Oct. 1, 1940. G. J. HOULE 2,216,440

ARTIFICIAL ORNAMENTAL OBJECT

Filed June 22, 1939

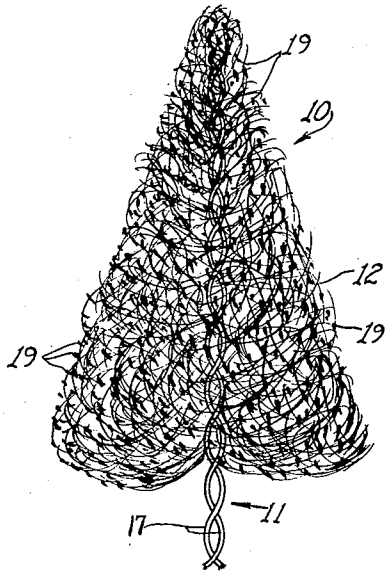


FIG. 1

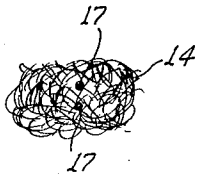


FIG-3

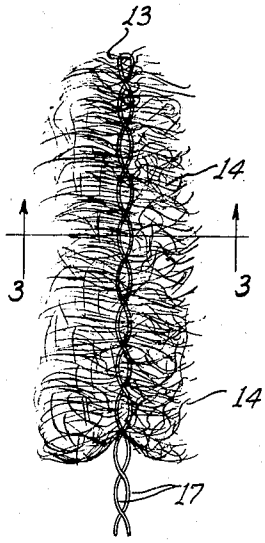


FIG.2

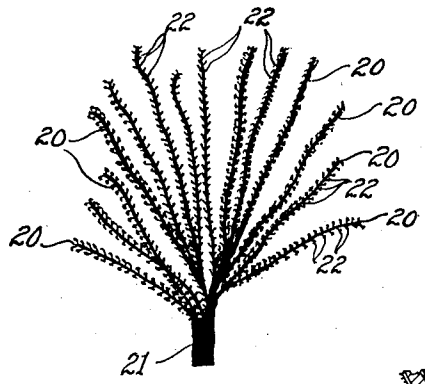


FIG. 4

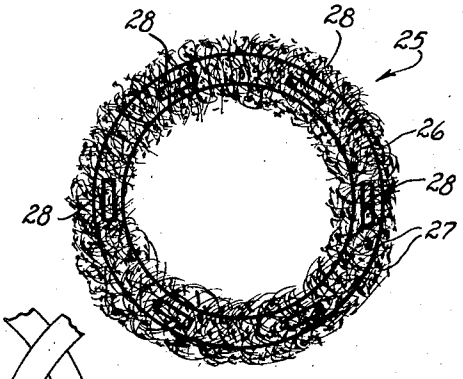


FIG.5

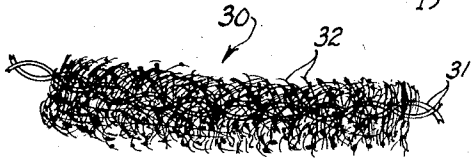


FIG.6

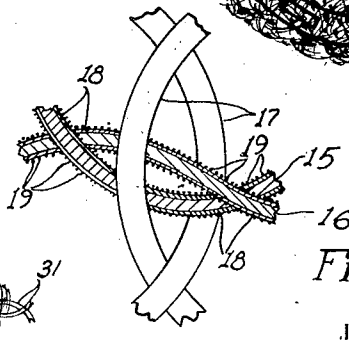


FIG.7

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ARTIFICIAL ORNAMENTAL OBJECT

Granville J. Houle, Stratford, Conn.

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5 Claims. (Cl. 41—36)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in ornaments and has particular relation to artificial objects such as trees, shrubs, wreaths, stringers, and the like.

An object of the invention is to provide an ornamental object of life-like appearance and which may be deformed for packing and shipping and thereafter straightened into proper shape without injury.

Another object is to provide a simple and inexpensive ornamental objects of the character described.

A further object is to provide an improved method of making ornamental objects of the character suggested.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein satisfactory embodiments of the invention are shown. However, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the details disclosed but includes all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view showing a miniature artificial tree made in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing a step in the process of making the tree of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken as along the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is an elevational view showing a vine made in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 5 is a similar view showing a wreath made in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 but showing a portion of a stringer made according to the invention; and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged detail view showing the manner in which the steel wool is held by the twisted wire core of the tree or the like.

Referring in detail to the drawing and at first more particularly to Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 7, at 10 is generally indicated a tree comprising a core or trunk 11 in the form of a twisted wire, and on such core is the brush portion 12 of the tree. The brush of body portion 12 of the tree comprises a bunch of metal wool as steel wool, held by the twisted wire core and pulled and trimmed to shape and covered with material to represent foliage.

In making the tree (see Fig. 2) a wire is bent upon itself intermediate its ends as at 13 to provide a pair of portions 17 (or a pair of wires may be placed in parallel relation with one another) and a bunch of metal wool 14 of suitable size is placed between the portions 17 of the wire. Then the wire is twisted upon itself to form the convolutions whereby the said bunch 14 of metal wool is secured to the wire. When a tree is being formed the twisted wire forms the trunk or core of the tree. Thereafter the wool is pulled or brushed out into somewhat the shape of a tree but will be of too great a diameter toward its upper end. This excess material is trimmed off with scissors or the like.

Next the wool is sprayed or dipped or otherwise treated to coat its individual strands with an adhesive as a paint or varnish or the like and the adhesive may be colored or not as desired. Before the adhesive dries particles of ground rubber, paper, or cork or saw dust 19 are blown, sifted or otherwise applied to the coated wool. Thereafter the tree is placed in position for drying either in the air or otherwise, as in an oven or the like, as desired.

Attention is directed to Fig. 7 wherein it is noted that the individual strands 15 and 16 of the metal wool are shown passing between the twisted wires or portions 17 which are the wires of the core 11 as above set forth. On the outer surfaces of the strands 15 and 16 is shown a coating of adhesive 18 and partly embedded in such adhesive coating and held in place thereby are the particles 19 of a suitable material as any of the materials above mentioned. Obviously the ground rubber, paper, cork, or saw dust applied to the strands of the wool by the adhesive 18 may be colored or not as desired.

After the tree is made the lower end of its core or trunk may be disposed in a block or the like and preferably in shaping the wool about the core the wool is pulled upwardly to conceal the upper end of the core. Small shrubs may be made in the manner specified for the tree 10 but when the shrubs are of the flowering type some of the particles applied to the wool may be colored red while the particles for the most part are colored green. Then the green particles represent the green leaves of the shrub and the other particles, colored red or pink or the like, represent the flowers of the shrub.

In making the vine of Fig. 4 a series of the strands 20 of steel wool are gathered at their lower ends as at 21 and then the strands are spread fan-wise. These strands 20 have an adhesive applied to them, then particles 22 of ground rubber or the like are applied to the

adhesive coated strands and secured by such adhesive. Thereafter the lower bunched ends **21** of the strands are secured or anchored in any suitable manner as at the lower end of an arbor or the like (not shown) and the upper ends of the strands are secured to the arbor, wall or the like by placing a drop of glue or the like on such ends and on the wall or arbor against which such ends are disposed.

Fig. 5 shows a wreath **25** comprising a mount or support **26** in the form of an annulus of card board or the like, it being understood that the exact material of such support is not controlling. Metal wool **27** roughly in the shape of a wreath is disposed against the sides of the annulus **26** and is secured thereto as by staples **28**. Thereafter the wool is brushed into substantially the desired shape and it may be thereafter trimmed into shape if found necessary.

Next the individual strands of the wool are coated with adhesive of the kind suggested above and the particles of ground rubber, paper, cork or the saw dust are applied while the adhesive is yet wet. Such particles are preferably colored. Instead of applying the wool to both sides of the annulus it may be applied to one side only thereof. Then when a double sided wreath is desired a pair of wreaths, having the wool on one side only, may be stapled together.

Fig. 6 shows a portion of a stringer and the same, generally designated **30** comprises a core **31** of twisted wires securing a bunch of steel or other wool thereto. Such wool is brushed or combed or otherwise pulled to shape and then, if necessary, trimmed. Thereafter adhesive is applied and before the latter dries the particles of ground rubber, paper, cork or of saw dust are applied and secured by the adhesive when the latter sets. Such particles are preferably colored as above suggested.

Having thus set forth the nature of my invention, what I claim is:

1. An artificial ornamental object comprising a core of twisted wire strands, a bunch of metal wool between the twisted wire strands and pulled about the same, an adhesive coating on the individual wires of said bunch of wool, and multiple small particles secured to said individual wires by said adhesive.

2. An artificial ornamental object comprising a bunch of metal wool pulled and trimmed into shape, a multiple of small particles on the individual wires of said metal wool, and an adhesive securing said particles to said wires.

3. An artificial ornamental object comprising a supporting means, a bunch of metal wool supported by said means, said wool shaped to represent an object, adhesive on the individual wires of said wool, and a multiple of small particles secured to said individual wires by said adhesive.

4. An artificial ornamental object comprising a support, a bunch of metal wool, staples securing said wool to said support, said wool shaped to conceal said support, adhesive on the individual wires of said wool, and a multiple of small particles secured to said individual wires by said adhesive.

5. The method of forming an artificial object comprising providing a bunch of metal wool, pulling and trimming said wool into the desired shape, applying adhesive to the individual wires of said wool, and then before said adhesive sets applying a multiple of small particles to such adhesive coated wires.

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