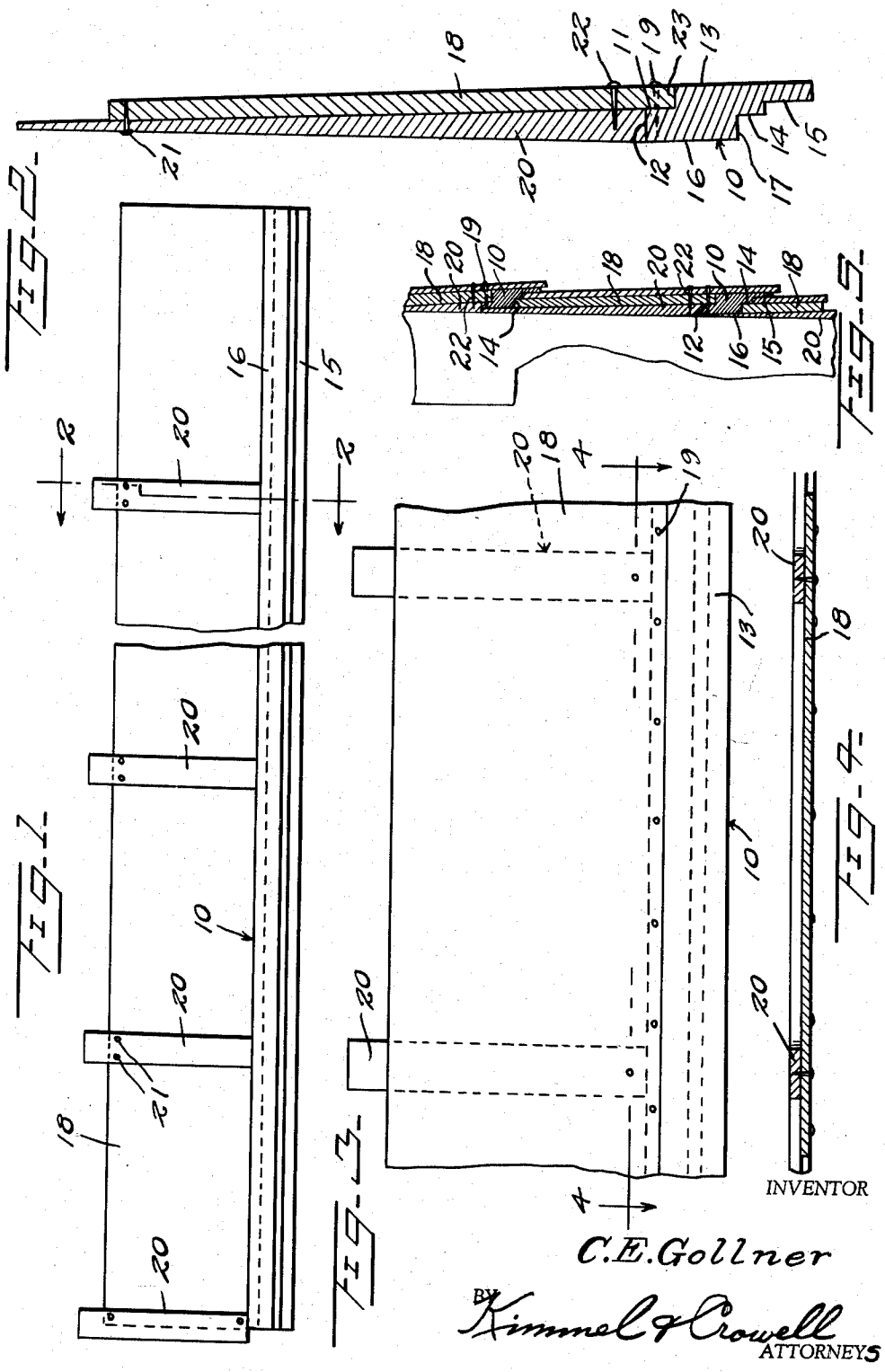
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PREFABRICATED BUILDING WALL CONSTRUCTION

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PREFABRICATED BUILDING WALL CONSTRUCTION

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1 Claim. (Cl. 20—4)

This invention relates to a prefabricated building wall construction and is an improvement over the construction embodied in application Serial No. 402,295 filed January 5, 1954, for Frame Building Wall Construction.

An object of this invention is to provide a sheathing unit for mounting on a framing construction which will produce an insulated wall structure, and will give the appearance of clapboard siding with a definite offset at the bottom edge of each unit.

A further object of this invention is to provide a sheathing unit adapted to be secured to the framing or studs of the building which will facilitate the leveling of each tier of shingles.

A further object of this invention is to provide a sheathing unit which is formed to lock the upper ends of shingles with the lower portions of the shingles nailed to the upper portion of a preceding unit and projecting thereover.

A further object of this invention is to provide a sheathing unit which will permit easy and quick replacement of broken shingles.

A further object of this invention is to provide as a unit an elongated stepped or rabbeted strip having a plurality of wedges secured thereto at intervals coinciding with the spacing of the studding with the wedges collapsible along the rear face of the strip, so that the units will occupy only a small space and the wedges will not break off of the strip.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification, and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a detail rear elevation, partly broken away, of a prefabricated sheathing unit constructed according to an embodiment of this invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary front elevation of the unit.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 2 illustrating the device mounted on a wall.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral **10** designates generally an elongated supporting strip which is adapted to be disposed in a horizontal position and secured to upright frame studs. The strip **10** is formed with an upper rabbet **11** extending downwardly from the upper edge **12** thereof and inwardly from the outer face **13**.

The strip **10** is also formed with a pair of rabbets **14** and **15** extending outwardly from the inner face **16** thereof. The rabbet **14** is the lower inner rabbet, and the two rabbets **14** and **15** extend upwardly from the lower edge **17** of the supporting strip **10**. The rabbet **11** forms a space within which a sheathing board or member **18** is adapted to be secured by fastening means **19**.

In order to provide a means whereby the board **18** will be disposed on an inclination to the vertical, I have provided a plurality of tapered filler strips or wedges **20**. The wedges or filler strips **20** have their small ends uppermost, and the small ends of wedges or filler strips **20** are secured by fastening means **21** to the inner side of the sheathing board.

When the upper end of the sheathing board or element **18** is seated in the rabbet **14** of the strip **10** thereabove, the rabbet **15** forms a keeper for locking the upper end of a shingle which extends upwardly into the rabbet or keeper **15** in face abutting relation to the board **18**. The board **18** is secured adjacent the lower edge thereof to the large end of the wedge or filler member **20** by fastening means **22**.

As shown in Figure 2, the lower edge of the board **18** projects below the lower end of the wedge or filler member **20** so that the projecting portion **23** of the board **18** will seat in a rabbet **11** of a preceding supporting strip **10**. The large lower end of the wedge **20** is adapted to abut against the upper edge **12** of the lower supporting strip **10**.

At one end of the unit the endmost wedge or filler **20**, as shown in Figure 1, projects beyond the adjacent edge of the board **18** so that the succeeding board **18** will overlap the projecting portion of the end wedge **20**. At the opposite end of the unit the endmost wedge **20** is omitted so that the opposite end of the board **18** may be secured to the projecting portion of the wedge carried by the adjacent unit.

What is claimed is:

In a prefabricated building wall sheathing construction and shingle support including a plurality of vertically superposed sheathing units, a sheathing unit comprising an elongated horizontal strip having inner and outer parallel faces and upper and lower parallel edges, said strip having a rectangular rabbet extending downwardly from the upper edge and inwardly from the outer face thereof, said strip having a second rectangular rabbet extending upwardly from the lower edge and outwardly from the inner face thereof, said strip having a third rectangular rabbet extending upwardly from the upper limit of said second rectangular rabbet and outwardly from said inner face a distance less than the outward extent of said second rectangular rabbet, said first named, said second and said third rabbets extending longitudinally of said strip from one end thereof to the other, a plurality of wedge-shaped filler members arranged upright in horizontally spaced relation with their thickest ends lowermost and engaged against the upper edge of said strip adjacent said first named rabbet, a sheathing board coextensive with said strip engaging said filler members and having its lower edge seated in said first named rabbet, and means securing said board to said strip and to said filler members, said board having its upper edge seated in the third rabbet of the strip of the next adjacent sheating unit thereabove, said second rabbet providing a keeper for locking the upper ends of shingles overlying said boards.

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