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2,491,827

WORKTABLE

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FIG-1

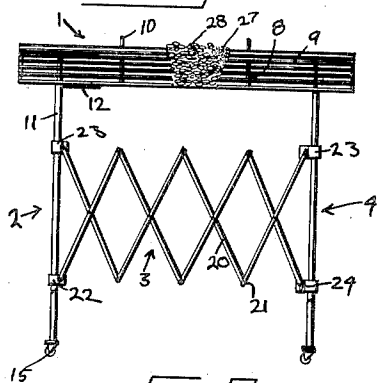


FIG-2

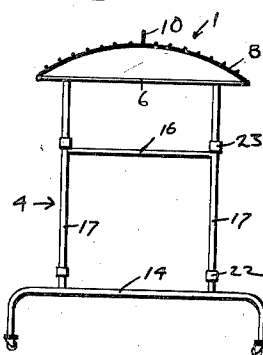


FIG-3

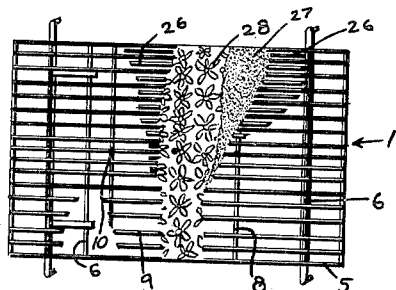


FIG-4

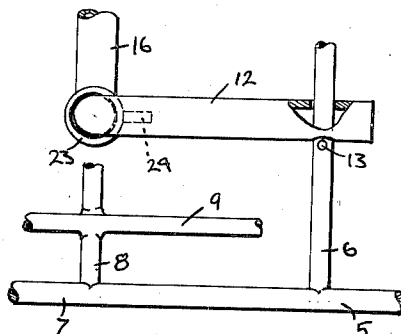


FIG-5

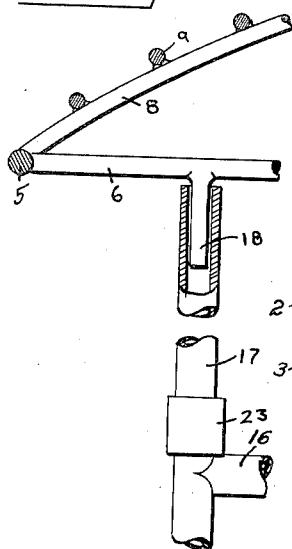
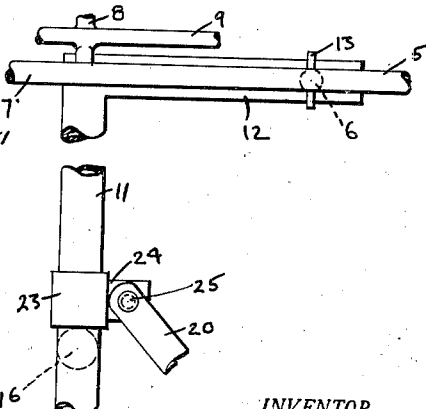


FIG-6



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WORKTABLE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 311—80)

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This invention relates to a work table and more particularly to a collapsible work table for forming floral arrangements.

Florists are often requested to form floral arrangements which are specified to be, in addition to type of flower, etc., of a certain shape in order to conform to the object on which the piece is to be placed. For example, flowers are formed into blankets designed to be placed on caskets or coffins whose lids have a convex shape, and if the piece is not similarly formed, it is unsightly and will not remain in place.

In practice the floral pieces, for constructing which the table is designed, comprise a relatively thick layer or bed of moss or moss-like material. This layer of moss is ordinarily secured to a light wire frame or grid which gives it stability and determines its size to shape. The individual flowers are then woven or secured into or on top of the bed of moss to complete the piece.

In the past attempts have been made to make such floral pieces conform to the shape of the object on which they are to be used. Such attempts have ordinarily comprised make-shift arrangements of blocks and boxes built up to approximate the desired shape. Such methods are clumsy and unreliable and do not ordinarily permit accurate sizing and shaping of the piece.

As a consequence, the present invention comprises a table specifically designed to eliminate these difficulties. As will be seen, the table is formed with a working support, substantially the shape desired, and which, when the table is not in use, may be folded into a small volume to conserve storage space.

Thus, one of the objects of the invention is a florist's work table formed with a preshaped support for forming floral pieces of such predetermined shape.

Another object of the invention is a florist's work table which is provided with an upper support which may be folded into a vertical position for storage.

A further object of the invention is a florist's work table which is made collapsible to conserve storage space when the table is not in use.

And still a further object is a collapsible work table formed with a shaped support on which floral arrangements may be constructed whose shape conforms to the shape of the table.

Although there are a variety of forms of floral pieces required in a normal business, one which is often called for is a blanket for a coffin. The drawings herein illustrate a table for forming such a blanket and these will be described in

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detail below. It is clearly obvious, however, that other shapes and sizes could readily be substituted and that the one illustrated has been chosen only as an example.

5 In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a form of work table for forming a floral piece.

Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the table illustrated in Fig. 1.

10 Fig. 3 is a plan view of the table illustrated in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a partial plan view of the device shown in Fig. 1 showing details of the pivot and extensible construction.

15 Fig. 5 is a partial side elevation of the portion of the device shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a partial sectional end view of the device shown in Fig. 1 showing details of the movable leg section.

20 Fig. 7 is a side elevation of the table illustrated in Fig. 1 in collapsed position for storage.

The form of the invention illustrated in the drawings comprises, in general, a flower supporting member 1, a stationary leg section 2, 25 a pair of extensible elements or lazy-tongs 3 and a second movable leg section 4. The main portions of each of the elements are formed of heavy wire or metal rods, preferably of some light metal.

The flower supporting member is preferably 30 formed as a grid mounted on a frame. The frame comprises a pair of relatively heavy longitudinal rods 5 and a similar pair of transverse rods 6. These are suitably secured together in a rectangle by welding or other convenient means,

35 with the ends, as at 7, of the longitudinal rods extending beyond the points of juncture with the transverse rods 6. Secured to this frame and spaced at intervals along it are a plurality of arched transverse members 8 which extend up-

40 wardly and across the frame in a curve, as can be seen in Fig. 2. This curve is, in the form of invention shown, approximately the same curve as the coffin on which the floral piece will be used. These are secured at their ends, as by 45 welding to the longitudinal rods 7 which form the frame. These arched members are arranged to support a plurality of longitudinally extending rods or wires 9 of substantially smaller diameter and spaced from 1½" to 2" apart across 50 the arch and, together with the arched members 8, form a grid support on which the floral piece can be built. Since, as has been described, the floral piece has a wire grid base, a series of spikes 10 may be positioned along the uppermost of rods 9 over which this wire grid base may be

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placed to secure it against slipping while forming the floral arrangement.

The flower support member is carried at one end by the leg section 2. This section comprises a pair of spaced hollow shafts 11, the upper ends 12 of which are bent over in a direction parallel to the longitudinal rods 5 and 9. Near the extremities of each end section 12 a horizontal hole is drilled of sufficient size to receive one of the transverse rods on the flower support, as can be seen in Fig. 4. The rod 6 is mounted for rotation about its own axis within these holes and is secured against transverse motion by a pair of pins 13 secured to the rod 6 just outwardly of end section 12.

The lower ends of the leg shafts 11 are joined by a lower horizontal cross member 14 secured to each shaft and extending outwardly therefrom and to the ends of which are secured a pair of conventional casters 15. In addition to cross member 14, a similar upper cross member 16 is provided to insure stability.

The opposite leg section 4 comprises a pair of shafts 17, similar to shafts 11 and is provided with identical cross members 14, 16 and casters 15.

The leg shafts 17 are terminated at their upper ends just below the point at which the opposed leg shafts 11 are bent over to form end sections 12. This construction permits the hollow upper ends to receive a pair of pins 18 secured, as by welding, to the adjacent transverse rod 6, as can be seen in Fig. 6. In this manner, the flower support 1 is securely and levelly supported at its ends by the leg sections 2, 4.

The two leg sections are joined, in the form shown in the drawings by a pair of conventional lazy-tongs 3. These tongs comprise a plurality of bar members 20 pivoted for movement at their ends and centers about pivots 21 in a conventional manner. The end of each tong is secured to the leg shafts 11 (or 17) by means of a pair of collars 22, 23 surrounding the shafts. The lower collar 22, in each case is fixedly secured to the shaft, but the upper collar 23 is mounted slidably thereon at a point above cross member 16. Each of the collars is provided with an ear 24 to which the end of the tong bars 20 is secured by means of a pivot 25.

The tongs 3 are arranged so that as leg section 4 is moved outwardly from leg section 2, the collars 23 will strike the upper cross members 16 (or the leg sections) and prevent further extension. The number and size of bars 20, forming the tongs are so arranged that this action will occur when leg section 4 has been extended to a point for proper engagement of pins 18 with leg shafts 17. In addition, the size of the tongs is so chosen that when they are entirely collapsed, the leg section 4 will be positioned substantially under transverse member 6 in the flower support 1 about which the latter is arranged to pivot.

In operation, the table is normally used with the flower support in a horizontal position with the lazy-tongs 3 extended and with the pins 18 positioned in the upper hollow ends of leg shafts 17, as can be seen in Figs. 1, 2, 3. While in this position the wire grill 26 is placed on the flower support with the spikes 10 extending through the holes in said grill. Over the grill 26 is positioned a layer of moss 27 which serves as a bed for the flowers 28 laid on or woven therein. When the grill, moss and flowers have been properly secured together in a conventional manner, they are lifted and removed as a unitary floral piece.

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When the floral piece has been removed, the flower supporting section 1 is lifted at one end to disengage pins 18 from leg shafts 17, and the whole leg section 4 is moved toward and against leg section 2 into the position shown in Fig. 7, with the lazy-tongs 3 in collapsed position. This permits the flower support 1 to be rotated about its horizontal axis along transverse member 6, mounted in the ends 12 of shafts 11 to a vertical position closely adjacent the leg section 4. In this position, the entire table occupies very small space and may be conveniently stored.

I claim:

1. A horizontally disposed, substantially rectangular work table for use in making a flower covering for a casket having a pair of legs adjacent each end thereof, one pair of which is movable toward the other pair to a collapsed position; lazy tongs connecting said pairs of legs and secured thereto to permit said movement; a convexly curved grill pivotally secured near one end thereof to one of said pairs of legs for swinging said grill about a horizontal axis when said pairs of legs are in collapsed position whereby said grill is adapted to be tilted bodily relative to said pairs of legs; locking means on said grill and the other pair of legs for securing said grill in fixed position when said grill is horizontally disposed; means on said grill for supporting said flower covering against slippage.

2. A work table comprising a horizontally disposed, elongated grill, a first horizontal cross bar below said grill at one end extending transversely thereof and rigidly secured thereto, a pair of depending stub posts secured to said bar adjacent its ends, a second horizontal cross bar below said grill rigidly secured thereto at its opposite end and parallel with said first cross bar, a first pair of legs pivotally connected with said second cross bar adjacent one of their ends for swinging from a position at right angles to said grill to a position parallel therewith, a second pair of legs having upwardly opening recesses at their upper ends adapted to receive said posts therein coaxial therewith, and lazy tong-links connecting said second pair of legs with said first pair for moving said second pair of legs to collapsed position alongside said first pair when said second pair of legs are removed from said posts, means for pivotally connecting said first pair of legs to said first cross bar including extensions secured to said one end of said legs and extending at right angles thereto, and the outer ends of said extensions being swingably secured to said first cross bar.

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