June 28, 1949. L. W. CROSS 2,474,778

BACKED LATH AND MANUFACTURE THEREOF

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Fig. 1.

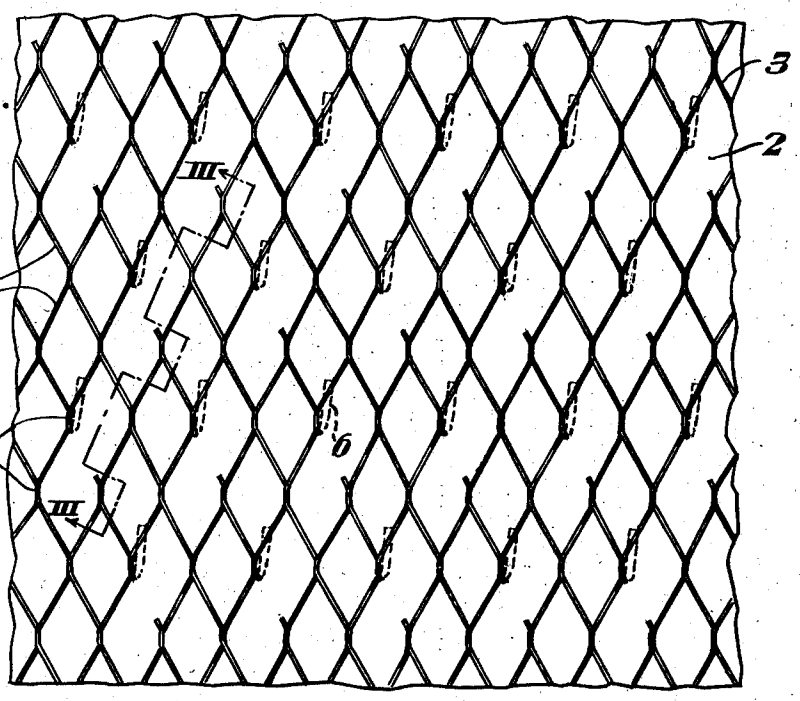
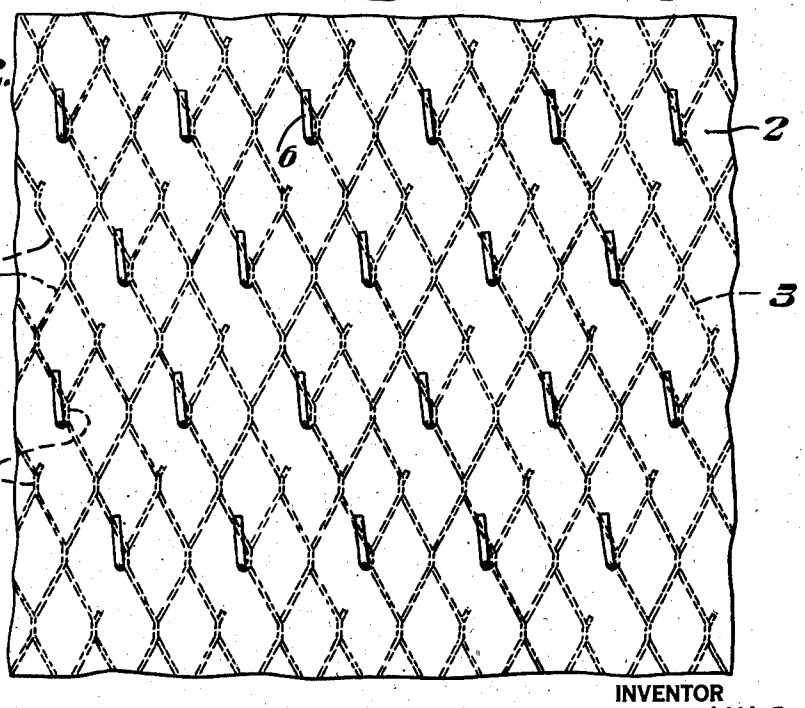


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

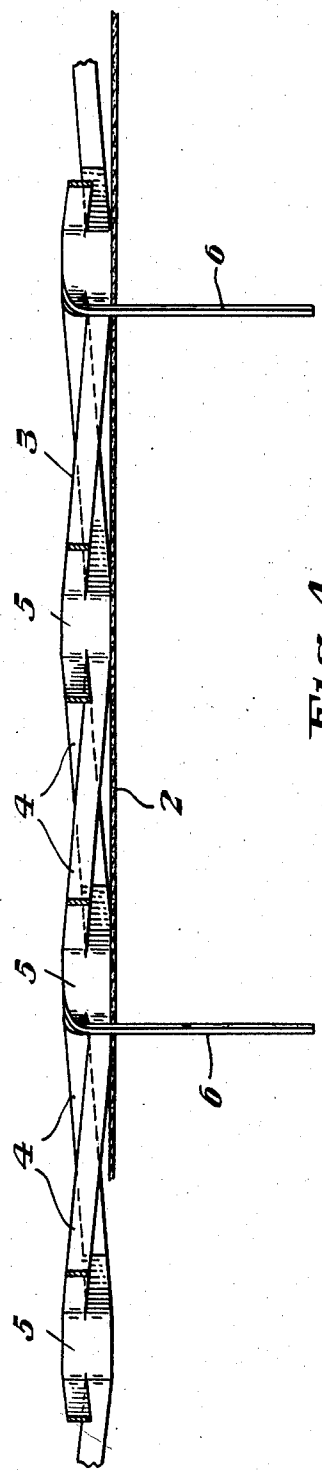
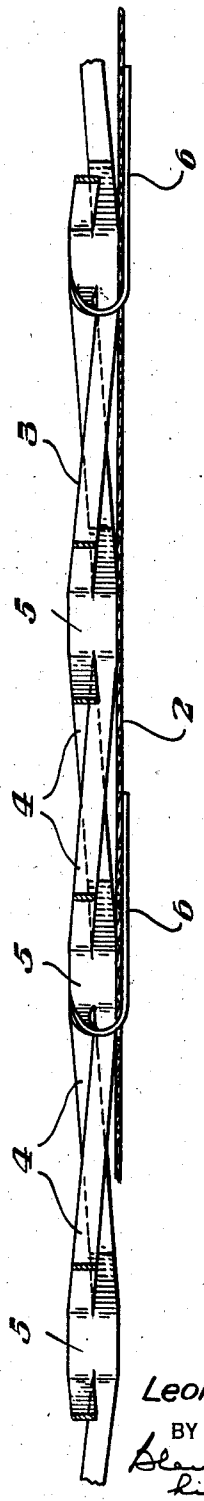


Fig. 4.



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BACKED LATH AND MANUFACTURE THEREOF

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5 Claims. (Cl. 72—116)

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This invention relates to backed lath. It relates more particularly to an improved backed lath made without the use of adhesive to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together and in which the backing sheet and the sheet of lath are more effectively held together than heretofore in backed lath of the non-adhesive type.

Backed lath is well known, consisting of a sheet of lath and a backing sheet joined together, the backing sheet serving to limit the extent of penetration of the plaster through the lath. Lath may be backed by any suitable sheet material, paper being commonly used. Paper backed lath has been made by securing the lath and paper together by use of adhesive. Paper backed lath has also been made by forming the lath with special pointed tongues separate from the lath strands just long enough to penetrate the paper with their points projecting slightly beyond the face of the paper remote from the lath and which points are turned against that face of the paper for the purpose of holding the lath and paper together. Such lath is not fully satisfactory because the special pointed tongues do not effectively hold the lath and paper together and because special cutters are necessary to make such lath, resulting in increased cost.

I have devised backed lath made without the use of adhesive in which the lath and the backing sheet are more effectively held together than in lath of the same type previously produced. I provide backed lath comprising a backing sheet and a sheet of semi-rigid lath, the lath having strands which are severed to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free, the fastening elements extending through the backing sheet and having portions engaging the back of the backing sheet to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together. The backing sheet may be of any suitable sheet material, as, for example, paper.

The lath may be of any type having strands which may be severed to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free. For example, the lath may be expanded metal lath made up of strands connected by bonds. Preferably the fastening elements extend through the backing sheet and lie against the surface of the backing sheet remote from the sheet of lath to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together. Desirably the fastening elements are reversely bent so that the portions thereof which

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are disposed at the surface of the backing sheet remote from the sheet of lath lie generally against the backing sheet opposite portions of the lath to grip the backing sheet and hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

Other details, objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the following description of a present preferred embodiment thereof.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown a present preferred embodiment of the invention, in which

Figure 1 is a face view of a portion of a sheet of backed lath as viewed from the face at which the sheet of lath is disposed;

Figure 2 is a similar view but showing the lath as viewed from the opposite face;

Figure 3 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken on the line III—III of Figure 1 but showing the fastening elements of the lath projecting through the backing sheet before they have been bent against the back of the backing sheet; and

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 showing the fastening elements bent against the back of the backing sheet.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the backed lath consists of a backing sheet 2 and a sheet of semi-rigid lath 3. The backing sheet 2 is shown as being made of paper. The lath is shown as in the form of light gauge expanded metal having strands 4 connected by bonds 5. To make the backed lath the sheet of lath and the backing sheet are disposed face to face and connected together so that the backing sheet remains attached to the sheet of lath even when the plaster is applied to the sheet of lath and presses against the backing sheet which limits the extent of penetration of the plaster through the lath.

My backed lath is formed without the use of adhesive, strands of the sheet of lath serving as fastening elements to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

I sever strands of the lath to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free. Fastening elements thus formed are designated 6. Strands may be severed at random or at regular intervals in the sheet of lath. In the form of structure shown in the drawings alternate strands in alternate rows of strands are severed to form fastening elements. When a strand is severed to form a fastening element it is preferably severed adjacent an end of the strand so that the fastening element is in the

form of an elongated projection connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free.

After the strands which are to form the fastening elements have been severed as above explained they are preferably initially bent to extend substantially at right angles to the general plane of the sheet of lath as shown in Figure 3. The sheet of lath and the backing sheet are then assembled with the fastening elements 6 extending through the backing sheet. This may be done by positioning the sheet of lath with the fastening elements projecting upwardly, laying the backing sheet over the thus positioned sheet of lath and forcing the backing sheet downwardly to cause the fastening elements to penetrate the backing sheet. The fastening elements are then deformed so that portions thereof engage the back of the backing sheet to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together. Preferably, as shown in Figure 4, the fastening elements are reversely bent so that the portions thereof which are disposed at the surface of the backing sheet remote from the sheet of lath lie generally against the backing sheet opposite portions of the lath to grip the backing sheet and hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

I thus provide backed lath made without the use of adhesive and in which the sheet of lath and the backing sheet are held together much more effectively than in backed lath of the same type heretofore devised. There is no danger of the paper being torn away from the lath in ordinary use of the backed lath. Ordinary expanded metal or other lath may be employed, eliminating the need of special cutters for forming the lath with special pointed tongues as above referred to.

While I have shown and described a present preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be distinctly understood that the invention is not limited thereto but may be otherwise variously embodied within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. Backed lath comprising a backing sheet and a sheet of semi-rigid lath, the lath having strands which are severed to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free, the fastening elements extending through the backing sheet and having portions engaging the back of the backing sheet to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

2. Paper backed lath comprising a paper backing sheet and a sheet of semi-rigid lath, the lath having strands which are severed to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free, the fastening elements extending through the paper backing sheet and having portions engaging the back of the paper backing sheet to hold the paper backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

3. Backed lath comprising a backing sheet and a sheet of expanded metal lath made up of strands connected by bonds, strands of the lath being severed to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free, the fastening elements extending through the backing sheet and having portions engaging the back of the backing sheet to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

4. Backed lath comprising a backing sheet and a sheet of semi-rigid lath, the lath having strands which are severed to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free, the fastening elements extending through the backing sheet and lying against the surface of the backing sheet remote from the sheet of lath to hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

5. Backed lath comprising a backing sheet and a sheet of semi-rigid lath, the lath having strands which are severed to form elongated fastening elements each connected with the sheet of lath at one end and having the other end free, the fastening elements extending through the backing sheet and being reversely bent so that the portions thereof which are disposed at the surface of the backing sheet remote from the sheet of lath lie generally against the backing sheet opposite portions of the lath to grip the backing sheet and hold the backing sheet and the sheet of lath together.

LEONARD W. CROSS.

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