C. A. TORRANCE.

MOLD FOR CEMENT BLOCKS AND WALLS.

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953,647.

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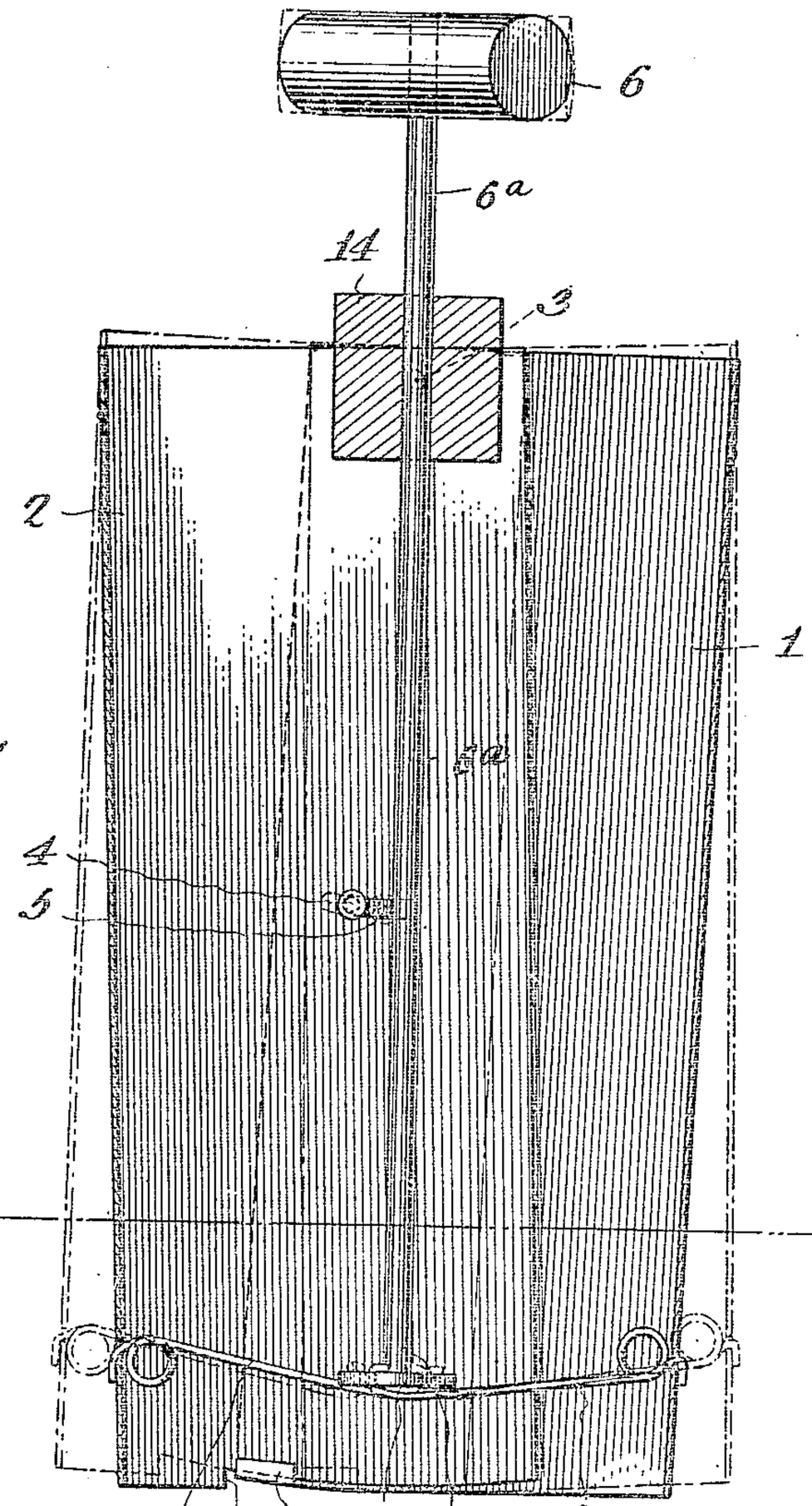


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

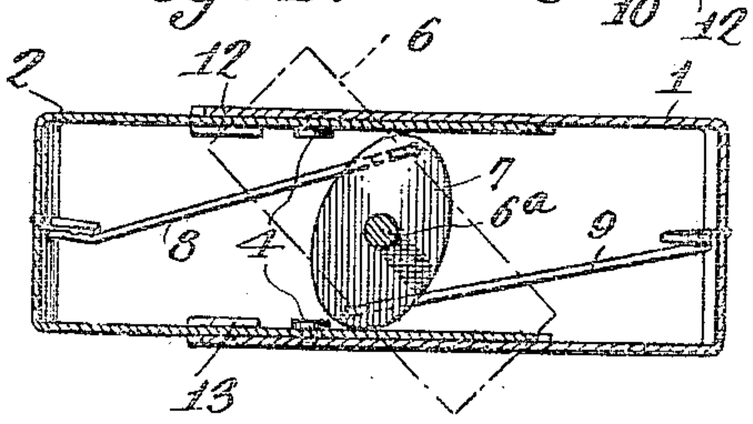
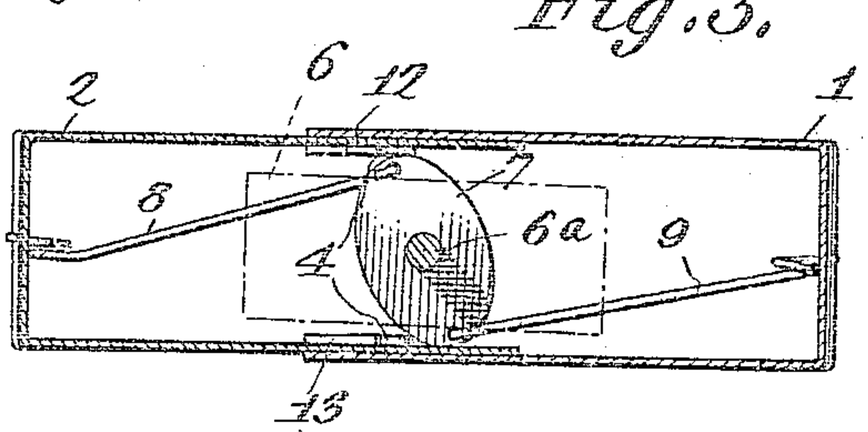


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MOLD FOR CEMENT BLOCKS AND WALLS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. TORRANCE, a citizen of the United States, residing in Gibbon, county of Buffalo, State of Nebraska, have invented an Improvement in Molds for Cement Blocks and Walls, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improved collapsible core, for use in molding hollow cement blocks and building walls.

The details of construction, arrangement, and combination of parts are as hereinafter described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of my improved collapsible core. Figs. 2 and 3 are sections on the lines 2—3 of Fig. 1, but showing the core collapsed in one case and expanded in the other.

The body of the core is constructed of thick sheet-iron, preferably galvanized iron, and in two parts, 1, 2, which are trough-shaped and one adapted to receive the other, the two being thus practically telescoped as will be understood from reference to Figs. 2, 3. The two parts 1, 2, are pivoted together by bolts or screws 3 applied at the top. A block 14 is arranged at that point and extends between the sides of the core, and through said block passes a rod 6^a having a handle 6 for rotating it. This rod 6^a extends nearly to the bottom of the hollow core and is there provided with a transverse oval-shaped plate or bar 7. The latter is connected by spring rods 8 and 9 with the narrower sides of the core. The rods are provided with coils to increase their resiliency and their outer ends pass through holes in the core sides 1, 2. The coils are formed adjacent to the sides of the core and rest in contact with it, thus serving as shoulders or points of impact when the rod 6^a is rotated for expanding the core.

In order to brace and strengthen the wider sides of the parts 1, 2, they are connected by a headed screw or rivet 4 which passes through an arc-slot 5, and they are further connected by an upturned lip or flange 12, which is formed on the bottom of part 1 and receives the lower edge of part 2. When the sides 1, 2, are collapsed as indicated in Figs. 1, 2, the flanges 12 may engage shoulders 10 and thus serve as stops.

The operation of my invention will now be understood from the following description. In building a hollow cement wall or in forming a hollow cement building block, the body of the mold employed being placed in position, my collapsible core is then adjusted in place in the center of the same and its sides opened or distended, as indicated by dotted lines Fig. 1, and full lines Fig. 3, it being obvious that this may be effected by rotating the handle 6 of the rod 6^a, which will carry the cross bar 7 to the diagonal position indicated in Fig. 3; then plastic cement is poured into the mold, or mold-box, around the core, and when the same has set or hardened, the core is collapsed to enable it to be withdrawn. In order to thus collapse it, the handle 6 is turned the reverse of its former rotation, by which the bar 7 carried by the rod 6^a is turned to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, whereby the spring rods 8 and 9 pull the sides 1, 2, of the core toward each other, as will be readily understood. Thus a hollow space conforming to the shape and size of the core will be formed in the walls or block, and will subsequently serve as an air chamber. In constructing the hollow wall, after the first layer of cement has been thus made and provided with openings by means of the core, as described, the lower end of the core is placed in the upper end of the opening formed in the previous operation, and then an additional quantity of plastic cement is poured in and left to harden, as before. By continuing in this manner, a hollow wall may be built up to any required height.

In practice, when the cross bar 7 on the rod 6^a is adjusted for opening the core to its fullest extent, as shown in Fig. 3, the rounded ends of the said bar come in contact with the inner sides of the core part 2 and thus brace and support both sides of parts 1, 2, against the pressure of the cement which is poured in around the core.

What I claim is:

1. The improved collapsible core comprising two hollow telescopic parts constructed of thin metal, and pivoted together at their upper ends, a top cross bar extending between the same, a rotatable rod passing through said cross bar and having its lower end provided with a cross bar, and spring rods connecting said bar with the narrower sides of the collapsible core and provided, adjacent to the said sides, with shoulders, whereby, when said rod is rotated, the telescopic parts may be adjusted in either direc-

tion for expanding or collapsing the core, as shown and described.

2. The improved collapsible core comprising two sheet metal parts which are trough-shape and arranged for telescoping as described, the same being pivoted together at their upper ends and provided centrally with a connection comprising a headed rivet which is slidable in a slot, and connected at their lower ends by a lip or flange formed on one part and engaging the other part, and a rotatable rod and means for connecting its lower end with the telescopic sides of the core, as shown and described.

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