United States Patent [19]

Reese

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[45] **March 20, 1973**

[54] PORTABLE LAMP

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **431/202**, 431/344, 431/353, 239/276, 240/84

[51] **Int. Cl.**.....**F23d**

[58] **Field of Search**.....431/202, 243, 344, 350, 351; 240/82, 84; 239/276

[56] **References Cited**

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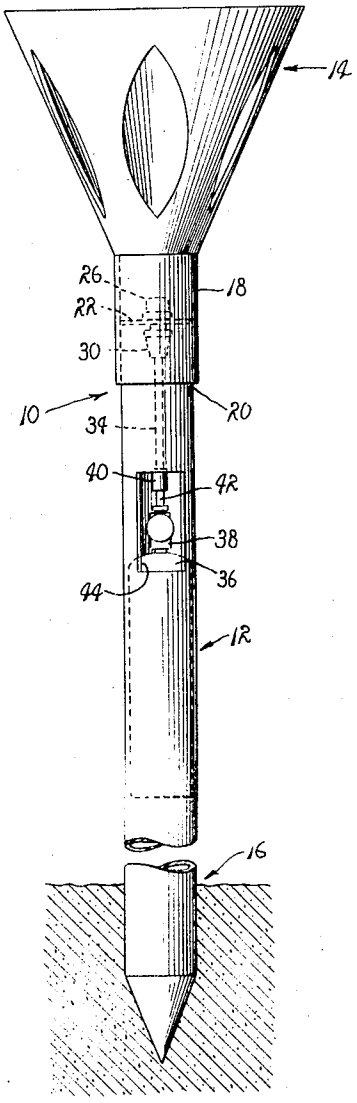
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Attorney—Huebner & Worrel

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A portable lamp particularly suited for use in providing a flame of burning gas for illuminating gardens, terraces and the like. The lamp is characterized by a tubular pillar of portable character including an acuminated pedestal suited to be implanted in the ground, the uppermost portion of the pillar being configured to receive in telescoping relationship an ornamental head having affixed therewithin a gas burner, a gas delivery circuit including a pressure bottle suspended from the burner and received within the pillar, and a manipulatable flow control valve interposed between the burner and the bottle for controlling delivery of gas from the bottle to the burner.

5 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures



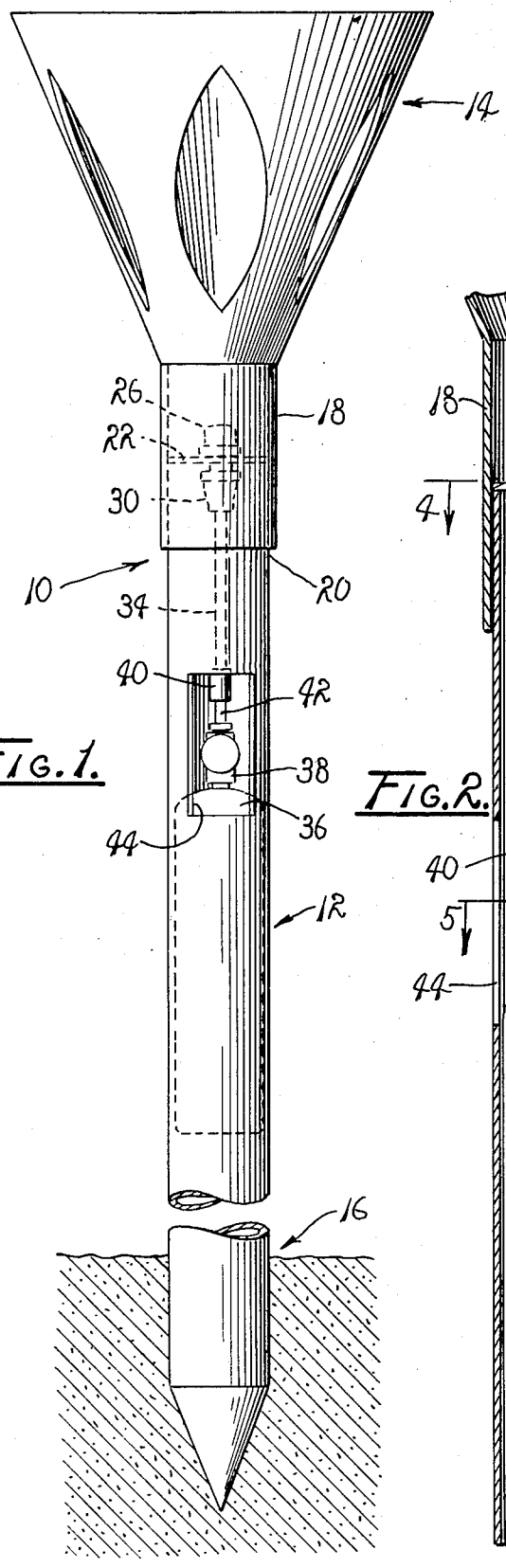


FIG. 1.

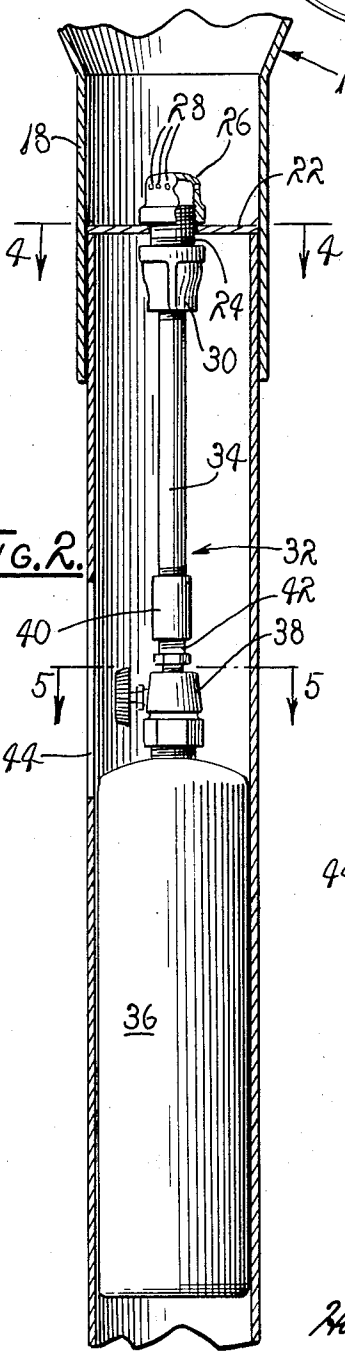


FIG. 2.

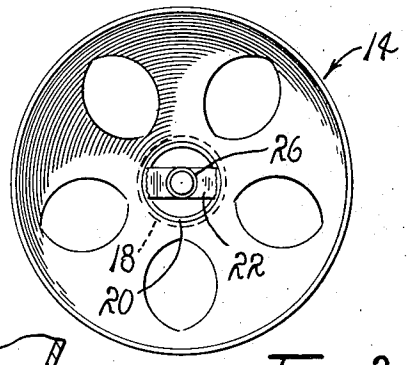


FIG. 3.

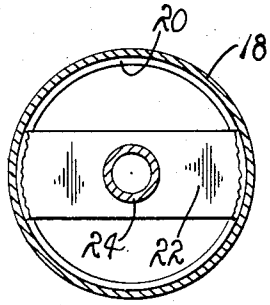


FIG. 4.

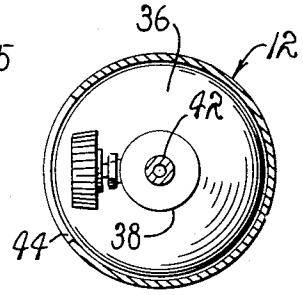


FIG. 5.

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PORTABLE LAMP

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a portable lighting device and more particularly to a portable gas lamp having particular utility as an ornamental accessory for patios, terraces, gardens and the like.

The prior art includes numerous types of so-called tiki torches, including wooden torches, oil burners, and fixed jets of natural gas.

It is well recognized that a use of wooden torches is impractical, for most purposes, while oil burners and the like particularly are susceptible to smudging and contaminating the atmosphere, due to a release of large quantities of unburned fuel, while gas jets connected with a source of natural gas often are impractical, due to an inherent lack of portability.

Consequently, there currently exists a need for a practical tiki torch of a portable nature which can be readily and efficiently employed as an ornamental accessory for illuminating patios, terraces, gardens and the like.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the instant invention to provide an improved tiki torch.

It is another object to provide an improved tiki torch which, in operation, is efficient.

It is another object to provide an improved lighting device for use as an ornamental accessory in lighting patios, gardens, terraces and the like.

It is another object to provide a self-contained, portable gas lamp adapted to be implanted at selected locations for illuminating patios, gardens, terraces and the like.

It is another object to provide an improved, self-contained portable lamp for use in providing an illuminating flame of burning gas for illuminating selected areas.

These and other objects and advantages of the instant invention are achieved through a use of a portable lighting device including a pillar suited to be implanted at selected locations, in the soil of patios, gardens, terraces and the like, having an ornamental head surmounting the pillar and a gas burner suspended within the pillar for supplying an effervescent fuel to the burner, whereby the device readily is adaptable for use as an ornamental lighting accessory.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 is an elevational, fragmentary view of a lamp embodying the principles of the instant invention.

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary, sectional view, on an enlarged scale, of a portion of the device shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a plan view of the head of the lamp shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 is a sectional plan view, taken generally along line 4—4 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 5 is a sectional plan view taken generally along line 5—5 of FIG. 2.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to the drawings wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, there is shown in FIG. 1 a

portable lamp, generally designated **10**, which embodies the principles of the instant invention.

The lamp **10** includes a pillar **12** surmounted by an ornamental head **14** terminating in an acuminate pedestal **16** which facilitates implanting the pillar **12** of the lamp **10** in the soil of patios, terraces, gardens and the like for facilitating its use as an ornamental device of the type frequently referred to as a tiki torch.

The pillar **12** is fabricated from thin-wall tubular steel stock and is of a suitable length. The head **14** is of any ornamental design of any selected configuration, and terminates in a tubular skirt **18** which is telescoped onto the upper portion, designated **20**, of the pillar **12**. Hence, the ornamental head **14** is supported by the pillar **12** as the pillar is supported in the soil of the selected area in which the pedestal **16** is embedded.

Within the skirt **18** there is fixed a transverse support bar **22**. This bar is welded or otherwise secured in place within the skirt **18** and includes an opening, not designated, coaxially aligned with the pillar **12**. Within this opening there is seated an externally screw-threaded nipple **24** to which a burner **26** is threadedly coupled.

The burner **26**, in practice, is a pipe cap having a plurality of ports **28** extending radially therethrough for defining an annular array of gas jets communicating with the nipple **24**. As a practical matter, a pair of stop nuts, not shown, is screw-threaded onto the nipple **24** for securing the nipple to the support bar **22**, however, the particular manner in which the nipple **24** is mounted on the support bar **22** is a matter of convenience and can be varied as desired.

Depending from the nipple **24** there is a screw-threaded reducer **30** which serves to couple the burner **26** with a gas supply circuit, generally designated **32**. The circuit **32** includes a length of tubular conduit **34** from which is suspended a bottle **36** of compressed gas, normally maintained in a liquid phase. The particular type of gas employed is a matter of convenience and since such bottles are commercially available, a detailed description is omitted in the interest of brevity.

To the bottle **36** there is coupled a flow control, manipulatable valve **38**, which, in turn, is united with the conduit **34** through a suitable, internally screw-threaded sleeve **40** received by a screw-threaded fitting **42** provided for the flow control valve **38**.

For reasons which are readily apparent, there is provided an access opening **44**, immediately adjacent the valve **38**, which accommodates a manipulation of the valve. Of course, where so desired a cover plate, not shown, can be employed in closing the access opening **44**.

In view of the foregoing, it is to be understood that the lamp **10** is assembled with the head **14** removed from the pillar **12**. With the pillar **12** and head **14** disassociated, the gas supply circuit **32** is assembled and coupled with the burner **26**, whereupon the head **14** is telescoped onto the uppermost end of the pillar **12** as the bottle **36** is caused to descend into the tubular interior of the pillar **12**. When thus assembled, the lamp is readied for use.

OPERATION

It is believed that in view of the foregoing description, the operation of the device will be readily understood and it will be briefly reviewed at this point.

With the device assembled in the manner hereinbefore described, the lamp **10** manually is driven into the soil of an area to be illuminated, such as may be found in patios, terraces, gardens and the like. When so embedded, the pillar **12** remains upright. An operator gains access to the valve **38**, by reaching through the access opening **44**, and manipulates the valve while simultaneously applying a flame to the burner **26**, whereupon ignition of gas delivered thereto from the bottle **36** through the valve **38** occurs. By manipulating the flow control valve **38**, the height of the resulting flame is varied.

Of course, the particular configuration and design of the ornamental head **14** serves to enhance the esthetic quality of the radiation produced by the illuminating gas flame, and can be varied as desired.

The flame is extinguished simply by closing the valve **38**. In instances where it is found desirable to provide a re-fill bottle **36**, the bottle is disassociated from the conduit **34** at the nipple **24**, and replaced with a commercially available "re-fill bottle" of a selected capacity. Similarly, changing of the head **14** is accommodated.

In view of the foregoing, it should readily be apparent that the lamp of the instant invention provides a practical device for use as an ornamental accessory in illuminating patios, terraces, gardens and the like.

Although the invention has been herein shown and described in what is conceived to be the most practical and preferred embodiment, it is recognized that departures may be made therefrom within the scope of the invention, which is not to be limited to the illustrative details disclosed.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A portable lamp comprising:

A. a tubular pillar including means defining therefor an acuminate pedestal, whereby the pedestal is adapted to be removably implanted in the ground;

B. an ornamental head removably supported by said pillar at the end thereof remote from said pedestal;

C. a gas burner for establishing an illuminating flame mounted in said head; and

D. a gas supply circuit including a portable container of combustible gas connected with said burner and suspended from said head for supplying combustible gas to said burner.

2. The lamp of claim **1** wherein said supply circuit is substantially encased within said pillar.

3. The lamp of claim **2** further comprising means defining within said pillar an access opening adjacent said valve for accommodating a manipulation thereof.

4. The lamp of claim **3** wherein said burner includes means defining an annular array of ports communicating with said supply circuit.

5. A portable gas lamp adapted to be implanted at selected locations in the soil of gardens, terraces, and the like, for illuminating the same, comprising:

A. a pillar fabricated from tubular steel stock including means defining therefor an acuminate pedestal and means defining an opening traversing the uppermost portion thereof;

B. an ornamental head including an annular skirt telescopically related to said uppermost portion of said pillar;

C. a support fixed within said head, diametrically traversing said skirt and disposed adjacent said pillar, whereby the support is caused to traverse the longitudinal axis of the pillar;

D. a gas burner mounted on said support including a cap having means defining therein an annular array of gas ports extending radially therethrough;

E. a pressure bottle confining a combustible gas-generating fluid having an outside diameter substantially less than the internal diameter of said pillar;

F. a gas conduit concentrically related to said pillar and coaxially related to said head, fixed to said burner and to said bottle, for delivering a flow of gas from said bottle to said burner;

G. a manipulatable flow control valve interposed in said conduit for controlling delivery of the gas, through said conduit, from the bottle to the burner; and

H. means defining within said pillar an access opening adjacent said valve for accommodating a manipulation thereof.

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