April 2, 1935. S. S. KING 1,996,735

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Filed Sept. 1, 1933 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

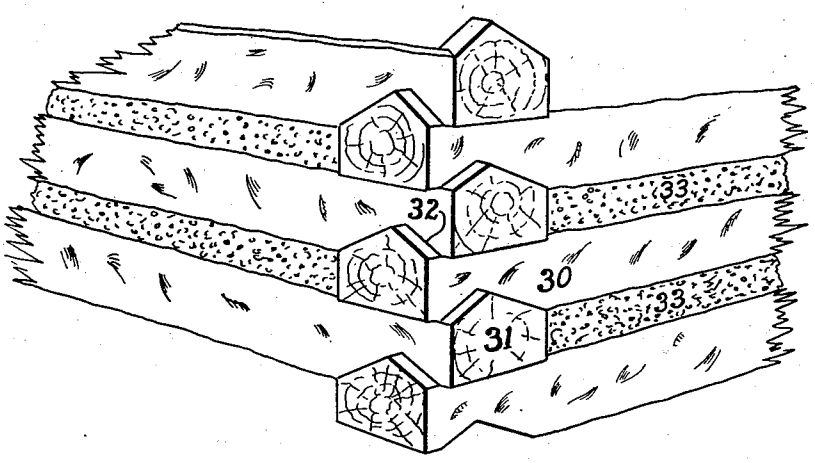


FIG.-1

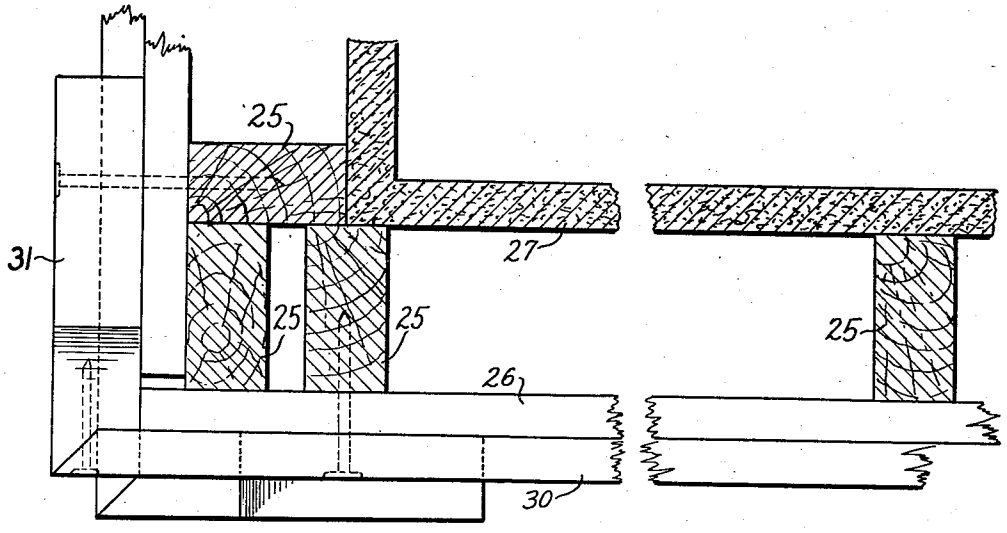


FIG.-2

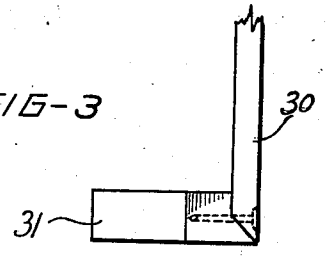
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BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

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FIG-3



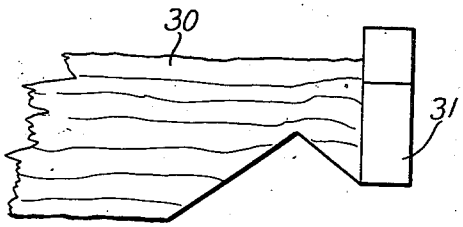


FIG-5

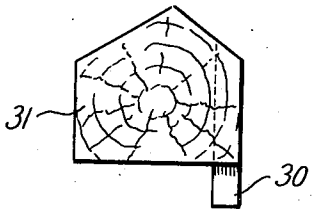


FIG-4

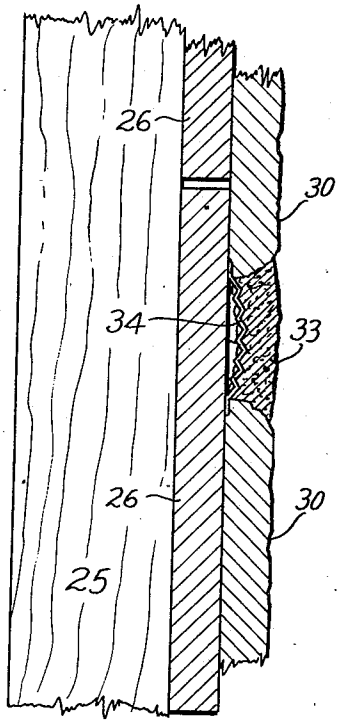


FIG-6

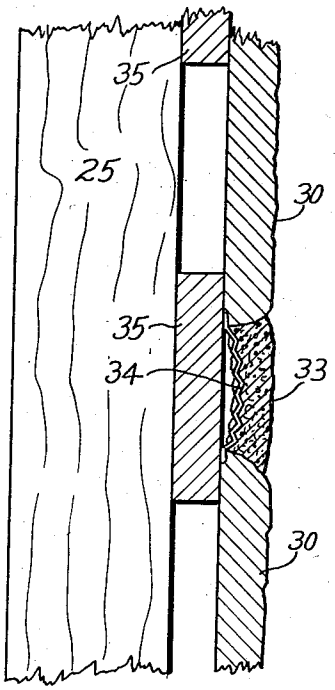


FIG-7

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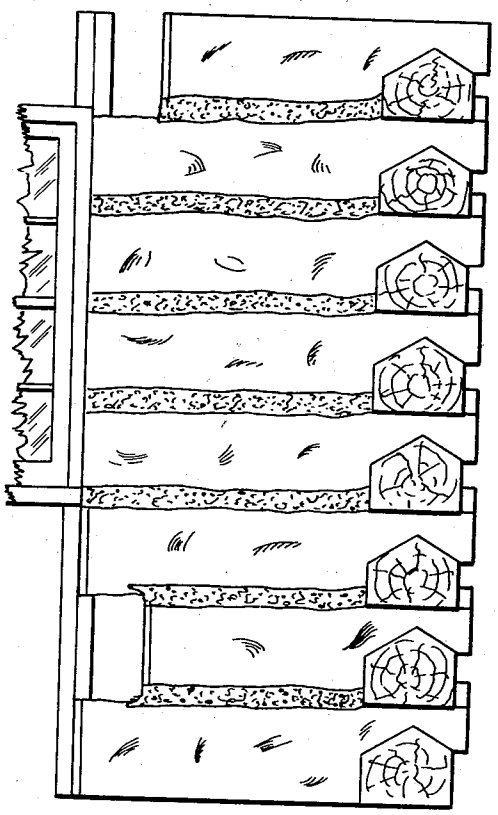


FIG.-8

FIG.-9

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Patented Apr. 2, 1935 1,996,735

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,996,735

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Sidney S. King, Dayton, Ohio, assignor to Myrtle H. King, trustee, Kenneth C. King and Sidney S. King, Jr., all of Dayton, Ohio

Application September 1, 1933, Serial No. 687,828

11 Claims. (Cl. 20—4)

This invention relates to the construction of buildings and particularly to the construction of buildings to simulate log houses such as were built by the pioneers of our country with hewn logs.

A characteristic feature of the log house of the pioneer was the manner in which the logs were interlocked at the corners of the house, to prevent any given log slipping from beneath the log above it, and one of the objects of my invention is to erect a house by modern methods of frame house construction, using modern materials, especially lumber cut to modern shapes and sizes, and yet produce a house that resembles a log house, having corners with interlocked logs. Another object is to produce such a house at a comparatively small cost, in fact, at a cost hardly any greater than the cost of an ordinary frame house. A further object is to build a house such as I have described in such a manner that the walls can be built in the factory and transported to the place of erection in sections.

I shall now explain my invention in detail, with the aid of the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a corner of a house embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional plan view of a corner of a house built as in Fig. 1;

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 show, respectively, a plan, end elevation and side elevation of a unit embodying a length of siding secured to a block made to simulate the projecting end of a log at the corner of a log house;

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional elevation of a wall of my house showing the method of simulating the "chinking" of the spaces between the logs of a log house;

Fig. 7 is a modification of the structure shown in Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is an elevational view of a corner section of a wall built according to my invention, this section being portable, and

Fig. 9 is a plan view of the section shown in Fig. 8.

Referring first to Fig. 2 it will be seen that the framework is substantially that of an ordinary frame house. That is, it includes vertical studs **25**, horizontal storm sheathing **26**, and plaster **27** on the inside of the walls. Laths are not shown but it is to be understood that the plaster is laid on laths of some kind. My invention resides principally in the covering for the framework described, and in describing this I shall first call attention to Figs. 3, 4 and 5.

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 show a unit consisting of a length of siding, **30**, to one end of which is secured a block of wood **31**, which block is preferably about twice the thickness of the siding. One of these units is also shown in full lines in Fig. 2, the length of siding **30** being nailed to the sheathing **26**, while the block **31** is nailed to the sheathing around the corner. In other words, the angle formed by the siding **30** and block **31** embraces the corner of the building. Below this unit, shown partly in dotted lines, is a similar unit, but the two units are enantiomorphous to each other, commonly called right and left hand. The effect of applying these right and left hand units, alternately, is seen in Fig. 1. The upper edge of each block is shaped like an inverted squatty letter V, and each length of weatherboard has a large V-shaped notch **32** in its lower edge, which allows the board to saddle itself on the block below it. As both the block and the inner surface of the weatherboard lie against the sheathing, the excess thickness of the block projects beyond the outer surface of the weatherboard, with the result that the projecting blocks, together with the notched boards saddled on the V-shaped upper edges of the blocks, produce an effect resembling the interlocked ends of the logs at the corner of a log house.

It will be noted that the board **30** and block **31** are joined by a mitered joint. This is done to conceal the joint. The outer surface of the board **30** is mutilated to simulate the surface of a hewn log. This may be carried farther by hacking the edges of the board to make them somewhat irregular, so they look as though they were part of the upper and lower surfaces of hewn logs. It is preferable, though not necessary, to cut the blocks from the end of a log, so as to expose the end grain, as would be the case in a real log house. This, however, may very well be dispensed with, for the casual observer would not notice the difference if the blocks were cut from boards of the required thickness. The attention of the observer is engaged by the general effect. The shape of the blocks, the fact that the blocks project beyond the surface of the siding boards, and the saddling of the siding boards on the V-shaped tops of the blocks, all contribute to produce a general effect or ensemble, so suggestive of the corner of a log house as to cause the casual observer to overlook details. The principal use for such a building as I have described is as a cabin in a summer camp, or in places more or less analogous thereto. Of course, it is not intended to nor

could it deceive anyone to his disadvantage or injury. In fact it smacks of artistry rather than deception. While the ensemble I have described closely resembles a house built of hewn logs, no one examining it with reasonable care could fail to discover that it is merely a frame house built to simulate a log house. Yet it performs a useful result in that it produces an artistic cabin at less than half the cost at which a genuine log cabin could be built. Furthermore, it is just as durable and habitable as an ordinary frame house.

In Fig. 3 I have illustrated a block and a board nailed together, and have referred to them as a "unit." It is not to be understood, however, that that is necessarily the way in which these parts are applied to the wall. If desired the block, or the board, may be nailed to the wall separately, and the other member of the unit nailed to the wall afterward. Therefore, when in the claims I refer to the blocks being secured to the siding boards it does not necessarily mean that they are nailed together or otherwise directly secured to each other. It can just as well mean that each is nailed to the house, in which case they are secured together, but indirectly. A board and a block becomes a unit in the sense that together they simulate a log, one simulating the end of the log and the other the side.

To still further carry out the simulation of a log house the siding boards **30** are made narrow enough to leave substantial spaces or "chinks" between their edges, which chinks are pointed up or "chinked" with suitable plastic material. To secure the "chinking", **33**, in the spaces or "chinks" I prefer to use metal lath, **34** (see Fig. 6), strips of which are secured to the sheathing at suitable points before the siding is put in place.

The cost of the house can be somewhat reduced by omitting the storm sheathing **26**. In such case I may nail furring strips **35** to the studs **25**, as in Fig. 7, some of which strips are placed in the proper position to receive the metal lath **34**. But even the furring strips may be omitted and the siding nailed directly to the studs. In such case the metal lath can also be nailed to the studs with a short nail or stapler driven through the lath into the siding from the inside. These being details which any builder would understand it is not necessary to illustrate them.

Another feature of my invention is that of building the walls in portable sections or units. These can be built in the factory and transported to the place where the house is to be erected. Door frames can be put in door sections, window frames in window sections, and doors and window sashes can even be fitted in their respective sections, in the factory. One advantage of this method of construction is that ordinary carpenters can set the sections in place and complete the building, and where the building is to be erected at a distance from the factory local carpenters can be used, thereby saving the expense of sending experts from the factory. The advantages thus derived relate principally to the corner sections of the building. I do not mean to imply that these houses cannot be erected by others than experts from the factory, but it is undoubtedly true that the men in the factory who specialize in this work can build up corners of superior quality and appearance in much less time, and hence at lower cost, than can the average house-building carpenter, working from drawings or blue prints.

In Fig. 8 I show an elevation of a corner section, and in Fig. 9 a plan view of this corner. The principal characteristic of the framework of this section is that it is portable and sufficiently braced to avoid distortion in transit, as distortion might dislocate or otherwise injure some of the siding or blocks. Referring to Fig. 9 it will be seen that the framework comprises studs **25** and weather sheathing **26**, the same as Fig. 2. Lath and plaster are omitted, to be applied after the building has been erected. At the corner the sheathing of both walls is nailed to the stud **36**, and thus the two walls that unite to form the corner are firmly united. The weather boards and blocks being applied in the manner already described it is unnecessary to further describe this part of the structure. At **37** I secure a temporary brace, and at the bottom of the structure I secure a similar temporary brace, not seen, both of which will be removed when they are no longer needed. Of course, other methods of bracing the structure may be used.

It will be noticed that in Fig. 9 a stud **25** is placed at the outer extremity of the sheathing of each wall, next to which a similar stud is shown with dotted lines. This latter represents the first stud of a contiguous unit, which may be a window unit, a door or a plain wall unit. These contiguous studs may be nailed or otherwise secured together. In Fig. 8 a fragment of a window unit adjoins the corner unit, but the siding is omitted from this fragment. In this figure it will be noticed that the siding boards on the corner section are arranged with broken joints, and the ends of the siding are beveled. These expedients are adopted to make the joints less noticeable. Preferably the siding is left off of all units save corners, which permits the remainder of the siding to be applied at the place of erection, to the end that long lengths may be used, where the openings permit.

While I have shown and explained what I at this time regard as the best manner in which to construct my invention, I do not wish to limit the scope of the invention to the particular details shown, as the scope of the invention is defined by the appended claims.

1. In a wall construction, a length of siding, to one end of which a block is secured to extend perpendicularly to said siding, which block is made to simulate the projecting end of a log at the corner of a log house, said siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end, the juncture of said siding and block being mitered, thereby preventing the exposed surface of either turning the corner.

2. A corner of a frame house, comprising a framework adapted to carry the siding of the house, a series of units secured alternately to the outside of one and then the other of the walls that unite to form said corner, each unit consisting of a length of siding, to one end of which a block is secured to extend perpendicularly to said siding, so when the siding lies against one wall the block will lie against the other wall, the block being made to simulate the interlocked end of a log at the corner of a log house, the siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end.

3. A corner of a frame house, comprising a framework adapted to carry the siding of the house, a series of lengths of siding alternately secured to the walls that unite to form said corner, each at a higher level than the preceding one on the other wall, each length having secured to one end a block, which when the length

of siding lies against one wall lies against the other wall, thereby embracing the corner of the framework, said block being made to simulate the end of an interlocking log at the corner of a log house, the upper edge of the block having the form of an inverted letter V, the length of siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end, the lower edge of the siding being notched near its block, enabling it to saddle itself on the V-shape top of the block below it.

4. A corner of a frame house, comprising a framework adapted to carry the siding of the house, a series of lengths of siding alternately secured to the walls that unite to form said corner, each at a higher level than the preceding one on the other wall, each length having secured to one end a block, which when the length of siding lies against one wall lies against the other wall, thereby embracing the corner of the framework, said block being made to simulate the end of an interlocking log at the corner of a log house, the upper edge of the block having the form of an inverted letter V, the length of siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end, the lower edge of the siding being notched near the block, enabling it to saddle itself on the V-shape top of the block below it, said blocks being thicker than the siding, causing the blocks to extend beyond the siding to simulate the projecting ends of the interlocking logs at the corner of a log house.

5. A corner of a frame house, comprising a framework adapted to carry the siding of the house, a series of lengths of siding alternately secured to the walls that unite to form said corner, each at a higher level than the preceding one on the other wall, each length having secured to one end a block, which when the length of siding lies against one wall lies against the other wall, thereby embracing the corner of the framework, said block having the shape of the projecting end of a log in the corner of a log house, including the upper edge having the form of an inverted letter V, each length of siding having a V-shape notch in its lower edge enabling it to saddle itself on the block below it, simulating the interlocking of the logs at the corner of a log house.

6. A corner of a frame house, comprising a framework adapted to carry the siding, a series of units secured alternately to one and then the other of the walls that unite to form said corner, each unit consisting of a length of siding to one end of which a block is secured to extend perpendicularly to said siding, so when the siding lies against one wall the block will lie against the other wall, the block being made to simulate the protruding end of a log at the corner of a log house, the siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end, spaces between the edges of contiguous lengths of siding being filled with plastic material in a manner to simulate the chinking of a log house.

7. A corner of a frame house, comprising a framework adapted to carry the siding, a series of units secured alternately to one and then the other of the walls that unite to form said corner, each unit consisting of a length of siding to one end of which a block is secured to extend perpendicularly to said siding, so when the siding lies against one wall the block will lie against the other wall, the block being made to simulate the protruding end of a log at the corner of a log house, the siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end, the edges of the lengths of siding being made irregular to simulate corners of hewn logs, spaces between the edges of contiguous lengths of siding being filled with plastic material in a way to simulate the chinking of a log house.

8. A corner of a frame house, comprising a framework adapted to carry the siding of the house, a series of units secured alternately to the outside of one and then the other of the walls that unite to form said corner, each unit consisting of a length of siding, to one end of which a block is secured to extend perpendicularly to said siding, so when the siding lies against one wall the block will lie against the other wall, the block being made to simulate the interlocked end of a log at the corner of a log house, the siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end, spaces between the edges of contiguous lengths of siding being filled with plastic material to simulate the chinking of a log house, said plastic material being secured with strips of metal lath applied to the framework in proper places.

9. A corner of a frame house, comprising a portable framework, braced to prevent its being distorted, a series of units secured alternately to the outside of one and then the other of the walls that unite to form said corner, each unit consisting of a length of siding, to one end of which a block is united to extend perpendicularly thereto, so when the siding lies against one wall the block lies against the other wall, the block being made to simulate the interlocking end of a log at the corner of a log house, the siding being made to simulate the outside of the log of which the block simulates the end.

10. In a corner of a house, a series of units, each unit comprising a length of siding, to one end of which a block is secured to extend perpendicularly thereto, so when the siding lies against one wall the block can lie against the other wall, the blocks and ends of siding being made together to simulate the interlocked ends of the logs at the corner of a log house.

11. In a corner of a house, a series of units, each unit at a higher lever than its predecessor, each unit comprising a length of siding, to one end of which a block is secured to extend perpendicularly thereto, so when the siding lies against one wall the block can lie against the other wall, successive units being enantiomorphous to its predecessor, the upper edge of each block having the form of an inverted V, the lower edge of each length of siding being notched near the block to which it is secured, enabling it to saddle itself on the V-shape top of the block below it.

SIDNEY S. KING.