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P. HOFER

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FLOORING

Filed May 6, 1929

Fig. 1.

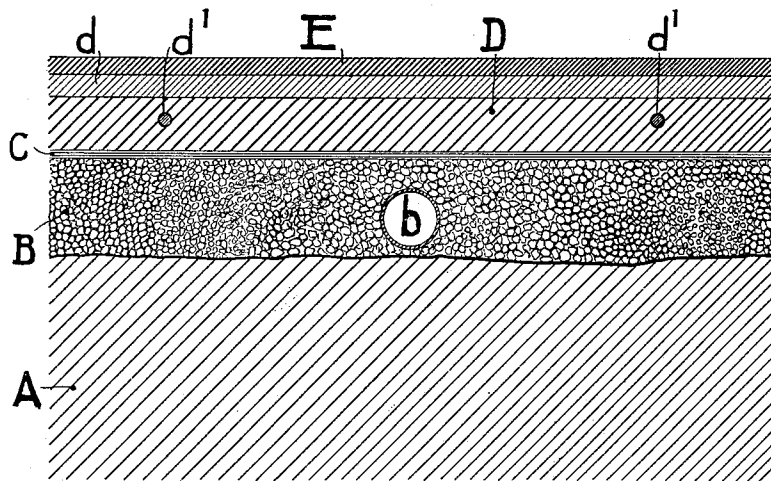
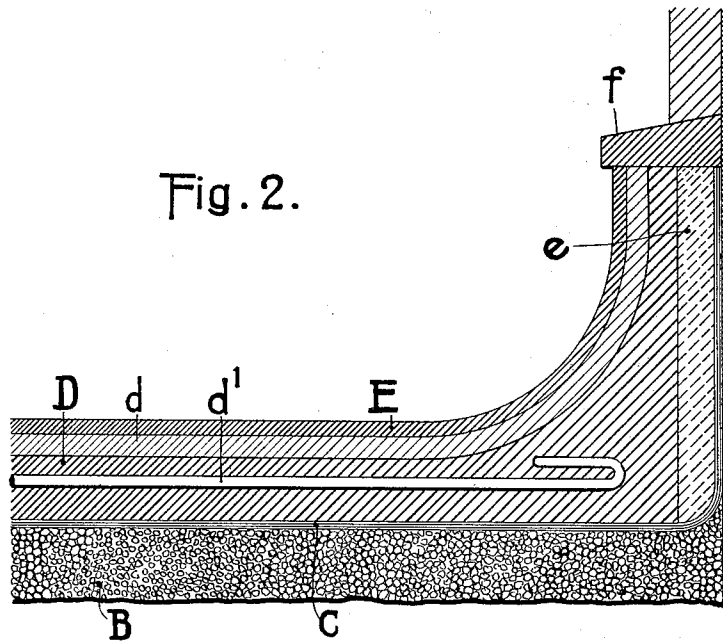


Fig. 2.



INVENTOR
P. Hofer,
BY Sangier, Perry, Card & Sangier
ATTYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

PAUL HOFER, OF BASEL, SWITZERLAND

FLOORING

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In the manufacture of sound-proof and thermally insulating floors, it has already been proposed to use an under-layer of cork-meal (finely divided cork) or the like for the floor covering. As cork-meal is somewhat fluent, a subdivision of such under-layers into separate fields was provided by means of cases or listels embedded thereinto in order to prevent any travelling or displacement of the cork-meal. However, such arrangements are not of great utility as the covering, when charged in use, rests with the whole of the charge upon the cork-meal layer and, if the latter gives way, often sinks down or breaks.

The present invention relates to a sound-proof and thermally insulating flooring with an under-layer of cork-meal, which is characterized by the combination of a compressed under-layer of cork-meal covered by tarred paper or the like with an independent, reinforced self-sustaining covering capable of uniformly distributing the charge of use.

Figures 1 and 2 of the accompanying drawing show by two partial sections perpendicular to one another the preferred form of the flooring according to the invention.

In this drawing, A is a reinforced concrete ceiling, B a layer of cork-meal distributed thereon and compressed by means of convenient rammers to form a coherent bed of cork-meal, C a layer of tarred paper or like roofing material laid on said cork-meal layer, and D a self-sustained floor covering having an upper flattening layer *d* and an embedded metallic reinforcement *d'* so arranged that the covering can support its own weight as well as the effective charging thereon. A layer of cork linoleum E may complete the floor. The covering D may be of any material convenient to such purposes, for example of cement, concrete and so on. It does not wholly extend to the side walls of the room, being separated therefrom by vertical insulating pressed cork plates *e* along which

it extends upwards up to a closing strip of wood *f*.

The reinforcement of the covering D is of great importance in so far as the same is thus rendered self-sustaining and capable of uniformly distributing the charge of use, which is of great advantage in the use of an under-layer of cork-meal. The covering thus ensures a uniform distribution of the load throughout the whole of the cork-meal bed and is strong enough to support the whole of the charge. Obviously, its thickness and reinforcement depend on such charge. The thickness of the cork-meal layer may also vary.

In the cork-meal layer there may be embedded electrical conducts, tubes or the like, as indicated at *b* in Figure 1.

A floor of the kind described is convenient for any rooms, especially owing to its sound-proof and thermally insulating properties. A sinking or breaking of the upper covering can never take place.

What I claim is:—

1. In sound-proof and thermally insulating flooring, the combination of a reinforced concrete ceiling, a compressed under-layer of loose cork-meal thereon, tarred paper or the like covering said cork-meal layer, and an independently reinforced self-sustaining floor arranged to freely float upon said cork-meal under-layer, the reinforcing elements of said floor terminating short of the side walls of the room.

2. A room having a sound-proof and thermally insulating flooring, comprising in combination, a reinforced concrete lower ceiling, a compressed under-layer of loose cork-meal thereon, thin tarred material covering said cork-meal layer, an independently reinforced self-sustaining floor mounted to freely float upon said cork-meal under-layer, the reinforcing elements of said floor being contained entirely within said floor, and being free from connection with external parts,

pressed cork plates extending upwardly for
a short distance from the cork-meal layer
along the vertical walls of the room, the rein-
forced floor extending upwardly along the
said walls for a short distance and being insu-
lated therefrom by the said plates, and a
closing strip extending inwardly of the room
from the vertical walls adjacent the lower
ends thereof for closing and sealing the said
floor.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed
my name this 25th day of April, 1929.
PAUL HOFER.

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