

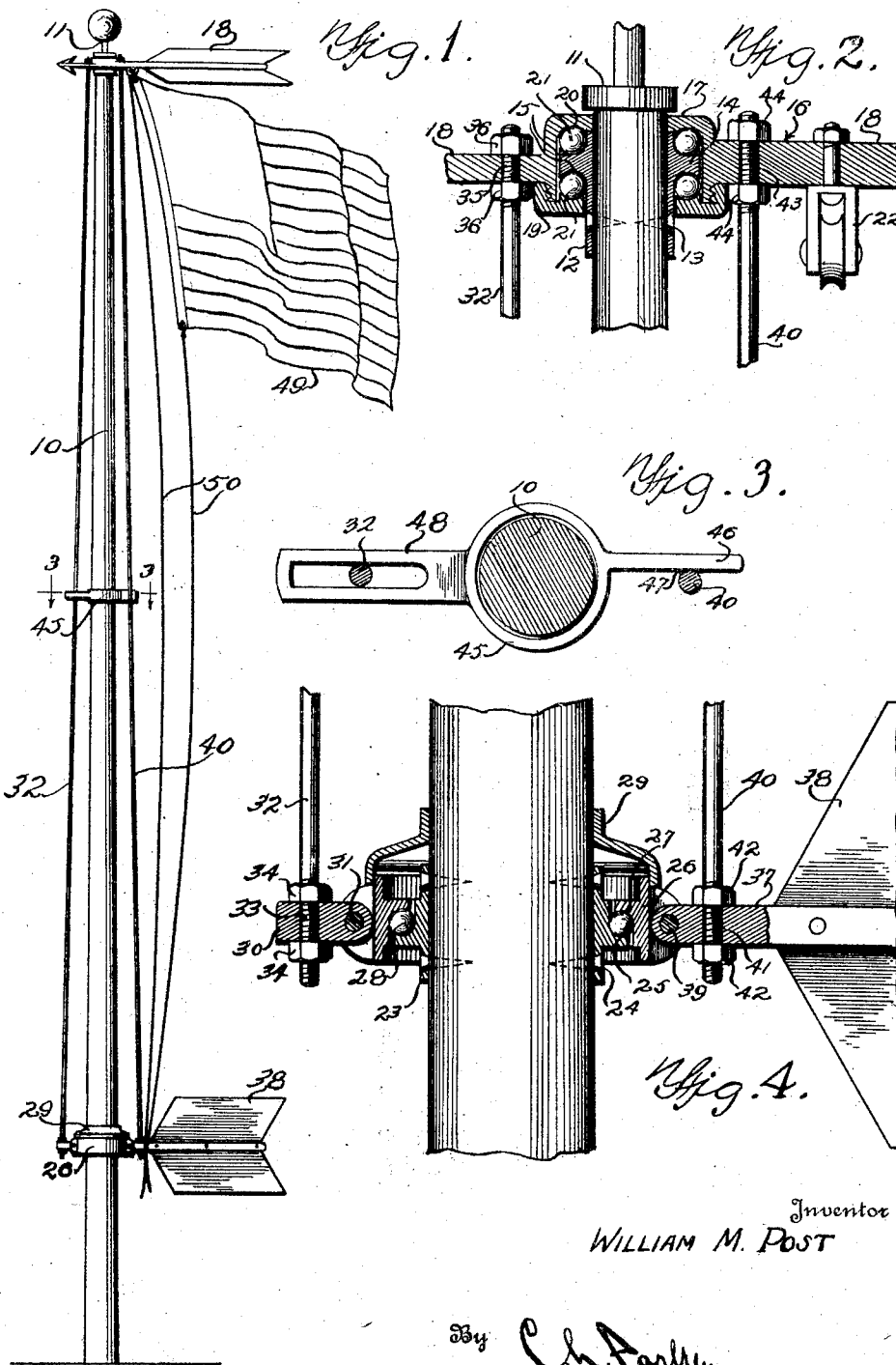
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W. M. POST

FLAGSTAFF

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FLAGSTAFF.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. POST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hood River, in the county of Hood River and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flag-staffs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to flag staffs and more particularly to a flag mounting means adapted for connection with flag staffs of varying heights.

An important object of the invention is to provide means for preventing the halyards of flag staffs from fouling or becoming entangled with the flag staff as the wind varies and swings the flag to different positions with respect to the staff.

A further object of the invention is the provision of rotatable means mounting adjacent the upper end of the flag staff and adapted to support the flag and secondary rotating means arranged near the lower end of the staff and adapted to swing simultaneously with the upper rotating member, the halyards being secured at their free ends adjacent the lower rotating member to rotate therewith.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the above mentioned character provided with means for semi-rigidly connecting the upper and lower rotating means whereby they are caused to positively rotate simultaneously, means being provided for permitting limited flexing of the connecting means when the flag staff bends due to the pressure of the wind.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the drawings I have shown one embodiment of the invention. In this showing,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a flag staff embodying the invention,

Figure 2 is a central vertical sectional view through the upper end of the flag staff and associated elements,

Figure 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1, and,

Figure 4 is a central vertical sectional view through the lower rotating member and associated elements.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 10 designates a flag staff of the usual construction provided with an ornamental cap member 11 at its upper end.

A bearing member 12 is secured adjacent the upper end of the flag staff by screws or the like 13. The member 12 surrounds the flag staff as shown and is provided with an annular flange 14 provided with upper and lower ball races 15. The numeral 16 designates a rotatable member as a whole comprising a hub portion 17 and an indicating vane 18. The hub 17 is provided with a screw-threaded cap 19 and the inner faces of the hub 17 and cap 19 are provided with ball races 20 adapted to receive ball bearings 21 whereby the rotatable member 16 is adapted to freely revolve about the axis of the flag staff. The member 16 is provided to one side with a suitable block 22 for a purpose to be described.

The flag staff is provided adjacent its lower end with a bearing member 23 secured to the flag staff by screws 24 or the like and provided with a ball race 25 as shown in Figure 3. A rotatable member 26 surrounds the bearing member 23 and is provided with a ball race 27. Ball bearings 28 are arranged within the races 25 and 27 as shown whereby the rotatable member 26 is adapted to rotate freely about the axis of the staff. A cap 29 may be provided as shown in Figure 4 to prevent water and the like from coming in contact with the bearing members.

One side of the rotatable member 26 is provided with an ear 30 pivotally connected therewith by a pin 31 whereby the member 30 is adapted to swing in a vertical plane. A rod 32 is arranged to project through a vertical opening 33 in the member 30 as shown in Figure 4 and nuts 34 are threaded on the rod to secure it to the ear 30. The upper end of the rod 32 passes through an aperture 35 arranged in the vane 18 as shown in Fig. 2 and nuts 36 are employed for securing the rod to the vane.

The member 26 is provided opposite the ear 30 and a vane 37 having a blade 38 as shown in Figure 4. The vane 37 is pivotally connected as at 39 with the rotatable member 26 to swing in a vertical plane. A rod 40 passes through an aperture 41 in the vane 37 and is provided with nuts 42 whereby it may be fixed against movement with respect to the vane 37. The upper end of the rod 40 passes through the aperture 43 in the vane 18 as shown in Figure 2 and is provided with nuts 44 to secure it in proper position.

As shown in Figures 1 and 3 a collar 45 surrounds the flag staff intermediate its ends and is provided with a lateral extension 46 to which the rod 40 may be welded or otherwise secured as shown at 47. The opposite side of the collar 45 is provided with a fork 48 between the arms of which the rod 32 passes.

As shown in Figure 1 a flag 49 connected to the usual halyards 50 is adapted to be hoisted in position on the flag staff. The halyard is adapted to pass through the block 22 as will be obvious and the lower ends of the halyards may be tied or otherwise secured to the vane 37 as will be obvious.

The operation of the device is as follows:

The flag 49 is hoisted in position in the usual manner and is arranged toward the same side of the flag staff as the blades of the vanes 18 and 37. As the wind shifts, it will be obvious that the rotatable members 14 and 26 will move simultaneously by virtue of the action of the vanes and because of the fact that they are secured together by the rods 32 and 40 which are preferably relatively stiff. It will be obvious that the flag may freely shift its position according to the direction from which the wind is blowing and the halyards will also rotate so that they will not become fouled with the flag staff. The collar 45 is preferably employed in connection with relatively long flag staffs but may be omitted when the device is used in connection with shorter staffs. If the device were employed in connection with tall staffs without the collar 45 the rod 40 would, under extreme conditions of wind pressure, bind against the staff due to the bending of the latter. The extension 46 prevents inward movement of the rod 40 while the collar 45 permits free rotation without binding. The members 30 and 37 are pivotally connected to the lower rotatable member 26 to permit them to move upwardly or downwardly slightly when the staff 10 flexes

due to wind pressure and slightly changes the distances between the upper and lower ends of the rods.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A device of the character described comprising a rotatable member surrounding a flag staff adjacent its upper end, a block carried by said rotatable member to receive the halyards of a flag, a second rotatable member surrounding the flag staff adjacent its lower end, a member pivotally connected with said lower rotatable member to swing in a vertical plane, and a rod connected at its upper end to said upper rotatable member and at its lower end to said pivotally connected member.

2. A device of the character described comprising a rotatable member surrounding a flag staff adjacent its upper end, a block carried by said rotatable member to one side of the staff to receive the halyards of a flag, a second rotatable member surrounding the flag staff adjacent its lower end, a pair of diametrically opposite rods connected between said rotatable members substantially parallel to the flag staff, one of said rods being arranged toward the same side of the staff as said block, and a collar loosely surrounding the flag staff intermediate said rotatable members, said collar being provided with an extension secured to said last named rod and being further provided with a second extension having a slot receiving the other of said rods.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM M. POST.