

May 14, 1929.

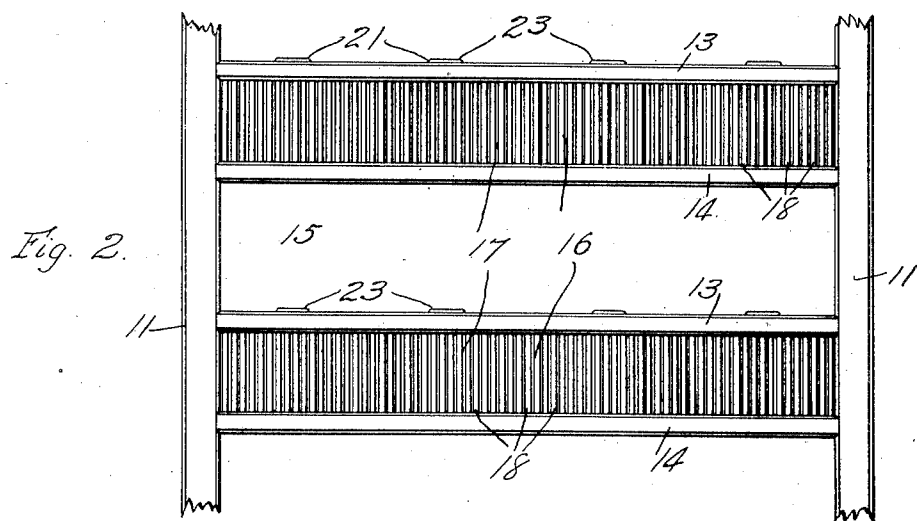
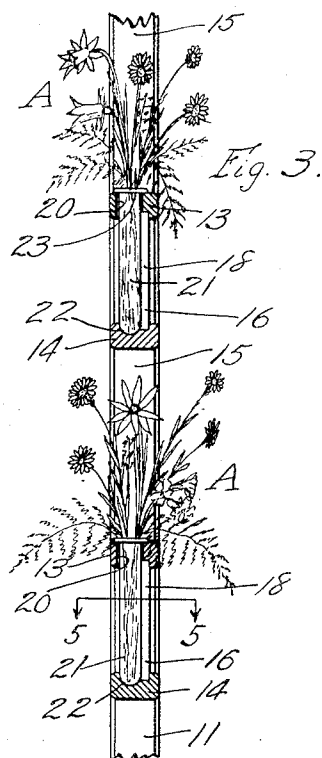
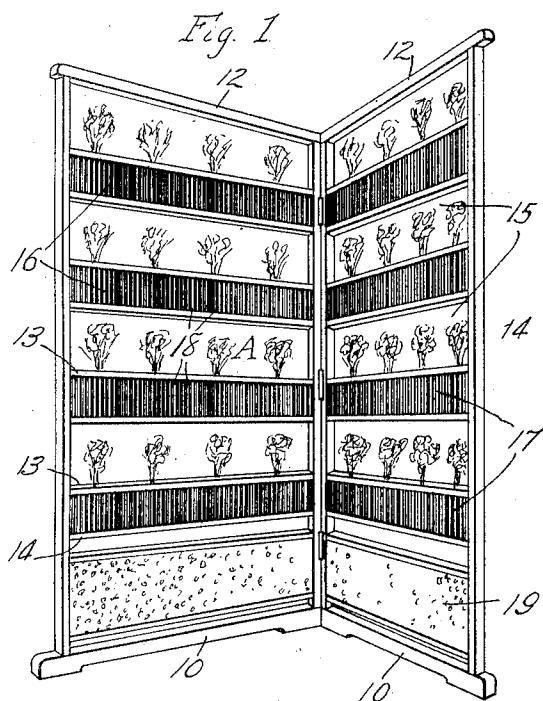
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1,712,858

SCREEN

Filed July 6, 1927

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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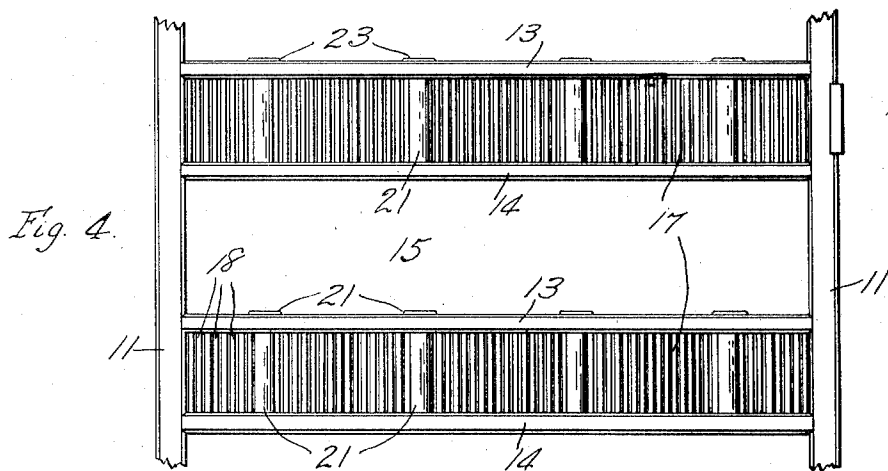


Fig. 5.

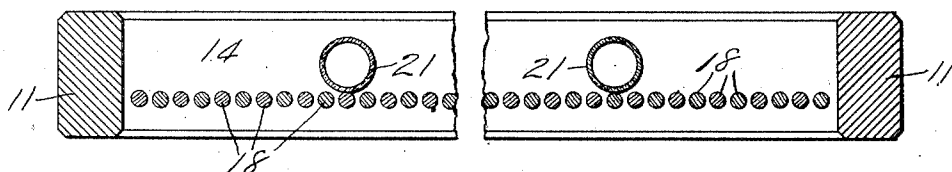
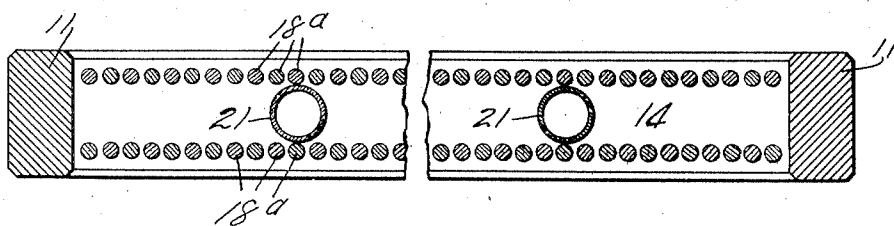


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RINKICHI TSUCHII, OF SENDAI, JAPAN.

SCREEN.

Application filed July 6, 1927. Serial No. 203,802.

This invention relates to portable screens.

The objects of the invention are to construct a novel portable screen adapted to support a plurality of flowers, foliage or other analogous objects or material for decorative or display purposes; also to provide a screen of this sort having a screening panel adapted to support the flowers or foliage in view above the top of the panel; also to construct a screen in which the panel is adapted to support and conceal or substantially conceal a plurality of receptacles in which the stems or lower portions of the flowers or foliage can be placed.

Another object is to construct a screen of this character having a plurality of the screening panels before mentioned, arranged one above another in spaced relation so that flowers or the like can be supported by the panels so as to extend into the spaces between the latter to form with the panels a screen unit which, while being more or less open, will nevertheless form a substantially continuous or uniform screen which will shield a part of a room or other place without entirely obstructing light or air circulation therefrom.

Other objects are to provide a screen having other novel characteristics as hereinafter set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a screen embodying the invention, showing the same composed of two sections movably connected.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged, fragmentary, front elevation of a screen section.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary, transverse section thereof on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary, rear elevation thereof.

Fig. 5 is a horizontal, sectional plan view thereof, on line 5—5, Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is a horizontal, sectional plan view of a slightly modified construction.

As shown in the drawings, the screen of the present invention comprises a unit or section having an outer framework, including a horizontal base rail or supporting member 10, and upright, spaced, parallel side posts or members 11 connected at their upper ends by a top cross bar 12. Extending between and secured to the upright posts 11 are one or more pairs of parallel, spaced, horizontal rails or strips 13 and 14. The screen illustrated, is provided with a plurality of the pairs of rails 13 and 14, each pair being separated by an intervening space 15.

At one side or face of the screen, the space within each pair of rails 13 and 14 is closed or substantially filled by vertically disposed screening material 16 to form a screen element or panel 17. This screening material in the construction illustrated is composed of a plurality of upright, closely spaced rods 18 which may be formed, for example, of bamboo, twigs or the like material, or as shown at the bottom of the screen in Fig. 1, the space may be closed by a continuous piece of suitably decorated material 19. Any other suitable screening material can be used.

The transverse dimension of the rails 13 and 14 is preferably substantially the same as that of the uprights 11. Rearwardly with respect to the screen rods or material 18 the upper rail 13 of each panel 17 is formed with a plurality of spaced, upright apertures or holes 20 extending entirely through the same, each of these holes being adapted to receive a suitable, preferably tubular, receptacle or container 21, see Fig. 3, the lower end of which preferably extends to the lower rail 14 of the corresponding panel, which is suitably recessed to provide seats 22 for the lower ends of said receptacles. The top edges of the receptacles preferably project slightly above the top face of the rail 13, and each receptacle can, if desired, be provided with an outwardly extending lip 23, whereby the receptacles are all uniformly supported on the rails 13, regardless of slight variations in their lengths. The receptacles, being disposed at the back of the panels 17, are thus concealed, or substantially concealed from view from the front of the screen.

The receptacles are each adapted to receive the stems or lower portions of flowers, foliage or other analogous objects A, while the flowers and foliage are displayed above the panels in the spaces 15. The flowers extending into the spaces 15 between the panels, together with the screening panels 17, make a screen unit or section of very attractive and decorative appearance, as the receptacles and the stems or lower portions of the flowers are concealed by the panels 17. When fresh flowers or foliage are used, the receptacles are filled with water, while in the case of dried flowers or foliage, or artificial flowers or the like, the water, of course, can be dispensed with, or, if desired, the receptacles themselves can be dispensed with.

Obviously, screening material could, if desired, be arranged on both sides of the recep-

tacles 21, as shown at 18^a in Fig. 6, so that the receptacles are concealed from view from either side of the screen. Ordinarily, however, the screening material at one side only of the panels is deemed sufficient, and under such conditions the receptacles are more readily accessible for insertion and removal from the screen.

In Fig. 1, two of the screen sections or units are shown hinged or movably connected together, but the units can be used singly, or more than two may be connected together, as desired.

The screen, constructed as described, is of novel and attractive appearance, particularly when the receptacles are filled with flowers or foliage. The structure, while not being in the nature of a solid or opaque screen, has considerable screening effect, and shields or obscures a desired portion of a room or other place from general observation, while nevertheless admitting some light. The screen with the spaces occupied by the flowers or other similar objects also affords protection from drafts.

Another advantage of such a screen is that it can be made of light weight material, is strong and durable, as well as being unusually attractive. In addition to its use as a screen the structure described could, if desired, be used to display flowers and the like for sale.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A screen unit comprising a frame, a plurality of horizontal screening panels extending across said frame in spaced relation one above the other, each panel having screening material at one side thereof and a horizontal bar extending along the top of said material and which is adapted to support flowers or analogous objects, said bar having a plurality of apertures through which the lower ends of said objects extend and project downwardly back of said screening material so as to be concealed thereby, while the upper portions of said objects project and are displayed in the spaces between and above said panels and coact therewith to form a substantial continuous screen.

2. A screen unit comprising spaced uprights, a plurality of horizontal panels extending between and connected to said up-

rights one above the other and in spaced relation, each of said panels comprising a section of ornamental screening material, and a bar extending along the top edge of said section and overhanging the same at one side, a plurality of relatively slender receptacles, said bar having a row of holes extending downwardly therethrough and through which said receptacles extend back of said panel section so as to be concealed thereby, whereby flowers or analogous objects having their lower ends in said receptacles can be displayed in an attractive manner in the spaces between said sections and coact with said panels to form a substantially continuous screen.

3. A portable screen unit comprising a frame having spaced uprights which are relatively narrow transversely, a plurality of horizontal panels extending between and connected to said uprights one above another and in spaced relation, each of said panels comprising a horizontal cross member of substantially the same transverse dimension as that of said uprights, and a section of ornamental screening material depending from one edge of said member, a plurality of containers, and said member having a plurality of holes extending downwardly therethrough for the reception of said containers which latter depend from said member behind and are concealed by said screening material section, whereby flowers or analogous objects having their lower ends in said receptacles can be displayed in the spaces between said panels and coact with said panels to form a substantially continuous screen.

4. A screen panel comprising a horizontal bar, a plurality of closely spaced vertical rods extending downwardly therefrom along an edge thereof to form a screening area, a second horizontal bar extending along the lower ends of said rods, said first bar having a row of spaced holes extending lengthwise thereof into which the lower ends of flowers or analogous objects extend behind said panel with said flowers or objects displayed above the latter and acting therewith as a screen.

RINKICHI TSUCHII.