April 8, 1930. G. A. BUTTRESS 1,753,598

SHEET LATH

Filed Nov. 28, 1927

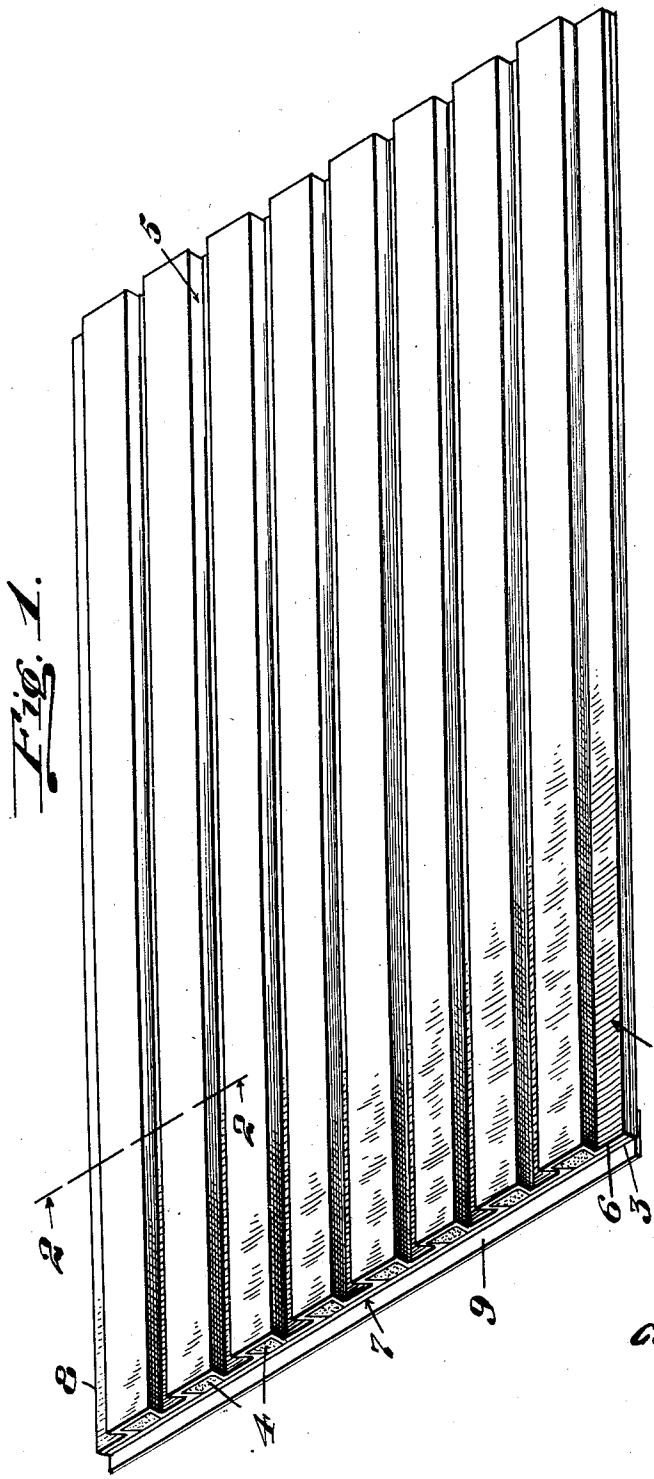


Fig. 1.

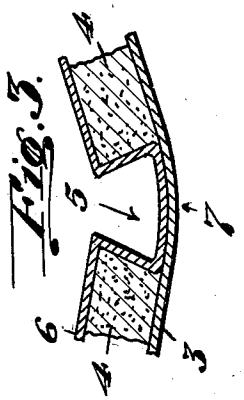


Fig. 3.

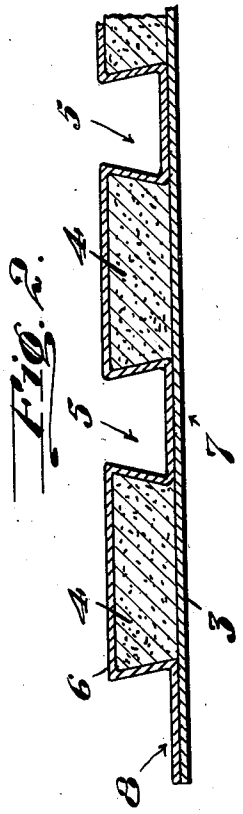


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SHEET LATH

Application filed November 28, 1927. Serial No. 236,081.

This invention relates to a fabricating lath panel and particularly pertains to a lath board of the character embodying a series of spaced parallel paper covered composition ribs of the character referred to in my copending application for United States Letters Patent, filed November 23, 1926, Serial No. 150,250.

An object of this invention is to provide a sheet lath of the above character in which the series of parallel composition ribs, preferably formed of a hardened plastic material, are spaced apart and are carried upon a backing sheet and have their outer faces and contiguous edges covered by a facing sheet in such manner as to form channels between adjacent ribs, the bottom walls of which channels are formed by the combined thicknesses of the backing sheet and facing sheet so as to render the bottom walls of such channels somewhat flexible throughout their transverse widths to readily permit the lath sheet being rolled and also admit of its being applied to a curved surface.

With the foregoing object in view together with such other objects and advantages as may subsequently appear, the invention resides in the combination, construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the lath panel;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail in cross section as seen on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a detail in section illustrating the manner in which the sheet may be bent by flexing the bottom walls of the channels.

Referring to the drawings more specifically, 3 indicates a flexible backing sheet, (which may be formed of any suitable fibrous material) and 4 indicates a series of parallel ribs or slats preferably formed of a plastic composition such as plaster of Paris and other suitable ingredients. The ribs 4 are spaced apart suitable distances and are adhered to the backing sheet 3 by an adhesive quality possessed by the plastic composition. The outer faces of the ribs 4 are preferably flat and their sides are preferably inclined inwardly from their outer margins to their intersections with the backing sheet so as to form channels 5 between the ribs of substantially dove-tail cross section. A flexible facing sheet 6, preferably corresponding to the backing sheet 3, covers the ribs 4; the facing sheet extending over the outer faces and sides of the ribs and being adhered intimately thereto, and also extending between adjacent ribs in superficial contact with the backing sheet 3 throughout the entire width of the portion of the backing sheet extending between adjacent ribs so as to form the bottom walls 7 of the channels of two contiguous layers of flexible material. By this construction the bottom walls 7 of the channels 5 are flexible throughout their widths so as to permit the lath sheet being readily rolled transversely or applied to curved surfaces, and by reason of being flexible throughout the bottom walls of the channels 5, a hinge action along the edges of the slats is largely obviated thus overcoming an objectionable feature incident to sheet lath of this type in which plaster is interposed between a backing sheet and facing sheet forming the bottom walls of the channels. The manner in which the bottom walls 7 of the channels may be bent or flexed is shown in Fig. 3. The double thickness and toughness of the flexible sheet material and its being capable of bending transversely throughout the entire widths of the bottom of the channels insures against the sheet lath being readily split along the channels and thereby permits the lath sheet being subjected to ordinary rough handling as in transportation and application without danger of breaking.

The backing sheet and facing sheet are preferably formed of fibrous material and may consist of the ordinary pulp board of commerce, and where the lath is to be employed interiorly may be untreated; but in the construction of an exterior lath, the facing and backing sheet are preferably waterproofed.

In order to provide an overlap between contiguous panels of the sheet lath, when the latter is applied upon a wall, the longitudinal margins of the lath panel extending in the di-

rection of the length of the ribs are formed with flexible flaps 8 consisting of portions of the backing sheet and facing sheet fastened together as by means of an adhesive such as glue, and a flap 9 is provided on at least one end of the lath panel, which flap may be formed of a strip of flexible material adhered to the backing sheet 3 and arranged to project beyond the end margins of the ribs and extend continuously along the width of the panel as shown. These flaps 8 are particularly desirable where the lath is to be employed on exterior walls, as they serve to close the joints between contiguous lath panels so as to prevent moisture, which may permeate plaster coating on the lath from passing beneath or to the back of the lath panels and affecting the frame work on which the lath is mounted. Where the flap 9 is employed it is preferably formed of moisture resistant material. However, where the lath is formed for interior work, the end flaps 9 may be dispensed with.

I claim:

1. A fabricated rib lath, comprising a backing sheet, a series of spaced parallel ribs adhered to said backing sheet, and a facing sheet covering the outer faces and sides of said ribs and adhered thereto; said facing sheet extending between adjacent ribs in intimate superficial contact with the backing sheet throughout the area thereof extending between the ribs, and forming a flexible connection between said ribs; said backing sheet and facing sheet being projected beyond the marginal ribs to form flaps.

2. In a fabricated rib lath panel, a fibrous flexible backing sheet, a series of spaced parallel ribs adhered to one face of said backing sheet, a flexible facing sheet covering the outer faces and sides of said ribs and adhered thereto; said facing sheet extending between adjacent ribs in intimate superficial contact with the backing sheet throughout the portions of the latter extending between the ribs and forming with the backing sheet a double thickness of the flexible material constituting a flexible bottom wall of a channel formed between contiguous ribs, and a flap carried by the backing sheet projecting beyond the end margins of the ribs on at least one end of the panel.

3. In a fabricated rib lath, a backing sheet, a series of spaced parallel ribs adhered to said backing sheet, said ribs being formed of a hardened plastic composition, and a facing sheet covering the outer faces and sides of said ribs and adhered thereto; said facing sheet extending between adjacent ribs in intimate superficial contact with the backing sheet throughout the area thereof extending between the ribs.

4. In a fabricated rib lath, a fibrous flexible backing sheet, a series of spaced parallel ribs adhered to one face of said backing sheet, said ribs being formed of a plaster composition and having flat outer faces and inwardly inclined side walls forming channels of dovetail cross section between adjacent ribs, a flexible facing sheet covering the outer faces and sides of said ribs and adhered thereto; said facing sheet extending between adjacent ribs in intimate superficial contact with the backing sheet throughout the portions of the latter extending between the ribs and forming with the backing sheet a double thickness of the flexible material constituting the bottom wall of a channel formed between contiguous ribs.

5. A fabricated rib lath, comprising a backing sheet, a series of spaced parallel ribs adhered to said backing sheet, and a facing sheet covering the outer faces and sides of said ribs and adhered thereto; said facing sheet extending between adjacent ribs in intimate superficial contact with the backing sheet throughout the area thereof and forming a flexible connection between the ribs, said facing sheet and backing sheet projecting beyond the marginal ribs and being adhered together to form flaps.

6. A fabricated rib lath comprising a backing sheet, a series of spaced parallel ribs adhered to said backing sheet, a facing sheet covering the outer faces and sides of said ribs and adhered thereto; said facing sheet extending between adjacent ribs in intimate superficial contact with the backing sheet throughout the area thereof and forming a flexible connection between the ribs, said facing sheet and backing sheet projecting beyond the marginal ribs and being adhered together to form flaps, and a flap carried by the backing sheet projecting beyond the end margins of the ribs on at least one end of the panel.

In testimony whereof, I have affixed my signature.

GEORGE A. BUTTRESS.