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[54] **GYPSUM COMPOSITION**

[75] Inventors: **Semyon Shimanovich**, Brooklyn, N.Y.; **Christian Meyer**, Demarest, N.J.; **Leon Cukrowski**, Jackson Heights, N.Y.

[73] Assignee: **The Trustees of Colombia University in the City of New York**, New York, N.Y.

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[58] **Field of Search** 106/712, 772, 106/776, 778, 781, 802; 524/2, 6, 650, 423, 4

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Primary Examiner—Michael Marcheschi

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Baker & Botts, LLP

[57] **ABSTRACT**

This invention relates generally to a gypsum composition having improved setting and strength characteristics. More specifically, this invention relates to a gypsum composition comprising an acrylic latex and an aliphatic alcohol wherein the composition has a retarded setting rate. This gypsum composition may further comprise a melamine-formaldehyde polymer and/or a styrene butadiene latex. This invention further relates to an artificial marble gypsum composition.

18 Claims, No Drawings