Feb. 7, 1956 C. M. MOORE, JR 2,733,549

COMBINATION TABLE TYPE AND CEMETERY VASE

Filed Jan. 16, 1953

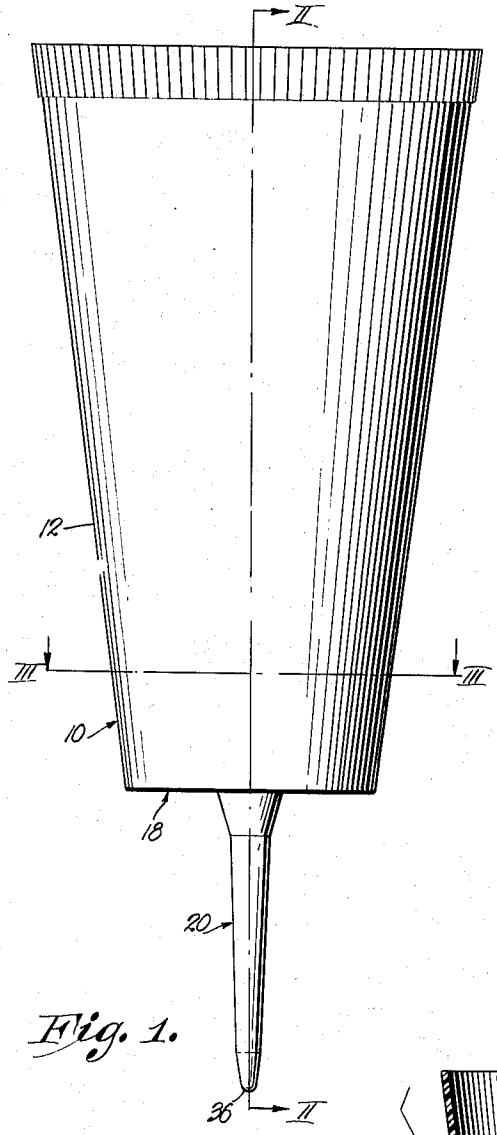


Fig. 1.

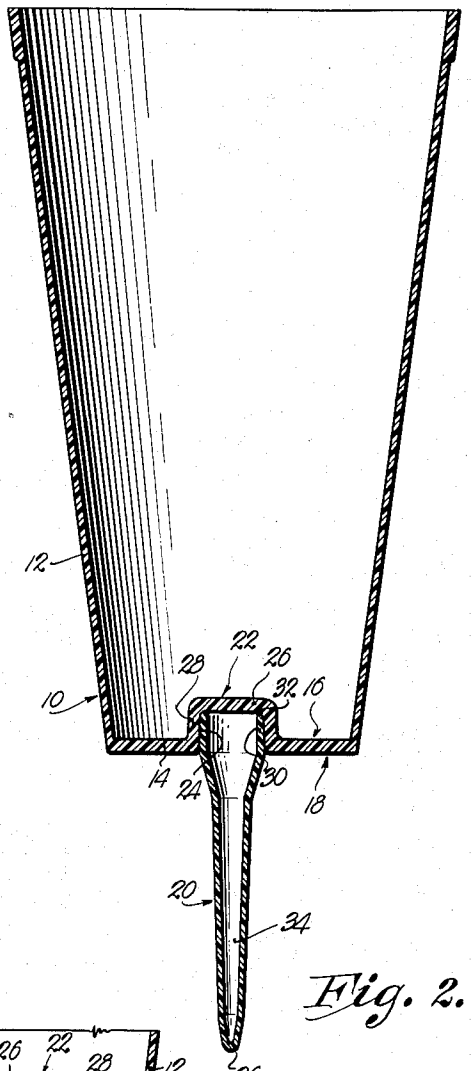


Fig. 2.

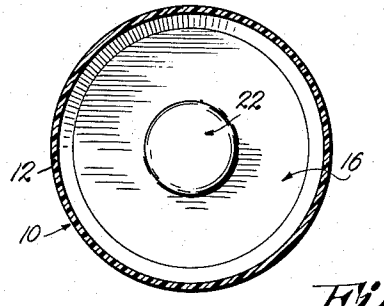


Fig. 3.

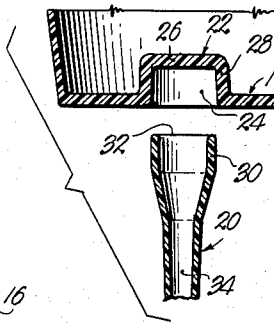


Fig. 4.

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2,733,549

Patented Feb. 7, 1956

2,733,549

COMBINATION TABLE TYPE AND CEMETERY VASE

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Application January 16, 1953, Serial No. 331,581

1 Claim. (Cl. 47—41)

This invention relates to improvements in vases, and particularly to those types of containers adapted and conventionally employed for holding flowers, ferns and similar decorative flora within a quantity of water.

It is the primary object of the present invention to provide a combination table type and cemetery vase that includes a ground-piercing element in the usual manner, adapting the vase for cemetery use, but which element is readily removable from the vase, whereby to adapt the same for table use as may be desired.

It has heretofore been necessary for florists to utilize one type of vase for delivery of flowers to the home or to hospitals, and to provide a still different type of vase adapted for cemetery use in that the same include ground-piercing means to maintain the vase in an upright position at the grave side.

It is the most important object of the present invention, therefore, to completely eliminate these problems by providing a vase having means in the bottom thereof for removably receiving a ground-piercing pin, so that the vase may be used in the home or in the hospital by virtue of the fact that the provision of the pin and the mounting means therefor does not adversely affect the ability of the vase to rest upon a flat surface when the pin is removed.

Other objects include the way in which the structure for removably mounting the pin on the vase serves to prevent tight wedging of the vases, one within another, when so positioned for storage or shipment; the way in which the ground-piercing element is removably wedged within a socket formed in the bottom of the vase; the manner of making the pin tubular and open at its top so that the same is adapted for receiving individual flower stems; and many more minor objects to be hereinafter made clear.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a combination table type and cemetery vase made pursuant to the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a central, vertical, cross-sectional view taken on line II—II of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse, cross-sectional view taken on line III—III of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary, cross-sectional view similar to Fig. 2, but showing the ground-piercing element extended from the vase and removed from the socket of the vase provided therefor.

As is clear in the drawing, the hollow, open top flower vase forming a part of the present invention, and broadly designated by the numeral **10**, has a frusto-conical side wall **12** and a bottom wall **14** that is preferably of greater thickness, and therefore of greater strength, than the side wall **12**, as is clear in Figs. 2 and 4. Bottom wall **14** is provided with an uppermost or innermost surface **16** and a flat, outermost or bottom surface **18**, all to the end that when a ground-piercing element **20** is removed from the vase **10**, as shown in Fig. 4, the vase **10** will rest upon any flat surface, such as a table. Accordingly, when the element or pin **20** is not used, vase **10** may be employed to contain flowers and the like, together with a quantity of water, since the side wall **12** and the bottom wall **14** are imperforate. It is contemplated, therefore, that the vase **10** be employed by the florist as desired or needed to make delivery of flowers to the home, to the hospital, or to other points of use wherein it is desired that the vase **10** be capable of resting upon its flat bottom surface **18** on a suitable support.

By virtue of the provision of pin **20**, however, the vase **10** is adapted for cemetery use, and to this end there is provided an open bottom member **22** within the vase **10** forming an integral part of the bottom wall **14** and presenting therefore a downwardly facing socket **24**. The member **22**, centrally disposed within the bottom wall **14**, has a flat top wall **26** spaced above the bottom wall **14** in parallelism with the faces **16** and **18** thereof, and a frusto-conical side wall **28** that may have substantially the same angularity as that of the side wall **12**, with the socket **24** progressively decreasing in diameter as the top wall **26** is approached.

The pin **20** is adapted for wedging tightly in the socket **24** in frictional engagement with the inner face of the wall **28**, and to this end the pin **20** is provided with a cylindrical portion **30**, presenting an annular, flat, uppermost end or edge **32**. When the cylindrical portion **30** is within the socket **24**, the lowermost face of the wall **26** rests flatly upon the annular edge **32**. The pin **20** is preferably hollow and open at its uppermost end, but otherwise imperforate. The cylindrical portion **30** merges into an elongated, tapering length **34** that terminates in a pointed, lowermost end **36**. Accordingly, when the pin **20** is attached to the vase **10**, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, it may be forced into the ground with the lowermost, flat surface **18** resting flatly on the ground, whereby the vase and its contained water and flowers are supported as desired.

It is contemplated that the manufacturer supply the florist with the vases **10** each having a pin **20** therefor. The florist may thereupon utilize the pin **20** only when the vase is to be delivered to or used at the cemetery.

By virture of the fact, further, that the pin **20** is hollow and adapted to contain water, it may be advantageously used as a means for additive decoration for planters and the like. The pin **20** may be inserted in the soil of a planter or potted plant, filled with water, and thereupon used to receive the stem of a cut flower, which will lend attractiveness to the planter during the life of the cut flower within the pin **20**. By virtue of the fact that the cavity **24** is of a frusto-conical nature, the pin **20** will engage therewithin in a tight manner and yet be readily removable as desired.

It is seen further that the construction hereof adapts itself for manufacture from many materials, and to this end, in the interest of attractiveness, inexpensiveness, and ease of use by the florist, a suitable plastic material might well be used.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

In combination, a pair of receptacles each adapted to contain water, one of said receptacles comprising an open top flower vase provided with a frusto-conical side wall and an imperforate, normally horizontal bottom wall having a greater thickness than the side wall, there being an open bottom, centrally disposed hollow member extending upwardly into the vase entirely above the lowermost face of the bottom wall, the outside diameter of said member being appreciably less than the diameter of said side wall adjacent the bottom wall, said member having a side wall integral with the bottom wall and provided with a frusto-conical interior face, and a flat top wall integral with said side wall of the mem-

ber and parallel with said bottom wall, presenting a downwardly facing socket, permanently closed by said top wall and progressively decreasing in diameter as the top wall is approached, the other of said receptacles comprising an elongated, open top element, tubular throughout its length and provided with a frusto-conical, ground-piercing pin having a pointed, lowermost, closed end, there being a cylindrical portion integral with the uppermost end of said pin wedged tightly into the socket in frictional engagement with said interior face, said cylindrical portion having a flat, annular uppermost edge, the outside diameter of said cylindrical portion being substantially the same as the maximum diameter of said socket, said top wall resting on said flat edge, said lowermost outer face of the bottom wall being flat, adapting the same for resting flatly upon the ground when said pin is forced into the ground and for resting flatly on supporting surfaces when the vase is removed from said element, leaving the latter inserted in the ground to receive flowers and water.

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