

Nov. 6, 1923.

W. F. HEROLD

1,472,833

PROCESS OF REMOVING CASTER SOCKETS FROM FURNITURE

Filed Dec. 5, 1921

Fig. 1,

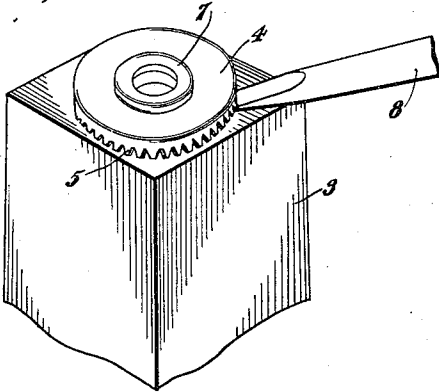


Fig. 2,

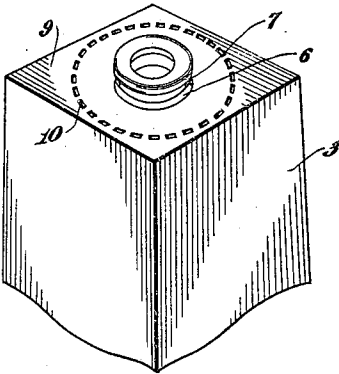


Fig. 3,

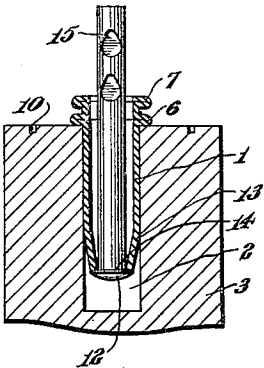


Fig. 4,

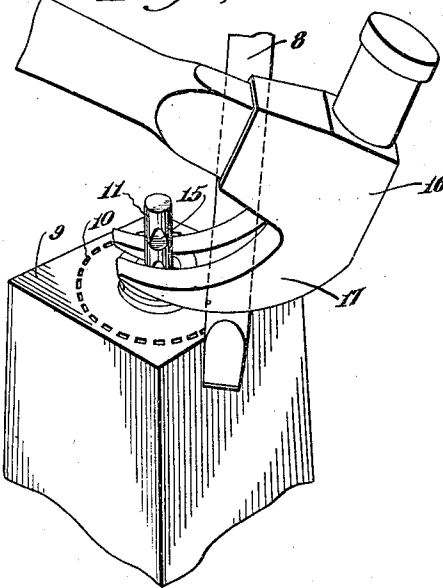


Fig. 5,

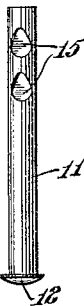


Fig. 6,

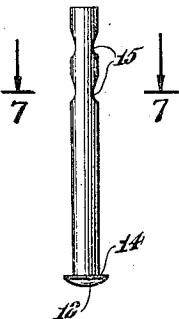
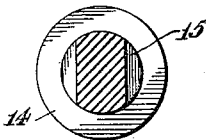


Fig. 7,



INVENTOR
Walter F. Herold,
Dyer Smith,
his ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER F. HEROLD, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO THE BASSICK COMPANY, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

PROCESS OF REMOVING CASTER SOCKETS FROM FURNITURE.

Application filed December 5, 1921. Serial No. 520,200.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER F. HEROLD, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Processes of Removing Caster Sockets from Furniture, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to a process of removing caster sockets from furniture. When an old caster is to be replaced by a new one difficulty is often experienced in removing the old socket which often times tightly adheres within the opening which receives the same in a furniture leg or the like.

The object of the present invention is to produce a device of the most inexpensive and simplest character possible by which the old socket may be removed and a process of a simple and effective character in which such device will be utilized. In order that the device and process may achieve the greatest commercial success, the device should be of such an inexpensive character as to permit the giving away of one of the same to the purchaser of each set, or order, of casters which are to replace previously used casters.

The device and process shortly to be described have been evolved as the result of considerable experimentation.

In order that the invention may be more clearly understood attention is hereby directed to the accompanying drawings forming part of this application, and illustrating the manner in which my improved process is practiced, and also illustrating one embodiment of my improved device.

In the drawings Fig. 1 represents a perspective view of the bottom portion of an inverted furniture leg showing the track plate of an old caster socket being pried off;

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the furniture leg after the track plate has been removed;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the furniture leg and caster socket after the removal of the track plate with the device for removing the socket shown applied thereto, in side elevation;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the removal of the device referred to, and the socket therewith, by means of a claw hammer;

Figs. 5 and 6 are respectively a side and

an end elevation of the device for removing the caster socket, and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged cross section taken on line 7-7 of Fig. 6.

Referring to the drawings, the invention is shown as applied to the removal of a common form of caster socket in which the sleeve 1 of an old socket is to be removed from the central opening 2 of a furniture leg 3. The sleeve 1 commonly carries the supporting plate or track plate 4, this plate comprising a metal disc having its peripheral edge upturned and serrated as indicated at 5, the prongs or serrations of the disc being inserted into the wood at the bottom of the furniture leg. The track plate is commonly secured to sleeve 1 by crimping or beading the material of the sleeve above and below the track plate, these beads being illustrated at 6 and 7 in Fig. 3 after the track plate has been removed therefrom.

In practicing the process a screw driver 8 or similar instrument is inserted between the track plate and the lower surface of the furniture leg, as is illustrated in Fig. 1, and leverage applied, the screw driver being inserted at various points between the track plate and the furniture leg, if necessary. The result of this prying operation will sometimes be to remove the track plate and sleeve 1 therewith. If the sleeve or socket 1 sticks within opening 2, however, as is usually the case, the result of the prying operation with the screw driver will usually be to break off the track plate or separate it from the socket sleeve 1 without loosening or removing the latter.

After the track plate has been removed the lower end of the furniture leg will have the appearance indicated in Fig. 2, the flanges 6 and 7 of the socket sleeve appearing above the surface 9 of the furniture leg, this surface having a circular series of openings 10 therein from which the prongs 5 of the track plate have been removed.

The device for removing the socket 1 comprises a shaft or shank 11 with a head 12 at one end. This device is now driven head first into the socket sleeve. If the latter is of the usual spring type, open at its inner end, the head 12, as it is driven through the same, will force the inner spring portions 13 of the socket apart so that the head will pass beyond the same after which the arms

or portions 13 will again spring into position. The shoulder 14 at the edge of head 12 will now be in position to engage the inner edge of the spring portion or portions 13 of the socket.

If the socket to be removed is of a top bearing type, closed at its inner end, the result will be the same since the inner end of the socket will readily be punctured by driving the head 12 through the same after which the jagged edge of the metal adjacent to the opening through which head 12 passed may be engaged by shoulder 14.

The opposite end portion of shank 11 is provided with a shoulder or abutment, or a series of shoulders or abutments, which may conveniently be engaged by the claw of a claw hammer, or other device capable of applying leverage to pull the device out of opening 2. In the form of the device illustrated shank 11 is provided with a series of notches 15, 15, on opposite sides thereof, these notches preferably being tapered and of suitable section to be readily engaged by the claw of a claw hammer. A hammer 16 having the usual claw 17 is now made use of, the claw being applied to a pair of the notches on opposite sides of shank 11, as is indicated in Fig. 4. The track plate having been removed, good leverage may readily be obtained by the claw hammer on the end surface 9 of the furniture leg, and application of such leverage will result in readily pulling out shank 11 together with the socket. In case surface 9 of the furni-

ture leg is not large enough to give a good bearing for the claw hammer the screw driver 8 as indicated, or some other object, may be inserted between the surface 9 and the claw 17 to give the claw hammer sufficient leverage.

It should be understood that the invention is not limited strictly to the details described but is as broad as is indicated by the accompanying claims.

What I claim is:—

1. A process for removing caster sockets from furniture, comprising prying off the track plate of the socket, driving into the socket a headed shaft, head first, until the head engages beneath the inner end of the socket, said shaft having a shoulder adjacent its other end, and then applying the claw of a claw-hammer or the like to said shoulder and exerting leverage to pull out the said shaft and the socket therewith.

2. A process for removing caster sockets from furniture, comprising, driving into the socket a headed shaft, head first, until the head engages beneath the inner end of the socket, said shaft having a shoulder adjacent its other end, and then applying the claw of a claw-hammer or the like to said shoulder and exerting leverage to pull out the said shaft and the socket therewith.

Signed at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, this 30th day of November A. D. 1921.

WALTER F. HEROLD.