movement) to bring its front, upwardly offset flange 20 to seat above the bottom flange 15a of the cross bar 15, as shown by dotted lines in Figure 1. To permit such seating, a groove to receive the flange 20 of the lining is made above the rail flange 15a either at the time of the application of the lining or in the fabrication of the cabinet. The lining 16 is then swung upwardly about the forward edge of the panel 17 until said panel is brought to close contact with the top wall 13, with its rear tension flange 19 engaged against the rear wall of the compartment. The tongues 22 of the bars 21 are then bent upwardly to engage the bottom edges of the lateral tension flanges 18 in such manner as to support the panel 17 near its rear end in contact with the top wall of the compartment. When in final position the rear tension flange 19 acts to retain the front flange 20 of the lining 16 in its seat, thus supporting the front end of the panel 17; and by the support of the tongues 22 for the rear end of said panel, the lining is held securely in place against the top wall of the compartment.

To reinforce the depending flanges of the lining, and more particularly to round their bottom edges for sliding movement without abrasion against the walls of the compartment when the lining is being applied, the metal of said flanges is bent upon itself as indicated at 18a and 19a.

From the foregoing description, it will be obvious that the novel lining may be readily and

quickly applied when desirable, in the shop or in the field, to shield and protect the insulation of the top wall of a compartment from abrasion or damage that might otherwise result from any metal tabs or sharp points projecting above the file drawers as they are moved inwardly and outwardly.

While in describing the invention I have referred to certain details and arrangement of parts, it will be understood that the invention is not limited thereto except as may be pointed out in the appended claims.

I claim as the invention:

1. In combination with an insulated cabinet having insulation top, side and back walls, a lining for said top wall comprising a panel engaged with said top wall and having lateral and rear end tension members engaged respectively against said side and back walls, and a member at its front end projecting beyond said panel, and means providing a seat in which said projecting front member is held by the tension of said rear end tension member.

2. In combination with an insulated cabinet having insulation top, side and back walls, a lining for said top wall comprising a panel engaged with said top wall and having downwardly and outwardly inclined lateral and rear end tension flanges engaged respectively against said side and back walls, and a flange at its front end offset from said panel, and means providing a seat in which said front flange is held by the tension of said rear end flange.

3. In combination with an insulated cabinet having insulation top, side and back walls, a lining for said top wall comprising a panel engaged with said top wall and having downwardly and outwardly inclined lateral and rear end tension flanges engaged respectively against said side and back walls, and a flange at its front end offset from said panel, and means providing a seat in which said front flange is held by the tension of said rear end flange, and upright bars embedded in said side walls and having parts supportingly engaged with said lining.

4. In combination with an insulated cabinet having insulation top, side and back walls, a lining for said top wall comprising a panel engaged with said top wall and having downwardly and outwardly inclined lateral and rear end tension flanges engaged respectively against said side and back walls, and a flange at its front end offset from said panel, and means providing a seat in which said front flange is held by the tension of said rear end flange, and upright bars embedded in said side walls and having parts supportingly engaged with the bottom edges of the lateral flanges of said lining.

5. In combination with an insulated cabinet having insulation top, side and back walls, a lining for said top wall comprising a panel engaged with said top wall and having downwardly and outwardly inclined lateral and rear end tension flanges engaged respectively against said side and back walls, and a flange at its front end offset from said panel, and means providing a seat in which said front flange is held by the tension of said rear end flange, and upright bars embedded in said side walls and having tongues cut therein, said tongues normally lying in the plane of said bars but being adapted to be bent to supportingly engage the lateral flanges of the panel.

MARION HUNTER BROWN.
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