

May 10, 1938.

J. MEGEE

2,117,198

FLOORING

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Fig. 1.

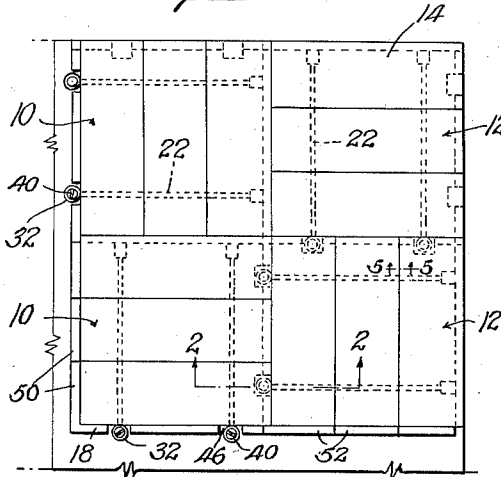


Fig. 3.

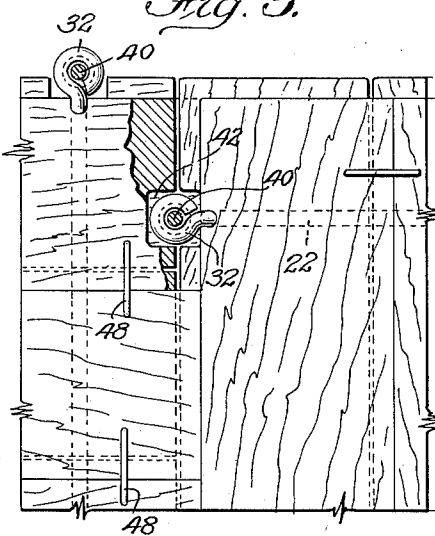


Fig. 2.

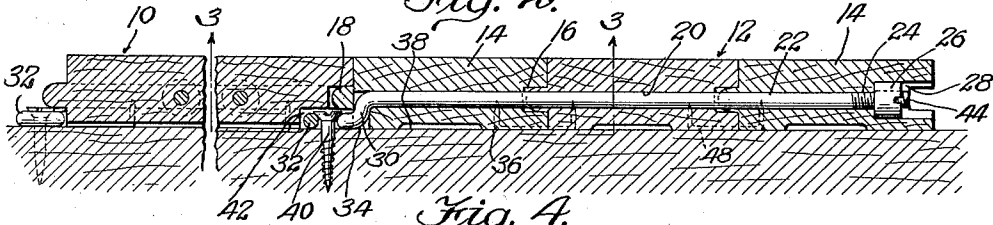


Fig. 4.

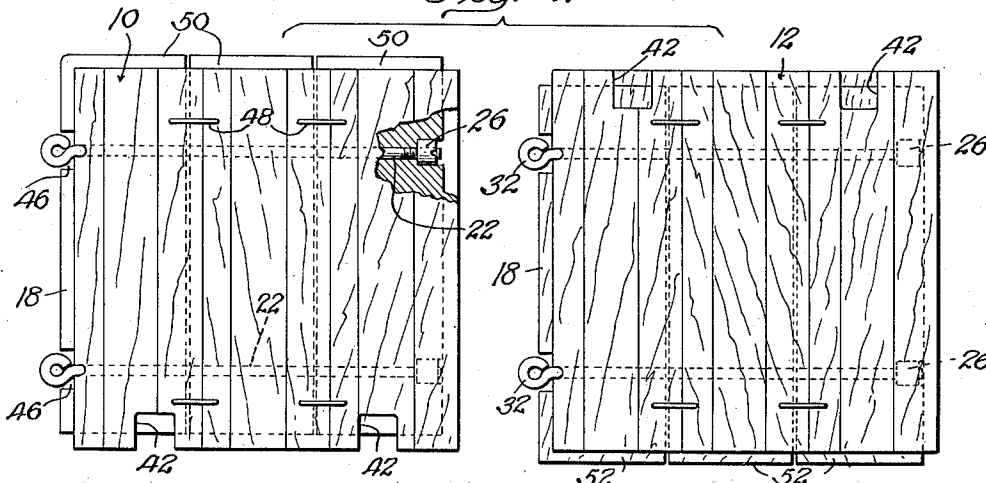
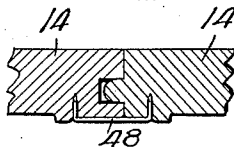


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,117,198

FLOORING

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2 Claims. (Cl. 20—8)

My invention relates to building structures and includes among its objects and advantages the provision of an improved parquet-floor section and method of constructing such floors, walls, and ceilings.

An object of my invention is to provide floor or wall sections of a composite nature in which the sections are constructed to have interlocking tongue and groove connections with each other and in which the elements making up the composite sections are effectively connected into a unitary structure without the aid of nails.

Another object is to provide composite sections made up of units effectively connected in edge to edge relation through the medium of bars extending through the units and in which the bars are so constructed and arranged as to provide means for effectively anchoring the composite sections to a supporting structure.

Another object is to provide floor or wall sections constructed in such a manner as to permit effective anchorage of the sections to a supporting structure without passing nails or screws through the sections, thus avoiding splitting and marring of the sections as frequently occurs in connection with the laying of hardwood flooring.

Another object is to provide composite sections which may be made up of various sizes and shapes and in which the sections may be quickly and easily laid with comparatively little trouble and expense.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a portion of a floor made up of my composite sections;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view taken from the position indicated by line 3—3 of Fig. 2 with a portion of the structure broken away for the sake of clearness;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of two of the composite sections; and

Fig. 5 is a sectional view along the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

In the embodiment selected to illustrate my invention I make use of a plurality of composite sections 10 and 12 which are individually built up of elements 14, each element being provided with a groove 16 in one edge and a tongue 18 at its opposite edge. The elements 14 may be cut from conventional hardwood flooring. In the drawing I illustrate the sections 10 and 12 as being square, but the sections may be made in various lengths and widths depending upon the pattern desired. The elements 14 are bored at 20

for the reception of tie rods or bars 22 which interconnect the elements into a unitary structure. In sections 10 and 12 made square according to the illustration I prefer to employ two tie rods 22 in each section.

Referring to Fig. 2, the rod 22 has a threaded end 24 for the reception of a nut 26 which lies within a bore 28 in its associated element 14. The opposite end of the bar 22 is bent to provide a right angular reach 30 which terminates in an eye 32 lying in the plane paralleling the sections 10 and 12. I provide the element 14 associated with the right angular bend 30 with a groove 34 for accommodating the bend 30. The lower face of the eye 32 lies in a plane substantially common with the bottom surface 36 of the section 12 so that the section may be firmly anchored to the floor 38 by a screw 40 passing through the eye and anchored in the floor. The element 14 of the section 10 adjacent the eye 32 is recessed at 42 for accommodating the eye.

Nut 26 is provided with diametrically opposed slots 44 for the reception of a bifurcated screw driver. After the elements 14 have been assembled and the rods 22 placed in position, the elements may be clamped in firm pressure relation by tightening the nuts 26. The bend 30 has abutting relation with its associated element 14 while the nut 26 has pressure relation with the bottom of the groove 28 so that the elements 14 will be drawn firmly together by mere tightening of the nuts. The tongue 18 of the element 14 associated with the bend 30 is recessed at 46 to provide clearance for the screws 40 and the screw driver.

After tightening of the nuts 26, U-shaped staples 48 are driven into the elements 14 and span the abutting edges of the connected elements, as illustrated in Fig. 3. The tight parts of the staples are driven into the elements sufficiently far to lie flush with the bottom surface 36 of the elements. Fig. 4 illustrates the arrangement of the grooves 16 and the tongues 18 with respect to the sections 10 and 12. Section 10, when viewed according to Fig. 4, has its tongue 18 extending along the left-hand edge of the section with the tongues 50 on one end of each of the elements 14 extending along the top edge of the section 10. Section 12 has its tongue 18 extending along the left-hand edge while the tongues 52 of the elements 14 of that section extend along the bottom edge of the section. Because of this arrangement of the tongues and grooves, the sec-

tions may be laid according to Fig. 1 with the eyes 32 so positioned as to permit access thereto for fastening the sections to the floor 38. The sections 10 and 12 of Fig. 1 may be interconnected in such a manner that the grain of the wood in one section will run at right angles to the grain of the wood in the adjacent section or sections.

While I have defined the invention as being embodied in a floor, the sections 10 and 12 are equally applicable to wall and ceiling structures. The sections may be effectively connected with a supporting structure through the medium of the screws 40, which screws are so arranged as to eliminate the necessity for additional nailing. Hardwood flooring is difficult to nail because of its tendency to split.

The sections 10 and 12 may be pre-cut to exact shape, sanded, varnished, and otherwise finished complete for installation in the building. Thus, the user may secure finished sections and incorporate them in the building structure without further finishing.

Without further elaboration, the foregoing will so fully explain my invention that others may, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt the same for use under various conditions of service.

I claim:

1. A building unit having a tongue and groove for interlocking relation with the tongue and groove of a similar unit, said building unit comprising a plurality of elements, rod means extending transversely through the elements, and a nut on one end of said rod means, said rod means having its opposite end offset to provide an abutment, said abutment having pressure relation with one side of the unit and said nut having pressure relation with the opposite side of the unit, said nut being housed within the contour of the unit, said abutment having an eye located exteriorly of the unit for the reception of a fastening element, to secure the unit to a supporting structure.

2. A building unit comprising a plurality of elements, rods extending transversely through the elements, each rod having an abutment on one end located in pressure relation with one side of the unit, said rods being offset at their opposite ends to provide abutments having pressure relation with the unit on its opposite side, and means co-operable on said offsets for securing the unit to a supporting structure.

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