Nov. 23, 1948. S. B. HENDRICKSON 2,454,739

DETACHABLE GLIDE UNIT FOR FURNITURE LEGS

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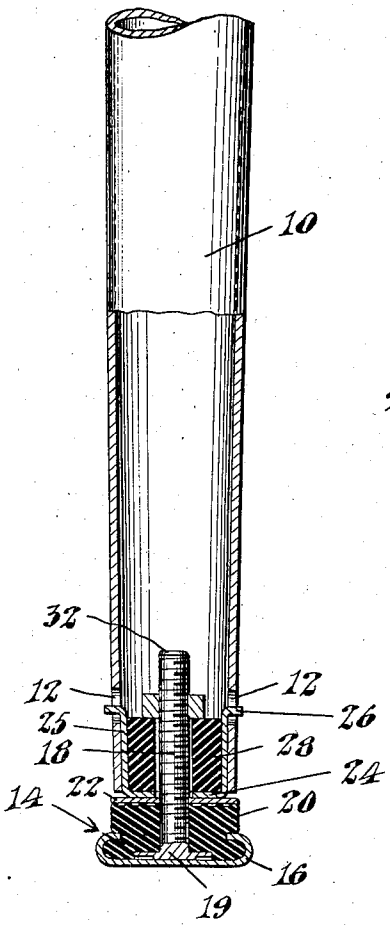


Fig. 1.

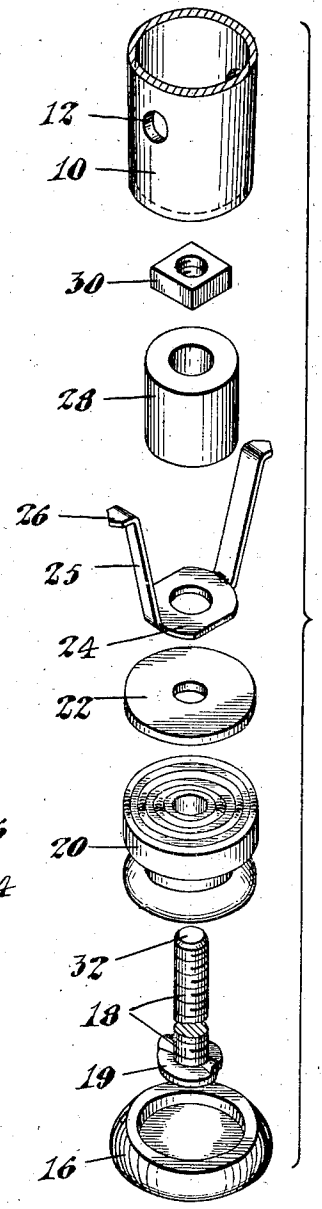


Fig. 2.

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DETACHABLE GLIDE UNIT FOR FURNITURE LEGS

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6 Claims. (Cl. 16—42)

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This invention relates to detachable glide units for furniture legs and more particularly to an improved unit that can be locked in place within the furniture leg and be removed only by a special tool. The improvement is particularly applicable to school furniture in which threaded glider units heretofore employed have been removed by school children merely by rotating the units counter-clockwise. My novel glider unit preferably embodies a metallic button for engaging the floor and carries a supporting stem on which is mounted a furniture supporting cushion and improved locking means, all as hereinafter specifically described. The production of a new and improved glider unit of this nature and for the purpose described comprises the primary object of the invention.

These and other features of the invention will be best understood and appreciated from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof selected for purposes of illustration and shown in the accompanying drawing in which,

Fig. 1 is a longitudinal sectional view through one of my glider units in use on a chair leg,

Fig. 2 is an exploded view of the several parts thereof.

Glider units are employed primarily to aid in moving furniture over the floor quietly, and so as to avoid scratching or injuring the floor. It will be apparent that if such units are lost or become detached both the furniture and floor may be considerably damaged. My invention contemplates a glider that cannot become detached or removed accidentally or maliciously but may be readily removed by use of a special tool provided for that purpose, thus eliminating damage heretofore caused to both furniture and floor and providing a superior glider for serving the functions defined.

In the drawing 10 indicates the tubular leg of a chair or other piece of furniture. The bottom end of the leg is hollow and is provided with two oppositely disposed transverse apertures 12. My improved glider 14 is adapted to be received within the open end of the leg and to be locked therewithin by latch means carried by the glider and engaging within the two apertures.

The glider illustrated in the drawing includes in its structure a polished floor-engaging button 16 comprising a sheet metal shell open at its top face. A threaded stem 18 having a head 19 is carried by and extends upwardly from the inner face of the button. The stem is anchored to the button by a rubber insert 20 having a lower portion disposed within the button and a top portion

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forming a cushion between the button and the leg 10. A washer 22 on the stem overlies the top face of the cushion.

The glider is anchored within the leg by a U-shaped resilient member 24 having two fingers or legs 25 that extend upwardly in divergent relation from a flat intermediate portion which is perforated to receive the stem 18. The ends of the legs 25 are turned outwardly at 26. A cylindrical filler 28 of rubber or like resilient material is mounted on the stem between the legs 25; and a nut 30, threaded to the stem, holds the parts assembled and the filler in compression. The top end of the stem may be peened over at 32 to prevent disengagement of the nut.

The glider comprises the unit shown in Fig. 1 made up by assembling the parts shown in Fig. 2. This unit is attached to the leg merely by inserting it to the position shown in Fig. 1 wherein the out-turned ends 26 engage within the apertures 12, the filler 28 providing additional backing, in addition to the resiliency of the legs, for assuring continued engagement of the ends of the legs within the apertures. The unit can be conveniently removed by a special tool comprising a pair of jaws for simultaneously engaging the ends 26 and forcing the legs 25 inwardly, but the unit cannot be otherwise removed either accidentally or maliciously.

Having thus disclosed my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A detachable glide unit for a tubular chair leg having apertures in the wall thereof, comprising a metal button having a bottom face adapted to engage the floor, a supporting stem carried by and extending upwardly from the button, a cushion on the stem above and cooperating with the button, and locking means carried by the stem and including opposed fingers above the cushion for engaging said apertures in the tubular leg.

2. The glide unit defined in claim 1 plus a rubber filler mounted on the stem between said fingers and normally holding the fingers projecting outwardly through the apertures.

3. The glide unit defined in claim 1 in which said button is a sheet metal shell open at its top face and said cushion is an integral part of a rubber insert partially disposed within the shell.

4. A detachable glide unit for a tubular chair leg having oppositely disposed transverse apertures located above its lower end, the unit comprising a metal button having a bottom face adapted to engage the floor, a supporting stem carried by and extending upwardly from the but-

ton, and locking means carried by the stem and comprising a U-shaped resilient member having upwardly extending legs with out-turned ends for engaging within said apertures.

5. A detachable glide unit for a tubular chair leg, comprising a circular metal button having an upstanding stem, a cushion overlying said button and encircling its stem, a U-shaped spring held in place by said stem and having out-turned ends shaped to engage apertures in a chair leg, and a cylindrical rubber filler located between the arms of said U-shaped spring and also held in place by said stem.

6. A detachable glide unit for a tubular chair leg, comprising a rounded metal button having an upstanding stem on one face, a spring secured

by said stem in position above the button and having outwardly directed ends shaped to engage apertures in a chair leg, and a resilient member mounted on said stem and arranged to back up the outwardly directed spring ends against inward displacement.

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REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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