Sept. 23, 1941. C. C. FULBRIGHT 2,257,048

PLY WOOD FLOOR BLOCK

Filed Sept. 7, 1940

Fig. 1.

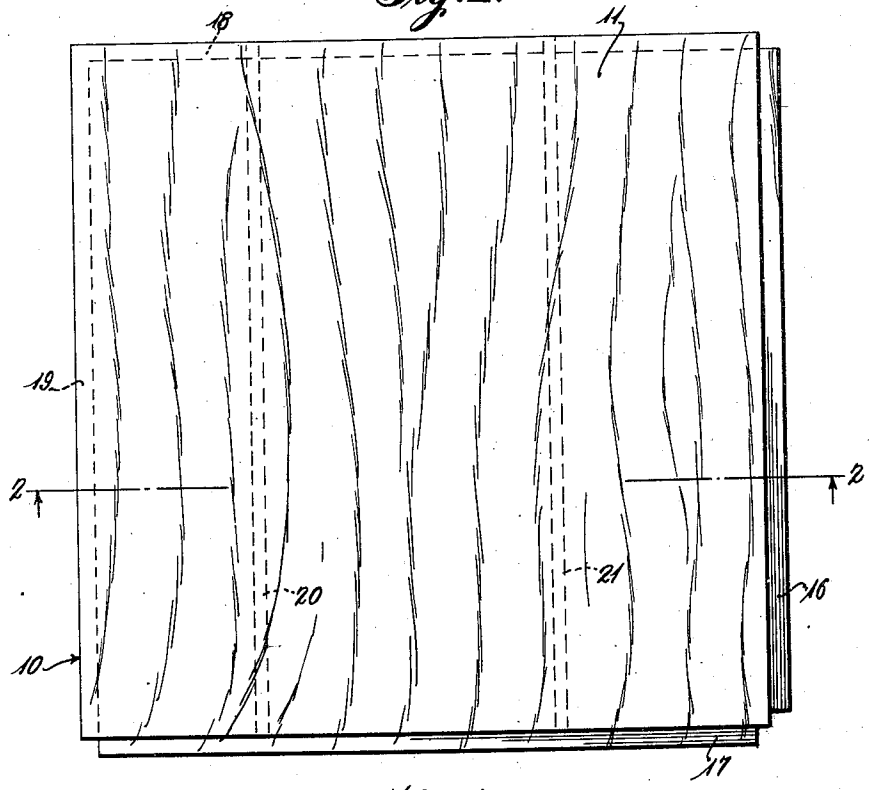


Fig. 2.

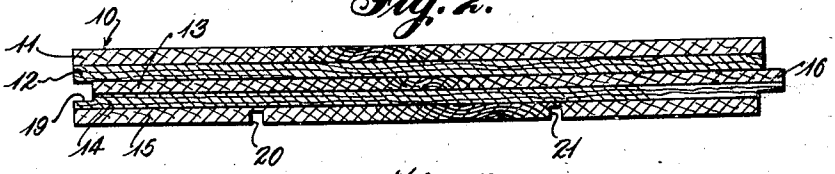


Fig. 3.



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PLY WOOD FLOOR BLOCK

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3 Claims. (Cl. 20—8)

The invention relates to floor blocks and has as an object the provision of a floor block made from ply wood.

It is an object of the invention to provide a ply wood floor block, provided with tongues and grooves wherein the tongues involve portions of at least two plies.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a ply wood floor block in which the grain of the plies exposed on the opposite faces of the block run in the same direction.

Further objects will appear from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein

Figure 1 is a plan view of a block;

Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a section similar to Figure 2 of a block formed of a different number of plies.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2, the block 10 is shown as formed of five plies 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 respectively. As shown the grain of plies 11 and 15 at opposite surfaces of the block run in the same direction, which results from the inclusion of an odd number of plies. As a result of such relation of the direction of grain of wood on the opposite sides of the block, any swelling or shrinkage of the wood caused by conditions which are common to the two sides, as changes of humidity before the blocks are laid, will be balanced by the action on the two sides.

As shown the block is formed with tongues 16, 17 on two adjacent sides and grooves 18, 19 on the remaining two sides, as is common practice. In accordance with the invention, the tongues involve at least two of the adjacent plies, 13 and 14 as shown, as a result of which the danger of splitting off of the tongues is obviated. Furthermore, in the form of Figures 1 and 2 the portions of the block at each side of the grooves 18 and 19 also each involve at least two plies, for a like reason.

The grooves 20, 21 in the bottom surface of the block are conventional in floor blocks.

The form of the invention of Figure 3 comprises three layers 22, 23 and 24, the grain of which layers 22 and 24 at opposite surfaces run in the same direction. The tongues 16' (and 17' not shown) of this form of the invention involve the two layers 23 and 24.

The layer 22 which is exposed in the surface of the floor and is conventionally made of superior material, as shown as thicker than the remaining plies, as a result of which longer wear may be had. Also by this excess thickness the danger of splitting off of the overhang of this ply at the groove, where its grain runs parallel with the groove, is lessened.

Floor blocks of the character of the present invention, are customarily made of hard wood, oak and maple being most usual. Ply wood, when surfaced with hard wood, have the remaining layers or plies formed of soft wood. Ply wood floor blocks, of which I have knowledge, provide the tongue and groove by bodily offsetting one of the plies to project at two edges and inset at the remaining two. But the soft wood layer at the parallel grain projection, of soft wood, is very vulnerable to handling. By the structure of the present invention each tongue as well as the overhangs of the grooves are made equally strong on each side of the block.

Minor changes in the physical embodiment of the invention may be made, within the scope of the claims, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A floor block comprising in combination: a plurality of plies of wood united by an adhesive; tongues projecting from two adjacent edges of the block and grooves formed in the remaining edges; each of said tongues comprising at least portions of at least two of the plies comprising the block; the grain of certain of said plies running at an angle to the grain of an adjacent ply.

2. A floor block comprising, in combination: a plurality of plies of wood united by an adhesive; the grain of alternate plies at an angle of 90° to that of the remaining plies; tongues projecting from two adjacent edges of the block and the remaining edges formed with grooves; each of said tongues comprising at least portions of at least two of said plies; material overhanging at least one side of each groove formed of at least portions of at least two of said plies.

3. The structure of claim 1 in which the grain of the wood at opposite surfaces of the block runs in the same direction.

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