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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FLOOR SWEEPING COMPOSITION

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It has been common for some time to employ an oily substance, together with a carrying solid, for use as a floor sweeping composition. This type of composition is sprinkled on the floor and is then swept up, carrying with it loose dust particles and transmitting some of its oil to the floor. This residual oil prevents splintering of the fibres where the floor is made of wood and assists in laying dust, but adds a substantial accident hazard due to its tendency to make a floor slippery.

My present invention relates to a composition adapted for sweeping purposes but avoiding the disadvantages and hazards of earlier mixtures. In actual use of my improved composition, a complete elimination of slipping accidents has resulted, the floors are cleaned better, less trouble is experienced from dust, a better wearing surface is produced, and the floor remains in an abrasive condition after the compound is swept up.

The improved mixture comprises a body of ground feldspar, a smaller proportion of an oil retaining body such as sawdust, and an oil such as paraffin oil. The ground feldspar possesses a distinct angular cleavage which has proved to be of great utility in this combination. Due to its sharpness it penetrates into the pores of the wood and presents a permanent non-slipping, wear resisting surface. Ordinary sand is substantially round, and when stepped upon will roll rather than biting in and positively preventing slipping. The effect produced by the ground feldspar would in no way be reproduced by the use of ordinary silica sand. The sawdust assists the feldspar in carrying the oil, and forms a softer oil supplying material which is of particular use in picking up the dirt from the floor. The oil which I employ is preferably, although not necessarily, paraffin oil, as this has the property of evaporating to a waxy consistency and thus serving as a binding for the feldspar particles which are left on the floor. It is also cleaner than other oils and assists the abrasive action of the feldspar in cleansing the floor of embedded dirt particles.

The preferred composition is as follows:

	Per cent
Ground feldspar (to pass 20 to 40 mesh)	80
Sawdust	5
Paraffin oil	15

It will be understood, however, that these proportions and particulars are given as the preferred example only, and need not be followed exactly.

What I claim is:

1. A floor sweeping composition comprising a dust-collecting material mixed with feldspar ground so as to produce crystalline fractures presenting sharp edges.

2. A floor sweeping composition comprising sawdust, paraffin oil, and feldspar ground so as to produce crystalline fractures presenting sharp edges.

3. A floor sweeping composition comprising by weight about five per cent. sawdust, fifteen per cent. paraffin oil, and eighty per cent. feldspar ground so as to produce crystalline fractures presenting sharp edges.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

GEORGE E. WORTH.