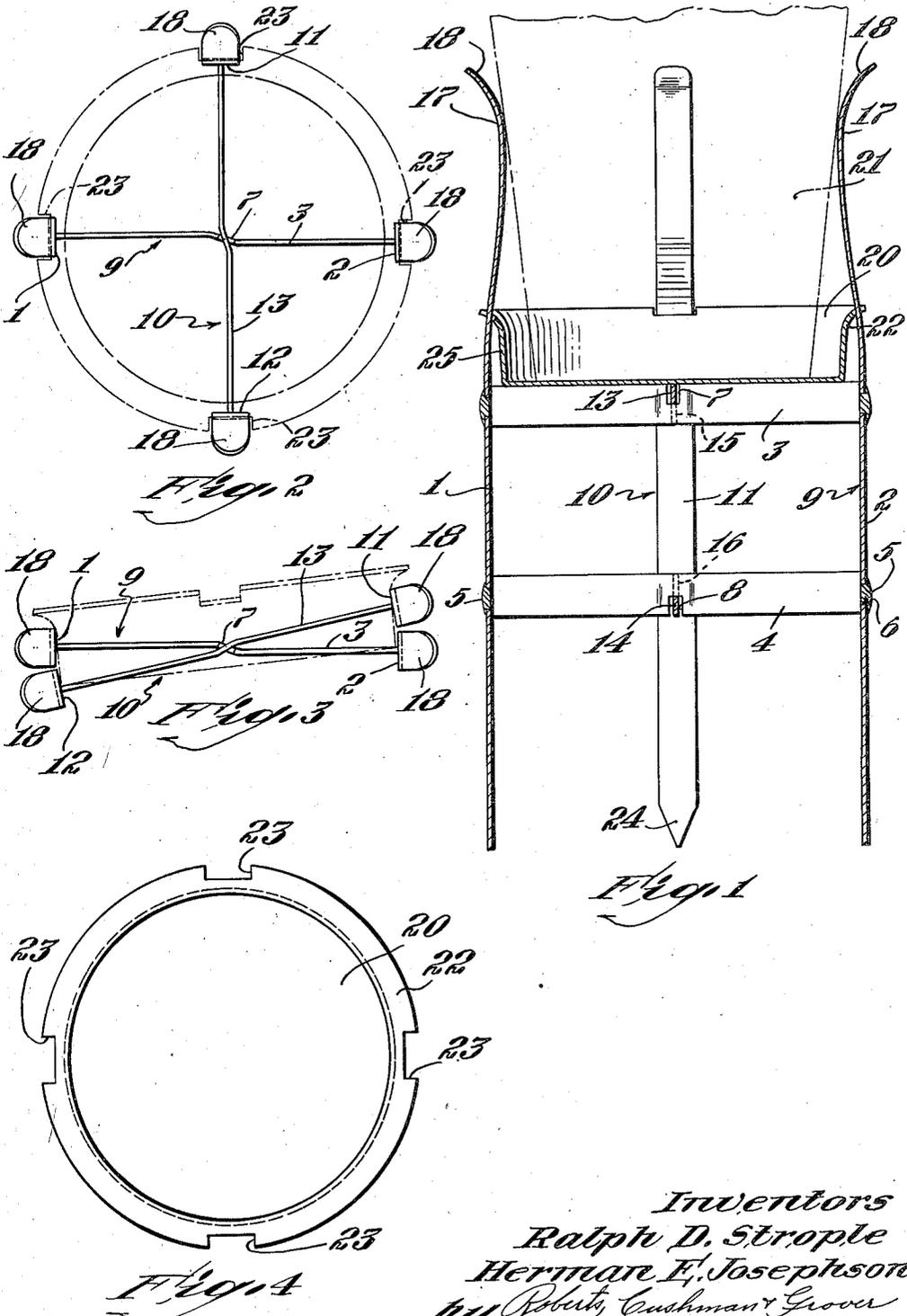


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COLLAPSIBLE FLOWER STAND

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COLLAPSIBLE FLOWER STAND

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1

This invention relates to a stand and more particularly to a collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot or like container for growing plants in exposed outdoor locations as for example a cemetery.

One object of the present invention is to provide a collapsible stand of the character described which may be readily and conveniently assembled into a firm rigid stand for supporting and containing a flower pot in upright position against the adverse buffeting of winds and storms and which may be easily and readily be disassembled and collapsed into a substantially flat package to facilitate transportation and for economy of storage space.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a collapsible stand of the character described which is easy and inexpensive to manufacture, which is durable and weather resistant in construction, which is pleasing in appearance and which will prolong the life of the growing plant over reasonably long periods of drought without need of further attention.

In one aspect the invention involves a collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot comprising a pair of leg sections having spaced legs and intersecting pivotally joined braces whereby the sections may be swung from a collapsed inoperative position wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane to an expanded operative position, the legs having extensions above the braces and a removable member interfitting with the extensions for locking the extensions in operative position. The removable member may be a receptacle having means on its outer walls interfitting with the extensions for locking the sections in operative position. In a preferred embodiment the receptacle has an out-turned flange formed with extension-receiving recesses for locking the sections in operative position.

In a more specific aspect the legs have inwardly bent extensions above the braces for resiliently holding the flower pot in upright position, the receptacle being resiliently held in locking position by the inwardly bent extensions. Each leg section has an upper brace and a lower brace, the upper braces intersecting each other and being pivotally joined and the lower braces intersecting each other and being pivotally joined, the receptacle being removably seated on the upper braces.

In another aspect the invention involves a collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot comprising a pair of leg sections, each section having spaced legs, an upper brace and a lower brace, the upper braces intersecting each other and being

2

pivotally joined and the lower braces intersecting each other and being pivotally joined, the upper and lower braces of each section being formed at the point of intersection with complimentary slots constructed and arranged to maintain the sections in assembled and pivotally interlocking relation, whereby the sections may be swung from a collapsed inoperative position wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane to an expanded operative position, the legs having extensions above the upper braces, and a removable pot support interfitting with the extensions for locking the sections in operative position. The upper brace of one section is formed at the point of intersection with a downwardly directed slot and the lower brace of the same section is formed with an upwardly directed slot, the corresponding upper and lower braces of the other section being formed at the same point with complimentary upwardly and downwardly directed slots respectively, the slotted portions of the several braces interlocking to maintain the sections in assembled and pivotally interlocking relation.

For the purpose of illustration a typical embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings in which

Fig. 1 is a sectional elevation of the stand constructed in accordance with a typical embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view showing the leg sections in expanded position;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view showing the leg sections in collapsed position;

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of a removable member or receptacle.

Referring to Fig. 1 the numerals 1 and 2 represent upright leg members formed preferably out of sheet metal. Intermediate their extremities the leg members are braced by spaced transverse braces 3 and 4 provided at their opposite ends with lugs 5, the lugs being received through complimentary spaced openings 6 formed in the leg members. The projecting ends of the lugs are peened over against the outer faces of the leg members whereby the braces are rigidly clamped to the leg members to constitute one leg section 9 of a pair of leg sections. The upper and lower braces 3 and 4 are formed intermediate their ends with an upwardly and downwardly directed slot 7 and 8, respectively.

The other leg section 10 of the pair comprises similar leg members 11 and 12 and like spaced transverse upper and lower braces 13 and 14, the braces being rigidly clamped to the outer faces of the leg members in the same manner as

above described in connection with the braces and leg members of leg section 9.

The upper brace 13 of leg section 10 intersects, intermediate its opposite ends, the slotted portion of upper brace 3 of leg section 9 and is formed at the point of intersection with a complimentary downwardly directed slot 15 (Fig. 1) whereby the two upper braces are pivotally interlocked each complimentary slot 7 and 15 receiving a portion of the braces 13 and 3 respectively.

The lower braces 4 and 14 are similarly assembled to provide a pivoted interlock except that their slotted portions 8 and 16 are reversed with respect to the corresponding slotted portions 7 and 15 of the upper braces, as shown in Fig. 1. With this construction and arrangement of parts it is evident that the leg sections are mounted in assembled and pivotally interlocking relation with respect to each other, whereby the sections may be swung from a folded or collapsed position as shown in Fig. 3, wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane, to an expanded position as shown in Fig. 2.

The upper portions of the leg members extend above the upper braces and are inwardly inclined to a point 17 adjacent their upper ends where they are formed with outwardly flaring lips 18. A receptacle 20 for supporting the bottom of a flower pot 21 is removably supported on the upper braces 3 and 13, and comprises a suitable dish preferably of sheet metal and here shown as round in shape having an out-turned annular flange 22. The flange is formed with suitable means interfitted with the upper portions of the leg members when in expanded position, and here shown as four peripherally spaced recesses 23, the recesses being adapted to receive the upper portions of leg members 1, 2, 11 and 12 when in expanded position to lock the leg sections 9 and 10 in operation position. The receptacle 20 is resiliently held in locking position by the pressure of the inwardly inclined upper portions of the leg members against the flange as shown in Fig. 1 and as indicated by the dot and dash lines of Fig. 2. The receptacle 20 is also adapted to receive and retain a quantity of water from which, in time of drought, a growing plant in the flower pot may draw needed moisture through the customary hole in the bottom of the flower pot.

As shown in Fig. 1, the flower pot is removably and resiliently held in upright position in the receptacle 20 by the pressure of the inwardly inclined upper portions of the leg members against the flower pot at their points 17.

The lower portions of the leg members extend downwardly below the lower braces 4 and 14, the lower ends of the leg members being formed with points 24 adapted to penetrate the surface of the ground to insure the maintenance of the stand in upright position against wind and storms.

To assemble the stand for its intended purpose the leg sections are pivotally swung from their collapsed inoperative position shown in Fig. 3 to the expanded operative position shown in Fig. 2. The receptacle 20 is then placed on the flaring lips 18 of the upper portions of the leg members, the recesses 23 of the receptacle being aligned with lips. The receptacle is then pushed downwardly between the inwardly inclined upper portions of the leg members and against their resistance causing the upper portions of the leg members to enter the recesses 23 thereby to lock the leg sections in expanded operative position. Further downward movement of the receptacle causes it to pass downwardly between the points

17 of the upper portions of the leg members and to come to rest on the upper braces 3 and 13 where it is resiliently held in locking position by the pressure of the inwardly inclined upper portions of the leg members against its flange. The flower pot 21 is then pushed downwardly between the upper portions of the leg members until its bottom rests in the receptacle 20 at which time it is resiliently held in upright position by the pressure of the upper portions of the leg members against the flower pot at their points 17. The receptacle is then filled with water if desired for the purpose above described and the points 24 of the lower portions of the leg members are firmly implanted in the sod.

To restore the stand to collapsed inoperative position the flower pot is removed upwardly from between the upper portions of the leg members, the receptacle 20 is similarly removed thereby to unlock the leg sections and to permit them to be pivotally swung from expanded operative position to the collapsed inoperative position shown in Fig. 3 wherein the leg sections rest in a substantially flat plane.

For storage or transportation purposes the receptacle 20 is tipped on edge and its side wall 25 is inserted downwardly between the upper portions of the leg members in their collapsed inoperative position until the lowest point of the side wall comes to rest on the upper braces 3 and 13, as indicated by the dot and dash lines of Fig. 3, the receptacle being removably and resiliently maintained in position by the pressure of the inwardly inclined upper portions of the leg members against the side wall.

It should be understood that the present disclosure is for the purpose of illustration only and that this invention includes all modifications and equivalents which fall within the scope of the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot comprising a pair of leg sections each section having a pair of spaced diametrically opposed legs and an upper and lower brace extending from one leg to the other and fast at opposite ends to the respective opposed legs, the upper and lower braces of one leg section being pivotally joined to the upper and lower braces of the other leg section, respectively, along the central vertical axis of the stand, whereby the sections may be swung from a collapsed inoperative position wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane to an expanded operative position, the legs having inwardly bent extensions above the upper braces for resiliently holding the flower pot in upright position, and a receptacle removably seated on the upper braces and having an out-turned flange formed with extension-receiving recesses for locking the sections in operative position, the receptacle being resiliently held in locking position by the inwardly bent extensions.

2. A collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot comprising a pair of leg sections, each section having spaced legs, an upper brace and a lower brace, the upper braces intersecting each other and being pivotally joined and the lower braces intersecting each other and being pivotally joined, the upper and lower braces of each section being formed at the point of intersection with complementary slots constructed and arranged to maintain the sections in assembled and pivotally interlocking relation, whereby the sections may be swung from a collapsed inoperative

5

position wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane to an expanded operative position, the legs having extensions above the upper braces, and a removable pot support interfitting with the extensions for locking the sections in operative position.

3. A collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot comprising a pair of leg sections, each section having spaced legs, an upper brace and a lower brace, the upper braces intersecting each other and the lower braces intersecting each other, the upper brace of one section being formed at the point of intersection with a downwardly directed slot and the lower brace of the same section being formed with an upwardly directed slot, the corresponding upper and lower braces of the other section being formed at the same point with complementary upwardly and downwardly directed slots respectively, the slotted portions of the several braces interlocking to maintain the sections in assembled and pivotally interlocking relation whereby the sections may be swung from a folded inoperative position wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane to an expanded operative position, the legs having extensions above the upper braces, and a removable receptacle interfitting with the extensions for locking the sections in operative position.

4. A collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot comprising a pair of leg sections, each section having a pair of spaced diametrically opposed legs and a brace extending from one leg to the other and fast at opposite ends to the respective opposed legs, the brace of one leg section being pivotally joined to the brace of the other leg section along the central vertical axis of the stand, whereby the sections may be swung from a collapsed inoperative position wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane, to

6

an expanded operative position, the legs having extensions above the braces, and a removable member interfitting with the extensions for locking the sections in operative position.

5. A collapsible stand for supporting a flower pot comprising a pair of leg sections, each section having spaced legs, an upper brace and a lower brace, the upper braces intersecting each other and being pivotally joined and the lower braces intersecting each other and being pivotally joined, the upper and lower braces of each section being formed at the point of intersection with complementary slots constructed and arranged to maintain the sections in assembled and pivotally interlocking relation, whereby the sections may be swung from a collapsed inoperative position wherein the sections rest in a substantially flat plane to an expanded operative position, the legs having inwardly bent extensions above the upper braces for resiliently holding the flower pot in upright position, and a receptacle removably seated on the upper braces and having an out-turned flange formed with extension-receiving recesses for locking the sections in operative position, the receptacle being resiliently held in locking position by the inwardly bent extensions.

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