

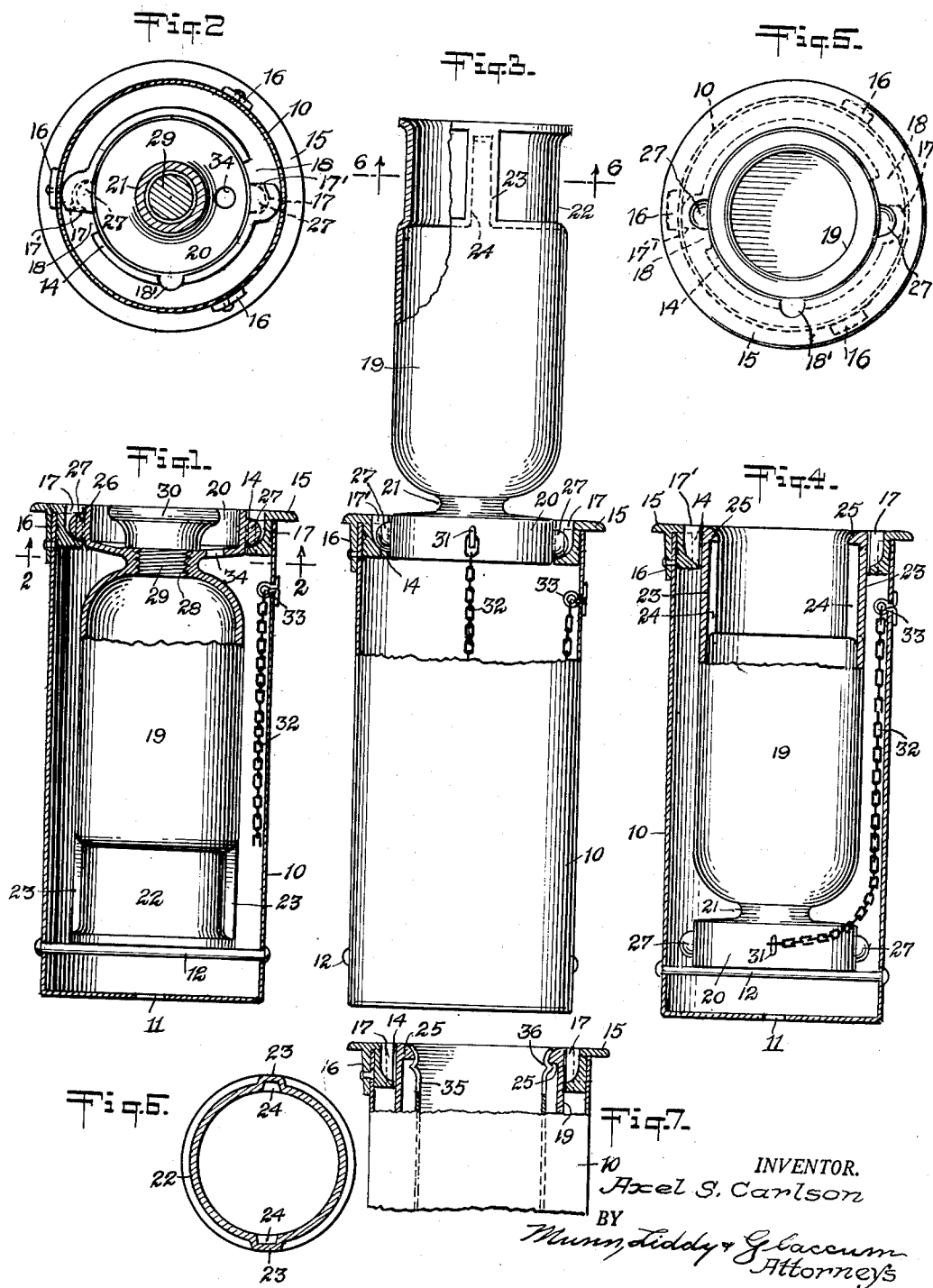
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GROUND VASE CONSTRUCTION

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GROUND VASE CONSTRUCTION

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3 Claims. (Cl. 47-41)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in ground vases or urns for use in cemeteries, memorial parks, or similar places, and constitutes an improvement over my United States Patent No. 2,438,802, entitled "Ground Vase" and issued March 30, 1948.

The main object of this invention is to provide a simple, efficient, and durable construction which will permit the vase to be securely and firmly housed within the ground casing or well either in an upright or inverted position, and also to be securely disposed on the casing in an upright position above the ground when desired.

A further object is to provide a simple and efficient construction in which proper drainage is afforded in the base construction and the relating casing construction so that the collection of undesirable liquid or sediment therein is avoided.

A further object is to provide a simple, efficient, and durable construction comprised of a minimum number of simply related parts whereby the cost of manufacture may be reduced to a minimum consistent with durability and whereby the ground vase can not be definitely removed from its relating casing.

Yet another object resides in the provision of means whereby the vase, when housed within its casing, may be readily lifted out of the casing when desired.

Still another object is to provide simple means whereby an auxiliary lining may be readily attached to and within the urn, if so desired.

Further and more specific objects, features and advantages will more clearly appear from a consideration of the detailed specification herein-after set forth, especially when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings which illustrate a present preferred form which the invention may assume, and which form part of the specification.

In brief and general terms, the invention includes a well or casing to be embedded in the ground with its top flush with the surface thereof. The top of the casing is adapted to receive an annular flat ground plate having a dependent ring-like flange on its inner periphery within which the outer surface of an urn or vase is adapted to be received. The top of the plate extends beyond the outer wall of the casing and has dependent fingers suitably connected to the outer surface of the casing to position the ground plate thereon. The ground plate is provided on its upper surface with a plurality of depressions or seats to receive projections or knobs on the base of the urn. One side of these seats is cut

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away to permit of the lateral introduction beneath the ground plate of said knobs into the seats on the plate. Adjacent the seats, the dependent flange is cut away to permit the knobs above mentioned to be moved up into position beneath the plate to be swung into the seats.

The urn has a body portion, and a base portion, of a diameter to permit it to pass through the ground plate. The base of the urn is provided on its periphery with a plurality of projections which adapt them to be received in the seats on the top of the ground plate, or to pass into the cut-away portions of the dependent flange on the ground plate. Preferably, the base of the vase is cup-shaped and has a central knob disposed within the cup up to and flush with the open edge of the cup to act as a hand grip. Preferably, also, a chain is connected at one end to the inner surface of the casing, and at the other end to a projection on the periphery on the base of the urn whereby the urn may not be removed permanently from the casing.

In further particulars, the urn, at its upper end, has a reduced diameter, but is provided along this portion with one or more off-set hollow ribs formed with inner elongate recesses and upper overhanging lips which will permit the operator's fingers to readily grasp the interior of the urn to lift it, and also to provide means whereby an auxiliary shell may be disposed within the urn and latched in position with respect to said lips. In further particulars, the well is provided with supporting means near the bottom upon which the urn may be suitably supported when disposed within the casing either in the upright or inverted position.

These general constructional features will permit the urn to be disposed within the casing either with its open end flush with the top surface of the ground plate, or inverted in the casing with the top surface of the cup-shaped base flush with the surface of the ground plate, or to be disposed upright above the casing and above the ground with the projections on the base securely seated within the seats of the ground plate. Suitable apertures are provided in the cup-shaped base and the bottom of the casing to provide for sufficient drainage to avoid collection of undesirable liquid or sediment in the casing.

A present preferred form which the invention may assume is shown in the drawings, of which:

Fig. 1 is a vertical cross-section through the device showing the urn disposed therein in an inverted position;

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Fig. 2 is a horizontal cross-section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the device, partly broken away, showing the urn supported in an upright position above the top of the well;

Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-section similar to Fig. 1, but showing the urn disposed within the casing in an upright position;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the device shown in Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a horizontal cross-section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3; and,

Fig. 7 is a partial elevation of the upper end of the device broken away, showing the upper end of the urn in the position shown in Fig. 4, but with an auxiliary shell disposed therewithin.

Referring now merely to the specific forms of the invention shown in the drawings, I have provided a metallic shell or well casing 10 adapted to be sunk in the ground with its upper end flush with the surface of the ground. A drainage hole 11 is disposed in the bottom of the well or casing 10. A supporting element in the form of a rod 12 extends across between the walls of the casing above the bottom thereof.

A ground plate is adapted to be disposed on the top of the casing 10, and is in the form of an annular plate 15, the inner periphery of which is provided with a dependent flange 14 which is dimensioned to permit the passage therethrough of a vase or urn to be disposed therein. This plate 15 extends across the top edge of the casing, and has dependent fingers 16 extending downwardly from its lower surface which are suitably connected by rivets or welding to the outer surface of the well or casing.

The inner upper surface of the ring-like ground plate 15, which is preferably cast in one piece, is provided with a plurality of depressed recesses or seats 17, preferably in opposed relation thereon. Adjacent the seats 17, the flange 14 is vertically cut away as indicated by the numeral 18, and the adjacent sides of the seats 17 are cut away as indicated by the numeral 17' as and for the purposes to be explained. The flange 14 and plate 15 are also cut away as at 18' to permit passage of a chain to be later mentioned.

There is adapted to be disposed in relation with the casing 10, an urn which has a body portion 19 and a base portion 20 of the same diameter connected by an ornamental neck 21. The upper end of the body portion is formed with a reduced diameter as at 22, but is also provided with a pair of offset oppositely disposed hollow ribs 23, the outer faces of which are flush with the surface of the main body of the vase. Within these hollow ribs are formed elongate recesses 24 which extend up to a point near the top of the urn or vase, and the body of the vase at this point overhangs the upper end of these elongate slots or recesses to form lips 25.

The base of the urn is cup-shaped and formed with a circular wall 26, on the outer periphery of which are oppositely disposed knobs or projections 27. These are of a diametrical disposition to either be disposed in the seats 17, or to pass into the cut-aways 18 in the flange 14. The bottom of the urn is provided with a threaded opening 28 to receive the threaded stem 29 of an enlarged head or knob 30 which extends from the stem into the central portion of the cup-shaped base with its upper surface flush with the top edge of the wall 26 of the base as shown in Fig. 1.

The periphery of the base 20 is also provided

with an eye 31 to which one end of a chain 32 is attached, the other end of which is connected to a similar eye 33 fastened to the inner wall of the well in any suitable manner. The bottom of the cup-shaped base is also provided with a hole 34 for drainage purposes.

In the form shown in Fig. 7, it is possible that an auxiliary thin liner 35 may be disposed within the urn and having upper flexible portions 36 bent outwardly to latchingly engage beneath the lips 25 to hold the auxiliary shell in position.

In the operation of the device, and considering Fig. 1, it will be seen that the body of the urn has been inverted and its cup-shaped base with the projecting knobs thereon is disposed within the dependent flange 14 of the ground plate with the knobs 27 resting in the seats 17, and with the lower end of the urn resting on the supporting element 12.

In the form shown in Fig. 4, the urn is shown in an upright position within the casing or well with its upper edge flush with the top of the plate, and with its base resting on the supporting element 12. When the device is inverted, as shown in Fig. 1, the edge of the wall 26 of the base is flush with the top of the ground plate, and when the device is upright, as shown in Fig. 4, the diameter of the urn will cause it to be disposed within the ring-like flange 14 of the ground plate.

When the device is to be lifted out of the well from the position shown in Fig. 1, the enlarged knob 30 acts as a hand grip to enable the operator to grasp the stem and lift the device out of the well. When the device is in the position shown in Fig. 4, the fingers of the operator can be disposed in the slots 24 and beneath the lips 25 to enable it to be readily lifted within the well. In order to move the urn from the position shown in Fig. 4 to that shown in Fig. 3, it is necessary to elevate the urn and bring the knobs on its base in alignment with the cut-away portions of the dependent flange 14 until they are disposed just beneath the top of the plate 15. Then the urn is turned to move the knobs into the cut-away side of the seats 17 in order to seat the knobs therein as shown in Fig. 3.

The third cut-away 18' shown in Fig. 5 is to permit the passage therethrough of the eye 31 to which the chain 32 is connected either in the upward movement of the urn, or the downward movement thereof.

It will thus be seen that I have provided a simple, durable, and efficient device which can be disposed when not in use in an inverted position within the well with the exposed portion disposed within the ground plate and flush with the upper surface thereof, and capable of being quickly and easily lifted from this position. The holes 11 and 34 permit water and sediment to be drained out of the base and out of the well easily and quickly. When the device is disposed within the well in an upright position to receive flowers and water therefor, its upper end housed within the ground plate, and its upper edge is flush with the top of the ground plate.

When, for one reason or another, it is desired to dispose the urn above the well, this can be readily and easily achieved in the manner described. If it happens that a source of water for the vase is quite removed from the plot, the auxiliary shell 35 may be employed to carry the water to the urn, and this auxiliary shell may be readily and latchingly disposed within the urn in the manner shown in Fig. 7.

While the invention has been described in detail and shown with respect to the accompanying drawings, it is not to be limited to such details, since many changes and modifications may be made in the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof. Hence, it is desired to cover any and all forms and modifications of the invention which may come within the language and scope of any one or more of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. For use with a cylindrical well sunk into the ground, a vase adapted to fit into said well in either an upright or inverted position flush with the top of the said well or to be mounted in the top of said well extending above said well comprising a hollow body having an open upper end and a base, said base being of inverted circular cup shape, the cup having depth and an outer circular surface concentric with the longitudinal axis of said body, supporting members projecting radially outward from the circular surface of the base, said circular surface adapted to closely fit an inner circular surface of the well, means on the base for lifting the vase out of the well when the vase is disposed in inverted position and additional means comprising indentations coinciding with the radial projecting members while lifting the vase out of the well when it is in the upright position but lowered into the well.

2. The invention set forth in claim 1, wherein said supporting members consist of rounded knobs.

3. For use with a vase having lateral projections, a well adapted to be sunk in the ground, said well comprising a hollow cylindrical body having an open upper end, and an annular ground plate on said upper end of the cylindrical body, a depending circular flange on said plate integral therewith and spaced from the cylindrical wall of the body, seats diametrically opposite each other on said flange and projecting radially inward therefrom, there being an opening in said plate extending over and at one side of each seat in registry therewith, said flange being cut away at each seat and means in the lower portion of said well to position a vase a spaced distance from the bottom thereof.

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