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POLISHED HARDWOOD FLOORS.

It is an unusual thing to find a modern house which does not have hardwood floors in at least some of the rooms. A fitted carpet is a thing of the past in most homes. Keeping hardwood floors in prime condition is necessary to their cleanliness and beauty. To have them attended to by an expert is an expensive matter, and it is therefore necessary for the majority of people to know something about this process. It is far cheaper in the end to have good materials used upon floors, even though applied by unskilled labor, than it is to emply workmen who will guarantee to do the entire job cheaply, and who will therefore use inferior materials.

If a floor has never been correctly finished and is rough or sticky in places, the only way to treat it is to completely take off the original stain by means of a good solvent, which will soften it and permit it to be rubbed off. A steel wool will best accomplish the removal of every bit of color and will usually leave the floor looking like new wood. Next, a firstclass filler should be applied. This will fill up the pores and grain of the wood and induce a smooth, hard surface. Wax should be applied slowly with a cloth and within a few minutes the floor should be polished by means of a weighted brush, which is far superior to cloth for this purpose in producing a brilliant finish. The wax comes in light or dark, and should be selected with regard to the final result required-a dark or light finish.

If this process be carefully followed and the work done slowly and thoroughly, it will insure a fine looking floor and one which can be easily kept clean; its brightness may be preserved by merely applying wax, and polishing once or twice a year.—
"Hardwood Record."

TOO MUCH TO REMEMBER.

Addressing the University Engineering Society on "Railway Accidents," Mr. J. H. Hall, of the Ottawa Railway Union, stated that railway conductors and engine drivers were over-taxed with things to remember. His opinion was that the block system should prevail on all Canadian lines.

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