

Sept. 18. 1903.

E. F. Spears & Son

Gentlemen.

We think much will depend upon location and character of the soil. unless very dry or well drained think well laid wood floor with air space below would be preferable. I have seen a warehouse used for hemp storage with a floor of concrete. and while under my observation. say 5 or 6 years the hemp kept in good condition

In this case the building which was built of wood was raised two feet or more above grade on a brick foundation. as there were no floor timbers the sills were kept from spreading by long rods with turnbuckles running from sill to sill. the space between foundation walls were filled with dry sand to the lower level of the sill. and on this a bed of concrete the rods being covered with the concrete. This is not a cement concrete but a concrete of stone & sand mixed with coal tar. A cement concrete must be of good quality and very hard. A floor of this character is used for warehouses and the floors of mills being covered over the concrete with 2" planks in mill floors the 2" floor is covered with 7/8" flooring. This plan is adopted in buildings that are built under plans furnished by the Manufacturers Mutual Fire Ins. Co.

Approved

A. Moore,

Comdr. U.S.A.

Equipment Officer

Very Respectfully

Fred. A. Jenks