April 28, 1959 S. P. SCHUT 2,884,035

FLOORING TOOL

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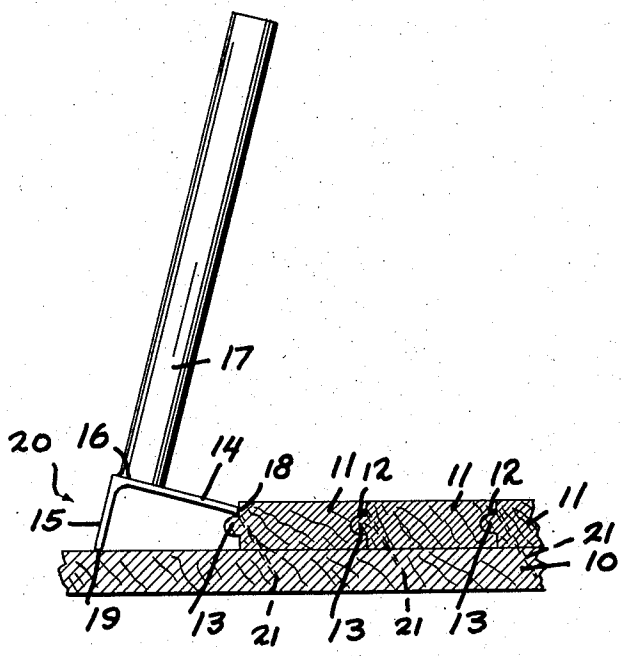


Fig. 1

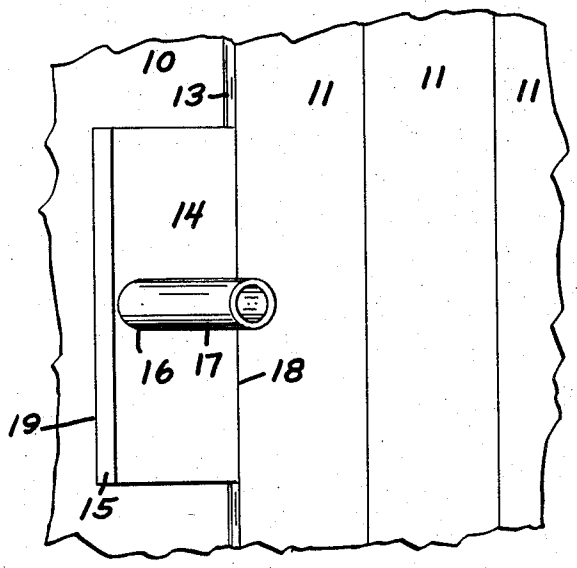


Fig. 2

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FLOORING TOOL

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1 Claim. (Cl. 145—1)

My invention relates to a flooring tool.

An object of my invention is to provide a flooring tool for use on that type of flooring using grooved lumber in which the extending ribs of the lumber are engaged with grooves in adjacent strips, and pertains to a very simple tool which will insure that the succeeding boards or strips are uniformly and neatly forced into position without the necessity of using extra tools which usually mar or injure the lumber, the tool at the same time assisting in driving the nails which are used to further secure the strips.

A further object of my invention is to provide a tool which is very simple in construction and which can be manufactured at a very reasonable cost, and which can be conveniently carried by the carpenter.

With these and other objects in view, my invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of the various parts of my device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the tool and showing a portion of the flooring in cross section, and

Figure 2 is a plan view of Figure 1.

My invention pertains to a simple carpenter's flooring tool which can be used for driving the flooring sections together without marring of the flooring, etc.

I have used the character **10** to designate the base flooring, the character **11** indicating the usual hardwood flooring of the grooved type having the grooves **12** at one side and the extending ribs or tongues **13** at the other side.

Usually in insuring that the tongues and grooves fit properly, it is necessary for the carpenter to strike against the extending ribs **13** to hammer the strips in place, which results in marring and in itself does not provide a firm and efficient driving effect along sufficient surface to insure a uniform and snug fit of the corresponding tongues and grooves.

My invention comprises an angle member having the longer flange portion **14** which includes the further flange portion **15** at right angles to the portion **14**, it being noted from Figure 2 that the portion **14** is of fairly substantial length, and suitably welded at **16** to the portion

14 is the upwardly extending pipe member **17** which provides a handle and which is of fairly substantial length as shown.

The device is used as shown in the figures, with one edge **18** of the flange **14** being placed above the rib **13** as shown, and with the edge **19** of the flange **15** being placed on the flooring **10**, and one hand will grasp the handle **17**. Next, a hammer is struck in the direction of the arrow **20** against the flange **15**, the hammer being struck as many times as necessary, and in most cases not requiring continual striking, and when the hammer is struck in this manner against the flange **15**, the portion **18** will drive the boards **11** together with the ribs and grooves interengaging as is clearly shown in Figure 1, the length of the flange **14** providing a substantially lengthened surface for this purpose, without at all marring the surface of the lumber at any point. If desired, the usual nails **21** can be driven in the usual manner, this tool also providing the function of simultaneously finishing the complete driving of these nails at the same time.

I have found that flooring can be laid very quickly by the use of my device, and it will be readily obvious that it could also be used for any type of tongue and groove lumber such as siding and the like.

It will now be seen that I have provided the advantages mentioned in the objects of my invention with further advantages being readily apparent.

Some changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of the parts of my invention without departing from the real spirit and purpose of my invention, and it is my intention to cover by my claim any modified forms of structure or use of mechanical equivalents which may be reasonably included within their scope.

I claim as my invention:

A flooring tool for tongue and grooved lumber comprising an elongated angle member including a first flange, a second flange at right angles to said first flange, the free edge of said first flange being adapted to bear against a lumber strip above the tongue while the free edge of said second flange bears against a base floor upon which said strips are mounted, whereby striking against said second flange will cause tongues and grooves of said lumber to be engaged, an upwardly extending handle member attached to and extending from the outside surface of said first flange, said handle comprising a cylindrical pipe in substantial alignment with said second flange, said second flange being of lesser width than said first flange to provide a more direct striking action against said lumber.

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