Nov. 18, 1930. F. JANTZEN 1,781,951

FURNITURE SHOE

Filed May 7, 1928

Fig. 1.

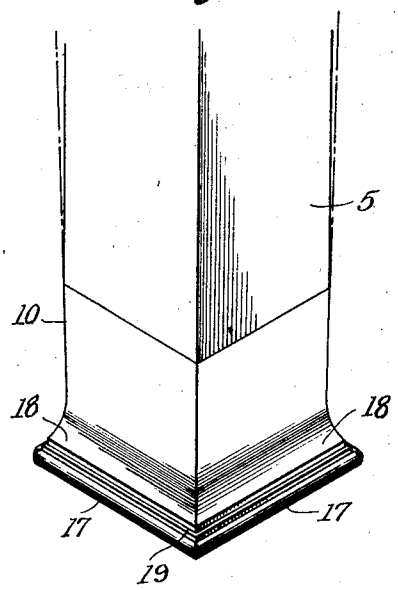



Fig. 2.

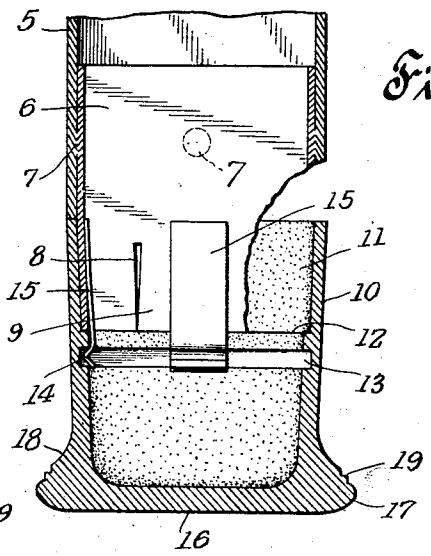
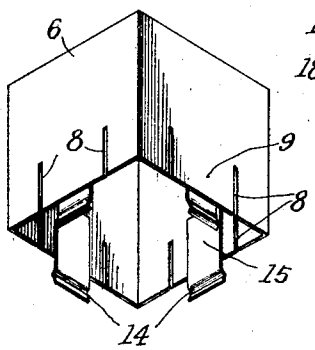



Fig. 3.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## FURNITURE SHOE

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The objects of this invention are to provide a base or shoe for the legs of tables and other pieces of furniture, which can be easily applied, which when applied will be firmly held in place, which will support heavy articles of furniture without indenting, scratching, or otherwise marring linoleum or other floor surfacing material, and which in addition to the above desirable attributes will be of simple inexpensive construction and of neat attractive appearance.

The above objects are attained by certain novel features of construction, combination and relation of parts as hereinafter disclosed.

The drawing accompanying and forming part of this specification illustrates one of the practical commercial embodiments of the invention and in consideration of the same, it should be understood that the structure may be modified without departure from the true spirit and broad scope of the invention.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the shoe as it appears applied to the leg of the table or other piece of furniture; Fig. 2 is a broken vertical sectional view of the leg and foot on a somewhat larger scale; Fig. 3 is a detached perspective view of the compressible positioning and holding sleeve.

In Figs. 1 and 2, a hollow metal leg of a table or the like is indicated at 5 and fastened in the lower end of this structure there is shown a sleeve 6 of corresponding shape secured permanently in place as by means of spot welds 7. This sleeve is secured so that its lower end projects and the projecting portion is shown longitudinally slotted at 8 to provide a series of separated tongues 9 which can move toward each other, closing up the intervening slots as in Fig. 2, when the sleeve is forced into a tapered socket.

The base or shoe 10 is shown as a hollow structure having a downwardly tapering socket 11 in the top of the same to receive the projecting split portion of the sleeve, a shoulder 12 to seat the end of the sleeve and a "chase" or groove 13 below the shoulder to receive the points or angles 14 of the spring detents 15, which latter are suitably secured as by welding or brazing inside the sleeve.

The shoe is made usually by molding or casting, and the internal surface is preferably left with the original more or less rough cast or molded surface, as indicated, to afford a frictional grip with the sleeve. The spring detents, in addition to this frictional grip and the wedging of the split portion of the sleeve down into the tapered socket, serve to firmly secure the shoe in place. The spring detents provide an auxiliary holding means and serve to prevent the shoe from dropping off even if the holding effect of the wedging action and frictional surface is lost by long use or mis-handling of the furniture. In addition, if desired, a suitable cement may be used when the shoe is applied, this serving to make the shoe practically an integral part of the leg.

The bottom of the shoe is made with a smooth flat surface 16 terminating at the edges preferably in upwardly rounded surfaces 17. This construction affords a wide flat base surface which will support even a heavy piece of furniture without indenting linoleum or other floor surfaces, and the upwardly rounded edges of this flat supporting surface provide a sled effect, facilitating the movement of the furniture. To gain the greatest flat supporting surface and also to add to the graceful appearance of the article, the sides of the shoe as they approach the bottom are shown as having an outward flare as indicated at 18, and these flaring surfaces may be finished with an ornamental molding or beading 19.

The shoe is applied by simply driving it in place over the leg of the furniture, or in the case of the hollow steel furniture shown, over the split projecting portion of the inserted sleeve. The crowding of the sleeve into the tapered socket, by the wedging and frictional gripping effects described firmly and positively locks the shoe in place, which effect is made more certain by the cement, when that is used. One or more of the spring detents may be employed, and these act as a further interlock to fasten the shoe positively in place. The flat base structure of the shoe prevents marring or scratching, and the upturned sled like edges leave no corner edges to mar the floor when the furniture

is carelessly shifted. It is to be noted furthermore that no screws or similar loose fastenings are required to secure the shoe in place, and hence there are no projecting screw heads to scratch the floor as in devices for the purpose which have been provided heretofore.

The shoe may be made in square or other cross-sectional shape to suit the shape of the furniture. As indicated by the broken lines in Fig. 1, the shoe may be used with either straight sided or tapered leg constructions. The wide flat bottom surface may be polished or otherwise smoothed, if desired, to facilitate sliding of the furniture over linoleum or other floor surfaces and such surface being continuous and of wide extent, this sliding movement will not mark or injure the floor surface.

What is claimed is:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a shoe for the leg of a table or other piece of furniture, comprising a hollow cast or molded member having a smooth flat bottom supporting surface and provided with a downwardly tapering socket in the top of the same whose walls have the roughness of the original casting or molding to thereby wedge over and grip the surface of the furniture leg and a shoulder at the foot of said socket with a chase beneath said shoulder.

2. In combination with an article of furniture, a sleeve attached to the lower end of the same and a shoe having a downwardly tapering socket for wedging engagement over said sleeve, said shoe having a wide flat continuous smooth bottom supporting surface and a spring detent carried by the sleeve for interlocking engagement within the socket of the shoe and the shoe having a shoulder at the foot of the socket beneath which the spring detent interlocks.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a shoe for the leg of a table or other piece of furniture, comprising an integral hollow one piece molded member provided with a downwardly tapering socket in the top of the same, whose walls have the roughness of the original molding to thereby wedge over and frictionally grip the surface of the furniture leg, said member having a wide flat continuous smooth bottom surface of substantially the full external dimensions of the article and thereby forming a continuous flat supporting surface equal to carrying the weight of the furniture without marring a floor surface of linoleum or the like.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRED JANTZEN.