

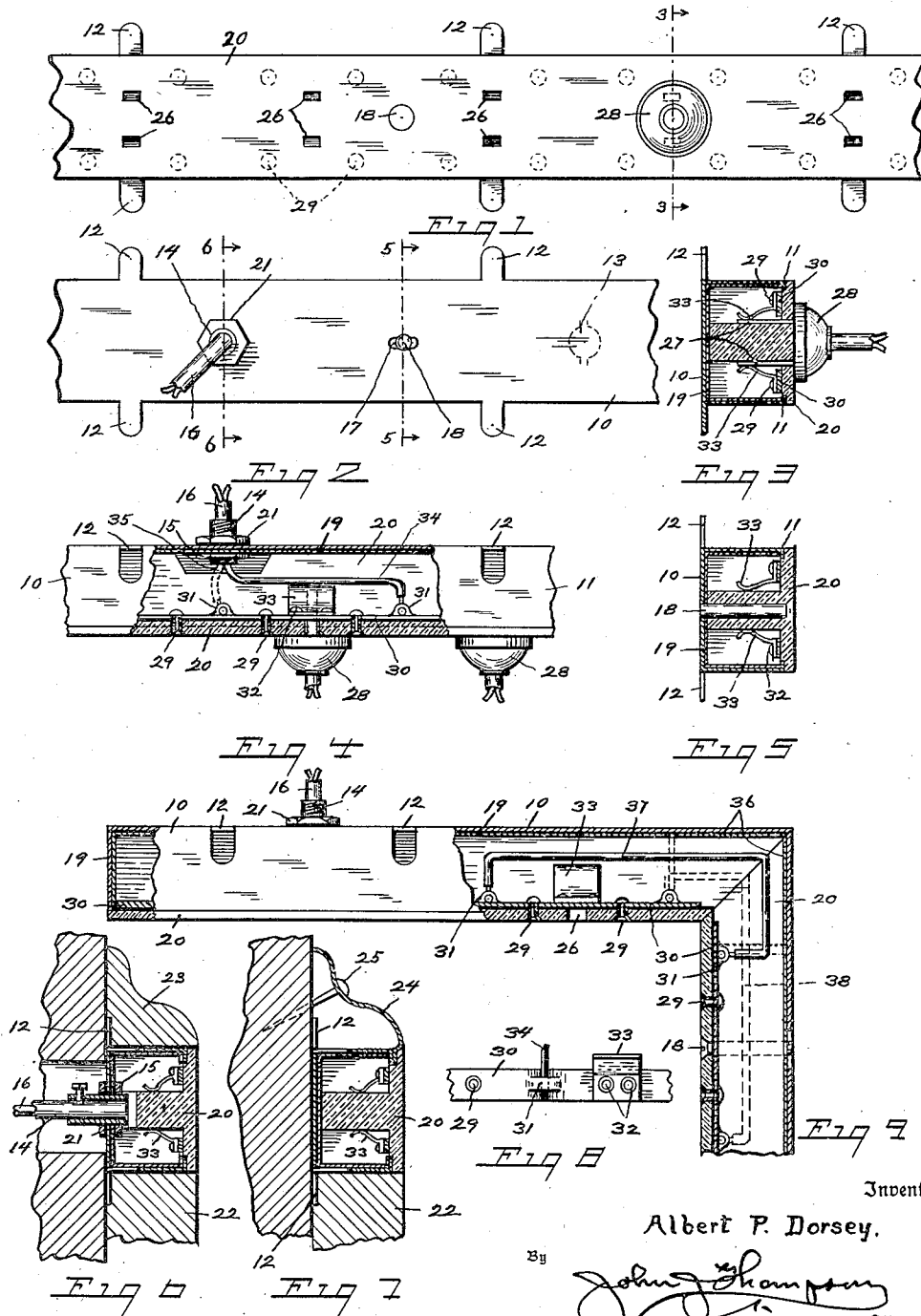
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ELECTRIC OUTLET MOLDING

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ELECTRIC OUTLET MOLDING

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1 Claim. (Cl. 247—3)

This invention relates to an electrical outlet molding of that class which is intended to be installed in a room, adjacent to or attached to the base-board, and either provided for in the building of the room or installed after the erection of the building, and the invention relates more particularly to an improvement over that shown, described and claimed in United States Patent No. 1,929,547 issued on October 10, 1933, to Phillip J. Cassidy, and assigned to me.

The object of the present invention is to provide a device of this kind that shall be not only simplified but more practical and cheaper to construct than the construction shown in the above referred to patent.

Another object of the invention is to provide a molding of this kind that may be easily installed in both new and old work.

Another object of the invention is to provide a molding that shall be rigid, contain few parts and be pleasing to the eye, conforming to the trim of the room and not being unduly conspicuous.

Another object of the invention being to provide a molding that may be easily installed around corners, etc., and in which the electrical connections may be made quickly and securely.

With these and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain new and novel construction and combination of parts as will hereinafter be fully described and claimed, and further illustrated in the accompanying drawing which forms a part hereof and in which like figures of reference refer to corresponding parts in all of the views, and it is understood that slight changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 shows a front elevation of a partial strip of the molding, with one outlet plug in place.

Figure 2 shows a rear elevation of the same, and discloses a feed cable connection, a knock-out for the feed cable connection, and the method of securing the end of the assembly screw.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view of the molding taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1, showing the means for holding the prongs of the outlet plug.

Figure 4 is a top plan view, partly in section to show the method of attaching the feed cable and electrical current feed wires to the feeder strips of the molding.

Figure 5 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 2 showing the method of securing the parts together.

Figure 6 is a cross sectional view showing the application of the device to the base-board of the wall.

Figure 7 is a similar view, but shows the molding as being formed with its own curved trim molding to take the place of the usual wooden trim of the base-board.

Figure 8 is a detail view of a portion of one of the current feed strips, showing the method of attaching the feed wires thereto, and one of the contact arms.

Figure 9 is a top plan view partly in section of the application of the molding to a mitred corner and the method employed for insulating the same and making the proper electrical connections.

Referring to the drawing:

While I have shown the molding as being composed of a channel shaped casing of metal to which is attached an insulated front carrying the feed strips and contacts for the prongs of the attachment plugs, it is understood that this molding may be of any desired shape and size, and that the different parts may be made from any suitable material and that any suitable means may be employed for attaching the same to the wall or base-board.

In the drawing, I have shown a metal casing 10, in the shape of a channel with an open front and formed with the front edges flanged as at 11; while at suitable locations along the rear side the attaching spurs 12 are formed from punchings from the top and bottom.

Also at predetermined locations upon the rear wall of the casing 10, are located the knock-outs 13 which may be removed for the feed cable bushing 14 and nuts 15 of the BX feed cable 16.

Also formed in the rear wall of the casing 10 at regular intervals are the slots 17 within which are threaded the assembly bolts 18 which hold the casing and the front together.

Within this casing and in contact therewith is placed an inner channel composed of insulating material such as fiber 19.

The front of the molding comprises a strip of insulating material having a T-shaped cross section 20, the arms of which are formed with the notches or grooves 21 to accommodate the flanges 11 of the casing 10, and to retain this front 20 in assembly with the casing 10, the T-section is formed with screw holes that register with the slots 17 formed in the casing 10, and within these holes are mounted the assembly bolts 18 which have their heads countersunk into the front 20 and their rear ends threaded into the slots 17, the pitch of the screw thread being such that the

thickness of the material of the casing 10 will catch the same; the reason for the slot 17 being that the end of the bolt 13 will be more easily located in assembling the molding.

5 The connection of the BX electrical feed cable is made to the molding at the nearest knock-out 13 to the location of said cable, and the knock-out 13 having been removed the end of the bushing 14 is inserted through the casing 10 and the insulation 19 and is retained by the inner nut 15 and locking nut 21; the T-section being cut away at this point by the electrician as shown in Figure 4.

15 In the installation of the molding it is intended to place the same upon the upper edge of the base-board 22 of the wall, with the prongs or spurs 12 back of the base-board and also back of the wood molding 23, as shown in Figure 6.

20 As shown in Figure 7, the casing 10 is formed with its own finish molding 24 which may be attached by the nails 25.

The front 20 is formed at regularly spaced locations with the slots 26 each side of the T-section and which are for the prongs 27 of the standard attachment plug 28.

25 To the rear of the front 20 and adjacent the T-section are secured thereto by the tubular rivets 29 the two electrical feed strips 30, which are formed at spaced intervals with the loops 31 to which may be connected the electrical wires; and also to these feed strips 30 are attached by the rivets 32 the contact spring 33 which are located adjacent to the prong slots or openings 26 and which are made from resilient material such as spring copper and are bent as shown in Figure 3 to contact with the prongs 27 of the plug 28.

35 The electrical connection between the feed cable 16 and the feed strips 30 is shown in Figure 4, and is made by one wire 34 being connected to a loop 31 on one feed strip while the wire 35 is attached to another loop 31 on the other feed strip; these loops 31 being so spaced that some are always adjacent to a knock-out 13.

40 Referring to Figure 9, when a mitre corner is to be made, the molding, both front 20 and casing 10 is mitred in the usual manner by sawing through with a hack saw; the insulation 19 is cut back as shown and a specially formed corner 36 of insulating material is placed in the corner thus formed in the casing 10.

The electrical connections around the corner from feed strip to feed strip 30 are made by the wires 37 and 38 which are attached to suitable loops 31 in the feed strips 30 as shown in the drawing.

5 This same method is employed when the pieces of molding are abutted end to end, but when a dead end is reached as when a doorway is reached, the top and bottom of the casing 10 is cut back, a portion of the front and T-section 20 removed and the back end bent forward to cover the end as shown in Figure 9.

10 In practice it is intended to construct the molding in suitable lengths, having the contact springs and prong slots at comparatively close intervals apart, while the knock-outs and assembly screws will also be spaced so that no matter where installed, one of the knock-outs will be readily reached by the BX cable, and also the loops 31 for the connecting wires are spaced so that they are always close to either the feed wires or the corner connecting wires.

15 While these loops 31 retain the ends of the feed wires, these wires should also be secured in the usual manner by a soldered joint to the loop.

20 By removing the assembly bolts 18, the front with its wiring may be removed at any time from the casing 10 after the same has been installed in the wall.

25 Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

30 An electrical outlet molding comprising a sheet metal casing including a rear wall and upper and lower vertically spaced walls extending therefrom and having angularly disposed flanges on their free edges, a front closure member for the casing formed of insulating material and T-shape in cross section, the arms of the member having grooves in their longitudinal edges to receive the flanges of the casing, securing members passable through the member and adapted for securement in the rear wall of the casing to hold the flanges in intimate engagement in said grooves, feeding strips secured to the arms of the member, resilient contacts secured to the strips, said member having openings therein for the passage of plug prongs adapted to engage the contacts.

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