W. W. PALMER.

LATHING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 11, 1912.

1,068,923.

Patented July 29, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

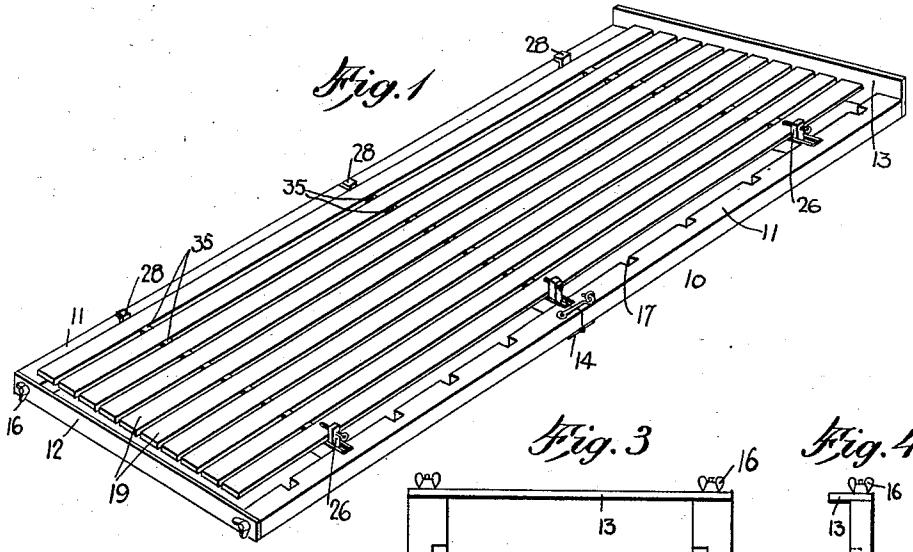


Fig. 2

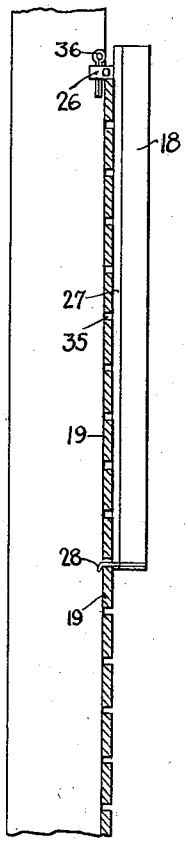


Fig. 3

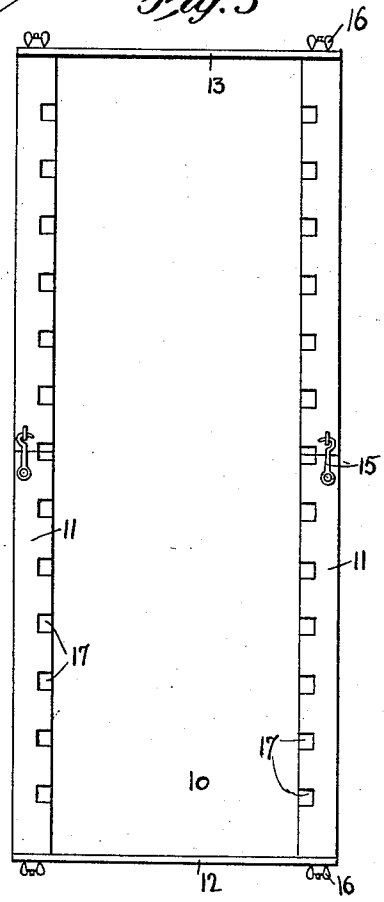
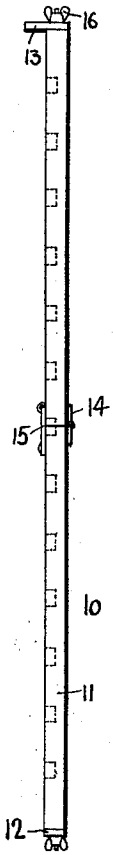


Fig. 4



WITNESSES

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5

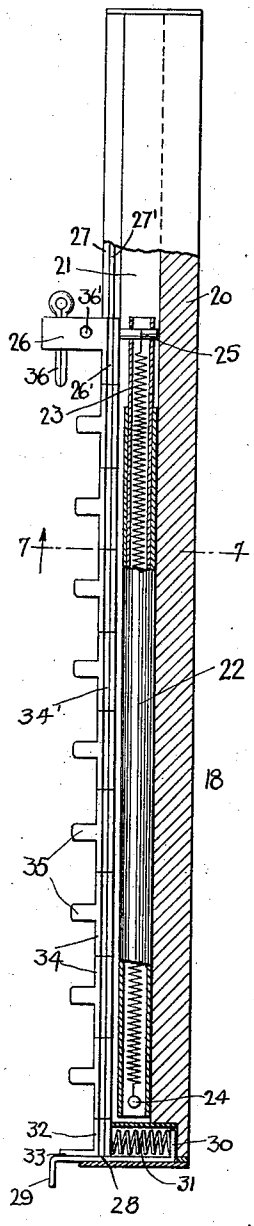


Fig. 6

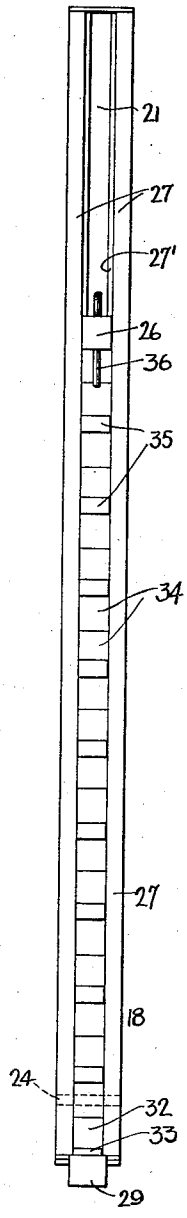


Fig. 7

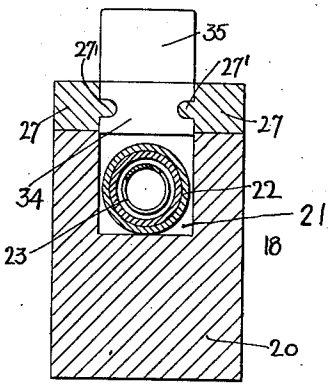
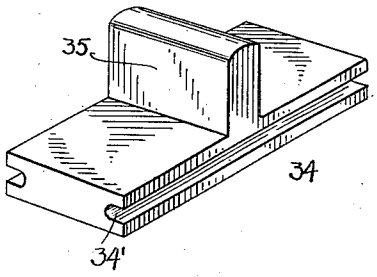


Fig. 8



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LATHING DEVICE.

1,068,923. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 29, 1913.

Application filed December 11, 1912. Serial No. 736,107.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WINANT W. PALMER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, Tottenville, borough of Richmond, in the county of Richmond and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Lathing Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to wood working machinery and has particular reference to apparatus for use in applying common laths in building construction.

Among the objects of the invention is to provide a device whereby a considerable number of laths may be arranged in relative position, properly spaced, ready for application to the studding, whereby the laths may be applied with accuracy and rapidity.

A further object of the invention is to provide a means whereby laths may be applied at uniform distances apart so that the plastering operation will be more satisfactory and with less waste of plaster than is usually the fact.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a means whereby a considerable proportion of the lathing operation may be performed by boys or mechanics of less skill than are usually employed for this purpose.

The foregoing and other objects of the invention will hereinafter be more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the drawings accompanying this specification in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view indicating the appearance of a preferred embodiment of the invention in position to receive a plurality of laths in readiness for application to a wall; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional detail showing one of the uprights of a wall to which laths have been applied and upon which another set or panel of laths is being applied by means of this improvement; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the frame; Fig. 4 is an edge view of the same looking toward the left in Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a longitudinal view, partly in section, of one of the lath holders; Fig. 6 is a plan view of the same; Fig. 7 is a transverse section substantially on the line 7—7 of Fig. 5; and Fig. 8 is a perspective view of one of the slides.

In carrying out this invention in a preferred embodiment, I provide a frame 10 comprising a pair of rails 11 spaced at any suitable distance, according to the number of laths which are desired to be handled at one time, and held in such spaced relation by means of end bars 12 and 13. As herein shown, the device is designed for the accommodation of as many as ten laths at one time, and in order for the laths to be properly alined at one end the bar 13 is wider than the other and extends above the main plane of the frame 10, as shown in Fig. 1. The frame 10 may be variously constructed, but I prefer to form the side members or rails 11 with hinges or joints, as indicated at 14, for convenience in folding and transporting the frame when not in use. In arranging the frame for actual use, the rails will be extended as shown in Fig. 3, and each of them will be locked at its joint by means of a hook 15 and then the end bars 12 and 13 will be secured in place by detachable nuts 16, making the frame into a substantially rigid structure. The inner upper portion of each of the side rails 11 is provided with any suitable number of sockets 17, the sockets of one rail being directly opposite those of the other rail.

The numeral 18 indicates a device which may be regarded as a holder. This device will be provided in sufficient numbers so that a plurality of them may be used at one time in connection with the frame 10 for the reception and temporary holding in proper spaced relation of a plurality of laths 19. As many of the holders as may be desired, preferably two or three of them, are slipped into the sockets 17 of the frame, each of the holders spanning the space between the rails 11. As herein illustrated, each of the holders comprises a longitudinal body 20 having a longitudinal channel 21 in which is placed a tubular member 22 comprising a pair of telescopic sections within which is housed a coiled spring 23. One end of the spring is secured adjacent one end of the member 20 by means of a pin 24 which likewise serves to hold the adjacent end of the tubular member 22. The other end of the spring is secured to a shank 25 which is connected to the adjacent end of the tubular member and extends inwardly into the channel 21 from a head block 26.

The channel 21, except as hereinafter set forth, is open on the side opposite the main portion of the body 20, and a pair of guides 27 are connected to the body at the edges of said open channel. The head block 26 is slidable along said guides 27 longitudinally of the holder, and when drawn toward the adjacent end of the holder the member 22 is extended and the spring 23 placed under tension, the tendency of the spring being to retain the two parts of the member 22 in telescoped or contracted position. At the opposite end of the holder there is provided a hanger 28 having an outwardly projecting finger 29 at its outer end and an inwardly projecting finger 30 at its opposite end, and the hanger as a whole being movable at right angles to the principal axis of the holder. A spring 31 bears at one end against the inwardly projecting finger 30 and at its other end against the inner face of a fixed abutment 32, whereby the hanger is maintained normally in the position shown in Fig. 5. The abutment 32 has a fixed finger 33 extending outwardly parallel to the end of the holder and serves, in addition to being a support for the lowermost lath, as a reinforcement or support for the slidable hanger 28. Between the head block 26 and the abutment 32 are arranged a series of slides 34. Each of said slides is guided between the aforesaid guides and carries an outwardly projecting finger or stud 35 of any suitable form and of a length substantially equal to the thickness of an ordinary lath and of a width, in the direction of the axis of the holder, corresponding to the space desired to be left between adjacent laths. The length of each slide 34 or the normal distance between the centers of the adjacent fingers 35 is slightly less than the minimum width of the lath. The slides 34 and the head block 26 are slidably connected to or between the guides 27 in any suitable manner, but as herein shown, said slidable members are provided with lateral or edge grooves 34′ and 26′ respectively, into which tongues 27′ project from said guides. The slides, therefore, have free movement relatively to each other and to the holder body except as restrained from such movement by the head block 26 acted upon by the spring 23.

With the frame arranged as shown in Fig. 3 and supported on any suitable horizontal support, two or more of the holders 18 will be put in place in suitable pairs of sockets 17 with all of the head blocks at the same end or adjacent the same rail 11. The operator will then place upon the device a series of laths 19, placing them singly between the several slides 34 and also between the abutment finger 33 and the adjacent slide finger 35 and also between the head block 26 and the finger 35 adjacent thereto. Any suitable means such as pins 36 will be used to secure the laths in connection with the several head blocks 26, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5. When the holders have thus been filled with laths, the laths with the holders secured thereto and holding the laths in spaced position will be picked up bodily from the frame and placed in position adjacent the studding with the fingers 29 engaging over the last previously applied lath. With the hangers 28 thus supporting the new series of laths at one edge, the operator will swing the whole upwardly against the studding around the hangers 28 as an axis, bringing the same into the position shown in Fig. 2. He will then secure the same in position by any suitable means or proceed at once to nail the laths to the studding, beginning preferably at the uppermost lath. This lath being nailed in place will, by virtue of the pins 36, hold the entire series in place until they are all secured. The holders then are each removed by withdrawing the pin 36, and then by pulling the holder outward from the wall sufficiently far bodily to put the spring 31 under compression the hanger will be extended so as to permit the finger 29 to be withdrawn from between the adjacent laths by a downward circular motion of the holder. If desired, the pin 36 instead of being replaced in holding position may be temporarily placed in a transverse hole 36′ in the head block. In the meantime another set of holders may be supplied with laths upon the same frame so that the lather may be kept supplied with sets of laths properly spaced by the holders, and no time will be lost by him in attempting to properly space the individual laths upon the wall in the ordinary manner.

The several parts of the device may be made of any suitable materials and the relative sizes and proportions and also the details of construction may be varied to a considerable extent without departing from the spirit of the invention hereinafter claimed.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:—

1. In a device of the character set forth, the combinatiion of a horizontal stationary frame having oppositely spaced rails provided withalined open topped sockets, and a plurality of holders adapted to be temporarily supported in certain of said sockets, said holders being provided with means for temporarily holding a series of laths in proper spaced relation to one another, the holders and laths held thereby being removable freely together from said frame, substantially as set forth.

2. In a lath holder, the combination of a main longitudinal member, a hanger 28 at one end of said member and movable laterally with respect thereto, a stationary finger

33 adjacent the hanger, and a series of individual lath holding studs coöperating with said main member, the thickness of each stud being substantially equivalent to the combined thickness of said hanger and finger, whereby the laths being applied will be equally spaced from one another and from the last previously applied lath with which said hanger coöperates, said hanger being movable outwardly beyond said finger for the purpose of releasing the hanger.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WINANT W. PALMER.

Witnesses:
GEO. L. BEELER,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."