Sept. 9, 1958 H. D. PETRI 2,850,759

SUPPORT

Filed Aug. 2, 1954

FIG. 1.

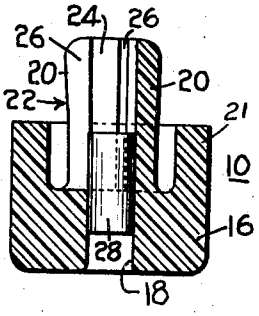


FIG. 2.

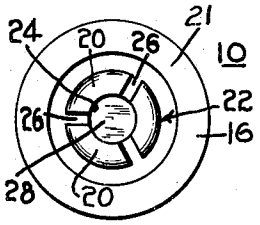


FIG. 3.

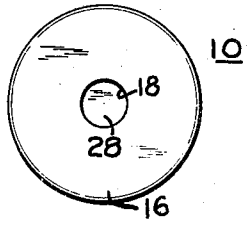


FIG. 4.

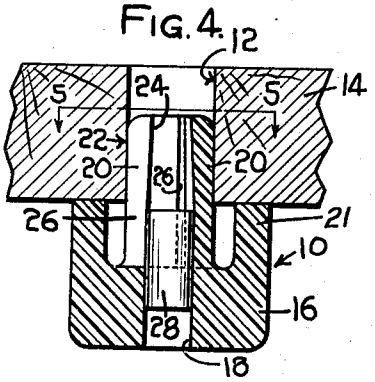


FIG. 5.

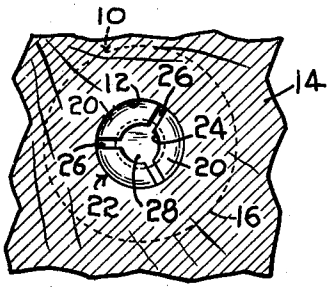


FIG. 6.

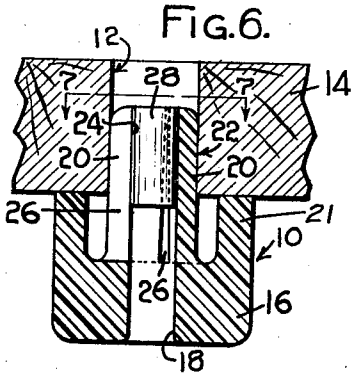


FIG. 7.

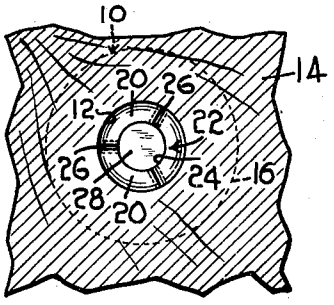
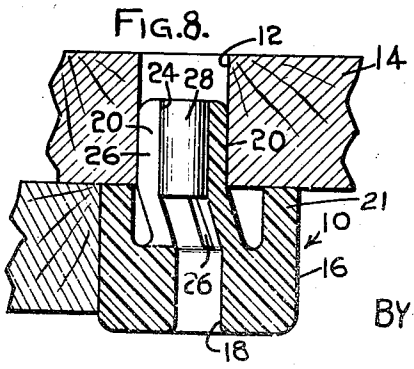


FIG. 8.



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SUPPORT

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Application August 2, 1954, Serial No. 447,362

3 Claims. (Cl. 16—42)

This invention relates generally to supports, and has particular reference to a supporting device formed of resilient plastic.

The object of the invention is to provide a glide or foot formed of resilient plastic having means for attachment to an aperture in a device to be supported.

A further object of the invention is to provide a glide for assembly into an aperture in an article to be supported which has means for absorbing lateral shocks imparted thereto.

Other objects of the invention will, in part, be obvious, and will, in part, appear hereinafter.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation partly in section of a support embodying the features of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the support of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the support of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a view in section showing the first step in assembling the support into a drilled opening in the bottom of an article to be supported;

Fig. 5 is a view in section taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a view in section showing the support on the bottom of the article to be supported after completion of the assembly operation;

Fig. 7 is a view in section taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 6; and

Fig. 8 is a view similar to Fig. 6 of the assembly, showing the ability of the support to resist lateral forces.

Referring to the drawing, there is illustrated a supporting device **10**, which is adapted for assembly into an opening **12** in an article **14** to be supported.

The article **14** may be an article of furniture, a television or radio cabinet, or any other device where the use of resilient supporting members is desirable to prevent marring of the surface on which the device rests.

The supporting device **10** is preferably formed of a synthetic organic plastic which is both resilient and deformable, such as a polyethylene; however, in some cases more rigid materials, such as nylon, may be used.

The device **10** comprises a body portion **16** having a central aperture **18**, a group of attaching legs **20** extending upwardly from the body about the aperture, and spacing means **21** extending upwardly from the body in lateral spaced relation to the attaching legs.

In the illustrated embodiment the legs **20** are formed by providing a generally tubular member **22** projecting from the body with the bore **24** thereof aligned with the aperture **18** of the body, and having longitudinal slots **26** extending from the end thereof. The presence of the slots **26** enable the ends of the legs **20** to flex together to enter an opening in an article to be supported which has a diameter less than that of the tubular member, thereby restricting the end portion of the bore **24** for a purpose to appear hereinafter.

To provide means for locking the legs **20** in the opening, an attaching pin **28** is associated therewith, and is drivable through the opening into position between the ends of the arms to force them into tight frictional engagement with the walls of the opening **12**.

When the support is assembled into the opening, the spacing means **21** bears against the bottom of the supported article **14**, thereby spacing the lower portion of the arms from the surface of the article, and as illustrated in Fig. 8 permitting lateral motion of the body portion relative to the article by reason of the flexibility of the legs.

The body **16** has a broad, flat lower surface to provide low contact pressure against a surface against which it bears to avoid marring the surface, yet the flexible, upstanding wall **21** provides vertical resiliency to serve as a shock absorber.

In the illustrated embodiment, the pin **28** has a length less than that of the legs **20**, so that when the pin is driven into position between the ends of the legs until one end is adjacent the ends of the arms, the other end is disposed in spaced relation to the body, the pin thereby avoids interfering with the ability of the legs to flex during lateral shifting of the body. In some cases, where a stiffer lateral action is desired, the pin may be substantially the same length as the legs.

In the illustrated embodiment the support is formed of a relatively deformable and resilient plastic, and consequently it has been found desirable for the pin to be disposed completely inside the body whereby the walls of the aperture provide lateral support to the pin to facilitate driving it into position between the arms.

Since certain other obvious changes may be made without departing from the scope of the invention it is intended that all matter contained herein be interpreted in an illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

1. A support member for assembly into an opening in a device to be supported, said member being formed of resilient and deformable plastic and comprising a body portion having a broad, flat, lower face and a centrally positioned aperture formed therein, a resilient outer peripheral wall portion disposed around the periphery of the upper face of said body portion and extending outwardly therefrom at substantially right angles thereto with the free end of said wall portion bearing against a surface of the device to be supported, said peripheral wall portion being of substantially uniform thickness in cross section, inner expansible means centrally disposed on the upper face of said body portion at right angles thereto and extending outwardly therefrom in the same direction as said outer peripheral wall portion, and being inwardly spaced from and in substantially parallel relationship to said outer wall portion, said expansible means having a central aperture which is in axial alignment with the aperture formed in said body portion, said expansible means having a vertical height greater than the vertical height of said outer peripheral wall portion to enable same to enter an opening in the surface of the device to be supported.

2. A support member for assembly into an opening in a device to be supported, said member being formed of resilient and deformable plastic and comprising a body portion having a broad, flat, lower face and a centrally positioned aperture formed therein, a resilient outer peripheral wall portion disposed around the periphery of the upper face of said body portion and extending outwardly therefrom at substantially right angles thereto, with the free end of said wall portion bearing against a surface of the device to be supported, said peripheral wall portion being of substantially uniform thickness in cross section, a plurality of inner flexible leg portions centrally disposed on the upper face of said body portion and around the aperture formed therein to form a continua-

tion of said aperture, said leg portions extending outwardly from the upper face of said body portion in the same direction as said outer wall portion, and being inwardly spaced from and in substantially parallel relationship to said outer wall portion, the verical height of said leg portions being greater than the vertical height of the outer wall portion to enable same to enter an opening in the lower surface of the device to be supported.

3. A support assembly comprising a supported device having an aperture extending into the lower surface thereof, and a support member assembled therewith, said support member being formed of resilient and deformable plastic and comprising a body portion having a broad, flat, lower face and a centrally positioned aperture formed therein, a resilient outer peripheral wall portion disposed around the periphery of the upper face of said body portion and extending upwardly therefrom at substantially right angles thereto, the free end of said outer wall portion bearing against the lower surface of the supported device, said pheripheral wall portion being of substantially uniform thickness in cross section, a plurality of inner flexible leg portions centrally disposed on the upper face of said body portion and around the aperture

formed therein to form a continuation of said aperture, said leg portions extending upwardly from the upper face of said body portion in the same direction as said outer wall portion, and being inwardly spaced from and in substantially parallel relationship to said outer wall portion, said leg portions extending above said outer wall portion and into the opening in the supported device, and an attaching pin driven into position between the legs, said attaching pin expanding said legs circumferentially and forcing them tightly against the internal wall of the opening in the supported device.

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