

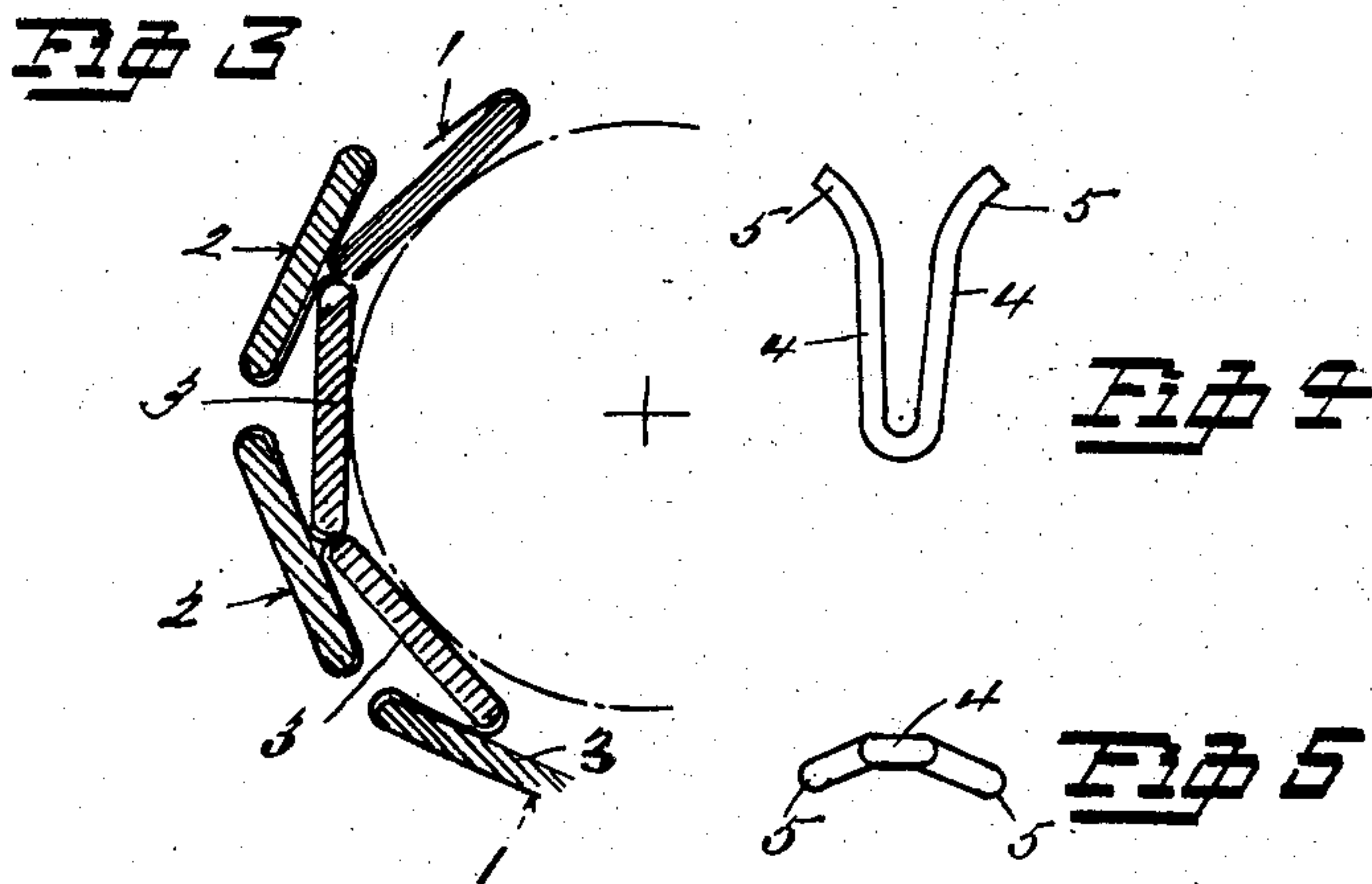
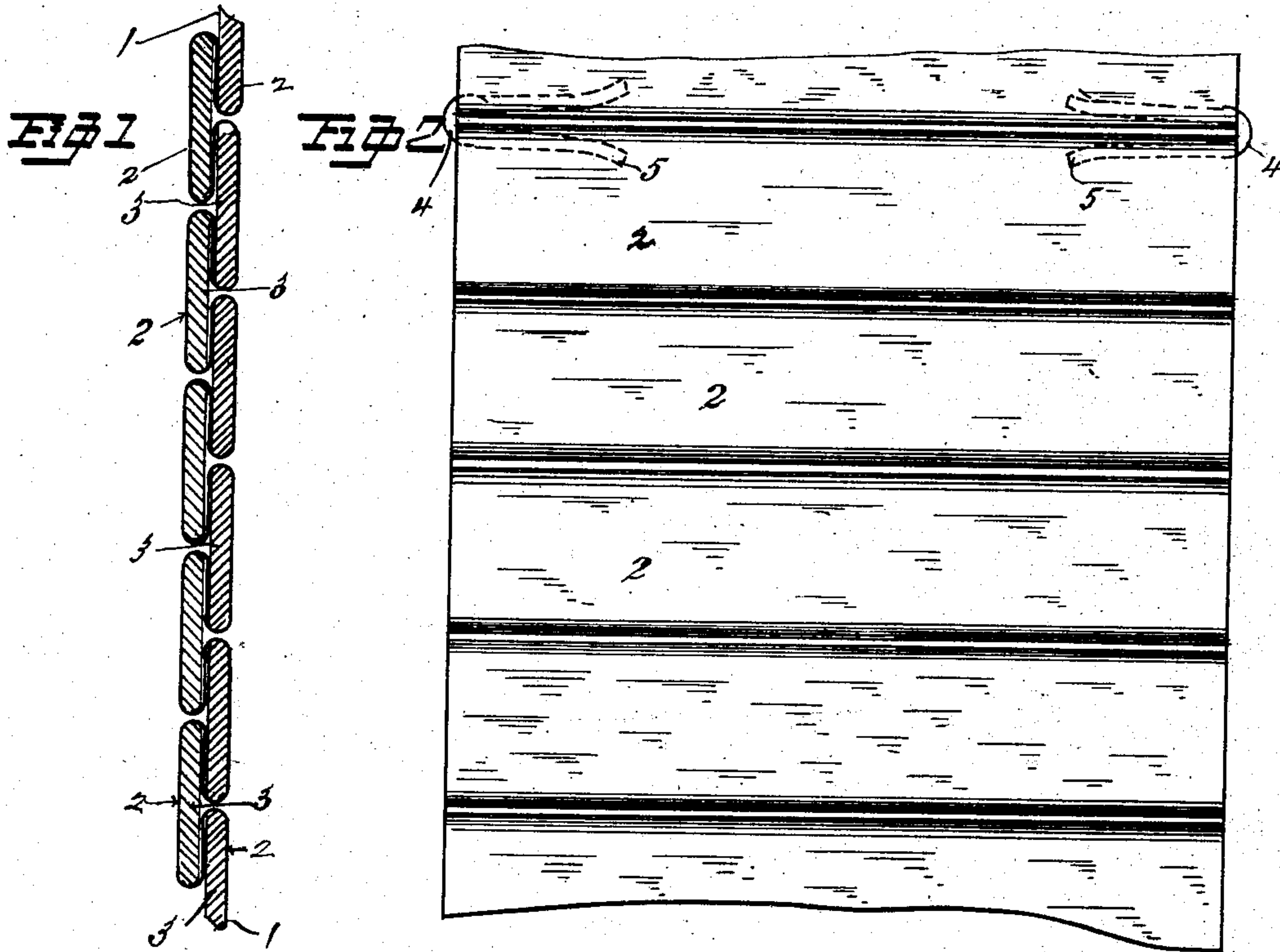
No. 741,698.

PATENTED OCT. 20, 1903.

W. McWORKMAN.
FIREPROOF ROLLING PARTITION.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 26, 1903.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLARD McWORKMAN, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

FIREPROOF ROLLING PARTITION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 741,698, dated October 20, 1903.

Application filed January 26, 1903. Serial No. 140,588. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLARD McWORKMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fireproof Rolling Partitions, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in flexible fireproof rolling curtains or partitions; and it consists in a metallic or other non-combustible pliable material of peculiar construction, hereinafter more fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The objects of this invention are, first, to construct a rolling curtain or partition the exterior surface or shield of which is composed of a flexible non-combustible material or of any light flexible material or metal, and the interior or core of such curtain or partition is composed of a heat-non-conducting and non-combustible material; second, to construct such outer shield or covering of said curtain or partition of such form that the entire structure will be of uniform flexibility, and, third, to construct such non-combustible or metallic shield of said curtain or partition of such form that it may be readily rolled on a roller of small diameter without permanent set or distortion. I attain these objects by means of the form and construction of the rolling curtain or partition illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which similar numerals of reference designate like parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a sectional view of a portion of a curtain or partition, showing the pockets thereof filled with a non-combustible and non-conducting material. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of said curtain or partition, showing the same bent over a roller of small diameter. Fig. 4 is a detail view of a reinforcing or tie link, and Fig. 5 is an end view of the same.

This invention is especially designed to meet the requirements of a rolling metallic non-conducting and fireproof curtain or partition for use particularly in buildings where portions or spaces are required to be shut off from the main portion where it is necessary to provide against fire or the spread of fire,

and the said curtain or partition is constructed of a continuous sheet or series of sheets connected together and of a thin flexible material or metal 1—such as sheet-steel, wire-netting, or other flexible or yielding material of a non-combustible nature and capable of being worked into form, is bent over upon itself or plaited on alternate sides to form longitudinally-extending pockets 2 on each side of the center of the thickness of the curtain or partition, and said pockets 2 are arranged to overlap or break joint. (See Fig. 1.) The pockets 2 are filled with a filling 3 or other non-combustible non-conducting material—such as paper, felt, or excelsior—which has been previously thoroughly saturated in a solution of silicate of soda or such other solution or material as will render a filling of such character non-combustible.

The reinforcing-links 4 are used for the purpose of dividing the stresses due to the weight of the material constituting the curtain or partition and to prevent the entire weight of said curtain or partition being concentrated, and said reinforcing-links are applied to adjoining pockets at suitable intervals apart throughout the length of the curtain to secure an equal distribution of stress due either to the weight of the curtain or the force required to roll the same and also to prevent an excessive extension of said curtain or partition when fully extended.

The reinforcing-links 4 are each composed, preferably, of a single piece of wire bent in a U form, with the ends of its prongs 5 extending or flared outwardly, and the said flared ends of said prongs are provided for the purpose of forming an anchor to engage the filling material to assist the said link 4 to be retained or anchored in place. The said flared ends 5 are set or bent sidewise of the link (see Fig. 5) a sufficient amount to bind tightly between the walls of the contiguous pockets or the walls of those pockets into which links are inserted.

Having thus fully described the nature and construction of this my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to cover by Letters Patent of the United States therefor, is—

1. A fireproof curtain or partition con-

constructed of flexible non-combustible material bent alternately in opposing directions upon itself to form alternating pockets.

2. A fireproof curtain or partition constructed of flexible non-combustible material bent alternately on opposite sides upon itself to form alternating pockets extending across said material.

3. A fireproof curtain or partition constructed of flexible material bent alternately on opposite sides upon itself, substantially as described.

4. A fireproof curtain or partition constructed of flexible non-combustible material bent successively in opposing directions upon itself to form exterior overlapping pockets.

5. A fireproof curtain or partition constructed of a sheet of a flexible non-combustible material bent successively in opposing directions upon itself to form exterior overlapping pockets alternately situated on opposite sides of said curtain or partition.

6. A fireproof curtain or partition constructed of a continuous sheet of a flexible material of a non-combustible nature bent successively in opposing directions upon itself to form exterior pockets, and a filling composed of a non-combustible non-conducting material inclosed in each of said pockets.

7. A fireproof curtain or partition constructed of a continuous sheet of flexible non-combustible material bent successively in opposing directions upon itself to form exterior

pockets, each pocket of which is filled with a flexible non-combustible non-conducting material. 35

8. In a fireproof curtain or partition composed of a sheet of flexible non-combustible material bent to form a series of contiguous pockets and a filling of a non-combustible non-conducting material inclosed in said pockets. 40

9. In a fireproof curtain or partition, the combination with a curtain composed of a flexible non-combustible material bent to form contiguous pockets, of a series of reinforcing-links arranged at suitable intervals apart to connect adjoining pockets of said curtain or partition, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 45 50

10. In a fireproof curtain or partition, the combination with a curtain composed of a flexible non-combustible material bent to form contiguous pockets, of a series of connecting-links arranged at suitable intervals apart to connect two adjoining pockets and said link having its free ends or prongs flared outwardly and provided with a side set, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 55

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses. 60

WILLARD McWORKMAN.

Witnesses:

THOMPSON R. BELL,
C. W. DOLL.