R. J. BRATTON.

CEMENT BLOCK MOLD.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 18, 1909.

974,350. Patented Nov. 1, 1910.

Fig. 1.

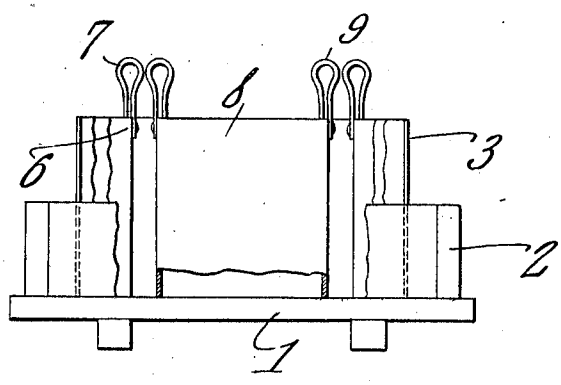


Fig. 2.

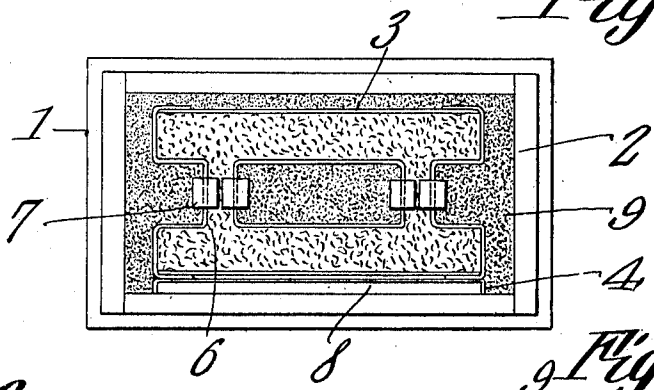


Fig. 3.

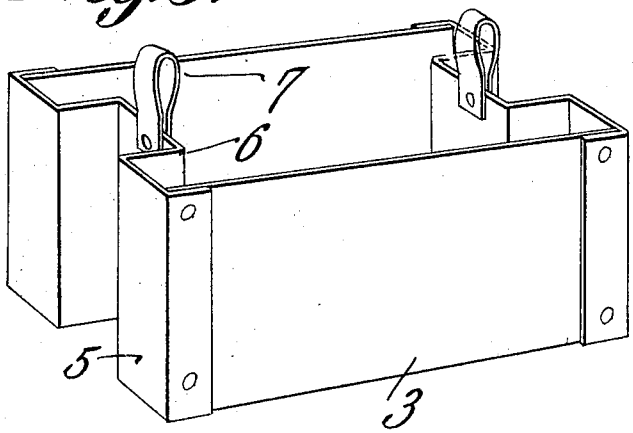
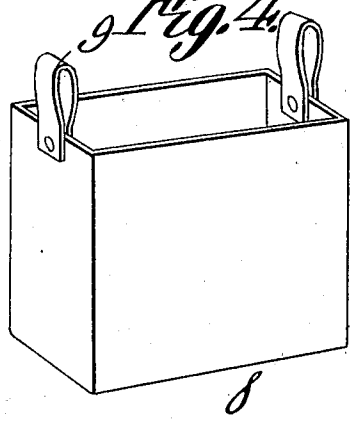


Fig. 4.



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CEMENT-BLOCK MOLD.

974,350. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 1, 1910.

Application filed October 18, 1909. Serial No. 523,228.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT J. BRATTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Georgetown, in the county of Vermilion and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Cement-Block Mold, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the manufacture of concrete blocks and has for its object a method of making the blocks by which a large number of the blocks may be rapidly produced by the aid of a single mold without the loss of time due to the mold being left around the block until the cement has thoroughly set, as in the methods heretofore practiced.

With this object and such other incidental objects as will hereinafter appear in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of the apparatus illustrated in the accompanying drawing and in the method of using the same, as will be hereinafter first fully described and then particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a mold arranged in accordance with my invention, parts being broken away. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the mold. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the core form.

In carrying out my invention, I employ a pallet 1 upon which a sand retaining frame 2 is placed, the said frame consisting preferably of an open rectangular frame formed of boards or planks secured together at their ends, as will be readily understood. I also employ a mold 3 which is placed upon the pallet within the retaining frame 2 and nearer one side of the same than the other side, a face plate 4 being placed between the retaining frame 2 and the adjacent side of the mold, as shown most clearly in Fig. 2. In the form of the invention illustrated, the mold consists of an open frame, preferably of sheet metal, having two sides and having inset ends 5 rigidly secured to the sides so that a block shaped within the mold will have its ends and sides at right angles and will have a central recess in its ends. It is to be understood, however, that the exact shape of the mold is not material to the invention as the mold may be circular so as to be employed in the formation of tiles or any other shape of block may be made, as may be desired. On the upper edge of the inset portions 6 of the mold I secure handles or loops 7 by means of which the mold may be readily lifted from the pallet or lowered onto the same so as to be arranged in its operative position. While, of course, solid blocks may be formed according to my method, hollow blocks are more generally used and I therefore provide a core form 8 which, in the illustration, consists of a rectangular sheet metal box having an open top and bottom and provided at its ends on its upper edge with handles or loops 9 by means of which it may be readily placed upon or lifted from the pallet.

When it is desired to form a block according to my invention, the retaining frame 2 is placed upon the pallet and the face plate 4 is then set on edge against the inner face of one side of the retaining frame. The mold 3 is then placed upon the pallet within the retaining frame and against the face plate after which the space between the mold and the retaining frame is filled with sand. The core is then placed in position centrally within the mold and filled with sand, after which the cementitious mixture is poured into the mold so as to fill the same in the usual manner. The core is then lifted from its position leaving the hollow center of the cement block filled with sand, after which the mold is likewise removed leaving the block surrounded by sand, the weight of which will carry the cement against the face plate so that the faces of the block will have the desired formation. A straight edge or any convenient tool is then moved over the retaining frame so as to level the upper edge of the cement and the cement is then allowed to set while the mold may be used to form other blocks in like manner so that a single mold may be repeatedly used without any loss of the use of the same and a large number of blocks may be formed with the use of a single mold, it being necessary only to have as many pallets and retaining frames as may be conveniently or economically used according to the capacity of the plant. After the cement has set the block is lifted from the sand and slightly shaken whereupon the sand will be freed from the same and the block will be ready for use.

The handles or loops 7 and 9 are preferably constructed of sheet metal in the form of straps having their ends riveted or other-

wise secured to the mold and the core respectively so that when the device is being shipped or is in use and cement is to be poured into the space within the mold, the handles may be bent down out of the way against the outer face of the mold and the inner face of the core and may then be readily raised to the positions illustrated in the drawings when it is desired to remove the mold or the core from the pallet.

It is to be noted that the upstanding handles 7 and 9 are disposed in pairs, the constituent members of each of these pairs being located close together, so that each pair may be grasped by the hand of the operator, thus providing for the simultaneous removal of the mold and the core from the sand-retaining frame. The handles 7 and 9, as clearly seen in Fig. 1, are enlarged at their upper ends, and brought into close relation with respect to each other. Thus, the handles 7 and 9 serve as a means for preventing the core 8 from moving longitudinally within the mold 3. Moreover, the longitudinal recesses in the ends of the member 3 are adapted to house the handles 7, when the same are downbent, as hereinbefore described.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A device of the class described consisting of a mold; a core resting within the mold; the mold being provided with a handle at each end, and the core being provided with a handle at each end located in close proximity to the handles of the mold, to define pairs of gripping elements, each of which pairs is adapted to be engaged by a hand of the operator, for the simultaneous removal of the core and the mold.

2. A device of the class described consisting of a hollow mold; a core located within the mold; the core and the mold being provided at their ends, with handles, having at their upper ends, enlargements located in close relation to each other, to constitute a means for limiting the movement of the core within the mold.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT J. BRATTON.

Witnesses:
C. E. Long,
F. Haworth.