

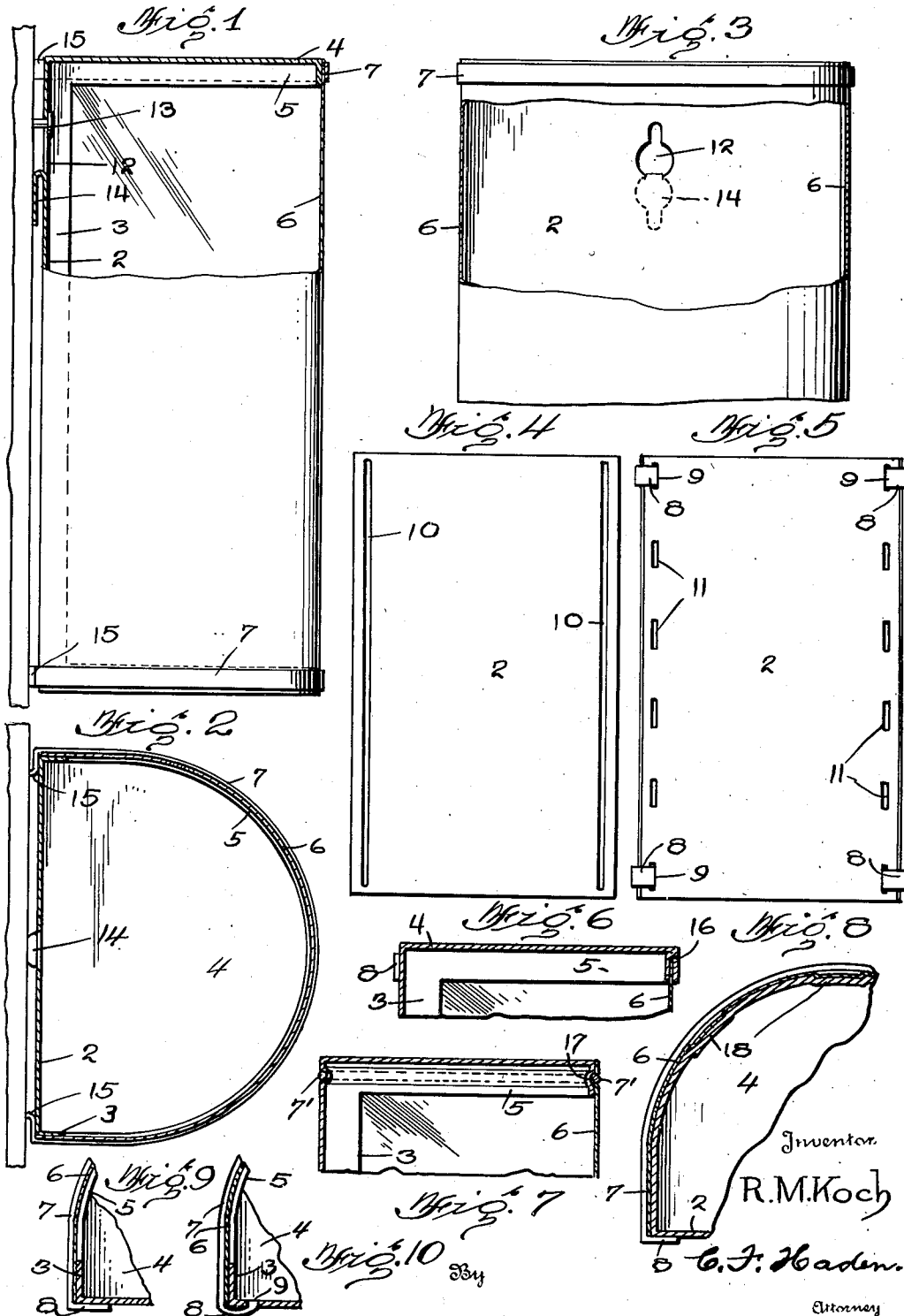
April 26, 1938.

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2,115,309

FLOWER PROTECTING AND DISPLAY CASE

Filed April 12, 1937



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,115,309

FLOWER PROTECTING AND DISPLAY CASE

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Application April 12, 1937, Serial No. 136,474

6 Claims. (Cl. 220—82)

This invention belongs to that type of devices which are useful for displaying bouquets, cut flowers and similar ornaments where protection is desired without interfering with the visibility of the ornament.

It is particularly desirable for holding cut flowers for table ornamentation.

It may be hung upon the wall of a room or other suitable support.

It may be used simply as a protection for flowers and in this connection it is desirable and useful to protect and preserve flowers as decorations for graves.

It is particularly useful in museums and in stores for preventing the handling of goods, specimens and the like without interfering with the ocular inspection thereof.

Other uses will appear as the description proceeds.

To aid in the thorough understanding of the construction and the operation of my invention I have filed herewith as a part of the specification one sheet of drawings containing ten figures in which—

Figure 1 is a view showing my invention as it appears when hanging upon a wall or other suitable support; part of the view is in section to show more clearly the construction and the operation of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view taken transversely of the assembled device;

Fig. 3 is a view from above of a part of the device a portion being broken away to show the key-hole slot in the bottom by which it may be hung up securely;

Fig. 4 is a bottom view showing longitudinal grooves along the sides to receive and hold the retaining elements;

Fig. 5 is a bottom view similar to the bottom view in Fig. 4 but showing a series of short slots in place of the longitudinal grooves or depressions of Fig. 4 but for the same purpose;

Fig. 6 is a detail showing a section of one end of the invention in which a rib is formed upon the end member to prevent the slipping of the retaining member;

Fig. 7 is a view similar to the view in Fig. 6 but showing the end member flange provided with a continuous semi-circular groove in which to seat the retaining element when a wire is used for that purpose;

Fig. 8 is a detail view in section showing a series of spaced depressions in the flange of the end member instead of the continuous semi-

circular groove shown in Fig. 7; but for the same purpose;

Fig. 9 is a sectional detail showing how the retaining element closely grips the bottom of the invention; and

Fig. 10 is a sectional detail showing how the retaining element snaps into the groove or the slots when the bottoms shown in Figs. 4 and 5 are used.

More specifically, a bottom 2 in the form of a shallow pan having upstanding sides 3 is provided with upstanding ends 4 which may be integral or separately formed and attached to the bottom as desired; all constructed of sheet metal or other suitable material.

The ends 4 as shown are semi-circular but as the particular configuration of the several parts is not the gist of the invention the ends 4 may be rectangular, semi-sexagonal, semi-octagonal or any other suitable desired shape.

Flanges 5 are located upon the upstanding ends 4. As illustrated flanges 5 project inwardly towards each other; but, if desired, one or both of the end flanges 5 may project outwardly.

End flanges 5 serve as rests to support, guide and hold in place the ends of transparent cover member 6.

To hold transparent cover element 6 closely engaged with the flanges 5 of the end members 4 I place a resilient flexible retaining member 7 about each end of the cover 6. It may be desirable to use retaining members 7 intermediate the ends of the cover.

Cover member 6 may be composed of regenerated cellulose, more commonly known by its trade name "Cellophane", it may be of celluloid, glass, translucent paper or any other transparent medium, and it may be thick or thin as desired.

Cover member 6 is of a length sufficient to reach to the outer edges of ends 4 when the flanges 5 project inwardly; but when the flanges 5 project outwardly I prefer to have the cover 6 long enough to reach approximately to the outer edges of the flanges 5.

Surrounding cover member 6 where it rests upon and is supported by flanges 5 I place retaining members 7 which closely grip the cover member 6. Retaining members 7 have inturned ends 8 which snap under the bottom 2 and hold the members 7 in close engagement with cover 6 resting upon flanges 5.

Members 7 are made of spring metal and are so formed that their tendency is to bring the ends together; consequently when they are put into proper place they clamp the cover 6 to the

end members and maintain their grip until forcibly released.

The provision of lugs 9 (see Fig. 10) on the ends of inturned ends 8 in co-operation with grooves 10 (see Fig. 4) or slots 11 (see Fig. 5) hold members 7 so securely there is little likelihood of their being displaced inadvertently.

If desirable a key-hole slot 12 may be punched out of the bottom 2. Key-hole slot 12 may take over a screw or nail 13 by which the device may be hung upon a wall or other upright surface.

Preferably the material punched out when forming the key-hole slot is not wholly removed, but is left attached to the bottom, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3 at 14 and is bent back to form a hook, as shown at 14 in Fig. 1, by which the device may be hung upon a cord, a wire, a twig or other suitable object.

When hook 14 is used I form outturned lugs 15 on the parts 8 of the retaining members 7 to hold the device level when placed upon a plane surface such as a table or the like.

Ends 4 and their flanges 5 may be formed by doubling the material back upon itself to make a ridge 16 (see Fig. 6) which will wholly prevent the retaining members 7 from slipping off the ends.

When the cover 6 is composed of thin material it is difficult to keep it from slipping or creeping out from under the retaining members 7. To overcome this difficulty I provide a series of depressions 18 (see Fig. 8) in the flanges 5 into which the members 7 press the cover 6 and form projections which act as keys to hold the parts immovable with relation to each other.

In Fig. 7 I illustrate a modification I have found particularly efficient to hold cover material of the thinnest kind practicable. A continuous groove 17 is formed in flange 5. With this modification the retaining member is preferably composed of spring wire 7'. Obviously the resilience of the wire 7' will carry the thin cover material into the groove 17 and form an efficient lock to prevent the slipping of the cover off of the flanges 5.

It is contemplated, in extreme cases, if necessary to wrap an annealed wire all the way around the display device locating it in groove 17 and twisting the ends together.

I make my display case in different sizes and lengths according to the use to which it is to be put; some of them are large enough to accommodate a bouquet of long stemmed American Beauty roses and others are short enough to properly protect a bunch of violets or a single water lily or other flower of unusual beauty and rarity.

Having fully described my invention and the best means of practicing it now known to me, I do not wish to be restricted to the exact details shown and described; because I claim as my invention everything properly included within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a flower protecting and display case the combination of a base member, upstanding side members on the base member, upstanding end members on the base member, laterally projecting flanges on the end members, a transparent cover member overlapping the side members and extending from near the lower edge of one side

member over the flanges and to near the lower edge of the other side member and a plurality of resilient retaining members having angularly inturned ends surrounding the cover member and engaging with the bottom of the base member to hold the several elements in assembled relation.

2. In a flower protecting and display case the combination of a base member having longitudinal grooves in the bottom of the base member near each side edge, upstanding end members on the base member, longitudinally projecting side flanges on the end members, a transparent cover member extending from the base member on one side over the flanges to the other side of the base member, a plurality of arcuate resilient retaining members having angularly disposed inturned ends provided with lugs at their extremities whereby when the retaining members surround the cover the angularly disposed parts thereof contact the bottom of the base member and the lugs thereon snap into the grooves therein and hold the several elements of the device in assembled relation.

3. In a protecting and display case the combination of a base member, end members on the base member, flanges on the end members having a series of depressed portions, a cover extending from one side of the base member over the flanges of the end members and to the other side of the base member, resilient retaining members extending from one side of the base member over the cover above the flanges on the end members and to the other side of the base member whereby portions of the cover member are pressed into the depressions in the flange members and thus held more firmly in place.

4. In a protecting and display device the combination of a base member, end members on the base member, flanges on the end members provided with a groove in each flange, a cover member extending over the flanges to and embracing both sides of the base member, retaining members composed of resilient wire having angularly inturned ends to be carried around the cover above the flanges and the ends hooked under the side portions of the base member whereby the cover is embedded in the grooves in the flanges and thus held securely.

5. In a protecting and display case the combination of a base member, upturned ends on the base member, a transparent cover member surrounding the end members and extending from one side of the base member to the other side of the base member and resilient retaining members having angularly inturned ends to extend over the cover member and grip both sides of the base member.

6. In a flower protector and display case the combination of a base member, upstanding end members on the base member, a transparent cover member to surround the upstanding end members and the sides of the base member, a plurality of retaining elements to hold the base member and the cover member together comprising arcuate resilient clips with angularly inturned portions at each end to surround the cover member and grip the bottom of the base member, the ends of the angularly inturned portions being provided with outstanding lugs which act as legs whereby the device is held level when placed on a plane surface.

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