July 24, 1923.

1,462,579

M. E. ROBERTS

LATH

Filed April 17, 1922

Fig. 1.

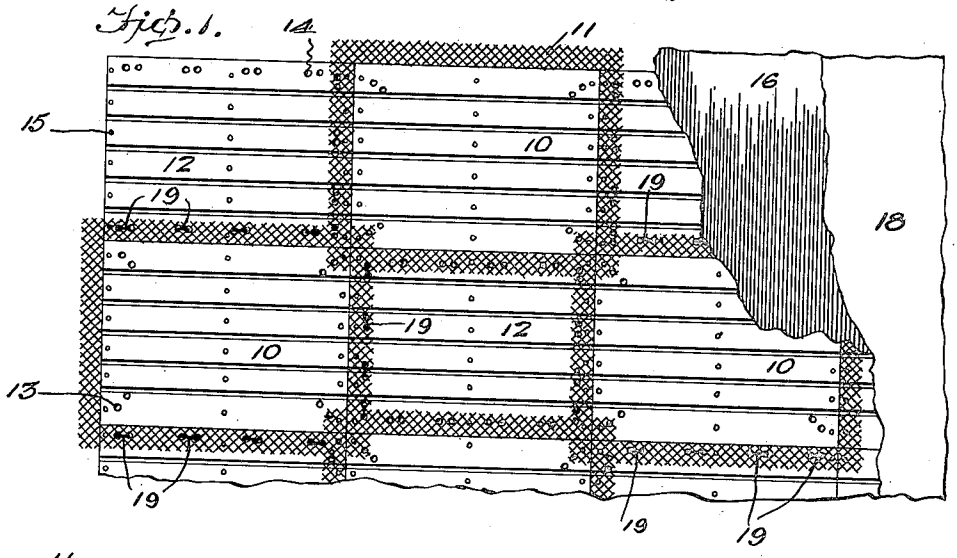


Fig. 2.

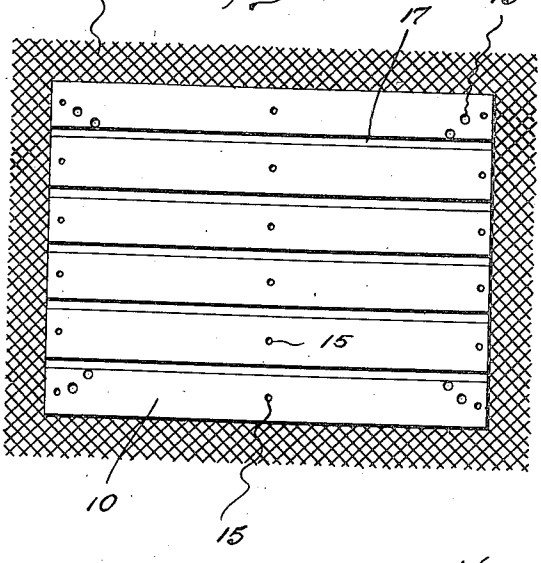


Fig. 3.

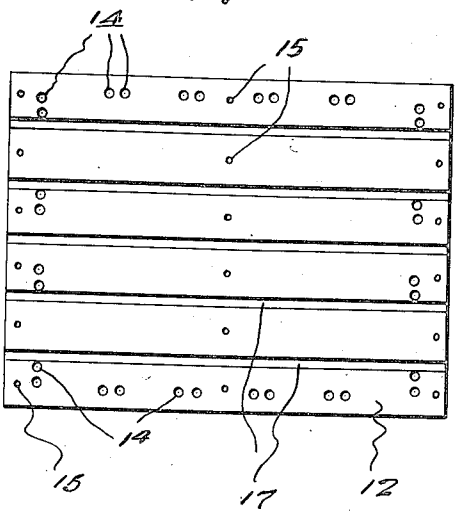
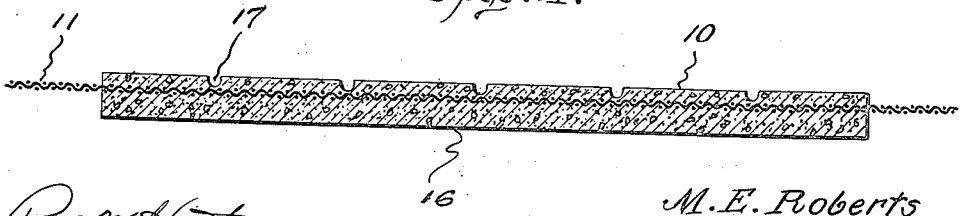


Fig. 4.



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WITNESS:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MERRILL E. ROBERTS, OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA.

LATH.

Application filed April 17, 1922. Serial No. 553,353.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MERRILL E. ROBERTS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pasadena, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Laths, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to building constructions, and has particular application to reinforced composition laths.

The chief characteristic of this invention resides in the provision of laths of the above mentioned character, which are constructed to render them both weather and waterproof, and further designed to prevent buckling or crumbling of the laths, thereby materially prolonging the life of the same.

In carrying out the invention, I provide certain laths with reinforcing elements which project beyond the edges of said lath to overlap the adjacent lath for the purpose of assisting in holding the laths fixed relatively in proper position upon the wall or ceiling of a building, the reinforcing element being secured to the adjacent lath by a tying element and also incident to the application of the plastic composition.

The nature and advantages of the invention will be better understood when the following detailed description is read in connection with the accompanying drawing, the invention residing in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts as claimed.

In the drawing forming part of this application, like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, and wherein:—

Figure 1 is a view, showing the manner of arranging the laths.

Figure 2 is a plan view of one of the reinforced laths.

Figure 3 is a similar view of the adjacent lath.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken through Figure 2.

Referring to the drawing in detail, 10 indicates the reinforced lath which is constructed from suitable composition, but preferably made up of cement, sand, fiber, and a proportionate amount of hydrated lime as a water-proof agent. Embedded in this lath is a reinforcing element 11 which also may be of any suitable design or material, but preferably consisting of wire fabric or the like. This reinforcing element projects an appreciable distance beyond the edges of the lath as shown in Figure 2 for a purpose to be presently described.

In the construction of a wall or building, I make use of a plurality of laths such as described, and also use a plurality of plain laths indicated at 12 in Figure 3, which are substantially the same in construction as the lath 10 except that it is not provided with the reinforcing element 11. The lath 10 is provided adjacent its corners with relatively large openings 13 which correspond in size with the openings 14 of the lath 12, but in the latter mentioned member these openings 14 extend about all sides thereof. The laths 10 and 12 respectively are also provided with smaller openings 15 through which suitable fastening elements are adapted to be driven to secure the laths in position for use. One side of each lath is provided with a sheet of tar paper or the like 16 to assist in preventing dampness from passing through the wall of the building structure upon which the laths are used. The opposite side of each lath is provided with a plurality of grooves 17, so that a more effective hold may be had between the laths and the plastic composition 18 which is simultaneously applied to the wall of the building structure as will be readily understood.

In practice, as illustrated in Figure 1, there is one lath 12 arranged adjacent or next to each lath 10, so that when the meeting ends of these respective laths are brought together in contacting engagement, the projecting marginal edges of the reinforcing element 11 laps the adjacent edges of the plain lath 12. A tying wire or other suitable element 19 is then threaded through the openings 14 and the projecting marginal edges of the reinforcing element 11 to hold the parts properly associated, and when the plastic material 18 is simultaneously applied to the wall structure, the projecting edges of the reinforcing element is partly embedded in said plastic material, and this coupled with the fact that grooves 17 are provided in each lath, it is apparent that the parts are interlocked, and the plastic composition in a manner which serves to bind the laths together and hold them immovably positioned. The laths are not only moisture proof but they are designed to prevent buckling or crumbling incident to

the change of weather conditions or the like, and thus the life of the structure materially prolonged.

While it is believed that from the foregoing description, the nature and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent, I desire to have it understood that I do not limit myself to what is herein shown and described, and that such changes may be resorted to when desired as fall within the scope of what is claimed.

What I claim is:—

1. In a building construction, a plurality of reinforced composition laths, and a plurality of plain composition laths, said laths being arranged in juxtaposition, whereby the reinforcing elements of the first mentioned laths lap the adjacent plain laths, a sheet of water proof material covering one side of each lath, the opposite side of each lath having a plurality of grooves, and a plastic composition covering said laths and filling said grooves, and also interlocking said overlapped portions of the reinforcing elements of the adjacent laths.

2. In a building construction, a plurality of composition laths arranged in juxta-position, a reinforcing element embedded in each of a certain number of said laths and projected beyond the edges thereof and lapping the adjacent plain laths, said laths having openings, a tying element adapted to be threaded through certain of said openings and through the exposed portions of the reinforcing elements, each of said laths having grooves on one side, and a plastic composition covering all of said laths, filling said grooves and interlocking the laths together as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MERRILL E. ROBERTS.