Sept. 1, 1925. 1,551,544

K. E. CROOKS

FLOORING

Filed Aug. 16, 1921

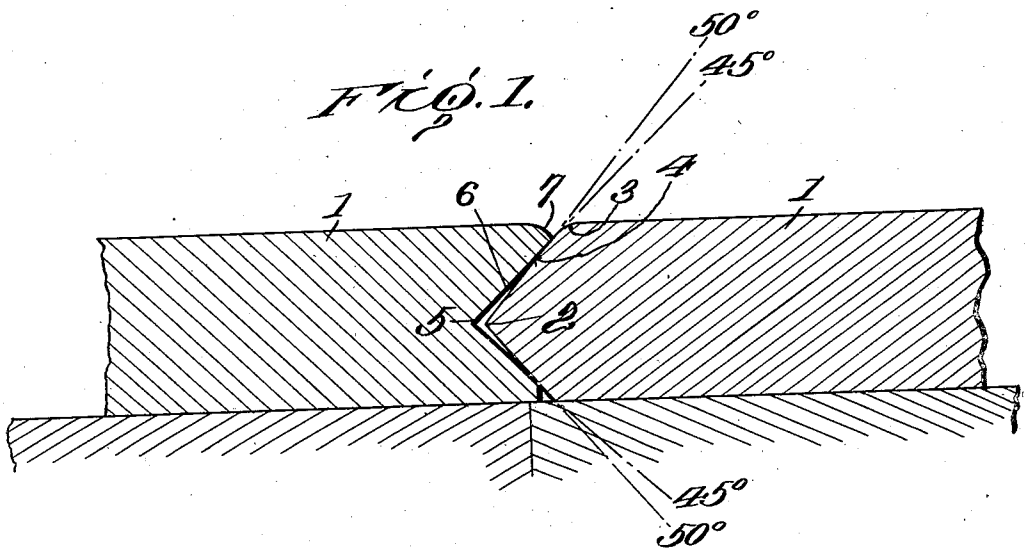

FIG. 1.

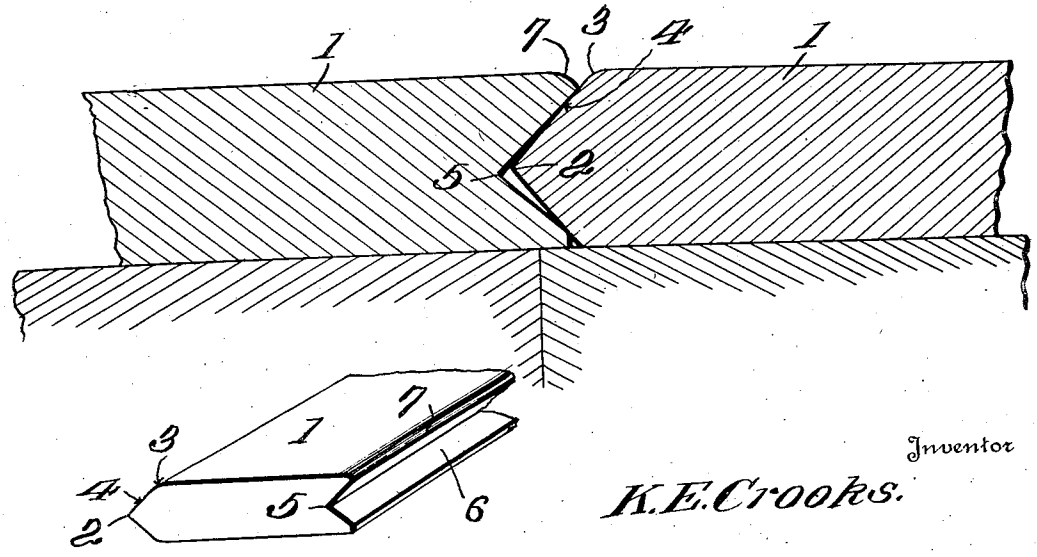

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

Inventor

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By

Attorney

Patented Sept. 1, 1925. 1,551,544

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KENNETH E. CROOKS, OF WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO THE CROOKS-DITTMAR COMPANY, OF WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FLOORING.

Application filed August 16, 1921. Serial No. 492,640.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KENNETH E. CROOKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Williamsport, in the county of Lycoming and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flooring, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in flooring and is an improvement upon a construction of flooring shown in the reissue patent of Elmer C. Dittmar, Number 14,660, dated June 10, 1919, the object being to provide a strip of flooring having a substantially V-shaped groove along one edge and a substantially V-shaped tongue along the other edge cut on different angles to facilitate holding in contact the rounded portion when interlocked when the floor is laid over an uneven surface.

Another and further object of the invention is to provide a flooring strip with a V-shaped tongue cut on an angle of approximately 50° along one edge and a V-shaped groove on the other edge cut on an angle of approximately 45°, so that when a number of these strips are assembled to produce a flooring, a tight joint will be formed and maintained irrespective of the roughness of the sub-floor.

Other and further objects and advantages of the invention will be hereinafter set forth and the novel features thereof defined by the appended claims.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 is a section through a pair of strips showing the manner of forming the tongue and groove in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2 is a similar view showing a flooring constructed in accordance with my invention in position on an uneven sub-floor; and

Figure 3 is a detail perspective view of one of the flooring strips.

In the drawing 1 indicates a strip of material having along one of its longitudinal edges a substantially V-shaped tongue 2 formed by beveling the strip from opposite sides, said tongue being substantially the same thickness of the strip and rounded as shown at 3. The beveled faces 4 forming the tongue are cut on an angle of 50° for the purpose hereinafter fully described.

The opposite longitudinal edge is provided with a V-shaped groove 5 cut on an angle of 45° to form beveled faces 6, the edges of the groove being rounded as shown at 7. When a number of strips are assembled to produce a flooring as shown in Figures 1 and 2 and secured together, substantially V-shaped grooves having rounded edges are formed between the assembled strips.

By forming the beveled faces of the tongue at a different angle from the beveled faces of the groove, when a pair of strips are assembled to produce a flooring, the rounded edges 3 and 7 will always be held in contact in order to obtain a tight joint between the strips irrespective of the unevenness of the sub-flooring as by referring to Figure 2, I have shown a pair of strips laid on an uneven sub-floor to illustrate the advantage of my invention and by referring to this figure it will be seen that the edges 3 and 7 are in contact and by referring to Figure 1, which illustrates flooring laid on even sub-flooring, the edges 3 and 7 are also in contact. This enables the flooring to be laid on an ordinary sub-floor or over top of a flooring which has been in use.

As shown in the various figures of the drawing, the flooring when laid in accordance with my invention produces substantially V-shaped grooves having rounded edges between the abutting strips and by cutting the beveled faces of the tongue and groove at different angles, I am able to hold the contacting portions of the beveled faces of the tongues and grooves at the intersection of the rounded portions in contact with one another irrespective of the condition of the subflooring which enables the flooring to be prefinished before being laid.

I am aware that a flooring constructed with a V-groove larger than the V-tongue can be constructed which could be laid on an uneven surface as this would produce flooring with a bearing which would be unequal and when the flooring is laid over a rough surface it would squeak but with my improved construction by forming the groove and tongue of angles of different degrees, a firm bearing is formed to obtain a tight joint which prevents the flooring from squeaking when in use.

What I claim is:—

1. A flooring formed of a series of duplicate finished flooring strips having interlocking substantially V-shaped tongues and grooves along the side edges, each strip having the side edges adjacent to the upper surface cut away to provide a rounded surface said strips when operably assembled forming a flooring surface having substantially rounded V-shaped grooves at the junction of each two strips, the beveled faces of the tongue of each strip being cut on an angle greater than that between the beveled faces of the groove of such strip.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a flooring strip having one of its longitudinal edges formed with beveled faces to provide a tongue of substantially V-shape in cross section and its other longitudinal edge grooved to form a substantially V-shaped groove, each strip having its side edges adjacent to the upper surface cut away whereby said edges may cooperate with the respective edges of the adjacent strips to produce a groove at the junction of the strips, the beveled face of the tongue being cut on an angle of 50° and the beveled face of the groove being cut on an angle of 45° for holding the intersection of the rounded portions in contact.

3. A flooring formed of a series of duplicate finished flooring strips having interlocking tongues and grooves of substantially V-shape in cross section along their side edges, the beveled faces of the tongue of each strip being cut on an angle of 50° and the the beveled faces of said groove being cut on an angle of 45°.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

KENNETH E. CROOKS.