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L. L. RIPCZINSKE

CHRISTMAS TREE SUPPORT AND WATER CONTAINER

Filed Jan. 25, 1922

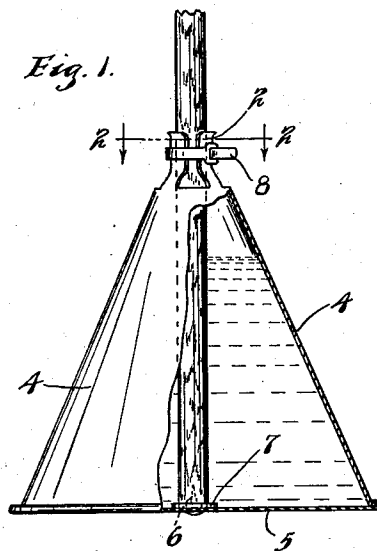


Fig. 2.

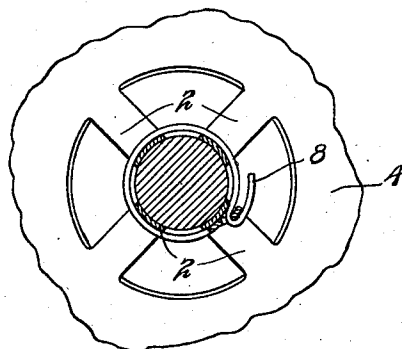


Fig. 3.

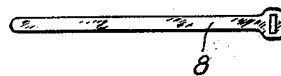


Fig. 4.

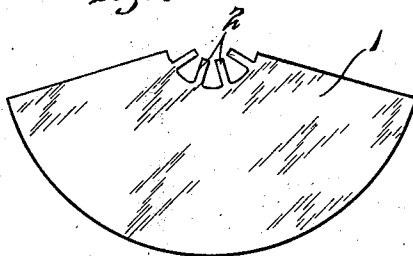
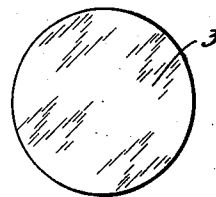


Fig. 5.



INVENTOR.
LAMBERT L. RIPCZINSKE.
BY HIS ATTORNEY.

James F. Williamson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAMBERT L. RIPCZINSKE, BY CHANGE OF NAME LAMBERT L. RAYMOND, OF ROBBINSDALE, MINNESOTA.

CHRISTMAS-TREE SUPPORT AND WATER CONTAINER.

Application filed January 25, 1922. Serial No. 531,575.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAMBERT L. RIPCZINSKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Robbinsdale, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Christmas-Tree Supports and Water Containers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a tree holder and the method of making the same, and the device is particularly designed for holding Christmas trees.

It is an object of this invention to provide a very simple, easily constructed and inexpensive holder for a Christmas tree.

It is a further object of the invention to provide such a holder in the form of a closed receptacle having means at spaced points for holding the tree firmly in upright position and also being adapted to contain water.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the different views, and in which,

Fig. 1 is a view partly in central vertical section and partly in elevation of the device;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on an enlarged scale, taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, as indicated by the arrows;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the holding member forming part of the device;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the blank from which the sides of the receptacle are formed; and

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a blank forming the base of the receptacle.

Referring to the drawings, the holder, as shown in Fig. 1, is seen to comprise a conical vessel having a base of large diameter, which vessel is adapted to hold a liquid, such as water, as illustrated. The device having a wide base will have great stability and will not easily be tipped over.

The device is constructed by forming a blank of sheet metal material designated as 1 in Fig. 4, which blank is shaped substantially as the sector of a circle. This blank

is cut away near its central portion to form radially extending rectangular prongs 2. A circular blank 3, as shown in Fig. 5, is also formed of sheet material. The blank 1 is then folded into curved form with its outer edge substantially in contact with the edge of the blank 3, thus bringing the radial sides of the blank into slightly overlapping relation. The radial sides are then secured together by solder or other suitable means and the bottom edge of the blank is, likewise, secured to the edge of the disk or blank 3. When so curved and connected, the conical vessel having the sides 4 and base 5, as shown in Fig. 1, is formed. If desired, the edge of the blank 3 may be bent up, as shown in Fig. 1 to form an abutment for the bottom of the sides 4 and a convenient holding means for the solder. When the vessel is formed, the prongs 2, as shown in Fig. 1, upstand from the upper edge and surround the narrow opening at the top thereof. A pointed headed member 6 is passed through the center of the bottom 5 with its point projecting upwardly into the vessel. This member may be a screw or merely a plain pointed and headed pin. The head of the member 6 will be of small thickness and will be disposed on the outside or bottom of the member 5 and substantially in the plane thereof and a packing member 7 is provided about the member 6 inside of the vessel to prevent the leakage of liquid around the same.

When the device is to be used to hold a tree, the trunk of the same will be inserted through the small opening at the top of the device and will have its end squared off to rest on the member 7. The trunk will be firmly seated with the pointed end of member 6 embedded therein. The prongs 2 will then be drawn together into close contact with the said trunk. The material used is such that the prongs will be somewhat resilient. While various means might be used to hold the prongs into contact, it will be found that a strap member 8, as shown in Fig. 3 having a somewhat enlarged and transversely slotted head forms a very efficient holding means. This member is wrapped around the ends of the prongs, as shown in Fig. 1, and the end thereof passed through the slot in its other end. The device is then drawn tight and the strap bent sharply backward. The device is pref-

erably made of sheet metal so that when so bent it will be held firmly in position and yet can be readily removed by merely straightening the end and allowing the same to pass again through the slot.

From the above description it is seen that applicant has provided a very simple and efficient holder. The tree is held at comparatively widely spaced points so that a good leverage is obtained for holding the same in erect position. As stated, the device is formed with a wide base and when almost filled with water, as it will be in use, has sufficient weight to prevent the tipping or upsetting thereof. The use of water in connection with the Christmas tree is very desirable as it prevents for a longer period the dropping of the leaves therefrom. In practice, the device may, of course, be painted or finished both inside and outside, as desired.

When the tree is inserted in the vessel, as shown in Fig. 1, the vessel is substantially closed. Dust and dirt cannot therefore settle in the water, nor will dry leaves, which might drop from the tree fall therein to foul the water. The water is not accessible and children playing about the tree cannot get themselves wet by playing in the same. Furthermore, the water will not quickly evaporate as it would from an open ended cylindrical vessel.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details and proportions of the parts without departing from the scope of applicant's in-

vention, which generally stated, consists in the matter shown and described and set forth in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A tree holding device comprising a conical container adapted to hold liquid and having a flat bottom adapted to rest upon a surface and form a stable support, a tree holding means in the bottom of said container, the sides of said container at its upper and smaller end being continued as strips and means for drawing said strips into close engagement with said tree trunk disposed in said container, thus constituting an adjustable holding means for holding tree trunks of different diameters and substantially closing the top of said container.

2. A device for supporting and watering a Christmas tree comprising a conical vessel having a comparatively wide base forming a stable support, said vessel having its interior substantially unobstructed, means centrally disposed at the bottom of said vessel for holding the bottom of a tree trunk irrespective of the size of said trunk, spaced means at the top of said vessel extending upwardly therefrom, said last mentioned means being adjustable to the size of said tree trunk, and means for holding said last mentioned means in position whereby a substantially closed vessel is formed adapted to hold tree trunks of different diameters.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LAMBERT L. RIPCZINSKE.