DEFENSIVE PUBLICATION

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PROCESS FOR PRODUCING MINUTE CAPSULES

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No Drawing. 10 Pages Specification

Minute capsules can be prepared by incorporating an oil-soluble acid percursor, e.g., n-butyl oxalate, into an oil, the acid precursor being capable of hydrolyzing to form an acid when contacted by water at a temperature below about 100° C., mixing the oil with a continuous aqueous phase containing an alkali-soluble acid-insoluble cellulose ether, e.g., cellulose ether phthalate, to form a discontinuous oil phase, e.g., oil droplets, within said continuous aqueous phase. An alkali-soluble acid-insoluble cellulose ether encasing wall forms at the interface of the two phases. This is caused by the acid which is produced by the hydrolysis of the oil-soluble acid precursor contacting the alkali-soluble acid-insoluble cellulose ether contained in the continuous aqueous phase. These minute capsules can be employed in photographic elements and emulsions, e.g., they can contain photographic silver halide processing agents.