Jan. 9, 1940. F. C. BRAUN 2,186,573

ADJUSTABLE EASEL

Filed April 22, 1937

Fig. 1

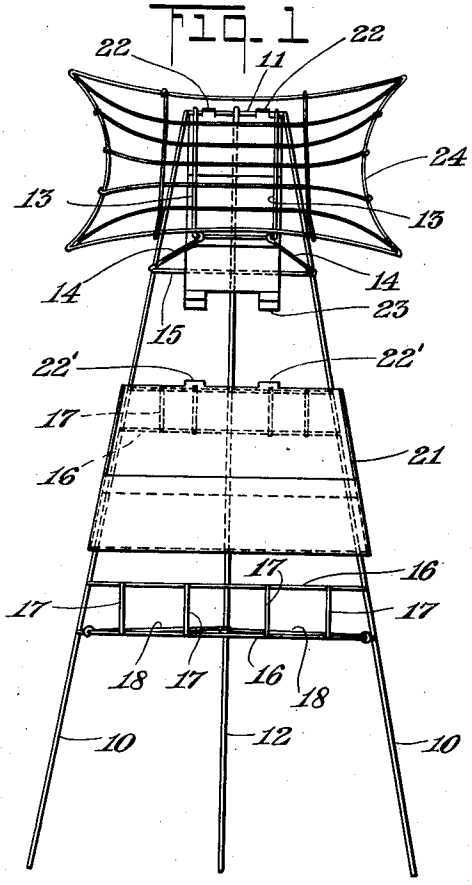


Fig. 2.

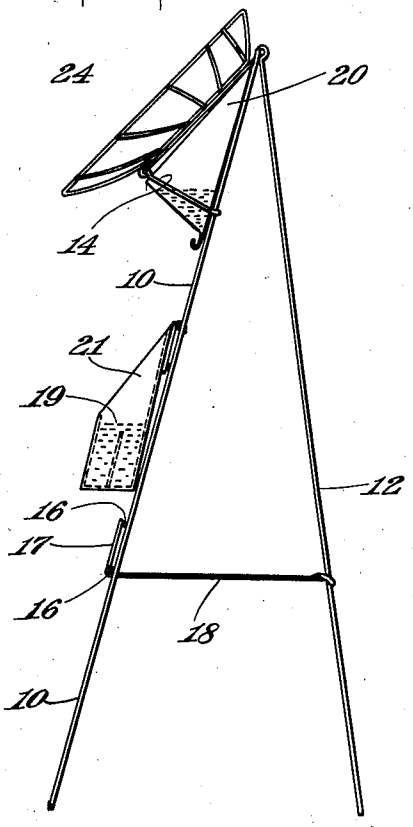


Fig. 3.

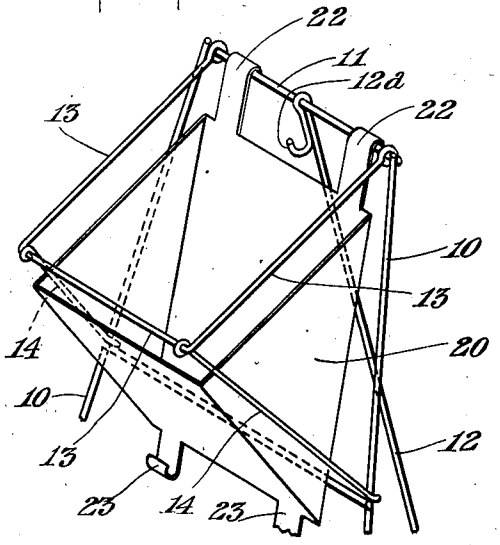
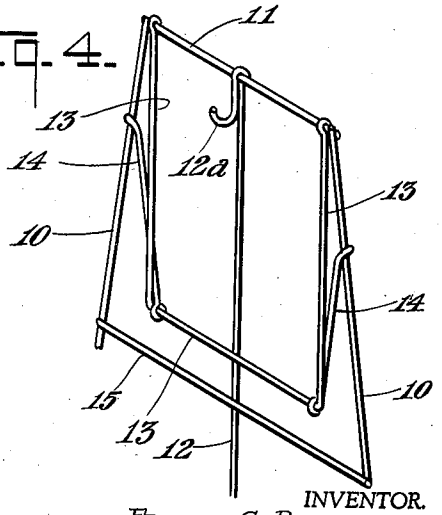


Fig. 4.



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ADJUSTABLE EASEL

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3 Claims. (Cl. 47—41)

This invention relates to florists' equipment, and more especially to an adjustable easel spray device for use at funerals and other like functions.

An object of the invention is to provide an easel with a horizontal member across its upper end for the purpose of suspending a pillow frame, water container, or other object in proper alignment with the easel.

Another object is to provide an easel with means for positioning one or more water containers thereon.

A further object is to provide a collapsible easel with an adjustable carrying frame hinged thereto, and adapted to be moved to a position in a plane different from that of the forward members of the easel.

Still another object is to provide a water container adapted both to be hung upon an easel and to have a second water container hung upon it.

A still further object is to provide an easel with means for mounting a spray-holder thereon adapted to be bent backwardly to give a wide sweep so as to give a shower effect when decorated with flowers or other floral material.

Finally an object is to provide a combined easel and spray-holder with the spray-holder mounted upon the easel in such manner that it can be pulled out to a position appearing as though mounted on a stand in a plane different from that of the forward members of the easel.

All these and other objects as suggested hereinbelow, are attained by the method and means now to be described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a front vertical elevational view of the easel of this invention, showing a pillow frame adjustably mounted thereon, and also showing a plurality of water containers removably affixed to the easel.

Fig. 2 is a side vertical elevational view of the combination shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a comparatively-enlarged detailed perspective view of the adjustable easel spray frame mounted on the horizontal member of the easel and showing a water container suspended in position.

And Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but without the water container, and showing the adjustable easel spray frame and easel in nondistended or folded position.

Like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views.

A preferred embodiment of the invention, as disclosed in the figures, shows an easel consisting of a pair of side legs 10, 10 connected at their upper ends by a horizontally-disposed supporting member or wire 11, which may be a continuation of the legs 10, 10 or a separate member welded or otherwise permanently affixed thereto, and a swingable third leg 12 centrally positioned on wire 11 and preferably but not necessarily terminating in a hook portion 12*a* as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. This hook is adapted to support in suspension an easel spray member or any other member desired to be supported in such position with reference to the easel.

A U-shaped member 13 has its upper ends terminate in loops as shown, adapted to surround and swing or pivot on member 11, as clearly shown; and side wires or members 14, 14 have both their ends terminate in loops adapted to surround and slide on members 10, 10 and the lower horizontal bar portion of U-member 13, as shown. The arrangement here is such that member 13 may be swung forwardly from its support on member 11 while members 14, 14 have their rearward ends slide downwardly along members 10, 10 to the position shown in Fig. 3, for the purpose of holding the adjustable frame member 13 in a plane projecting downwardly from above and forwardly of that of side easel members 10, 10.

When these various parts are in folded position they take the form shown in Fig. 4.

A cross bar member 15 is preferably positioned as shown, bridging across and bracing side legs 10, 10 and preferably in such position that the lower ends of members 14, 14 rest against said member 15 when in fully opened position, as shown in Fig. 3. This member 15 may also be used to suspend one of the water containers, as hereafter described.

One or more additional cross bar members between the side legs 10, 10 and beneath member 15 may be used. These may consist of closely spaced horizontal parallel wires or members 16, 16 attached together by vertical members 17, 17 for the dual purpose of strengthening the easel legs 10, 10 and for suspending one of the water containers.

Sliding bracing members 18, 18 having loops on each end are preferably hingedly affixed to the lowermost cross member 16, as shown in Fig. 1, for the purpose of supporting the two side legs 10, 10 and rear leg 12 of the easel when in open position from collapsing together into closed position. The forward loops of these members serve as hinges and the rearward loop

slides up and down leg member 12. Actually, in manufacture these two members, 18, 18 are one individual wire centrally looped and extending outwardly on each side of member 12 to terminate in the looped and hinged ends on cross member 16.

The water containers may be made of sheet metal, or water proofed cardboard or other suitable material, and be in various forms, two of which are shown in the drawing. The water level is indicated at 19, Fig. 2, in both containers, and the upper container 20 is triangular-shaped on the parallel sides and the lower container 21 is partly triangular-shaped and partly rectangular-shaped and has its sides non-parallel and overlying the side easel members 10, 10 as shown. Affixed to the top of each container are two spaced hooks 22, 22 for the purpose of removably suspending the container on any cross wire or member. Likewise either container may have similar spaced hooks curled in an opposite direction, or forwardly, as shown in Fig. 3, and numbered 23, 23 to permit one container to be suspended on the one above in manner as will be easily understood from the drawing. It will be noted that the containers are in each case of sufficient width to overlie the side members of the easel so as to retain their place forwardly of said members and not swing in between them when mounted on the easel.

This construction permits of the application of a pillow frame 24, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2, to be removably affixed on adjustable spray-holding frame member 13 as shown, and this pillow frame 24, of course, is utilized by the florist for supporting a floral decoration or display such as cut flower wreaths or bank of flowers; and the water container immediately behind the said pillow may be employed in the event the cut flowers or other living things are required to retain their freshness over a considerable interval. In this case the stems of the flowers may be immersed in the water of the container which when the device is completely decorated by the florist is entirely concealed behind said decoration. Likewise, masses of flowers or verdure may have their stems positioned in container 21 in such manner that this container also is concealed when the device is in use at the grave or otherwise.

In lieu of a pillow frame as shown in Fig. 1 any other suitable shape of wire may be employed, such as a heart-shaped frame, a circle, a square, etc. The adjustable frame then permits said floral object to retain a position slanting outwardly and downwardly from that of the forward members of the easel itself, thereby making more usable pillow frames and like objects when decorated because retained on the easel in an elevated position where they make a more impressive showing than as usually placed on or near the floor.

Of course many modifications of the invention may be made but it is understood that the limitations of this invention are only those defined in the following claims.

Having now described the invention, what is claimed as new and for which Letters Patent of the United States is desired, is:

1. An easel comprising a horizontal cross member at the extreme top, and front legs swingable at the ends thereof and a back leg swingable at an intermediate point thereof, in combination with an adjustable frame on said easel, said frame being formed solely of one U-shaped member having its sides hinged on the cross member near its ends and side braces hingedly secured to the horizontal connecting portion of the U-shaped member near its ends, the other ends of the side braces being slidably-looped over the front legs of the easel and adapted to fold therein to collapse the frame and also to slide downwardly to support it in operating position.

2. The invention as in claim 1, the back leg terminating at its upper end in a forwardly-projecting holding-hook portion.

3. The invention as in claim 1, there being a second horizontal cross member beneath the first-named one and so positioned as to engage and support the lower ends of the side braces of the frame when its U-shaped member is in substantially-horizontal position, and a wedge-shaped container hooked over the top cross member and largely filling the space between the said frame members and lower cross member and partially supported by the latter.

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