Aug. 1, 1933. C. O. DAUM 1,920,551

WREATH STRUCTURE

Filed Jan. 14, 1932

Fig. 1.

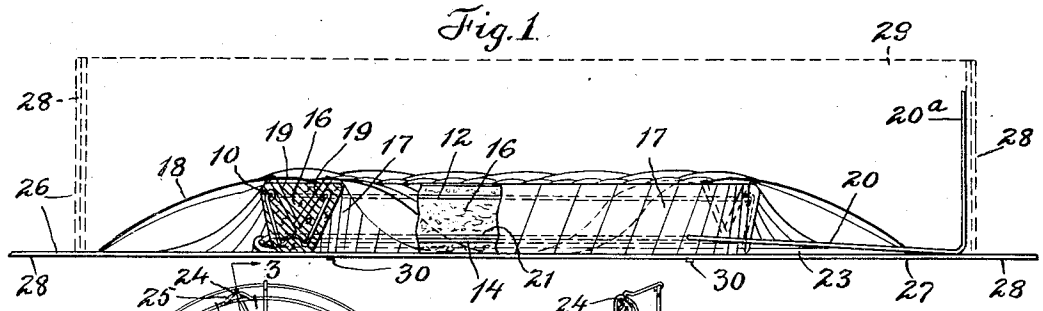


Fig. 2.

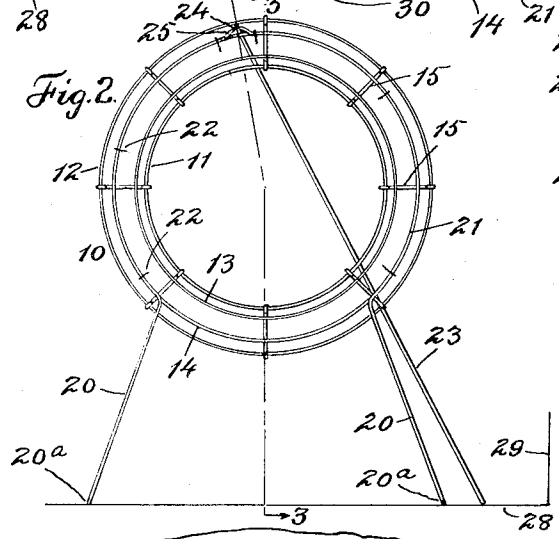


Fig. 3.

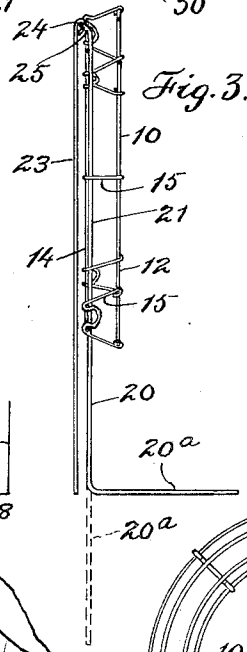
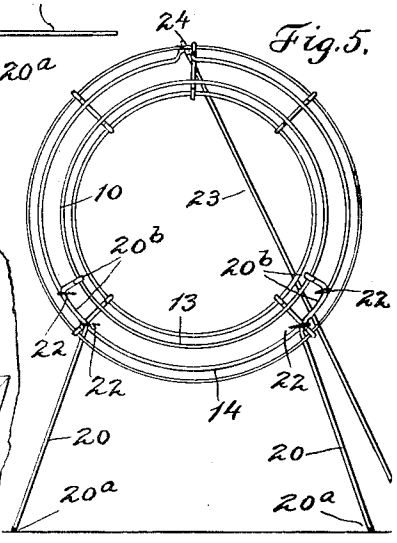


Fig. 5.



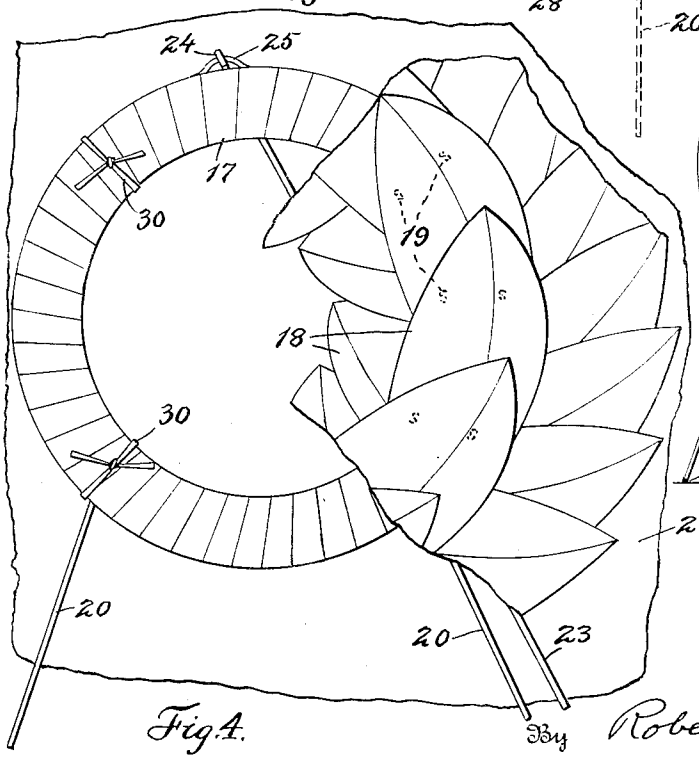


Fig. 4.

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1,920,551

WREATH STRUCTURE

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Application January 14, 1932. Serial No. 586,606

9 Claims. (Cl. 41—12)

This invention relates to wreath structures for memorial and ornamental purposes, and it has for its principal object to provide an improved combination wreath and easel device, especially one including a cushion to which the artificial wreath leaves are attached, and also to provide an improved combination frame and easel structure for such a device. A further object is to provide an improved shipping package including a device of this character.

Of the accompanying drawing, Fig. 1 is a side elevation, partly broken away and in section, showing the complete wreath and easel structure in the partly made-up package.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the combined wreath-frame and easel structure with easel parts disposed as though lying in the package.

Fig. 3 is a cross section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a partial plan view of the device as though lying in the package, showing a portion of the wreath.

Fig. 5 is a front elevation of a modified form of combined wreath-frame and easel structure.

Memorial wreaths are commonly made with an annular trough-shaped skeleton wire frame containing a cushion filling of sphagnum moss or equivalent stuffing, together with a paper wrapping around the frame and stuffing and a facing of artificial leaves pinned to the cushion. Such wreaths when in use are mounted upon a wire easel which is furnished as a separate structure requiring a somewhat troublesome operation for attaching it to the wreath. My present invention dispenses with the separate easel and the attendant handling and attaching operations on the part of sellers and users by providing a wreath structure having easel members permanently incorporated therewith, which may be put together in a factory, thus greatly adding to the convenience of the users and dispensers of such products besides furnishing an article of superior attractiveness and durability when in use.

Referring at first to Figs. 1 to 4, 10 is an annular trough-shaped skeleton wire frame of known type comprising parallel concentric front rings 11, 12, parallel concentric back rings 13, 14, spaced closer together than the front rings, and a series of connecting cross bars 15 having their ends bent around the front rings and their intermediate portions provided with loops for retaining the rear rings. The frame 10 is adapted to contain and support an annular stuffing or filler 16 of sphagnum moss or the like and to receive a wrapping 17 of flexible material such as paper which surrounds the frame and stuffing and is applied in the form of a helically-wound strip, the stuffing and wrapping together forming an impaling cushion to which the artificial leaves constituting the wreath 18 are attached by means of fastenings 19 somewhat like hairpins.

With the frame 10 I combine easel members consisting of a pair of legs and a rear prop. The legs 20 may be constituted by the end portions of a single stout wire whose intermediate portion is bent in the form of an arcuate loop 21 lying within the frame, at the back thereof, and following the contour of said frame. This loop preferably lies immediately over the rear outer frame ring 14 and is permanently secured thereto in any suitable manner, as by means of small wire ties 22 placed at intervals and having their ends twisted together, or by soldering, spot-welding or otherwise. The legs proper are bent downwardly from this loop and somewhat spread, as illustrated. The rear prop 23 is in the form of a straight, stout wire having its upper end pivotally connected at 24 with the upper part of the frame 10, as by bending said end in the form of a loop around an offset portion 25 of the leg-anchoring loop 21 which projects diagonally in an upward and rearward direction. Thus I provide a combined cushion-receiving frame and easel in which the anchorage of the legs is contained within the frame and the lower portion of said frame between the legs constitutes a cross brace for the easel.

In making up this device, I prefer to build it into a shipping package in the following manner. The cushion filling 16 is stuffed into the frame 10 and the paper wrapping 17, in strip form, is wound helically around the frame and cushion and its end suitably fastened. The turns of the wrapping adjacent to the legs and to the prop connection with the frame avoid these members so that the latter project through the wrapping. A knockdown box 26 of suitable material such as paper-board including a corrugated filler is provided, having a back or bottom wall 27 and foldable sides 28, 29 which originally lie out flat but may be bent up as indicated in broken lines in Fig. 1, and fastened together at the corners. On the upper side of the bottom-forming portion 27 of this box, while in opened-out or flat form, is laid the wire frame and easel structure having the cushion applied thereto. For stowing the frame compactly, the easel prop 23 is folded to lie against the stuffed frame, between the latter and the box bottom, and is turned aside toward

one of the box corners as indicated in Fig. 2, while the ground-impaling extremities 20[a] of the legs 20 are bent forwardly or upwardly at right angles to the upper leg portions so as to lie parallel with the adjacent box wall 28 when the box is completed as indicated in Figs. 1 and 3, said extremities being bendable to the straightened position indicated in broken lines in Fig. 3 when the device is to be put into use. The stuffed frame is then bound to the box bottom 27 by suitable ties 30 of tape or cord passed through holes in said box bottom and having their ends knotted over the upper side of the cushion wrapping 17 as best seen in Fig. 4. The wreath leaves 18 are then pinned to the cushion 16, 17 as indicated in Fig. 1 and at the right in Fig. 4, the box sides are turned up and fastened at the corners, a box cover is applied and the shipping package is then complete.

When the article is to be used, it may be quickly released by cutting the ties 30 on the outside of the box bottom with a knife or scissors, removed from the box and the severed ties either pulled out or left in place, whereupon the leg extremities 20[a] are straightened out and they and the prop, forming a tripod easel base, are then ready for insertion in the ground.

In Fig. 5 I have represented a modification in which the looped intermediate portion of the leg structure is dispensed with and the legs 20 are structurally separate and provided with anchoring portions 20[b] wired by ties 22 to the rear outer frame ring 14 and their end portions bent inwardly at right angles and looped around the rear inner frame ring 13, the prop 23 in this case being pivoted at 24 directly to the upper back part of the frame 10, on an offset portion of said ring 14.

Various other modifications may be made without departing from the scope of my invention as defined in the claims.

I claim:

1. A wreath structure comprising a frame having easel members incorporated therewith, a cushion including a stuffing in said frame and a wrapping enclosing the frame and stuffing and the anchorage of certain of said easel members, and a wreath attached to said cushion.

2. A wreath structure comprising an annular frame having legs and a prop forming an easel therewith, a cushion including an annular stuffing in said frame and a wrapping for said frame and stuffing, through which the legs and the prop connection project, and a wreath attached to the cushion.

3. An easel frame for wreaths comprising an annular skeleton frame structure adapted to enclose a cushion stuffing and to receive an external wrapping, and members permanently incorporated with said frame and forming an easel therewith.

4. An easel frame for wreaths comprising an annular skeleton frame, a wire leg structure attached therewith and having an arcuate loop following the contour of said frame and terminating in leg portions, and a prop connected with said frame.

5. An easel frame for wreaths comprising an annular, trough-shaped, skeleton frame, a wire leg structure having an arcuate loop portion located within said frame and attached to the back thereof and terminal leg portions, and a wire prop pivotally attached to said loop portion.

6. An easel frame for wreaths comprising an annular troughed frame adapted to contain a cushion stuffing and to receive an external cushion wrapping, a prop, and a pair of structurally separate legs having angularly bent anchoring portions fastened to the back of said frame.

7. A combined easel and wreath article comprising an annular cushion-receiving frame, a cushion thereon, a wreath attached to said cushion, and easel members projecting from said frame and including a pivoted prop and wire legs having extremities extending forwardly for packing the article and bendable downwardly for insertion in the ground.

8. A wreath package comprising a box body, a combined wreath and easel structure including a cushion-receiving frame having ground-impaling easel members displaced from their operative positions to compact the structure, a cushion on said frame, a wreath attached to said cushion, and severable ties applied around the cushion, between the latter and the wreath, and binding said structure to the bottom of the box body.

9. A wreath package comprising a box body, a combined wreath and easel structure including a frame having a ground-impaling prop pivoted thereto and swung aside toward a corner of the box, between the frame and the bottom of the box body, and easel legs with forwardly-projecting extremities bendable downwardly for insertion in the ground, and severable ties binding said structure to the back of the box body.

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