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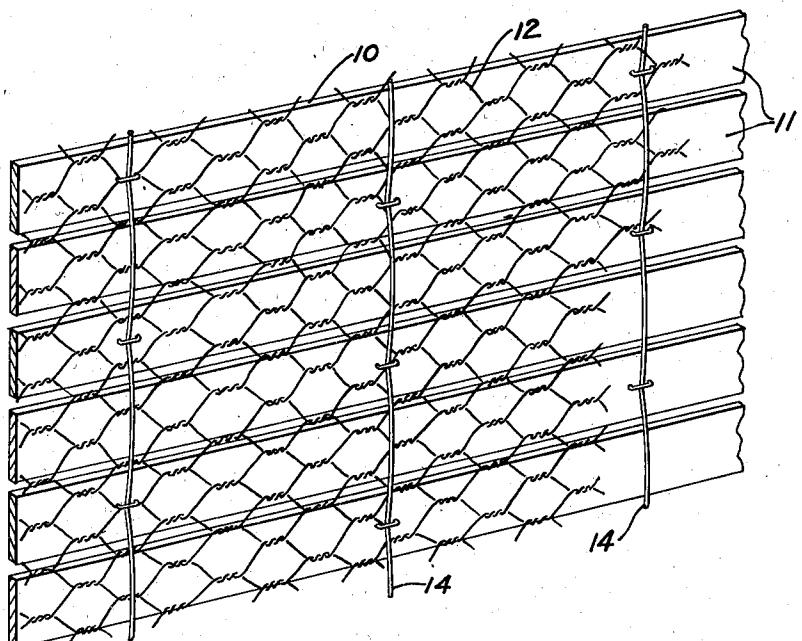
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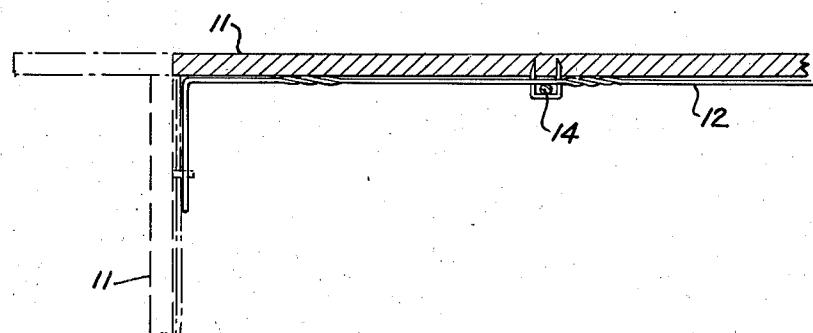
LATHING MATERIAL

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**Fig. 1.**



**Fig. 2.**



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## LATHING MATERIAL

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1 Claim. (Cl. 72—116)

This invention relates to material for lathing interior walls preparatory to applying plaster thereto.

It is the principal object of the present invention to provide an improved lath material in sheet form which may be quickly and economically installed, and which is so constructed that it forms a highly efficient base to which plaster applied in an extremely heavy coat will properly adhere without cracking.

One form which the invention may assume is exemplified in the following description and illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a sheet of material embodying the preferred form of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view therethrough showing the manner in which corners of a room may be reenforced by the use of my lathing material.

Referring more particularly to the accompanying drawing, I there illustrate my improved lathing material. This material is shown in Fig. 1 to be in the form of a sheet 10 of convenient size, preferably two feet wide by four feet in length. It is constructed by providing a plurality of slats 11 which extend lengthwise of the sheet in parallelism and spaced a distance apart sufficient to enable a good key with the plaster to be formed. These slats are of wood and are of a width substantially that of a standard wood lath, but of a thickness only about half the thickness of a standard wood lath. In that they are relatively thin, they may be cut off by the use of ordinary snips. In this fashion the sheet may be cut in any desired fashion for fitting purposes.

Over the slats is placed a sheet of wire netting 12, preferably of one inch mesh. To connect the slats together and to secure the wire netting thereto and also maintain the assembly in sheet form, I provide a plurality of wires 14 which extend transversely of the slats over the wire mesh and are stapled to the slats as illustrated. These wires are relatively stiff so that the sheet will be somewhat form-sustaining. The wires are preferably spaced approximately six inches apart with the outermost wires being spaced approximately six inches from the ends of the sheet. These wires, of course, also serve as reenforcing members.

One of the advantages of my present device is that the corners of a room may be reenforced thereby. This is accomplished as shown in Fig. 2 by snipping off the ends of the slats of one sheet adjacent to the first wire without snipping or cutting the wire mesh. Then the new end

of the sheet is abutted into the corner with the projecting end of the wire mesh bent around the corner and stapled to the adjacent wall. This forms a perfectly reenforced corner and also enables a good key to be obtained therein for keying the plaster at that point.

Obviously, by providing the lath in sheet form, it can be economically installed because it can be applied much faster than is the common practice of first applying wood lath one by one to the room and then nailing wire netting thereover. Also, my sheet lath has the advantage of the reenforcing wires and the feature of reenforcing the room corners as illustrated. In that the slats are relatively thin, the sheets can be cut by snips to any desired shape or size for fitting purposes.

In actual practice I have found that by use of my type of lathing material an extremely heavy coat of plaster can be applied thereto so that a room can be finished in two coats; that is, the brown coat, which is extremely heavy, and then the finish coat, whereas with the use of prior lathing materials it was necessary to apply two or more undercoats because the nature of the lath would not enable a sufficiently heavy undercoat to be provided on one application.

Also, the use of wood lath in my structure is advantageous in that the natural suction of the wood aids in properly anchoring the plaster.

From the foregoing it is obvious that I have provided an improved lathing material in sheet form which may be quickly and economically installed and which will form a highly efficient base upon which plaster may be applied.

While I have shown the preferred form of my invention, it is to be understood that various changes may be made in its construction by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

As an article of manufacture, a sheet of lathing material comprising a plurality of relatively thin wooden slats arranged lengthwise in parallelism at a spaced distance apart, a sheet of wire mesh overlying the slats and extending to the boundaries thereof, a plurality of relatively stiff wires arranged at spaced distances apart but short of the ends of the slats and extending transversely of the slats over the wire mesh and secured to the slats, said slats being so thin as to be severable transversely by snipping separately from the wire mesh.

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