June 12, 1934. J. E. NEIDINGER 1,962,255

COMBINED STOOL AND CHRISTMAS TREE HOLDER

Filed May 13, 1933 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

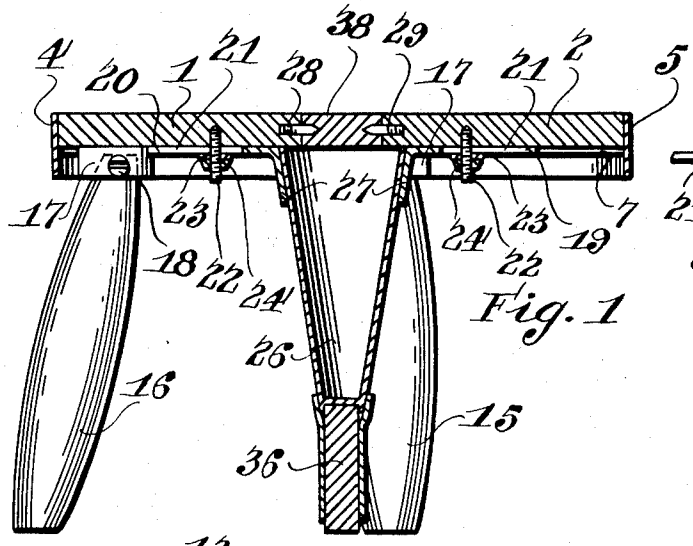


Fig. 1

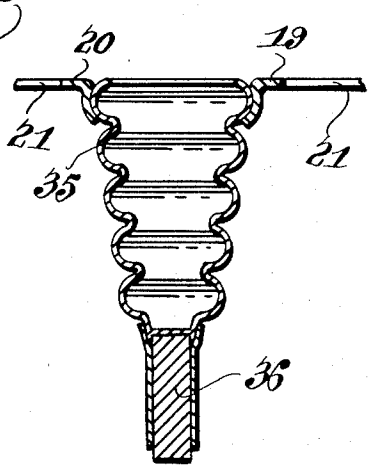


Fig. 2

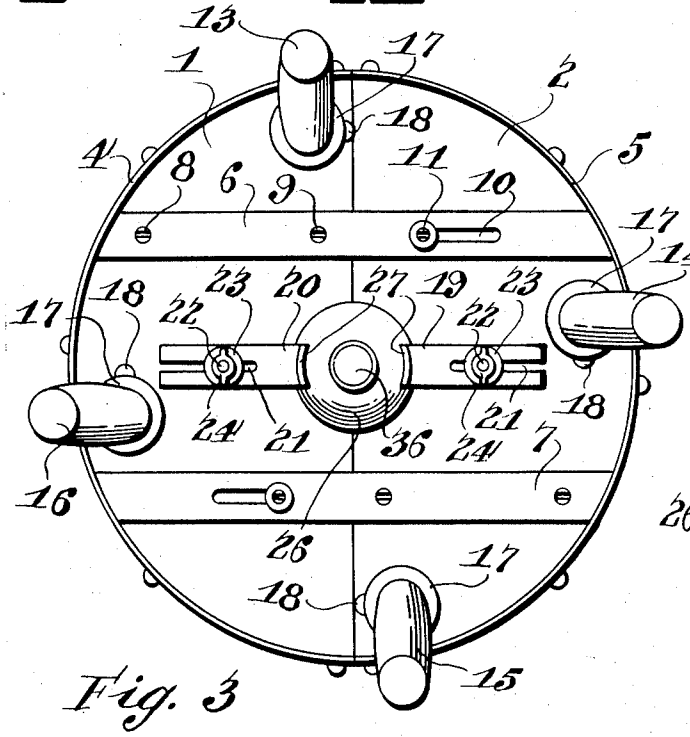


Fig. 3

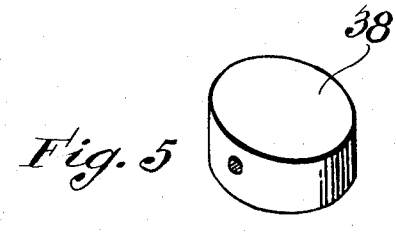


Fig. 5

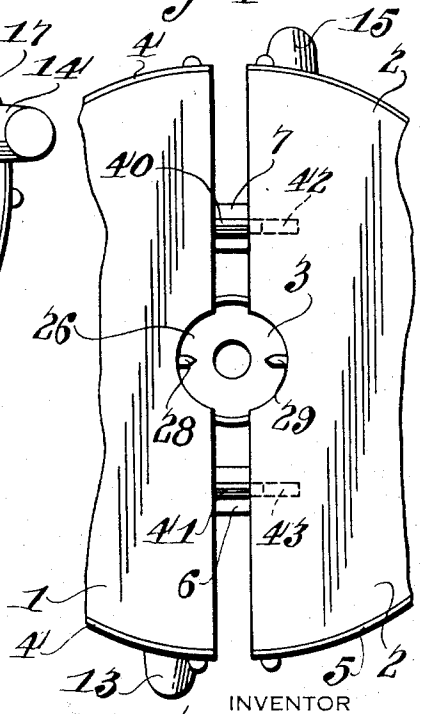


Fig. 4

INVENTOR
John E. Neidinger
BY
Frank Keifler
ATTORNEY

June 12, 1934. J. E. NEIDINGER 1,962,255

COMBINED STOOL AND CHRISTMAS TREE HOLDER

Filed May 13, 1933 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

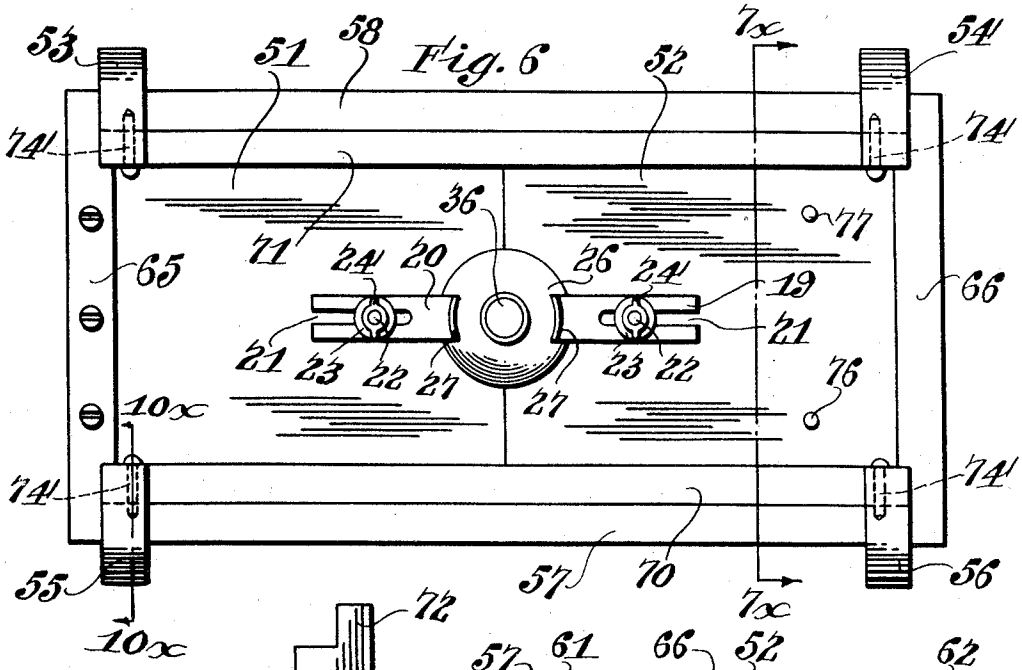


Fig. 6

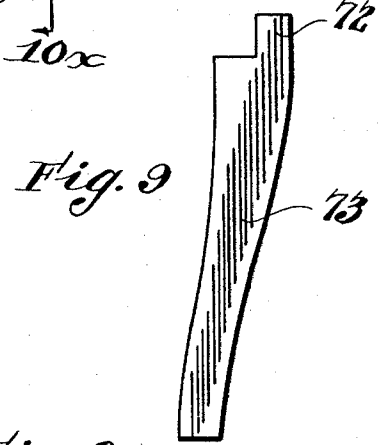


Fig. 9

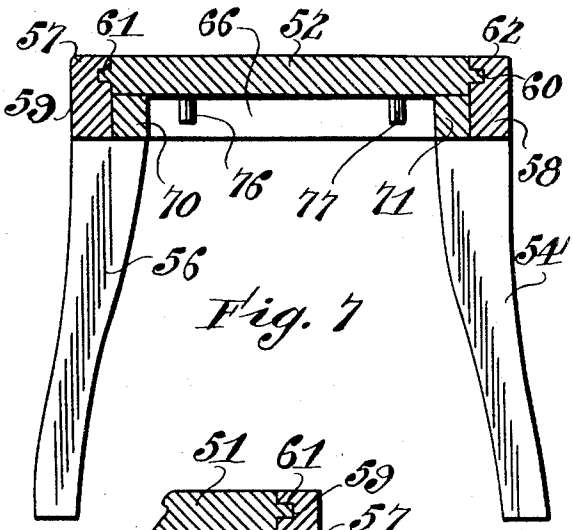


Fig. 7

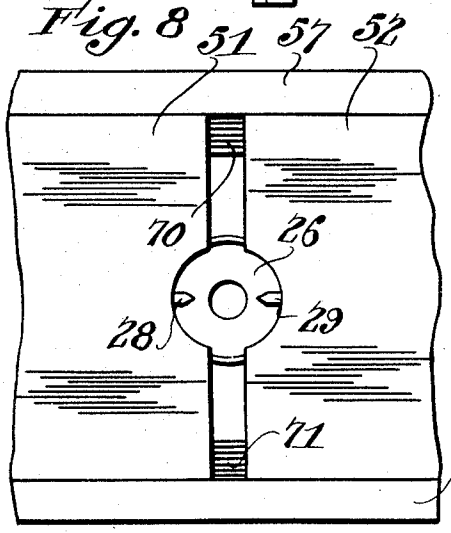


Fig. 8

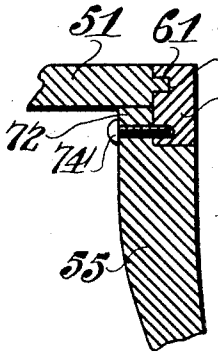


Fig. 10

INVENTOR
John E. Neidinger
BY
Frank Keipler
ATTORNEY

Patented June 12, 1934 1,962,255

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,962,255

COMBINED STOOL AND CHRISTMAS TREE HOLDER

John E. Neidinger, Rochester, N. Y.

Application May 13, 1933, Serial No. 670,841

7 Claims. (Cl. 155—41)

The object of this invention is to provide a new and improved combination Christmas tree holder and stool.

Another object of the invention is to make the holder with an expanding top, so that it can fit any size tree trunk and clamp it securely in place

Another object is to provide an adjustable cone-shaped water cup in which the base of the tree will snugly fit, which also helps to hold the tree in place and supply it with water.

These and other objects of the invention will be illustrated in the drawings, described in the specification, and pointed out in the claims at the end thereof.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 shows a vertical section through the stool.

Figure 2 shows a vertical section through a modified form of the water cup.

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the top of the stool.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the stool, partly broken away, the top of the stool being shown somewhat expanded.

Figure 5 is a detail view of the plug that is used to close the central opening in the top of the stool.

Figure 6 is a bottom plan view of a modified form of the stool and Christmas tree holder.

Figure 7 is a section on the line 7*x*—7*x* of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a top plan view of the stool, partly broken away, the top being shown somewhat expanded.

Figure 9 is a detail view of one of the supporting legs.

Figure 10 is a vertical section on the line 10*x*—10*x* of Figure 6.

In the drawings like reference numerals indicate like parts.

In the drawings reference numerals 1 and 2 show the two halves of the round stool top, each of which is in the form of a semicircle. These halves are cut away at the center to form a circular opening 3. Each half of the stool is bound around with a semicircular metal strip 4 and 5. Each half of the stool is provided with a brace 6 or 7, each brace being rigidly fastened to its half of the stool top, and making positive sliding engagement with the other half of the stool top. For this purpose the brace 6 is fastened to the section 1 of the top by the screws 8 and 9, and is provided with a slot 10 that makes sliding engagement with the stud 11 provided in the section 2 of the top of the stool. In like manner the brace 7 is fastened to the section 2 of the top, and makes sliding engagement with the section 1 of the top.

This top is supported on four legs 13, 14, 15, and 16. The top of each of these legs is tapered and fits into a socket or boss 17 fastened under the top of the stool. Each leg is fastened in place by one or more screws 18, by which it is firmly held in place. These legs can be easily removed for the purpose of shipping knocked-down, and can be easily and quickly assembled when the device is placed in use or on sale.

Diametrically of the stool are placed the two sliding brackets 19 and 20. Each of these brackets is slotted as indicated at 21, and each of them engages a stud 22 placed in the bottom of the stool, with which it makes engagement by a washer 23 and a wing nut 24. These brackets can be moved in and out radially. At the inner end they are bent down on an incline as shown at 27, and are fastened to the rim of a cone-shaped cup 26, which is thereby held centrally of the opening 3 in the top of the stool.

The brackets 19 and 20 are rigidly fastened to the cup 26, and the two sections 1 and 2 of the stool top are held together by these brackets, and the washers 23, 23 and the wing nuts 24, 24 and studs 22, and by these parts the cup is centered between the sections of the stool top.

The base of the tree fits in this cup and is supported thereby, and the tree is engaged by the spikes or studs 28 and 29, which engage in the trunk of the tree as the top is closed around it by moving the two sections of the top together. If the tree tilts to one side or the other, this can be rectified by loosening the wing nuts 24 and moving the cup 26 and the brackets until the tree stands in an upright position.

In Figure 2 I have shown a vertical section of a modified form of the cup 35, in which the cup is shown with a series of corrugations, each corrugation being a little larger in diameter from bottom to top. This cup will not only firmly engage the base of the tree, but will also hold more water than the cup having a cone shape.

As shown in both Figures 1 and 2, the bottoms of the cups are closed with metallic bottoms, and below this the cup is supported by a peg 36, which rests on the floor and prevents the stool from sagging in the middle, and takes the strain off of the brackets 19 and 20.

When the stool is not in use for holding a Christmas tree, the opening between the two sections thereof is closed with a plug 38 and the two sides

are brought together in direct contact with each other as shown in Figure 3.

As shown in Figure 4, the section 1 is provided with dowel pins 40 and 41, which slide in the sockets 42 and 43 on section 2, and these help to lock the two sides together and hold them in line with each other.

In Figure 6 I have shown the same type of a stool, having a rectangular top. This stool has the two top sections 51 and 52, supported by legs 53, 54, 55 and 56. On each side of this top is provided rails 57 and 58, to which the legs above referred to are attached. These rails are grooved as indicated at 59 and 60, and the sections 51 and 52 have tongues 61 and 62 on each side thereof, which engage with these grooves.

The section 51 is rigidly fastened to the cross bar 65, which in turn is fastened to the rails 57 and 58. The section 52 makes sliding engagement with the rails 57 and 58, which rails are held spaced apart by the cross bar 66.

A cup 26 or 35 is provided, as is shown in Figure 6, similar to what is shown in Figures 1 and 2, to which the brackets 19 and 20 are attached rigidly, as above described. The section 52 of the top is held or clamped in its adjusted position, to the section 51 by the brackets 19 and 20, and cup 26, and wing nuts and studs as shown in Figure 3. The top sections 51 and 52 are also supported by the rails 70 and 71, which run parallel to the rails 57 and 58 and are attached thereto. These rails are cut away at the corners to make room for the lugs 72 at the top of each of the legs 73. The legs are fastened in place by the screw 74, which passes through the leg 73 and enters the rail 57 or 58.

On the bottom of the top section 52 I provide the pins 76 and 77, which engage the cross bar 66 and hold the section 52 from being pulled out too far.

I claim:

1. In a combined stool and Christmas tree holder, the combination of a top divided into two members, a brace rigidly fastened to the under side of each top member and making sliding engagement with the other top member, two legs fastened to the under side of each top member, a cup member comprising a cup and having a bracket rigidly fastened on each side thereof, studs on the under side of each of said top members, with which said brackets make sliding engagement to center the cup under the top of the stool, and by which the cup and the two members of the top of the stool are held rigidly together in correct relation to each other.

2. In a combined stool and Christmas tree holder, the combination of a top divided into two members, means for adjusting said members toward and away from each other and putting them in proper relation to each other, a cup member comprising a cup having a bracket rigidly fastened on each side thereof, studs on the under side of each of said top members, with which said brackets make sliding engagement to center the cup under the top of the stool, and by which the cup and the two members of the top of the stool are held rigidly together in correct relation to each other.

3. In a combined stool and Christmas tree holder, the combination of a top divided into two members, each member being cut away centrally of the top to form an opening between them for the trunk of the tree, a cup member comprising a cup having a bracket rigidly fastened on each side thereof, studs on the under side of each of said top members with which each of said brackets make sliding engagement and tension devices engaging said studs and bearing upon said brackets to center the cup under the top of the stool, and by which the cup and the two members of the top of the stool are held together.

4. In a combined stool and Christmas tree holder, the combination of a top divided into two members, each member being cut away centrally of the top to form an opening between them for the trunk of the tree, a cup member comprising a cup having a bracket rigidly fastened on each side thereof, studs on the under side of each of said top members with which each of said brackets make sliding engagement and tension devices engaging said studs and bearing upon said brackets to center the cup under the top of the stool, and by which the cup and the two members of the top of the stool are held together, a stud in each top member extending into said opening, adapted to engage in the trunk of the tree.

5. In a combined stool and Christmas tree holder, the combination of a top divided into two members, each member being cut away centrally of the top to form an opening between them for the trunk of the tree, a cup member comprising a cup having a bracket rigidly fastened on each side thereof, studs on the under side of each of said top members with which each of said brackets make sliding engagement and tension devices engaging said studs and bearing upon said brackets to center the cup under the top of the stool, and by which the cup and the two members of the top of the stool are held together, said cup being tapered.

6. In a combined stool and Christmas tree holder, the combination of a top divided into two members, each member being cut away centrally of the top to form an opening between them for the trunk of the tree, a cup member comprising a cup having a bracket rigidly fastened on each side thereof, studs on the under side of each of said top members with which each of said brackets make sliding engagement and tension devices engaging said studs and bearing upon said brackets to center the cup under the top of the stool, and by which the cup and the two members of the top of the stool are held together, said cup being tapered and having an extension on the bottom thereof that normally rests on the floor.

7. In a combined stool and Christmas tree holder, the combination of a top divided into two members, each member being cut away centrally of the top to form an opening between them for the trunk of the tree, a cup member comprising a cup having a bracket rigidly fastened on each side thereof, studs on the under side of each of said top members with which each of said brackets make sliding engagement and tension devices engaging said studs and bearing upon said brackets to center the cup under the top of the stool, and by which the cup and the two members of the top of the stool are held together, said cup being tapered and having a series of annular corrugations therein.

JOHN E. NEIDINGER.