

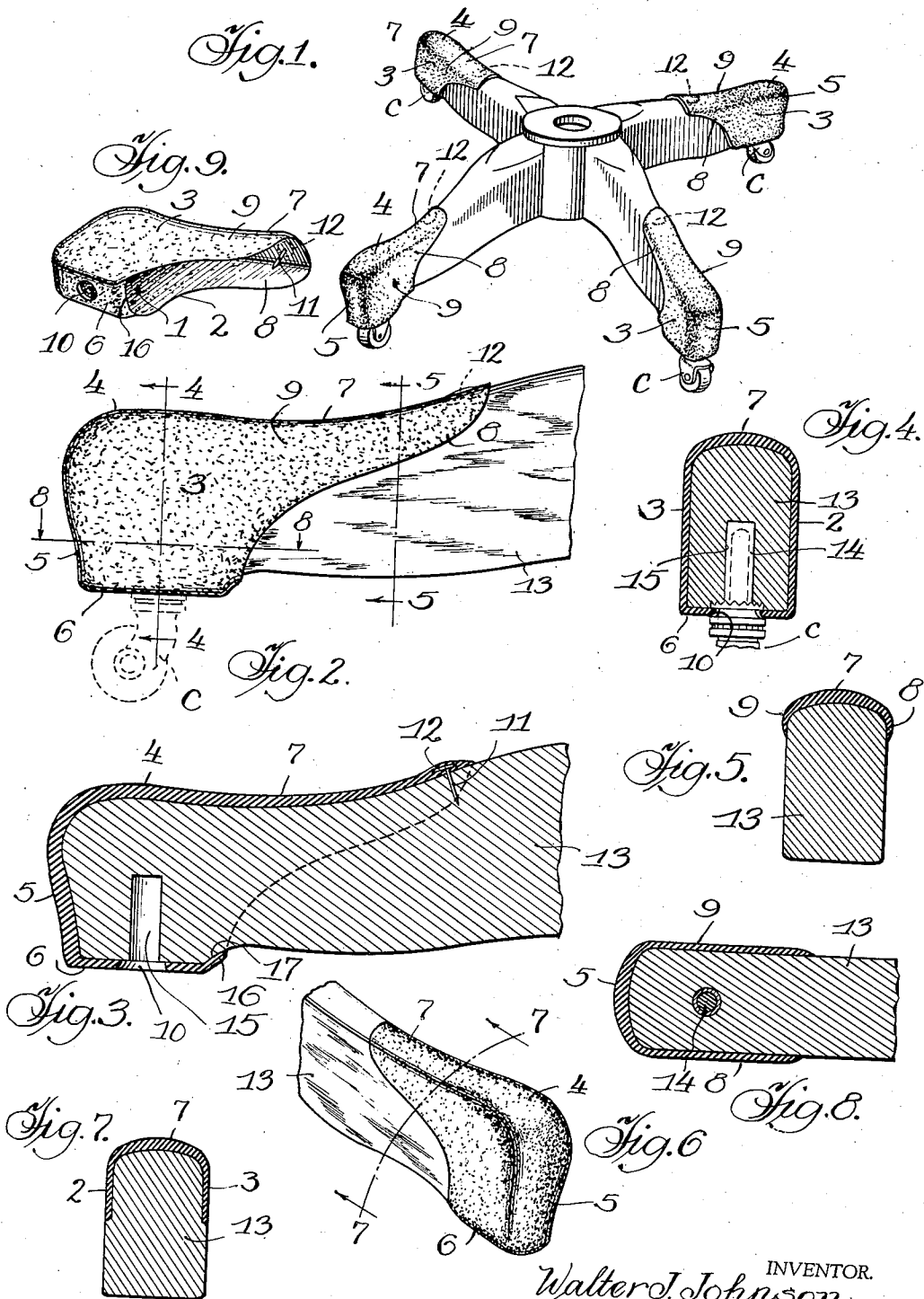
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PROTECTING BOOT FOR CHAIR LEGS

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PROTECTING BOOT FOR CHAIR LEGS

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This invention relates to a protecting boot for chair legs and while not limited thereto, is of especial use for the legs of swivel office chairs and the like. It may, however, be applied to other forms of chairs or furniture as desired.

Furniture, especially that having spreading legs, is very susceptible to becoming scarred or otherwise defaced and injured, as well as injuring and defacing other articles of furniture, wall and door trimmings and the like, and shoes, stockings and the like of the user of the chair, unless such legs are covered with something to prevent such scarring or injury. One of the objects of this invention is to provide for such legs a protective covering made of a relatively soft material such as rubber or the like, so formed as to constitute a boot covering those parts of the legs which would most easily become scarred or injured by contact with other objects, such boot also protecting such other objects against becoming scarred or defaced by said legs.

Another object is the provision of such a boot that will snugly fit the chair leg or other article of furniture as to grip the same closely, neatly and efficiently, such boot being made of a material having such relative softness as to prevent the chair legs from scarring or injuring any adjacent furniture object, wall trimming, door trimming or the like, or becoming injured thereby or injured by any other extraneous projection or object which might come in contact therewith.

A further object is to provide such a boot that will receive the end portion of the chair leg or the like, and having an opening in its bottom wall to receive the stem of a caster so as not to interfere with the normal functions thereof, and also having embedded or molded therein a nail, tack or the like to be driven into the chair leg or the like to further hold the boot in place thereon.

My improved boot may be glued to the leg along the wings of the boot or throughout the entire inner surface of the boot or not, as desired.

My invention further resides in the combination, construction and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and while I have shown therein a preferred embodiment I wish it understood that the same is susceptible of modification and change without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Other objects, advantages and capabilities such as are inherent in the invention will later more fully appear.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the leg portion of a swivel office chair having fitted over each of the end portions of the legs a boot embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary side elevation of the outer end portion of one of the chair legs shown in Fig. 1 and on a somewhat larger scale.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical median section through Fig. 2 but omitting the caster.

Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a transverse vertical section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of a modified form of the end portion of one of the chair legs having my boot applied thereto, and inset to be flush with the wood surface.

Fig. 7 is a transverse vertical section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary transverse longitudinal section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of one of my improved boots detached from the chair leg.

Referring in detail to the drawing, my new protecting boot comprises in general the pocket portion 1 having the sides 2 and 3, the top 4, end 5, bottom 6 and top extension 7 formed with side cheeks 8 and 9. The bottom 6 is preferably formed with an opening 10 through which extends the upper portion of a caster c when the chair is provided with a caster. If the chair, or other part to which my boot is attached, is not provided with a caster the opening 10 may be omitted. The extension 7 is preferably provided with a tack, nail or other sharpened projection 11 formed with a head 12 that is molded into the material of the boot as shown in Figs. 3 and 9, or otherwise fastened thereto as desired. The sharpened projection 11 as seen in Fig. 3, is driven into the wood of the chair leg 13 after the boot is snugly positioned thereon. As will be understood, the shank 14 of the caster c (if a caster is used) will fit in the usual caster hole 15 in the leg as shown in Fig. 4.

The boot will also, if desired, be formed with the upwardly inclined flange portion 16, which will be stretched or otherwise snugly fitted over the curved shoulder 17 on the bottom of the leg. This further assists in holding the boot on the leg.

As shown in Figs. 6 and 7 the leg may be cut away sufficiently to bring the outer surface of the boot flush with the outer surface of the adjacent portion of the leg. In other words, the

boot walls will be inset or inlaid into the wood (or other material the leg may be made of) of the leg so as to bring said outer surfaces flush with each other. The side cheeks 8 and 9 may, if desired, be further secured to the leg by glue, cement or other holding means and, if desired, such glue or other holding means may be applied throughout the entire inner surface of the boot.

It will be noted in the drawing that my improved boot is formed with a pocket to receive and encase the outer end portion of the leg, which pocket portion in conjunction with the top extension 7 will be snugly and grippingly held onto the leg by virtue of the shape of the boot and the gripping tendency of the molding rubber of which the boot is preferably made. I preferably use molding rubber as it particularly and efficiently adapts itself to the purpose, and is of such nature that it inherently clings to the material of the leg. Also the shape of the side cheeks 8 and 9 is such that they rather tenaciously cling to the sides and top of the leg. This inherent tendency of the boot to snugly cling to the material of the leg is further supplemented by the nail 11 which is driven into the wood of the leg after the boot is in position, and by the inclined flange 16 if the latter is used. The soft nature of molding rubber is especially effective in preventing scars or injury to a desk or other pieces of furniture or trimming, and it at the same time prevents scarring or injury to the chair leg or other furniture portion to which it may be applied. While I have referred to and prefer molding rubber, I wish it understood that other material and other shapes for the boot may be used without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. A boot for protecting the projecting portions of the approximately horizontally extending legs of swivel chairs against damage by contact with a desk or other furniture as well as protect the desk or other furniture from becoming scarred or damaged by reason of such contact, comprising rubber walls adapted to fit over and cling like a glove to the outer end portion of each of the chair legs to snugly follow the contour of the projecting portion thereof, and including an end wall, side walls, a top wall and a bottom wall to

form a pocket adapted to snugly fit over and conform to the end portion of the chair leg, the bottom wall having on its rear edge a flange to fit over and grip a similarly shaped surface on the chair leg to hold the boot onto the leg by reason of its elasticity, a rearwardly projecting extension on the top wall, and downwardly extending side cheeks on said extension adapted to grippingly cover a portion of the sides of the chair leg, and means adapted to secure said extension to the chair leg, said means comprising a nail or the like embedded in said extension and extended into the wood of the leg, with rubber or the like covering the head of the nail or the like to eliminate any exposed metal that might mar or scratch a desk, furniture or the like.

2. In combination with a swivel chair or the like having approximately horizontally extending legs, a boot for protecting the projecting end portions of said legs against damage by contact with a desk or other furniture and preventing the desk or other furniture from becoming scarred or damaged due to such contact, said boot comprising a hollow member of elastic material such as rubber or the like fitted over and resiliently gripping the chair leg with a glove-like grip to snugly conform to and follow the contour of the leg end portion, the chair leg having an enlarged outer end to provide a downwardly extending portion and a shoulder, the boot having an upwardly angularly extending portion tightly fitting against said shoulder and holding the boot in place, the boot in addition to said upwardly angularly extending portion having an end, sides, top and bottom, the chair leg having a caster opening extending upwardly into the outer end portion thereof and said bottom of the boot having an opening in registry with said caster opening, said boot top having a rearward extension secured to the leg to prevent a user's leg from scarring the leg, downwardly extending side skirts cemented at their exposed edges to the leg to prevent a user of the chair from raising the edge of the skirts with his foot, the boot being additionally secured to the leg by a nail or the like, and rubber or the like covering the head of the nail, the boot being free from exposed metal parts that might scar or scratch adjacent furniture.

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