Sept. 13, 1927. 1,642,324

C. J. BECKWITH

FLOOR CONSTRUCTION

Filed Aug. 9, 1926

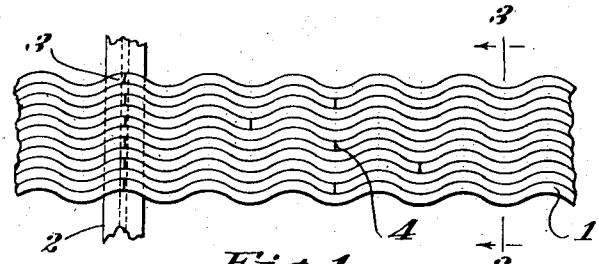


Fig. 1

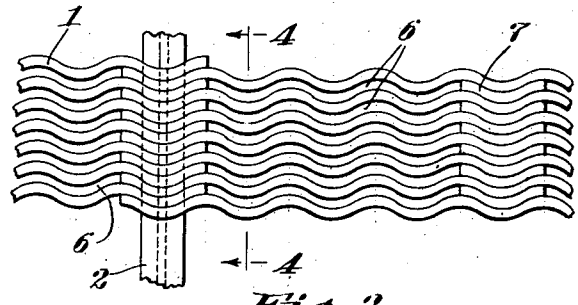


Fig. 2

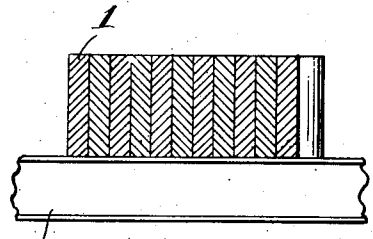


Fig. 3

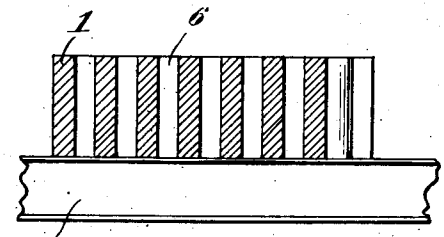


Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FLOOR CONSTRUCTION.

Application filed August 9, 1926. Serial No. 127,980.

This invention relates to an improved type of floor construction more particularly adapted to commercial installations in which a floor resistant to heat and proof against corrosion is essential or desirable.

A floor constructed in accordance with the present invention may be substantially fireproof, may be highly resistant to the effect of chemical deterioration due to acids or the like and is adapted to endure considerable wear due to trucking, moving of heavy objects, etc. The present invention in its more specific aspect relates to the formation of a floor by assembling a large number of strips of resistant fireproof material such as commonly used for roofing and siding; the strips preferably being of undulatory form with interfitting undulations to hold them in proper engagement with each other. For such a purpose a composition comprising asbestos fiber which has been bound with suitable hydraulic cement, compressed under high pressures, and weathered for a certain length of time.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon a reading of the subjoined description and claim in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a portion of a floor constructed in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view of another form of the invention;

Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the accompanying drawings and more particularly to Figs. 1 and 3 thereof, a floor is constructed of strips 1 of resistant material, preferably having an undulatory form, such for example as corrugated asbestos bound with adhesive material such as hydraulic cement. Strips 1 are preferably cut to provide the floor with a considerable depth and have their flat lower edges disposed upon the conventional floor beams or joists 2 with interfitting corrugations or undulations 3 in mutual engagement with each other so that a substantially solid or continuous layer of resistant flooring is provided. The ends of the aligned strips may be located either above the beams 2 as indicated by the numeral 3, (Fig. 1) or their abutting ends may be located between the beams or joists as indicated by numeral 4 since the interfitted undulations will hold the ends of the strips in comparatively firm engagement; it obviously being desirable to stagger the joints between the ends of adjoining strips, as shown.

Figs. 2 and 4 illustrate another form of the invention particularly useful in installations where a draft passing through the floor is desirable as in dryers and the like. In this form of the invention the strips are spaced from each other to provide an open grid-like construction with overlapping ends of the strips forming spacers to define the spaces therebetween as designated by numeral 6 (Fig. 2). Preferably these overlapping ends are located above the floor beams 2 which may be of any form. Obviously, if desired, the degree of spacing may be varied to suit different conditions and, when the span between adjoining floor beams is comparatively wide, it may be desirable to introduce additional spacers 7, consisting of short lengths of corrugated material between the long strips which bridge the spans.

Obviously floors of this type of construction are formed particularly useful in commercial installations wherein floors of ordinary material do not have the desired qualities of endurance under the wear of heavy trucking, moving of machinery and the like, especially when also subjected to high temperatures or the corrosive action of strong chemicals.

In any of its alternative forms, the strips composing the flooring herein described will retain their positional relationship best when held tightly together, as by any marginal wedging devices which may be found convenient, and will, when so held compactly in mutual contact, require no further or other holding means.

I claim:

A floor comprising beams and narrow comparatively deep strips of cement-bonded asbestos fiber spanning spaces therebetween, said strips having longitudinally undulated

surfaces in mutually interfitting engagement, the strips being so shaped that a plane tangent to successive re-entrant areas upon one side thereof will cut the surface upon the opposite side between said re-entrant areas, certain of the strips having their ends in juxtaposed relation to form breaks between beams, these strips being held in place by the interlocking engagement of their undulated surfaces with similar surfaces of adjoining strips.

Signed by me at New York, N. Y., this 4th day of August, 1926.

CHARLES J. BECKWITH.

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