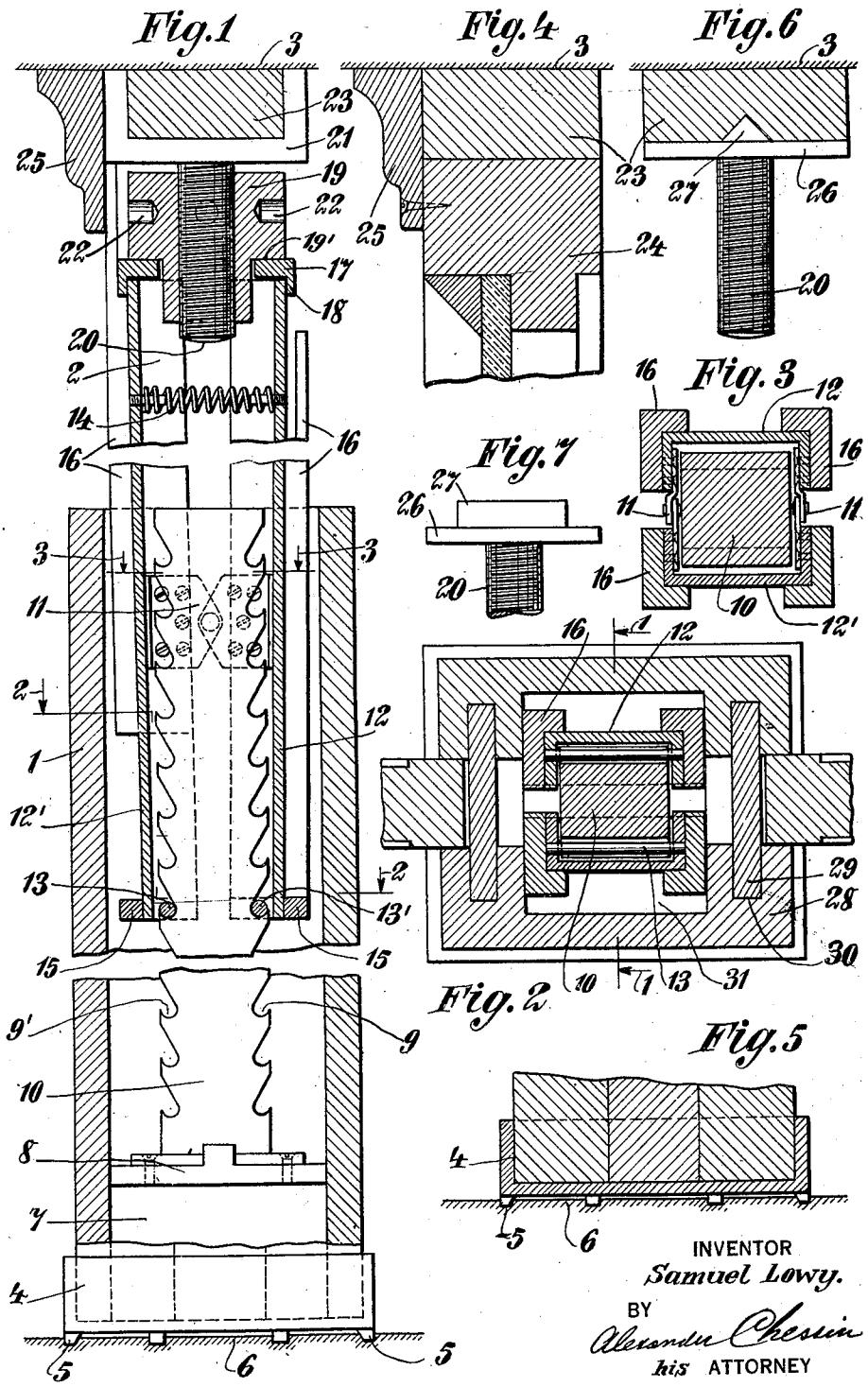
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EXTENSIBLE PILASTER

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EXTENSIBLE PILASTER.

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My invention relates to partitions intended for lofts, offices and stores, and more particularly to pilasters used in the construction of such partitions.

The present invention covers a specific type of the structure described in the application Serial No. 13,711, filed by me on March 7, 1925, and embodying the principle of holding a partition in place by pressure between the pilasters and the floor and ceiling, without the use of screws or nails, and, therefore, without deformation or damage characteristic of present day structures of this class when a partition is removed, extended or changed. The method of attaching panels to the pilasters does not form any part of the present invention. Therefore, only the pilaster structure is described and claimed in this application.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section through a pilaster embodying my present type; Figure 2 is a cross section along the line 2—2 of Figure 1; Figure 3 is a cross section along the line 3—3 of Figure 1; Figure 4 is a cross section through the ceiling strip and cross rail, at some distance from the pilaster; Figure 5 is a detail of the base of my pilaster, in cross section; and Figures 6 and 7 are details of a modification of my device.

Referring in particular to Figures 1 to 5, my pilaster is composed of a main hollow post 1 and an extension post 2, this extension post being shown in Figure 1 as elevated up to the ceiling 3. The main hollow post 1 rests in a shoe 4 having sharp-edged flanges or spikes 5 partly embedded in the floor 6. Fitting into the main hollow post 1, at the base thereof, is a wooden block 7, covered by a metal plate 8. To the plate 8 is affixed in any suitable manner the vertical post 10, of square cross section, provided on two opposite sides along its entire length with notches 9, 9′. A jacket made up of two halves 12, 12′, of U shaped cross section, surrounds the post 10 and is provided at its lower end with lugs or pins 13, 13′, adapted to engage and rest in the notches 9, 9′. The two jacket halves 12, 12′, are connected about midway their lengths by a hinge 11 whereby they may be given a seesaw movement. An expansion spring 14 near the upper end of the jacket forces the two halves 12, 12′ away from one another and thereby holds the lugs 13, 13′ in their engagement with the corresponding notches. A collar 15 at the lower end of the jacket serves as a support for the facings 16, which facings together with the jacket constitute the extension post 2. In Figure 1, the facings 16 are shown, on the left side, as raised to their final position, and, on the right side, as only partially raised. The method of raising these facings will be made clear further below, in explaining the operation of the device. It will be noted that the facings 16 are trimmed to allow them to pass the flange 18, which flange forms a part of the lid 17 topping the jacket halves 12, 12′, and cooperates with the spring 14 to hold said jacket halves in position. The lid 17 has a central hole into which loosely fits the nut 19, which nut is formed with a shoulder 19′ resting on said lid 17. The nut 19 is threaded to receive the threaded stem 20 of the U shaped member 21 and is provided with holes 22 for the insertion of a pin or lever (not shown) whereby said nut may be turned. A ceiling strip 23, trimmed to fit into the U shaped member 21 so as to form a flush surface therewith, is braced underneath by a cross rail 24. A moulding 25 covers the face of the ceiling strip 23 and part of the cross rail 24.

In Figures 6 and 7 is shown a modification of my device as to the manner of connecting the pilaster to the ceiling strip. In this modification, the U shaped member 21 is replaced by a plate 26 having a sharp edged projection 27, whereof a front view is shown in Figure 6, and a side view in Figure 7.

The main hollow post 1 is made up of the facings 28 and the fillers 29, the latter fitting tightly in the vertical grooves 30 formed in the facings 28. Sufficient space 31 is allowed between the facings 28 of the main post 1 and the facings 16 of the extension post 2, to permit the seesaw movement of the jacket 12, 12′.

When the pilaster is unextended, then practically all of the extension post 2 remains within the main hollow post. The post 10 may be sufficiently depressed below the upper surface of the main post to allow the entire extension post to be concealed within it, but even when the post 10 extends as high as is shown in Figure 1 of the drawing, the extension post 2 will be concealed by the moulding (not shown) which always caps the main hollow post.

When it is desired to extend the pilaster to the ceiling, one takes hold of the jacket

halves 12, 12′, immediately under the lid 17, and forces them towards one another, which action releases the plugs 13, 13′ from engagement with the notches 9, 9′. The jacket halves 12, 12′ are then raised until the U shaped member 21 comes in contact with the ceiling strip 23, when the pressure on the jacket halves is released and the lugs 13, 13′ fall into the corresponding notches 9, 9′, at the proper elevation. The spring 14 will cause the jacket to hold in the new position. Next, the nut 19 is turned, forcing the U shaped member 21 upwards until it presses firmly on the ceiling strip 23 and, through the ceiling strip, on the ceiling. The U shaped member 21 is prevented from turning with the nut 19 by the ceiling strip which, in operation, would naturally pass through at least two U shaped members of successive pilasters. After thus jacking up the pilaster, the facings 16 are raised up to the U shaped member, the cross rail 24 is placed in position, and the moulding 25 is nailed onto the ceiling strip, cross rail and facings 16, thus firmly locking the entire structure in position.

When the modification shown in Figures 6 and 7 is used, the sharp edged projection 27 is wedged into the ceiling strip 23 as the nut 19 is turned, the shape of the projection 27 being such as to prevent the plate 26 from turning with the nut 19.

I may, of course, dispense with the spring 14, if I provide the hinge 11 with the necessary spring action. This is but one of the many variations of my device obvious to those skilled in the art, and it is to be understood that, although I have illustrated my invention in a specific embodiment thereof, my device is not limited to this particular illustration, but covers any modification, addition or omission which is within the spirit and scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. In an extensible pilaster, a main hollow post, a second post within said hollow post extending upwards from the base thereof, notches along the length of said second post, a jacket over said second post adapted for longitudinal movement relatively thereto and provided with a lug adapted to engage one of said notches, and resilient means for releasing said lug from said engagement.

2. An extensible pilaster comprising a main hollow post, a second post extending longitudinally within said main hollow post and fixed at the base thereof, notches along the length of said second post, a jacket on said second post non-rotatably movable relatively thereto and provided with a lug adapted to engage one of said notches, means for releasing said lug from such engagement, a facing for said jacket adapted to form an extension of said main hollow post, and means for raising said facing when said jacket is raised.

3. An extensible pilaster comprising a main hollow post, a rectangular post extending longitudinally within said hollow post and fixed at the base thereof, notches along the length of said rectangular post on two opposite sides thereof, a jacket on said rectangular post made in two sections, a hinge connecting said two jacket sections, a lug on each jacket section at the lower end thereof, means cooperating with said hinge for engaging said lugs with said notches and for disengaging them therefrom, a facing for said jacket adapted to form an extension of said main hollow post, and means for raising said facing when said jacket is raised.

4. An extensible pilaster comprising a main hollow post, a body fitted thereinto at the base thereof, a rectangular post fitted into said body and extending upwards therefrom within said hollow post, a multiplicity of parallel notches along the length of said rectangular post on two opposite sides thereof, a jacket on said rectangular post made in two halves hinged together for seesaw movement, a lug on each jacket half at the lower end thereof adapted to engage one of said notches, means for holding said lugs in and for releasing them from engagement with said notches, a facing for said jacket adapted to form an extension of said main hollow post, and means for raising said facing when said jacket is raised.

5. An extensible pilaster comprising a main hollow post, a rectangular post therewithin and extending upwards substantially the height thereof, a multiplicity of parallel notches along the length of said rectangular post on two opposite sides thereof, a jacket on said rectangular post made in two halves of U shaped cross section hinged together for seesaw movement, a lug on each jacket half at the lower end thereof adapted to engage one of said notches, resilient means for holding said lugs in and for releasing them from engagement with said notches, a projection on said jacket at the lower end thereof, facings for said jacket resting on said projection, a cap topping said jacket, a threaded hole in said cap, a shoe having a threaded stem fitting into said threaded hole, a nut on said stem above said cap, and means for turning said nut.

6. In a partition comprising a ceiling strip, a pilaster such as described in claim 5, and means on the shoe forming part of the structure of said pilaster for engaging said ceiling strip and preventing said shoe from turning when the nut mentioned in said claim is turned.

7. In an extensible pilaster, a main hollow post, a second post extending upwards within said hollow post, an extension member on

said second post adapted for longitudinal movement relatively thereto, an extension of said main hollow post movable with said extension member, means for holding said extension member at a fixed elevation, and resilient means for releasing it for said longitudinal movement.

8. In an extensible pilaster, a main hollow post, a second post extending upwards within said hollow post, an extension of said main hollow post on said second post adapted to be held at a fixed elevation, a press topping said extension, and resilient means for releasing said extension.

9. In an extensible pilaster, a pilaster extension adapted to be held at a fixed elevation, a pressure delivering element topping said pilaster extension, means for causing said pressure element to rise, and resilient means for releasing said pilaster extension.

10. In a pilaster, an extension member adapted for longitudinal movement relatively thereto, a cap topping said extension member, a threaded hole in said cap, a pressure delivering element having a threaded stem fitting into said threaded hole, a nut on said threaded stem above said cap, means for turning said nut, means for preventing said pressure element from turning when said nut is turned, and resilient means for holding said extension member at a fixed elevation and for releasing it for said longitudinal movement.

11. In an extensible pilaster, an extension member adapted for longitudinal movement relatively thereto, means for holding said extension member at a fixed elevation, resilient means for releasing said extension member for said longitudinal movement, and additional extension means at the upper end of said extension member.

12. In a pilaster, an extension member adapted to be held in a fixed position relatively thereto, and resilient means for releasing said extension member operable by a movement thereof.

13. In a pilaster, an extension member adapted to be held in a fixed position relatively thereto, a press topping said extension member, and resilient means for releasing said extension member.

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