Dec. 1, 1931. M. E. HALL 1,834,026

LATH HOLDER

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Fig. 1.

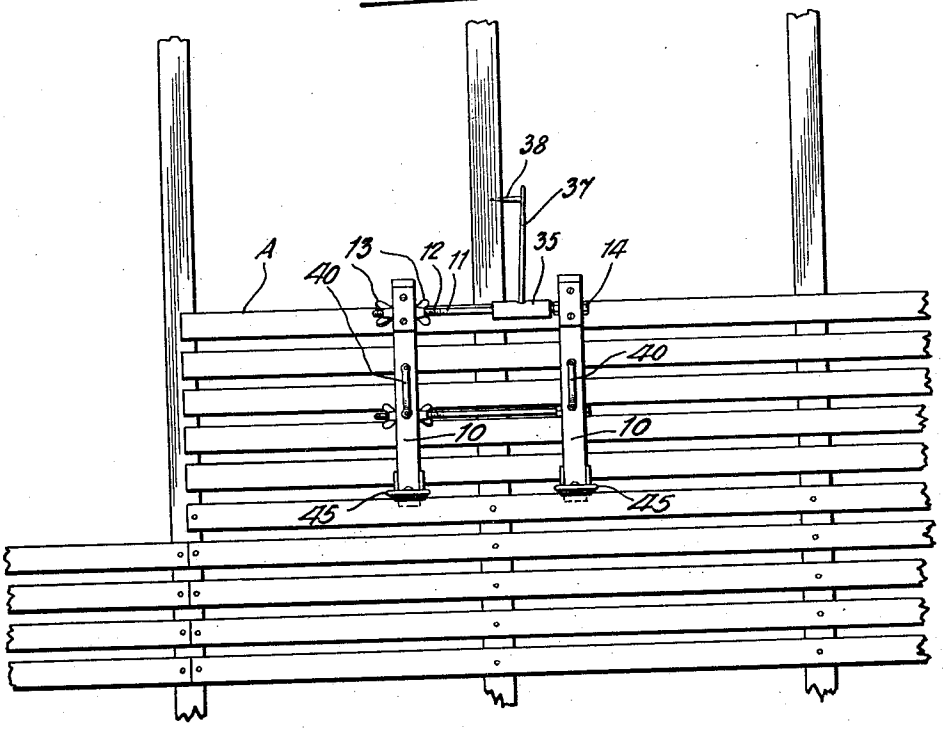

Fig. 2.

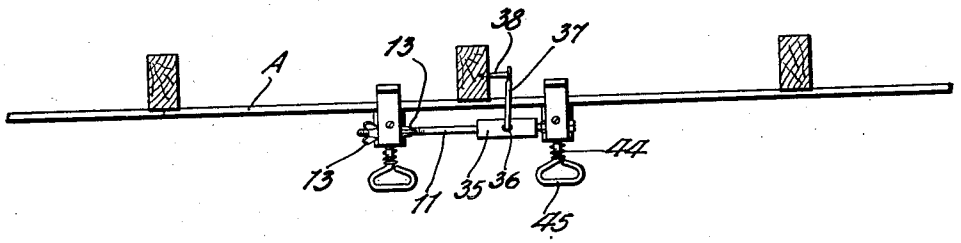

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Fig. 3.

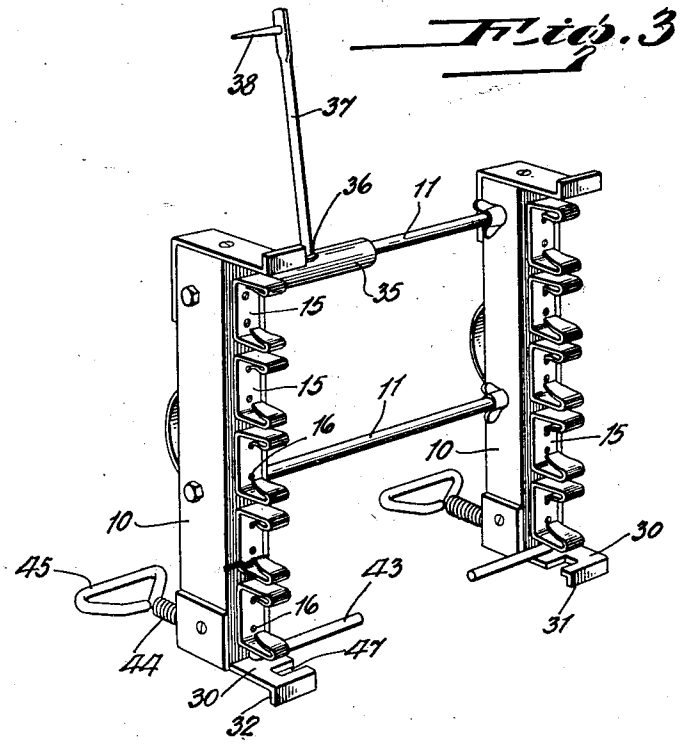


Fig. 4.

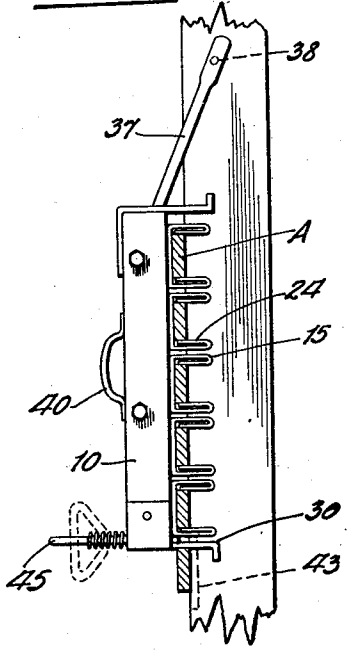
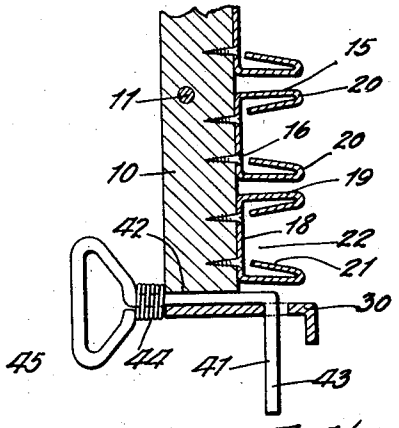


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LATH HOLDER

Application filed July 24, 1930. Serial No. 470,496.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in devices for use by lathers, and more particularly it pertains to a means for properly positioning a plurality of laths simultaneously upon the wall the studding of which forms the means to which the laths are attached.

It is one of the objects of the invention to provide a device for holding a plurality of laths which device will permit of the positioning, and securing in position of a greater number of laths in a given period of time than is possible in the ordinary manner.

A further object of the invention resides in the provision of means whereby the laths will be uniformly spaced with respect to one another, thereby providing for greater accuracy in the placing of the layers, and a considerable saving in plaster used with which the laths are covered, since the spaces between the layers will at all times be uniform.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a device of the aforementioned character which will materially decrease the amount of labor necessary to secure in position a given number of laths.

A further object of the invention resides in the provision of a device, the use of which will entirely eliminate the necessity of building scaffolds, since the device may be used from a step-ladder or similar device as distinguished from scaffolding as commonly used, thus eliminating all expense such as cost of material, waste of material and the labor for erecting and taking down such scaffolds.

Other objects of the invention will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, and in this connection, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings, in which;

Figure 1 is a view in elevation illustrating the manner of use of the device for placing a plurality of laths in position upon the studding or joists of a side wall,

Figure 2 is a top plan view thereof,

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the frame per se,

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view through the frame, and;

Figure 5 is an enlarged detail sectional view of one of the portions of the frame.

A device constructed in accordance with the present invention, consists of a frame comprising end members 10 connected together by transversely extending bars 11. It is desirable that these members 10 be adjustable relative to each other, and to this end each bar 11 is provided on one of its ends with a threaded portion 12 adapted to be engaged by a plurality of wing nuts or similar fastening means 13. The opposite end of the bar 11 is provided with nuts 14 between which the other end member is clamped. By this means it will be obvious that certain adjustments of the members 10 relative to each other may be had by a suitable loosening and tightening of the wing nut 13.

Each of the end members 10 carries a plurality of resilient clips 15 secured thereto as at 16, and these clips are adapted to yieldingly or resiliently hold and carry a plurality of laths such as designated A in Figure 1. By reference to Figure 5 it will be noted that each of these members comprises a base portion 18 having legs 19 bent upon themselves as at 20 to provide tongues 21. This construction provides a plurality of resilient channels 22, and these channels are adapted to receive the laths it being understood that the side walls 21 of the channels which are resilient, extend close enough to the bottom wall 18 thereof to prevent laths passing between the lower end of the resilient wall 24 and the bottom 18 of said channel.

The device is supported in operative position for nailing laths upon the joists of side walls, by feet or the like 30. These feet preferably comprise a sheet metal extension having a downwardly turned outer end 31 which provides a shoulder 32 adapted for engagement behind the upper-most lath already nailed to the joists to prevent pulling out of the frame, it being understood that the frame is supported from the uppermost lath or from any other suitable support attached to the joists by said feet 30.

Additional securing means may be employed if desired to prevent outward movement of the upper end of the frame when

it is in proper position, and in the present embodiment of the invention, this means consists of a sleeve 35 slidably mounted upon the upper most rod 11. Universally connected to the sleeve 35 as at 36, there is a member 37 in the form of an arm, the outer or free end of which carries a suitable nail spike or the like 38. The operation of the device thus far described is as follows.

The laths are positioned within the several spring clips 15 by placing them therein on edge and rocking them sideways until they occupy the position in which they are illustrated in Figure 4. With the frame thus filled with laths, the feet 30 are engaged with the uppermost lath already secured to the joists of the side walls being lathed, after which the arm 37 is swung upwardly, and the nail 38 thereof is driven into the joists as illustrated in Figure 4. With the device thus positioned, it will be seen by reference to Figure 1 that the laths will overlap the several joists in proper relation, and that it is only necessary to drive a few nails in order to simultaneously secure a number of laths to the joists. It will also be noted that after the laths have been secured in position, it is only necessary to grasp the handle members 40 to remove the entire frame from the nailed laths, the resiliency of the spring clips 15 readily permitting of the detachment of the frame.

For supporting the frame and the laths carried thereby in position upon a ceiling wall, right angular clips such as 41 are provided. These clips are mounted as at 42 in the lower end of each of the members 10, and have a right angular extension 43 which is adapted to engage behind the outside laths already positioned upon the ceiling. Surrounding these clips there is a spring 44 and the opposite ends of said clips are formed with a handle 45, the spring being positioned between the innermost portion of the handle 45 and its respective member 10.

As illustrated in Figure 3, the normal position of the right angular ends 43 of these clips 41 is at right angles to the member 10, but when they are positioned to support or suspend the frame and laths carried thereby from the ceiling, they are turned so that they project downwardly as illustrated in Figure 5, in which position they occupy a position within notches 47 formed in the feet 30 heretofore described. To operate the clips 41 to turn them to the position in which they are shown in Figure 5 from the position in which they are shown in Figure 3 or vice versa, it is only necessary to grip the handle portions 45 thereof and turn the same. In positioning the device against the ceiling wall, the right angular extensions 43 of the clips 41 are engaged behind the outside lath already nailed in position, and the resiliency of the springs 44 will insure the proper positioning of the clips 41 behind the laths already secured to retain the device in position. In addition to this means, the arm 37 with its nail or other fastening 38 is also employed to retain the device in position upon the ceiling.

From the foregoing, it will be readily apparent that the present invention provides means by which a plurality of laths may be simultaneously placed in position for nailing upon a wall, and that the several laths may by the device of the present invention be held in such position until they are securely nailed in place upon the wall.

Furthermore it will be apparent that by use of such a device, the labor and expense generally attendant a lathing operation will be materially reduced, and that the laths will have a more uniform arrangement than is possible by singly placing the laths in position by hand without the use of suitable spacing means.

Although certain parts of the device have been illustrated as constructed of wood, it will be understood that the same may be of metal if so desired.

While the device has been herein illustrated in what may be termed its preferred form, it is to be understood that the invention is not to be limited to the construction illustrated, but that it may be practiced in many other forms without departing from the spirit of the invention and the scope of the claim.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by U. S. Letters-Patent, is:

A device of the character described comprising an adjustable frame for resiliently carrying a plurality of laths, said frame comprising end members, bars adjustably connecting said end members together, means carried by the end members for supporting the frame in operative position, and means carried by one of said bars for securing said device in operative position, said last mentioned means being universally adjustable with relation to said frame.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MILES E. HALL.