

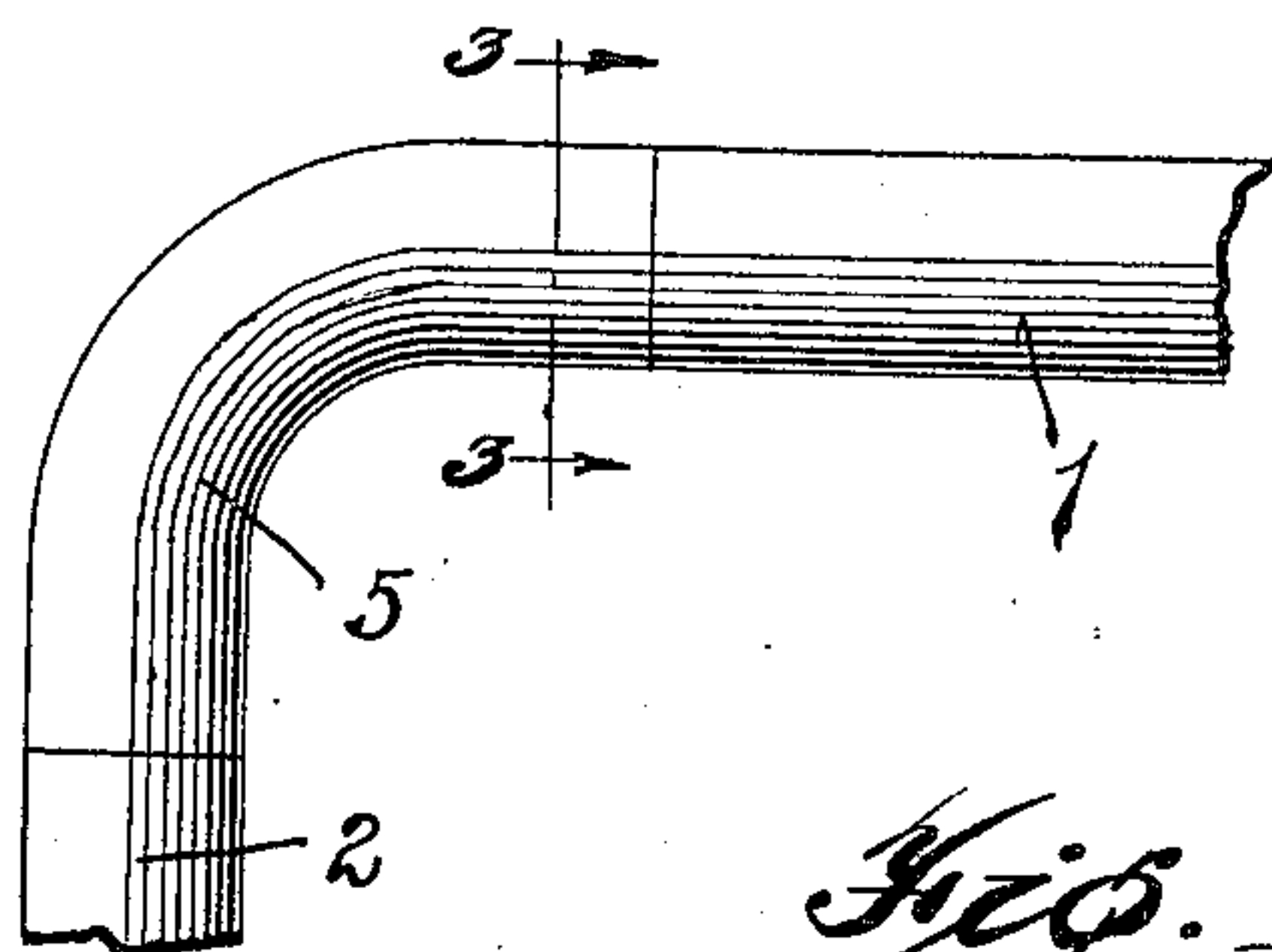
June 19, 1923.

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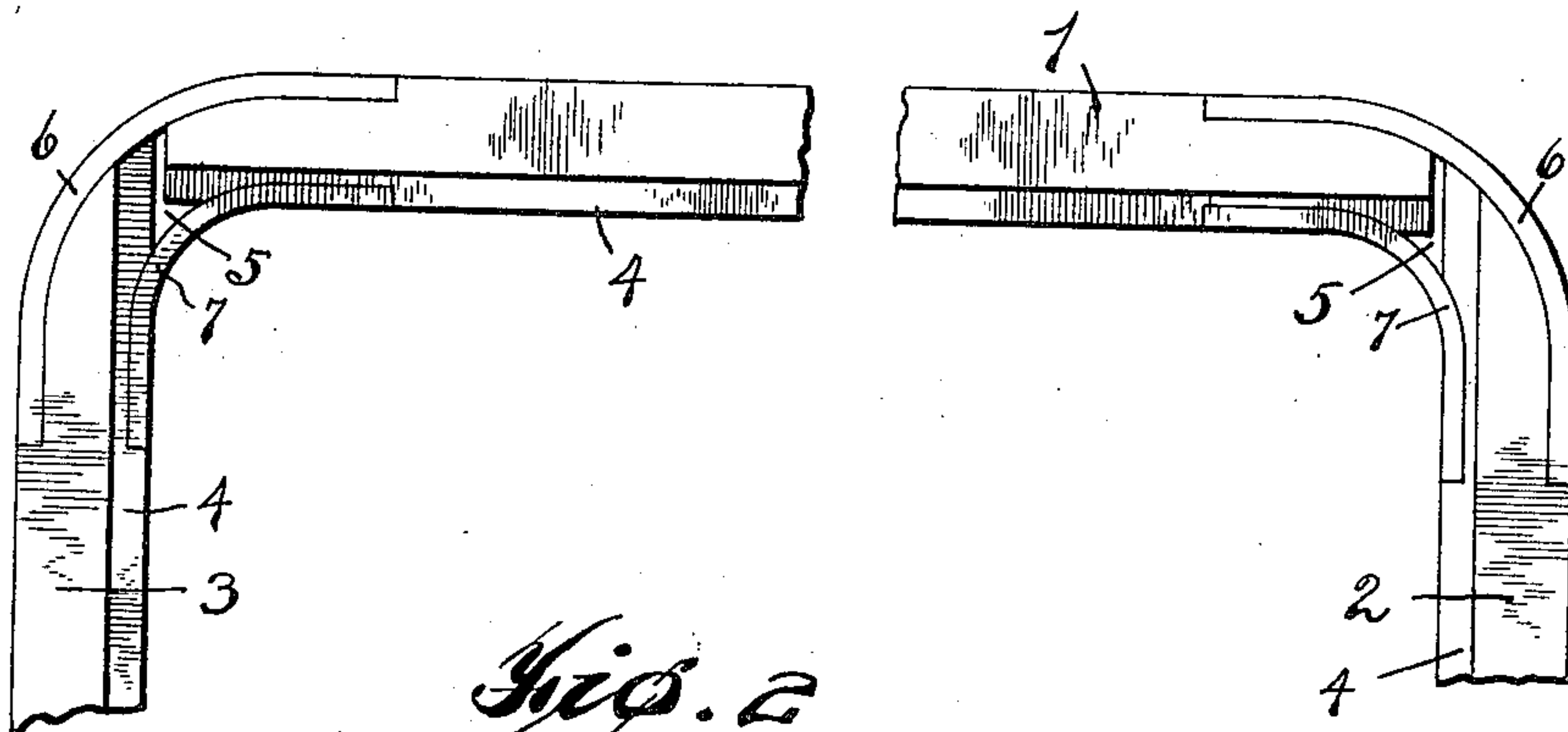
W. J. DECKER

FRAME

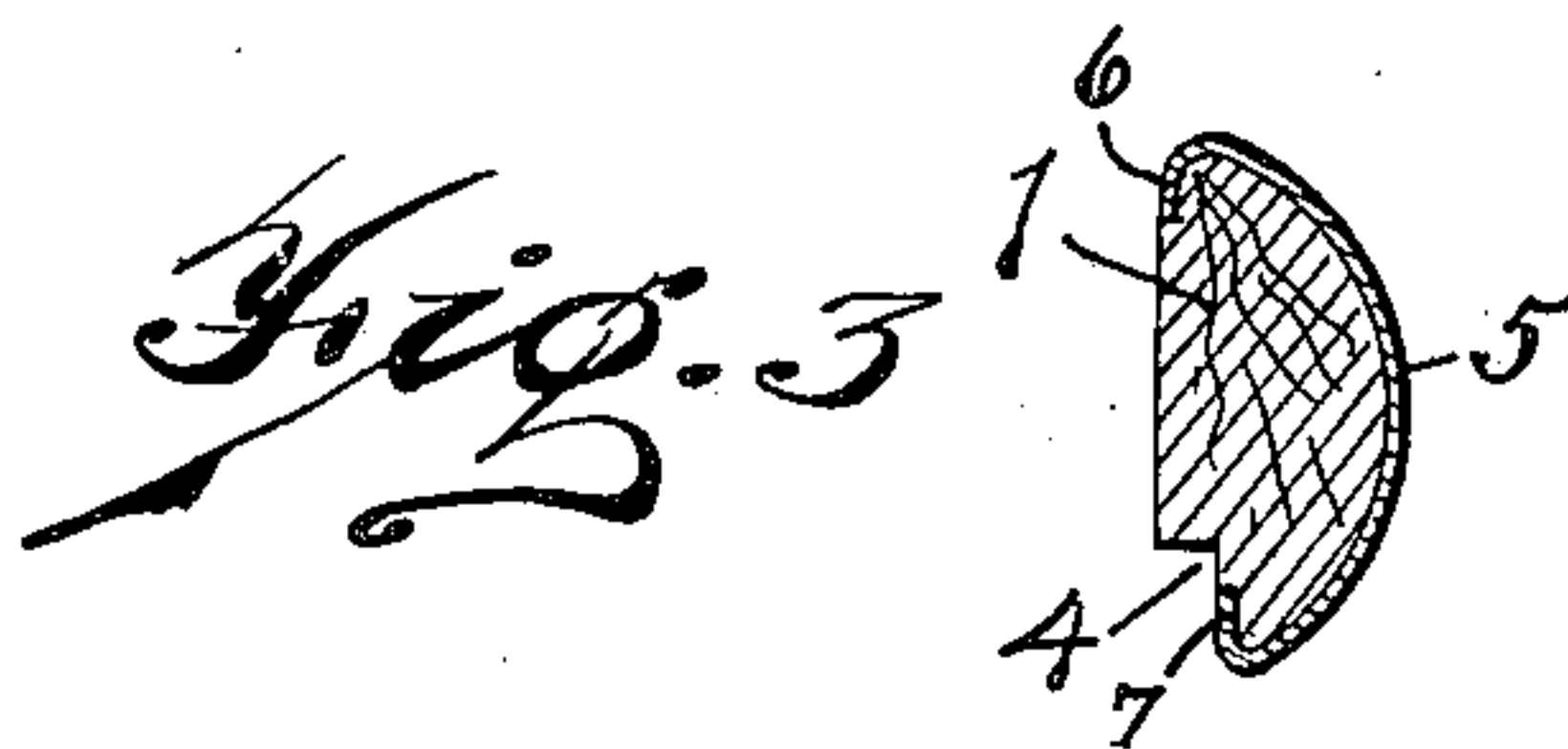
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*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*

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BY

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. DECKER, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

FRAME.

Application filed November 21, 1921. Serial No. 516,847.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. DECKER, a citizen of the United States, and residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Frame, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the construction of frames suitable for holding sheets of glass or celluloid for the windows of vehicle tops and to the construction of frames of pictures and mirrors, and its object is to provide a frame construction which will have maximum strength for its weight and for the dimensions of its parts, and which can be constructed at low cost.

In the construction of wooden frames for the windows of motor vehicle tops and for pictures and mirrors, it is customary to mortice the ends of the side and end frame members or to connect such members by means of splice pieces, glue being employed to assist in uniting these parts. But in every case the parts joined are cut away in part, and irrespective of the perfection of the joint, it is usually the weakest part of the frame. In substantially every case, a portion at least of the wood from which the frame members are made is seriously reduced in area and a portion of the wood is cross-grained at the joints. The glue disintegrates with age, especially when exposed to the weather, and the frame is weakened to that extent.

The present invention consists of a sheet metal elbow whose cross section corresponds to that of the two parts of the frame united thereby and which is so rigidly folded around the edges of the frame members that the frame becomes stronger at the corners than at any other part.

It may be embodied in the structure shown in the drawing, wherein Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a corner of a frame; Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the top of a frame; and Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Similar reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views.

The frame members 1, 2 and 3 shown in the drawing are nearly half round in cross section and are provided with the rabbets 4

along their inner edges, extending along their entire lengths, to receive the sheet of glass, celluloid or other transparent material. The ends are rounded and preferably slightly reduced so that when the sheet metal corner members 5 are fitted around adjacent ends the surfaces of these metal members will be flush with the surface of the wood members. The side edges 6 and 7 of these corner members are then bent down to firmly compress the edges of the wood members, preferably sufficiently to sink these edges into the wood to produce continuous flat surfaces, especially at the rabbets 4.

The prime advantage of this construction is the strength of the frame, but another advantage lies in the ease with which the parts may be assembled, finely fitted joints being unnecessary. In the drawing I have shown that the side and end members need not touch. A further advantage lies in the rabbets 4 of the several parts extending their length so that it is unnecessary to round the corners of the sheets of glass to be mounted in the frames. As the joint between the ends of the sheet metal corner members and adjacent shoulders on the wood may be close, the whole structure may receive a smooth shell of enamel which may entirely hide the joints.

The sheet metal corners may be varied to conform to side and end members of many varieties of frames without departing from the spirit of my invention as set forth in the following claim.

I claim:—

In a frame, the combination of wood side and end members having rabbets along their inner edges to receive a sheet of glass, said rabbets extending the entire length of said frame members, and a sheet metal corner member connecting the side and end members and having its ends bent to conform to the outer surfaces of the side and end members and its middle portion of the same cross section as its ends and curved to constitute a curved elbow, the edges of the sheet metal member being bent around the edges of the side and end members.

WILLIAM J. DECKER.