Dec. 13, 1955 R. DEGAETANO ET AL 2,726,425

AWNINGS

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FIG. 1.

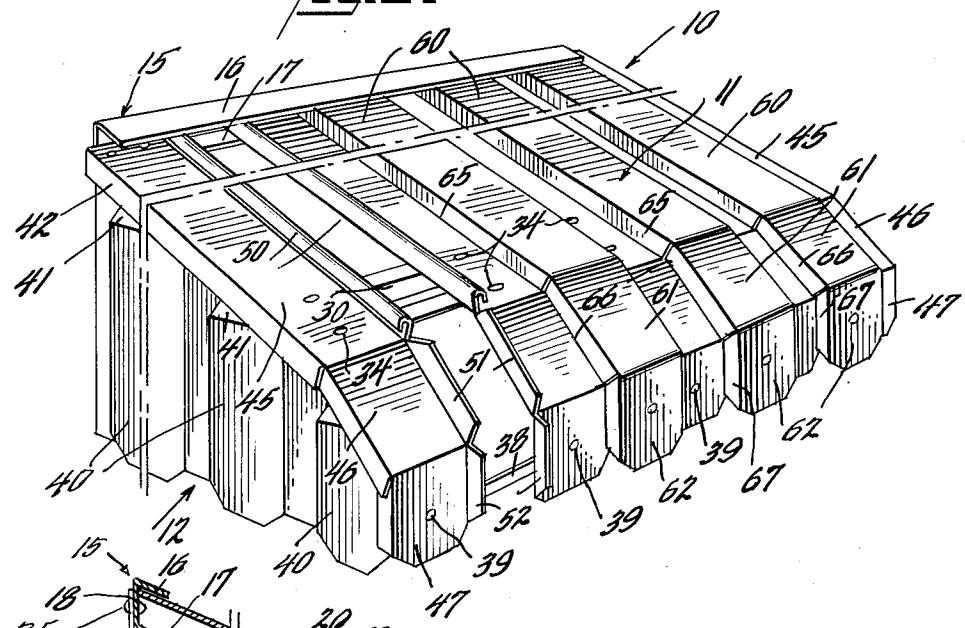
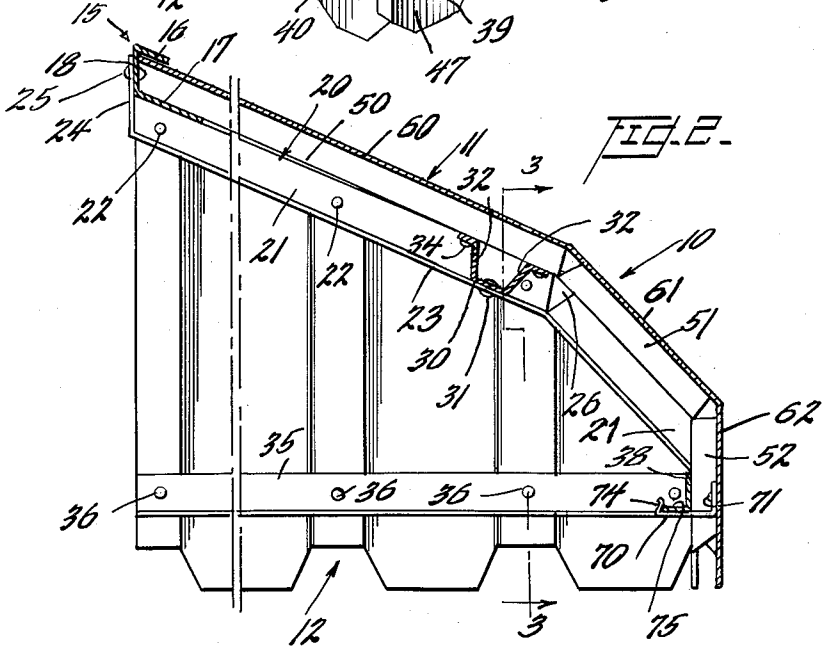


FIG. 2.



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FIG. 3.

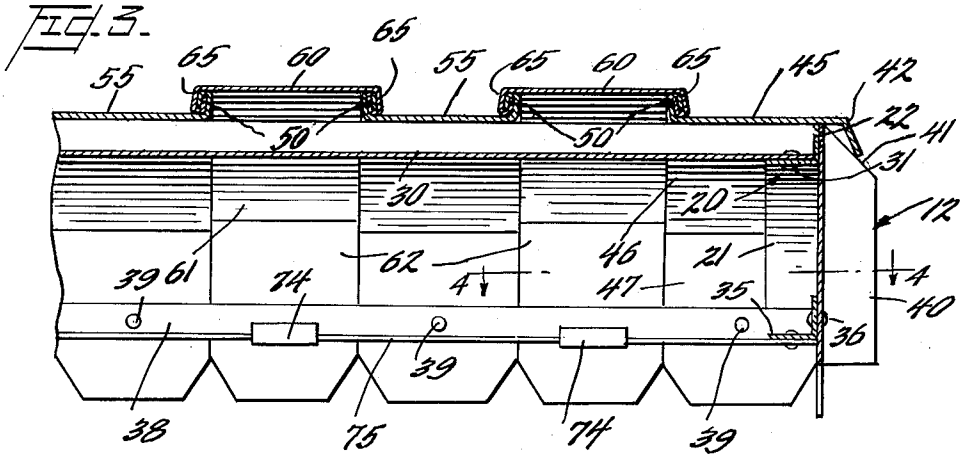


FIG. 4.

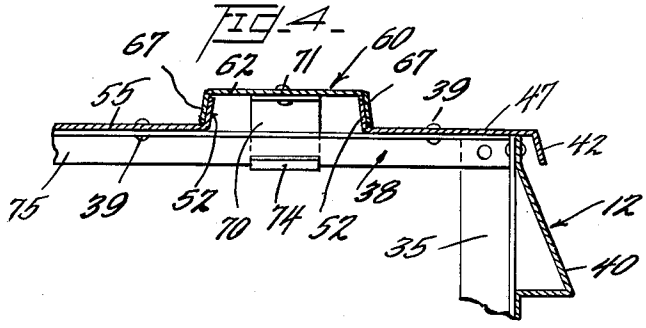
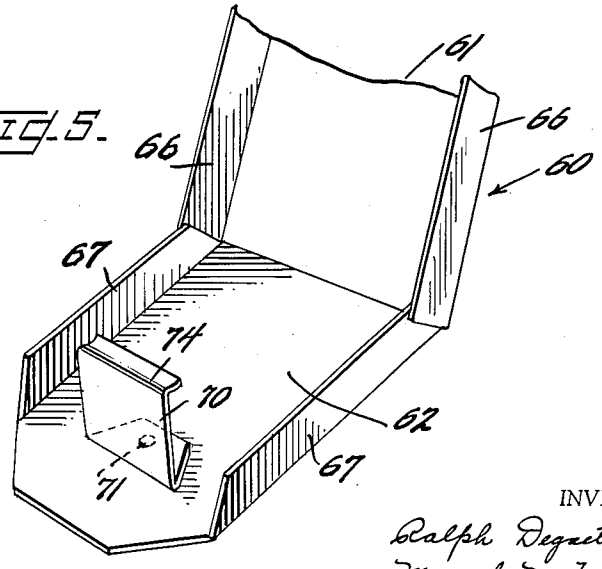


FIG. 5.



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AWNINGS

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Application January 9, 1951, Serial No. 205,129

3 Claims. (Cl. 20—57.5)

This invention relates to awnings and more particularly to awnings constructed of rigid or semi-rigid materials such as sheet metal, plastic, or the like, and suitable for permanent installation.

The general object of the invention is the provision of a novel and improved awning of the class described which is sturdy and durable, ornamental in appearance, and constructed and arranged to withstand high winds, even those of hurricane force.

The invention in its preferred embodiment, contemplates the provision of a permanently installed awning of rigid construction, in which alternate louver sections are removable, the removable sections being slidably interlocked at the edges with the permanent portions of the awning and having clips thereon which are adapted to be bent or snapped over a framing element of the structure to retain the movable sections in applied position. When the slidable louvers are removed, the skeleton awning structure remaining presents less surface to the wind and thus precludes damage to the installation.

The removal of the slidable louver sections requires no tools or any particular mechanical skill, and may be accomplished with a minimum of effort.

Another advantage of the removable slat or louver construction lies in the facility with which the awning can be painted. As a rule, portions of striped awnings have to be masked during the painting of adjacent portions of a different color. In the case of the awnings embodying the principles of the present invention, no masking is required. The removable louvers may be slid out of the assembly, the basic portion or permanent section painted one color, the removable louver sections painted another color, and the awning re-assembled when the paint in dry.

Other objects and features of novelty will be apparent from the following specification when read in connection with the accompanying drawings in which one embodiment of the invention is illustrated by way of example.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of an awning constructed in accordance with the invention, one of the louvers being removed in order to better disclose the cooperating interlocking portions of the permanent or basic structure;

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view taken in a plane at right angles to the plane of junction of the awning with the building to which it is attached;

Figure 3 is a transverse vertical sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a horizontal sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3; and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view on an enlarged scale showing the underside of an end of one of the removable louver sections and indicating the snap hook by which it is retained in place when applied to the permanent framework of the awning.

In the drawings the novel awning assembly is indicated in its entirety by the reference numeral **10**, the assembly comprising an upper sloping roof portion **11** of generally

corrugated construction and approximately triangular end wall or panel designated generally by the reference numeral **12**.

The covering material of the awning assembly may be made of sheet aluminum or other sheet metal or plastic of fairly thin gauge and the framing or bracing structure is preferably made of angle and channel pieces of either the same gauge as the covering sheets or of slightly thicker gauge.

Such framing structure preferably comprises an upper bracing framework including the upwardly and rearwardly disposed channel member **15** having the upper and lower flanges **16** and **17** and a substantially vertical web **18**. Bolts may be passed through openings in the web **18** by means of which the installation may be secured to the wall of a building or the like. Extending forwardly and downwardly from the channel **15** upon each side of the awning are the angle pieces or bars **20** having their vertical flanges **21** riveted to the upper portions of the corrugated side wall sheeting **12** as at **22** and having horizontal flanges **23** extending inwardly from the side or end walls. An extension of the flange **23** is bent upwardly at the rear end of the strip as at **24** and secured as by means of rivets **25** to the web **18** of the channel member **15**.

It will be noted from an inspection of Figures 1 and 2 that the forward end of the roof portion of the awning inclines downwardly in two successive angular positions, and to accommodate itself to this inclination the forward portion of the angle member or bar **20** is also bent downwardly, the flange **21** being cut away as at **26** to permit such bending.

Adjacent the first bend or inclination in the roof portion **11** there is disposed the winged channel member **30**. The web of this channel member **30** is riveted as at **31** to the flange **23** of the angles or bars **20** and the winged flanges **32** of the channel are riveted as at **34** to the roof portion **11** of the awning.

A lower bracing framework is disposed adjacent the fringe portion of the awning and comprises the side angle strips or side bars **35** having their vertical flanges riveted or otherwise secured as at **36** to the corrugated side walls **12** of the awning, and a forwardly disposed angle strip or bar **38** riveted as at **39** to the permanent roofing structure of the awning.

The side or end walls **12** of the awning assembly are preferably provided with the saw-tooth corrugations **40** illustrated very clearly in Figures 1, 3 and 4 of the drawings, and the upper portions of these corrugations are sloped as at **41** to bring the upper edge of the side walls **12** beneath the overhanging eaves **42** of the end ones of the fixed louver sections **45** of the roof portion. These fixed end strips or louvers **45** are provided with sloping intermediate sections **46** and substantially vertical end or fringe sections **47** and the eaves flanges **42** are similarly inclined as indicated at **48** and **49**.

The inwardly disposed edges of the end sections **45** are flanged to provide upwardly and angularly inclined edge portions adapted to cooperate and interlock with certain removable louver sections which will be described presently. Along the major portion of the inward edge of the section **45** the edge flange **50** is doubled or bent back upon itself to provide a hook-like construction, while the corresponding edge flanges **51** and **52** on the inclined forward portions of member **45** are of a single thickness and directed upwardly, preferably at an acute angle with the plane of the corresponding portions of the fixed member **45**.

Between the end sections **45** of the fixed portion of the awning there are disposed a number of spaced fixed sections or louvers corresponding in general configuration with the end sections **45** but modified to provide interlocking flanges along both of their edges. These fixed

intermediate sections are designated by the reference numerals **55** and the number of such sections, of course, will depend upon the width of the awning. Both side edges of the fixed intermediate strips or louvers **55** are provided with doubled flanges **50** and the sloping portions of these parts are provided with single-thickness flanges **51** and **52** of exactly the same construction as the corresponding flanges of the end members **45**.

Bridging the gaps between the fixed members **45** and **55** are the removable louver sections, each of the removable sections **60** conforming generally to the configuration of the roof and having sloping forward portions **61** and **62** corresponding to the sloping portions **46** and **47** of the fixed end louvers **45**. The main portions of removable members **60** are provided with downwardly inclined doubled or return-bent marginal flanges **65** which are adapted to cover and to be interlocked with the corresponding double-bent flanges **50** of the fixed elements **45** and **55**. It will be readily understood that the ends of the hook flanges of the removable elements **60** have their ultimate flanges inserted within the hooked portion of the flanges **50** of the two adjacent fixed members of the awning structure and then the removable louver sections **60** are slid into place as indicated in Figure 1, whereupon the sloping single-thickness flanges **66** and **67** embrace the cooperating flanges **51** and **52** of the fixed louvers and form a substantially weather-tight joint.

In order to secure the removable flanges **60** in their applied position, hooks or clips **70** are provided, one flange of each of these hooks being riveted as at **71** to the substantially vertical portions **62** of the members **60** and the horizontal flange being formed with a curved hook end **74** adapted to be snapped or bent around the edge of the horizontal flange **75** of the angle piece comprising the front bar **38** of the framing structure.

When the removable sections **60** are in applied position their upper rearward ends are snugly disposed beneath the flange **16** of the framing angle **15** and this flange **16** provides efficient flashing for the awning roof portion at the edge where it joins the building.

It will be seen that by the present invention, a novel and improved awning structure has been provided whereby interlocking removable panel or louver sections are separately formed; and when they are removed from the assembly there remains a skeleton structure which presents less surface to the wind and is adapted to withstand great wind pressure. In localities where hurricanes are prevalent, the storm warnings are always issued sufficiently in advance of the storm to permit the removal of the awning louvers before the hurricane strikes.

Also, painting of the awning in various colors in the conventional striped design is facilitated since the removable louvers **60** may be painted one color while detached from the general assembly and the fixed or permanent portions of the awning painted another color.

Various changes and modifications may be made in the embodiments illustrated and described herein without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

1. An awning of the class described comprising, in combination, a corrugated roof portion and a supporting frame for said roof portion comprising a channel member having its web disposed vertically and adapted to be secured to the wall of the building to which the awning is applied and the substantially horizontally extending flanges of the channel member embracing the rear edge of the corrugated roof portion, said roof portion being divided into longitudinally extending sections, means fixedly securing certain sections of said corrugated roof portion to said channel member, bars extending forwardly from said channel member, a forwardly disposed channel member connecting the forward ends of said bars, means for permanently and fixedly securing said fixed sections of the roof portion to said second named forward channel member, the forward edge of said roof portion being projected downwardly to form a fringe portion, corrugated end walls for said awning, and downwardly turned eaves flanges at the side margins of the roof section embracing the upper edges of said end walls, bracing bars extending along the lower parts of said end walls and a front bar connecting the forward ends of said bracing bars behind the fringe portion of the awning, alternate longitudinal sections of said roof portion having their side margins slidably interlocked with the margins of the fixed remaining sections of the roof portion for removal by longitudinal sliding movement relative to said remaining sections, and mutually cooperating resilient catch means and catch engagement portions on the fringe portion of said removable strips and said front bar, for snap engagement and retention of said strips in applied position.

2. An awning of the class described comprising, in combination, a basic fixed portion including a supporting frame comprising side bars and a transverse front bar, and a fixed roof portion having a forward downwardly projected fringe or edge portion adjacent said front bar; said roof portion having a series of spaced openings therein; and a plurality of removable louvers each covering one of said openings and means slidably interlocking each of said louvers with the fixed roof portions adjacent the margins of the opening, said means being the sole means for connecting said louvers with said fixed roof portion; each of the sliding louvers being provided with forward downwardly projected portions corresponding to the forward fringe portion of the fixed roof portion, and catch hooks on said forward portions of each of said removable louver sections adapted to releasably engage with said front bar in order to retain said removable louver sections in applied position, said hooks being the sole means for connecting said louvers with said fixed supporting frame and the sole locking means for preventing sliding withdrawal of said louvers.

3. An awning of the class described comprising: a permanently assembled and supported part which includes a supporting frame portion comprising side bars and a transverse substantially horizontal front bar, and a roof portion comprising a series of spaced parallel fixed louver sections having elongated openings therebetween, said openings when uncovered affording direct passage of sunlight and air therethrough; removable parts adapted to be temporarily applied to and readily detached from said permanently assembled and supported part upon occasion, said removable parts comprising other louver sections each adapted to cover one of said openings; the louver sections thus being arranged in two series, the first-named louver sections alternating with the second-named sections, the alternate sections being disposed in separate substantially vertically spaced planes, the edges of the sections in the upper plane provided with flanges bent downwardly toward the other plane and doubled into hook form, and the edges of the sections in the lower plane provided with upwardly bent cooperating hooked flanges interlocked with the adjacent flanges of the other series of the alternate sections comprising the second-named removable sections being slidable lengthwise with respect to the first-named permanently fixed sections to remove them from the awning assembly; the forward edges of both the permanently fixed louver sections and the slidably removable louver sections being projected downwardly to form a fringe portion for the awning, snap engagement connections securing the downwardly projected fringe portion of said removable louver sections to said front bar for ready removal of said last named louver sections in case of emergency; the adjoining edges of the fringe forming portions of the respective fixed and removable louver sections being overlapped but free from interlocking connections which would prevent sep-

aration of said removable louver sections in a generally forward direction upon release of said snap engagement connections.

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