

June 7, 1932.

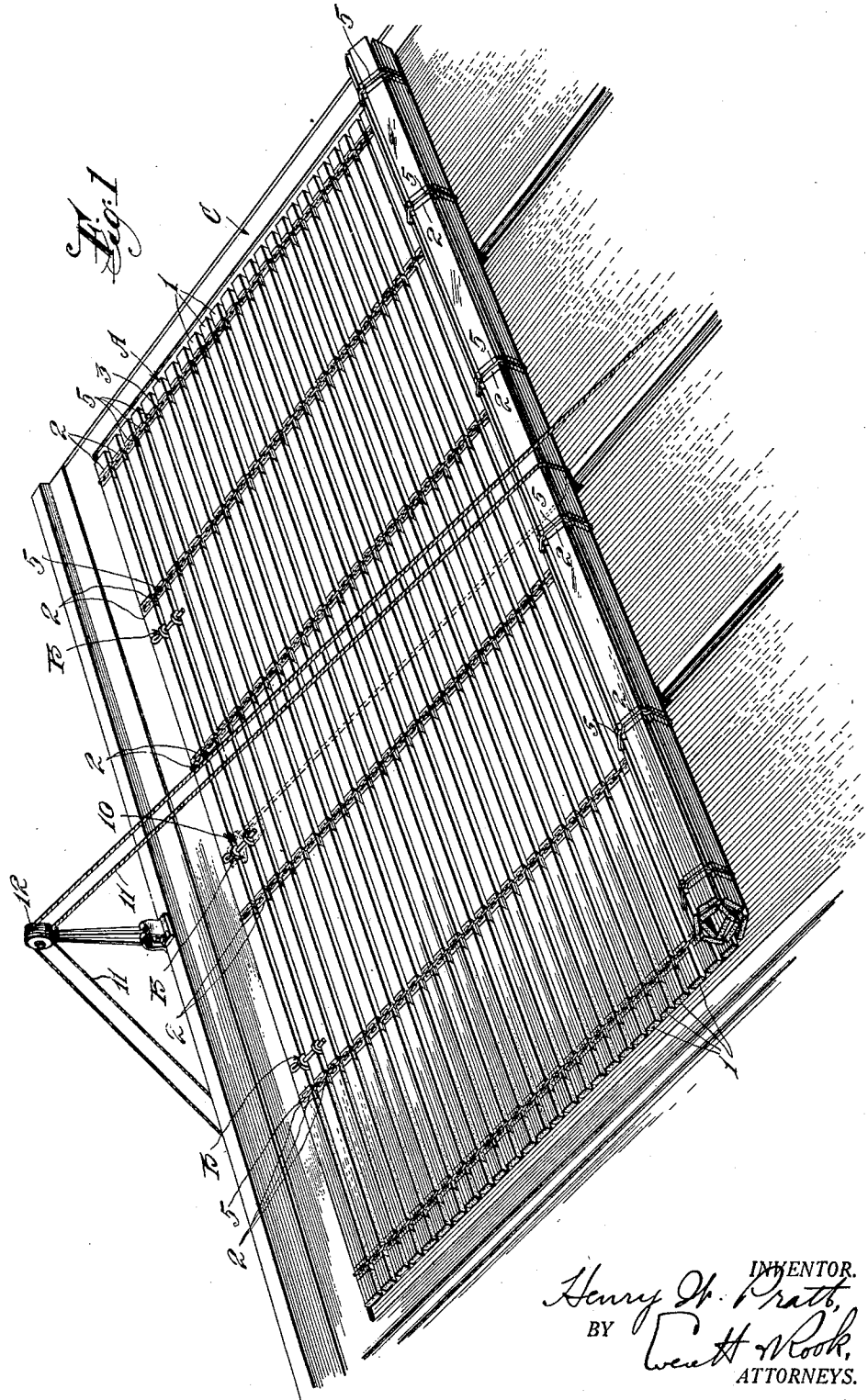
H. W. PRATT

1,861,718

SLAT SHADE

Filed Aug. 22, 1931

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.
Henry W. Pratt,
BY *Wentt H. Hook,*
ATTORNEYS.

June 7, 1932.

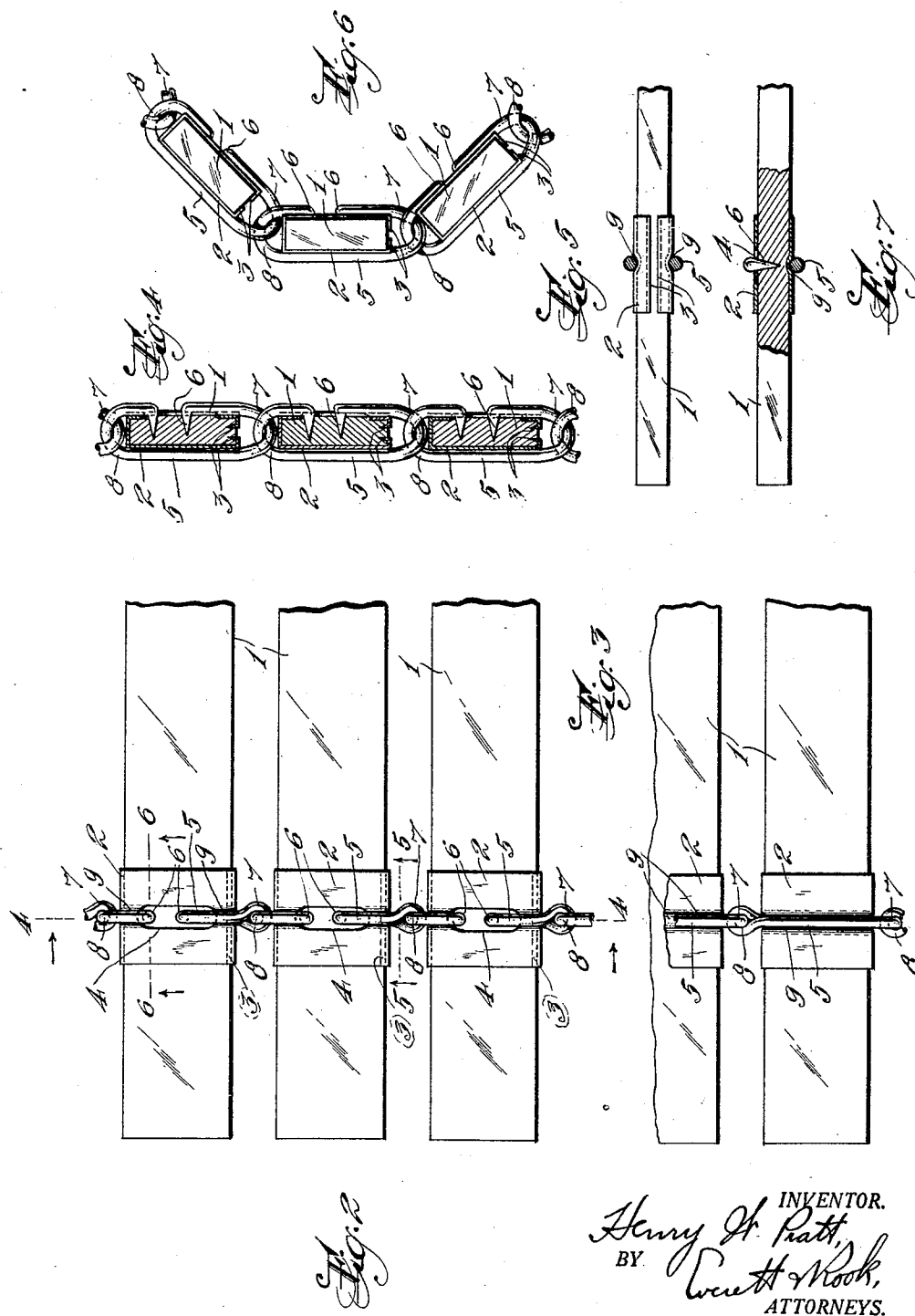
H. W. PRATT

1,861,718

SLAT SHADE

Filed Aug. 22, 1931

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



INVENTOR.
Henry H. Pratt,
BY *Wentt & Hook,*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HENRY W. PRATT, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM H. LUTTON COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY

SLAT SHADE

Application filed August 22, 1931. Serial No. 558,711.

This invention relates particularly to slat shades that are commonly used on roofs of greenhouses, on porches, and on like places. Such shades usually comprise a plurality of parallel wooden slats that are hingedly connected together at their longitudinal edges so that the shade may be rolled and unrolled. The slats are usually connected by metal links which are generally formed of pieces of wire which have their ends forced into the corresponding slats to secure the links in position.

In such slat shades, the slats are frequently cracked, split or worn away by contact of the links with adjacent slats during the rolling and unrolling operations, and sometimes the slats are split during the forcing of the ends of the wire links into the slats.

One object of my invention is to provide a slat shade wherein a protective sheath, preferably of metal, surrounds each slat at the area where the link engages the slat and the slat is engaged by the links of adjacent slats during the rolling and unrolling operations, so as to shield the slats against injury.

A further object is to provide a slat for slat shades including a strip of wood and a sheet of metal surrounding a portion of the strip to reenforce the strip against splitting and against injury by other slats in a slat shade.

Other objects are to provide a slat for slat shades including a strip of wood, and a protective sheath of novel and improved construction; to provide such a slat wherein the sheath consists of a strip of metal embracing the slat and having portions thereof pressed into said slat to secure the sheath thereon; to provide such a slat wherein the sheath has a portion thereof pressed into the slat to form a groove to receive a link and secure the sheath on the slat; to provide a slat for slat shades including a strip of wood, a sheath surrounding the strip and formed with an opening at one side of the slat, and a link formed of a single piece of wire surrounding the sheath and having its ends penetrating the slat through said opening; and to obtain other advantages and results as will be brought out by the following description.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which corresponding and like parts are

designated throughout the several views by the same reference characters,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a slat shade embodying my invention, showing the same applied to a greenhouse roof which is illustrated fragmentarily;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary plan view of one side of the slat shade embodying my invention;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary plan view of the other side of the slat shade;

Figure 4 is a transverse vertical sectional view, on the line 4—4 of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view, on the line 5—5 of Figure 2;

Figure 6 is a similar view, on the line 6—6 of Figure 2, and

Figure 7 is a fragmentary end elevation of the slat shade showing the manner of rolling it.

Specifically describing the illustrated embodiment of the invention, I have shown the slat shade A secured at its upper end by suitable hangers B to a greenhouse roof C.

The shade comprises a plurality of parallel strips 1 which are preferably formed of wood, sufficiently weather-proofed. At spaced points in the length of each slat, said slat is hingedly connected to adjacent slats, so that the slats may be rolled and unrolled upon each other.

As shown on the drawings, at each of these hinging points, a sheath 2, preferably of metal, surrounds the corresponding strip 1. This sheath is shown as consisting of a single strip of metal bent tightly around the strip, and having its end edges 3 penetrating one longitudinal edge of the strip for securing the sheath upon the strip. At one side of the strip 1 the sheath is provided with a slot 4.

Each of the links for connecting the strips together consists of a single piece of wire 5 embracing the corresponding strip and having its extremities pointed at 6 and forced into the strip through the slot 4 in the sheath. At one side edge of the strip, the wire 5 is twisted at 7 to form an eye whose axis is at right angles to the plane of the strip, to receive a loop 8 at the opposite end of an adjacent link, the axis of which is parallel

to the plane of the strip, as clearly shown in Figures 2, 4 and 6.

5 Preferably the sheath 2 is formed at the opposite sides of the strip 1 with portions 9 which are pressed into the strip to provide grooves for the wire 5 and to further assist in securing the sheath upon the strip.

10 With this construction, it will be observed that the strips 1 will be completely shielded against contact with the links during the rolling and unrolling operations of the shade; and furthermore, the sheaths 2 will protect the strips against splitting at all times, particularly during the forcing of the ends 6 15 of the links into the strips. Therefore, slat shades constructed in accordance with my invention will last and maintain a neat appearance longer than heretofore known shades of this general character.

20 The slat shade may be mounted and rolled and unrolled in any suitable manner. Generally, one end 10 of a rope 11 is connected to the greenhouse or the like beneath the shade adjacent the upper end thereof, said 25 rope passing around the lower end of the shade, then upwardly over a pulley 12 and downwardly to a convenient point for manipulation.

30 While I have shown and described the invention as embodied in certain details of construction, it should be understood that this is primarily for the purpose of illustrating the principles of the invention and that many modifications and changes may be made in the details of construction without departing 35 from the spirit or scope of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

40 1. A slat shade comprising a plurality of parallel wooden slats, links for hingedly connecting adjacent slats, and a protective sheath secured to said slats at the areas where said links engage the slats to shield the slats 45 against injury from said links.

50 2. A slat shade comprising a plurality of parallel wooden slats, a link embracing each slat and hingedly connected at each end to the links on the next adjacent slats, and a protective sheath embracing each slat beneath the corresponding link to shield the slats against injury from said links and re- 55 enforce the slats against splitting.

60 3. A slat shade comprising a plurality of parallel wooden slats, a link comprising a piece of wire embracing each slat and with its extremities penetrating one side of said slat to secure the link thereto, each link being hingedly connected to links of adjacent slats, and a protective sheath comprising a 65 sheet of metal embracing each slat beneath each link with its end edges penetrating one longitudinal edge of said slat, said sheath having an opening through which pass the ex- 125 tremities of said piece of wire.

4. A slat shade comprising a plurality of

parallel wooden slats, a metal sheath surrounding a portion of each slat and having an opening at one side of said slat, and a link comprising a piece of wire surrounding each sheath with its extremities penetrating the 70 corresponding slat through said opening in said sheath, said link being hingedly connected to the links of adjacent slats.

5. A slat shade comprising a plurality of parallel wooden slats, a link embracing each 75 slat and hingedly connected at each end to the links on the next adjacent slats, and a protective sheath embracing each slat beneath the corresponding link to shield the slats against injury from said links and reenforce 80 the slats against splitting, said sheaths having grooves therein to receive said links.

6. A slat shade comprising a plurality of parallel wooden slats, a link embracing each 85 slat and hingedly connected at each end to the links on the next adjacent slats, and a protective sheath embracing each slat beneath the corresponding link to shield the slats against injury from said links and re- 90 enforce the slats against splitting, said sheaths having portions thereof pressed into said slats to form grooves to receive said links and secure the sheaths on said slats.

7. A slat for slat shades, comprising a strip of wood, a metal sheath tightly sur- 95 rounding a portion of said strip, and a link surrounding said sheath for hingedly connecting said slat to another slat, whereby said sheath reenforces the strip and protects 100 it against injury from said links.

HENRY W. PRATT.

105

110

115

120

125

130