(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) Publication number: **0 063 550**
A2

(12) # EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: **82830080.6**

(22) Date of filing: **01.04.82**

(51) Int. Cl.³: **E 04 D 12/00**

(30) Priority: **16.04.81 IT 2122381**

(43) Date of publication of application:
27.10.82 Bulletin 82/43

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE FR GB LI NL

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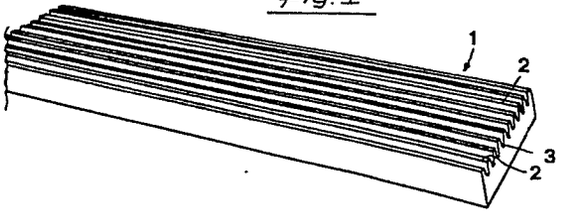
(54) **Prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile coverings.**

(57) The prefabricated member comprises a plate like element (1) provided, on the outer surface thereof, with a plurality of longitudinally extending projections (2) which are interposed between longitudinally extending slots (3), evenly extending for the overall length of the plate like member (1).

Fig. 1



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The present invention relates to a prefabricated member structure, particularly provided for making tile bearing coverings.

As it is well known, for making the tile bearing coverings or mantles, for constructing roofs and the like, there are presently used prefabricated plate members which are generally made or concrete, possibly or the reinforced type.

The cited plate like members are applied, for making the covering, on load bearing walls or beams, in such a way as to provide the intended covering.

Upon having made the covering, on the outer surface of the plate like members there are applied, at predetermined spacings, wood, steel or other material strips, in such a way as to provide gripping members or stop members for the tiles which are then applied on the thus formed covering or mantle.

As it should be obvious, said strips are so located as to present a distance therebetween compatible to the type of the used tile.

This locating of the strips constitutes the cause of several drawbacks, the main thereof is that it is necessary a great deal of labour, mainly for applying

the several strips.

Moreover said strips are not always effective to assure a good durability in the time, since possible leakages, under the action of the atmospheric agents, may damage the strips with the consequent sliding downwardly of the tiles, which negatively affects the efficiency of the covering.

Thus, the task of the present invention is to eliminate the thereinabove mentioned drawbacks, by providing a new prefabricated member which is specifically designed for making coverings or mantles and effective to allow for the covering tiles to be applied without requiring any other operations.

Within the scope of the above task, it is a main object of the present invention to provide a prefabricated member effective to be used with all of the tile types presently commercially available, made of concrete or any other possibly available materials.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a prefabricated member which, while it is specifically designed for making tile bearing coverings, is also susceptible to be used in a broad range of applications, due to the structural

features thereof.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a prefabricated member which, for its installation, requires a reduced amount of labour, thereby affording great economic advantages.

The aforesaid task and objects, as well as yet other objects which will become more apparent hereinafter are achieved by a prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, according to the invention, comprising a concrete plate like member, characterized in that said plate like member is provided, on the outer surface thereof, with a plurality of longitudinally extending projections, said projections being interposed between longitudinally extending slots.

Further characteristics and advantages of the invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description of a prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, being illustrated by way of an indicative but not limitative example in the accompanying drawings, where:

fig.1 is a schematic perspective view illustrating the prefabricated member according to the invention;

fig.2 is an elevation view, on an enlarged scale, of the prefabricated member, as seen from one end thereof;

fig.3 is a schematic perspective view illustrating the locating of prefabricated members according to the invention, as arranged adjacent to one another, for making a tile bearing covering or mantle;

fig.4 illustrates the application step of the tiles on the formed covering;

fig.5 is a cross-section view illustrating the subject covering, therein there is specifically shown the coupling between the plate like member according to the present invention and the applied tiles.

With reference to the number references of the figures of the accompanying drawings, the prefabricated member, according to the present invention, which is overally indicated at 1, consists of a plate like member, preferably made of concrete and containing further inert insulating materials, expanded clay and the like.

More specifically, the plate like member 1, which may possibly be of the reinforced and no load

bearing type, practically consists of a hollow clay block, the size whereof may be modified depending on the needs.

The main characteristic of the invention is that said plate like member 1 is provided, on the exposed face thereof, with a plurality of longitudinally projections 2 thereamong there are interposed a plurality of longitudibally extending slots 3, the latter being parralel to one another and evenly distributed.

The projections and slots practically extend through the overall length of the plate like member and, advantageously, have a trapezoidal configuration thereby, as it is clearly shown in fig.2, the plate like member 1 is practically provided with a toothed shape.

The thus obtained plate like members 1 advantageously define, on the faces thereof provided for being exposed or outwardly directed, a plurality of strips, consisting of the projections 2, for coupling with the stop members as those which are conventionally provided on the tiles 5, said stop members being indicated at 4.

By making the plate like membre 1 with the thereinabove illustrated shape, it is possible to drastically simplify the tile application operations, since said plate like members are already set for engaging with the stop members 4 of the several types of tiles.

Moreover, by providing a comparatively high number of projections 2 and associated slots 3, it is possible to fit, without any modifications, said plate like members to any size of tile, thereby said plate like members are effectively useful in a broad range of applications.

For making a load bearing covering, said plate like members 1 are located on two hollow brick walls, at different spacings from one another or on a beam arrangement, either of the conventional or precompressed type, which in the drawing have been indicated, for simplicity, at the reference number 10.

Upon having made the desired supporting structure, the plate like members are located adjoining one another, in such a way that the projections 2 extend horizontally or perpendicularly to the roof or covering slope.

After having applied mortar in the gaps between the hollow blocks in such a way as to tight close the covering, the tiles are applied in a very quick way, since it is sufficient to apply said tiles by the known methods, while assuring a perfect anchoring thereof since the stop member 4 will positively insert into the slot 3 defined by two adjoining projections 2.

Yet another feature of the invention is that the disclosed plate like member is a higly versatile one since, in addition to the use thereinabove disclosed, it may be used for making inclined planes, chutes and the like or as an antiskid member for wheeled vehicles.

Moreover the plate like members can be used as disposable panels for fencing walls, or as coatings panels for the outside walls of buildings.

It should be noted from the above that the invention fully achieves the intended objects.

In particular the facts is to be pointed out that the provision of projections, directly in the making stage of the plate like member, makes much simpler all the subsequent use steps,

since an article of manufacture is provided effective to assure a long service life and an easy installation.

In practicing the invention the used materials, though the better results have been obtained with the thereinabove mentioned materials, as well as the contingent size and shape may be any, depending on the needs.

C L A I M S

1- A prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, comprising a concrete plate like member, characterized in that said plate like member (1) is provided, on the outer surface thereof, with a plurality of longitudinally extending projections (2), said projections (2) being interposed between longitudinally extending slots (3).

2- A prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, according to the preceding claim, characterized in that said projections (2) and slots (3) are evenly distributed.

3- A prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, according to the preceding claims, characterized in that said projections (2) and slots (3) extend for the overall length of said plate like member.

4- A prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said projections and slots (2, 3) cooperate to

define seats for housing and locking said tile stop members (4).

5- A prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said slots and projections (3,2) are substantially parallel to one another and lie in a substantially horizontal plane, the latter being perpendicular to the covering slope.

6- A prefabricated member structure, particularly for making tile bearing coverings, according to the preceding claims and as broadly disclosed and illustrated for the intended objects.

Fig. 1

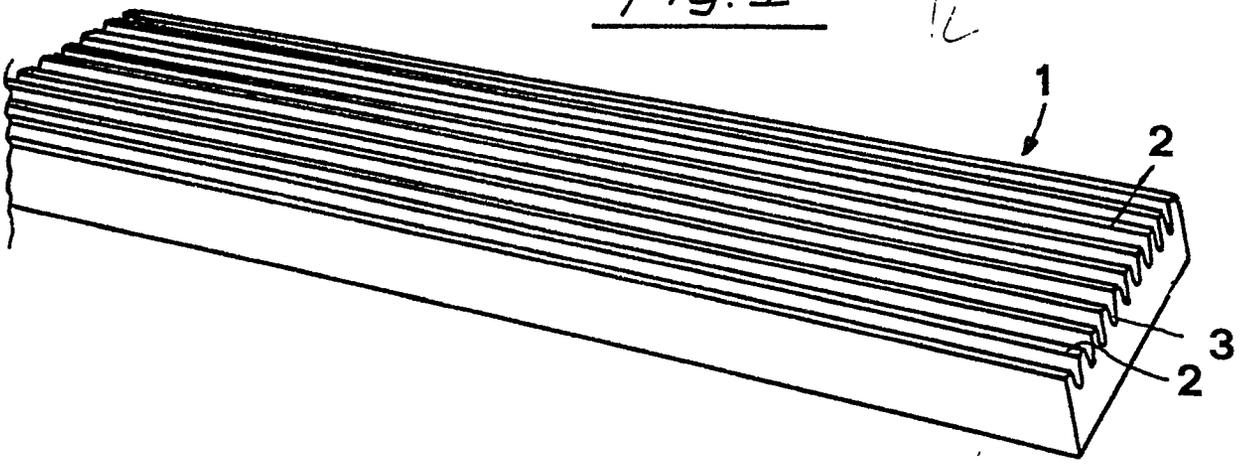

Fig. 2

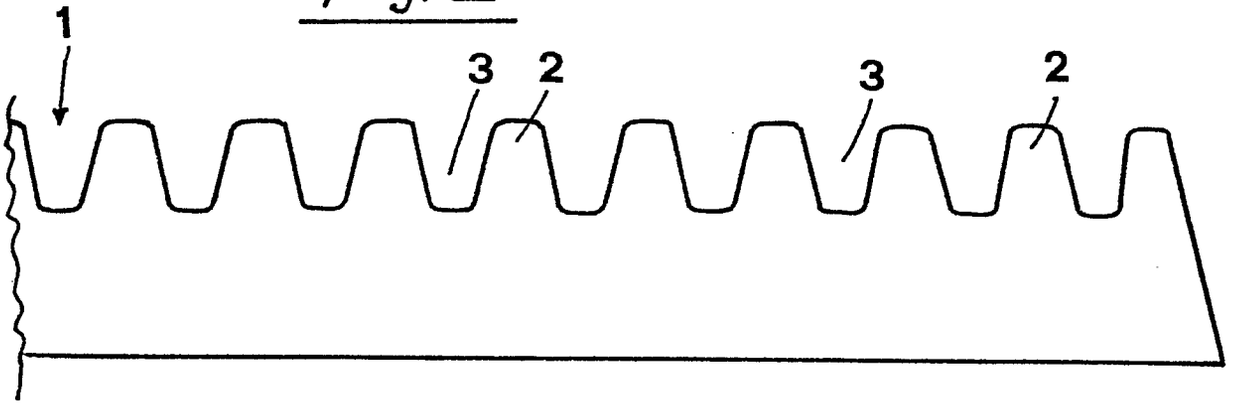

Fig. 3

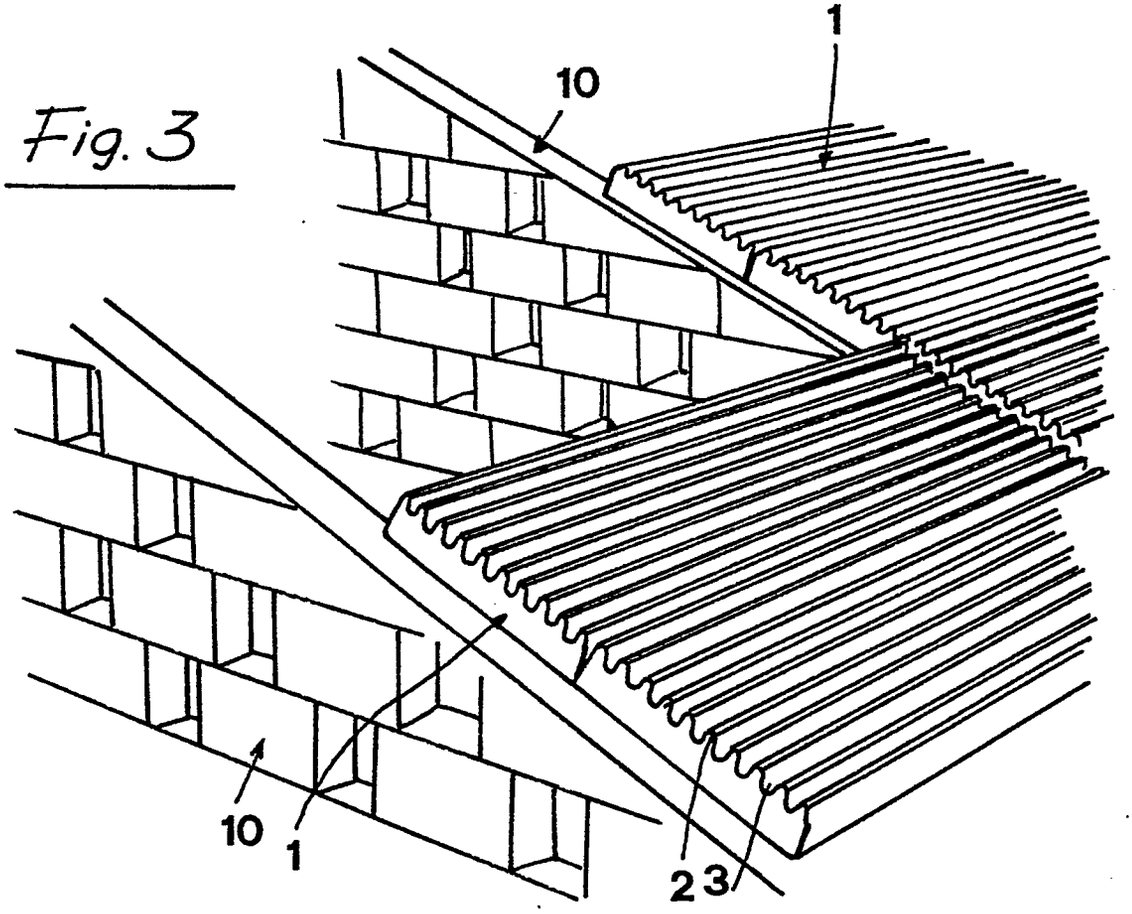

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Fig. 4

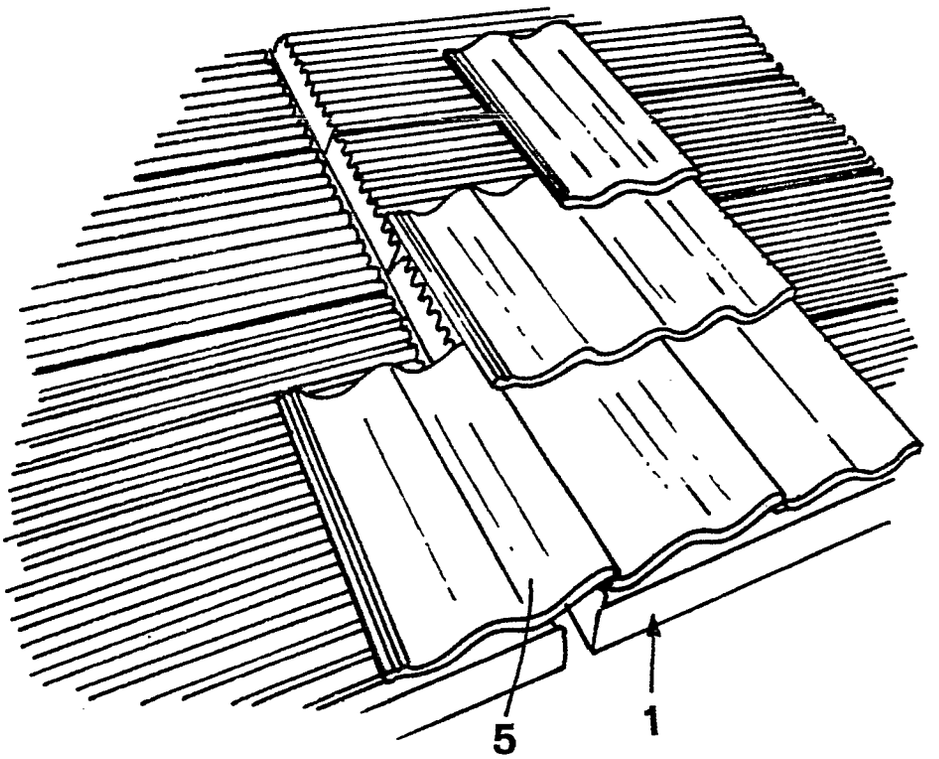

Fig. 5