June 11, 1957 R. E. BRUCE 2,795,124

ORNAMENTAL CANDELABRUM

Filed Feb. 1, 1956 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

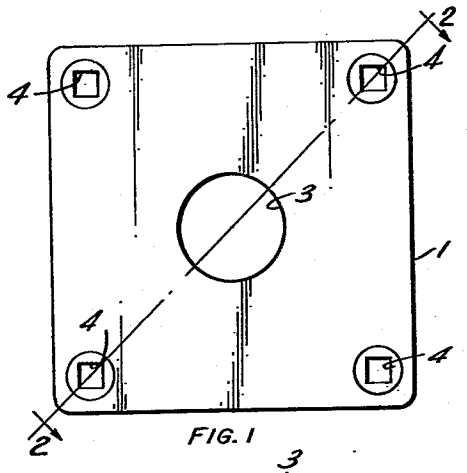


FIG. 1

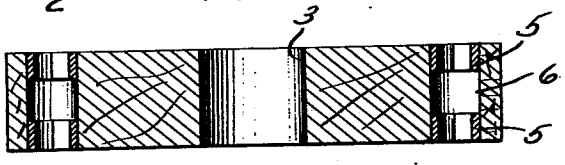


FIG. 2

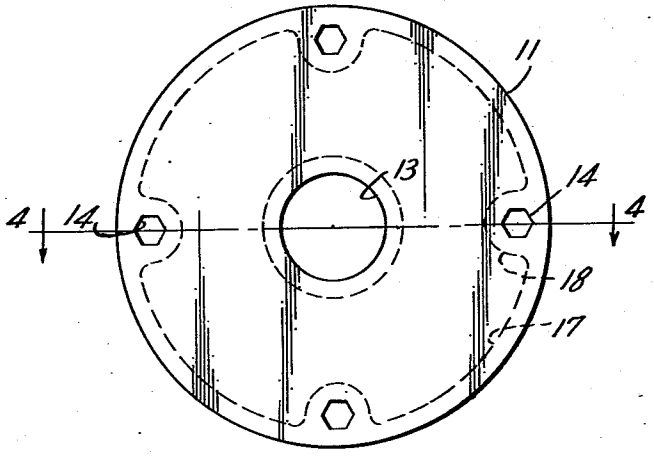


FIG. 3

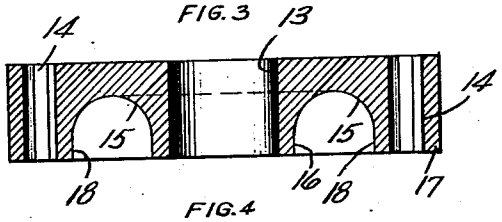


FIG. 4

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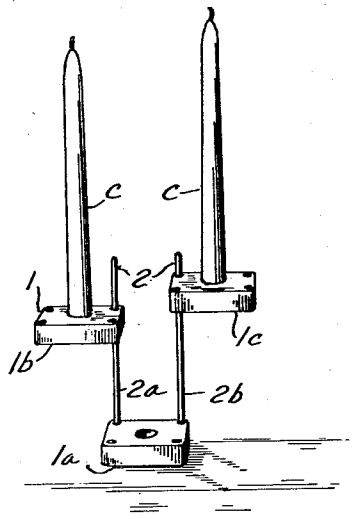


FIG. 5

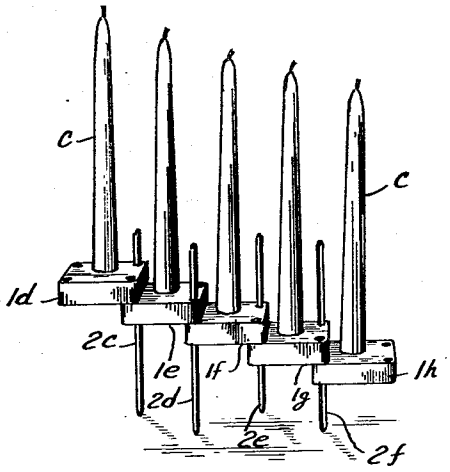


FIG. 6

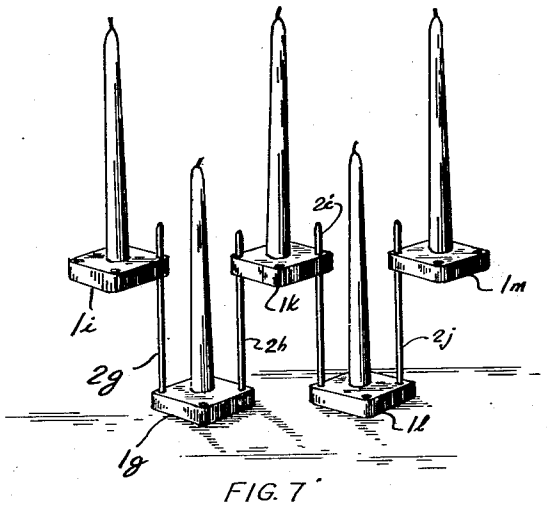


FIG. 7

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2,795,124

ORNAMENTAL CANDELABRUM

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Application February 1, 1956, Serial No. 562,747

4 Claims. (Cl. 67—25)

The present invention relates to novel and ornamental candlesticks which can be assembled into artistic arrangements to form a candelabrum.

It has heretofore been customary to make candelabra completely assembled so that the purchaser must obtain an arrangement or configuration that will suit several occasions and surroundings or purchase several types. Candelabra are usually made of expensive materials and may even be plated with precious metals and as a result are expensive. Accordingly their market is definitely limited.

It is an object of the present invention to provide candelabra whereby the inherent disadvantages of the prior art are overcome and avoided. In accordance with the invention a plurality of candleholders can be easily arranged into various arrangements or candelabra of configurations pleasing to the individual esthetic sense.

An object of the invention is to provide inexpensive candleholders, which can be assembled into candelabra, capable of being mass produced of relatively inexpensive and readily obtainable materials.

Another object of the invention is to provide candelabra which can easily be changed in arrangement periodically to fit the surroundings or occasion.

A further object of the present invention is to provide candleholders that can be readily assembled to form artistic arrangements satisfying the need for periodic change in household arrangement of furniture and satisfying the creative urge of the individual.

Still another object of the invention is to provide practical and safe candleholders that when assembled in selected arrangement are balanced and do not tend to tip over from the weight of the candles nor do they become accidentally disassembled so as to become unsafe.

Other features, objects, and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a square candleholder in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a diagonal section taken approximately on the line 2—2 in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a circular candleholder.

Fig. 4 is a section taken approximately on the line 4—4 in Fig. 3.

Figs. 5, 6 and 7 are perspective views showing three of the many different arrangements possible with candleholders in accordance with the invention.

As illustrated in Figs. 5, 6 and 7, candelabra in accordance with the invention are assembled from a plurality of individual candleholders 1 and rods 2. In order to designate particular candleholders and particular rods, the candleholders are referred to as 1*a*, 1*b*, 1*c*, etc. while the rods are referred to as 2*a*, 2*b*, 2*c*, etc.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, each of the individual candleholders 1 comprises a generally prismatic block which may be either hollow or solid and is formed of wood, plastic, metal or other suitable material. At the center

of the block 1, there is provided a hole 3 of suitable size and shape to receive a candle C as illustrated for example in Fig. 5. The block 1 is preferably so dimensioned and of such weight as to hold candles of customary height without tipping over. In Figs. 1 and 2 the block 1 is shown as being made of wood and being approximately 4 inches square and ¾ inch thick.

In the corners of the block 1 there is provided vertical holes 4 to receive the rods 2. If the blocks 1 are formed of material having suitable hardness and a suitable co-efficient of friction to grip the rods 2, the holes are formed directly in the material of the block 1. Alternatively, the holes 4 are formed in bushings 5 which are fixedly secured in larger holes 6 formed in the block 1. The bushings 5 fit tightly in the holes 6 and may, if desired, be additionally secured in the holes for example by adhesive. While a single bushing may be used in each of the holes 6, it has been found advantageous to use two shorter bushings as illustrated in Fig. 2. The bushings 5 are formed of rubber, fiber, plastic or suitable material that is sufficiently hard, tough and wear-resisting to retain the original dimensions of the holes and which has a sufficiently co-efficient of friction to assist in preventing the blocks from undesirably slipping on the rods when assembled as illustrated in Figs. 5 to 7. The rods 2 and holes 4 are preferably of non-circular cross section for example square as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 to prevent the rods from turning in the holes. The holes 6 in which the bushings 5 are set is shown as circular since it is more convenient to drill a circular hole. The bushings 5 thus serve the purpose of permitting the use of round holes 6 in the block 1 while providing non-circular holes 4 for the rods 2.

The blocks 1 and rods 2 can be assembled to provide candelabra of many different configurations of which 3 are illustrated by way of example in Figs. 5 to 7. In Fig. 5, a block 1*a* forms the base of the candelabra. Two additional blocks 1*b* and 1*c* are supported by rods 2*a* and 2*b* inserted into opposite corner holes of the block 1*a* and extending upwardly the blocks 1*b* and 1*c* being disposed at different levels. Candles C are inserted in the central holes of blocks 1*b* and 1*c*. The rods 2*a* and 2*b* are of sufficient size and strength to support the blocks 1*b* and 1*c* and their respective candles even though the blocks are supported only at one corner. The rods 2*a* and 2*b* are sufficiently tight in the holes of the blocks and the co-efficient of friction between the rods and the blocks (or bushings) is sufficiently high to prevent the blocks 1*b* and 1*c* from slipping down. Slipping is further resisted by reason of the fact that since the blocks 1*b* and 1*c* are supported only at one corner they tend to bind on the rods 2*a* and 2*b*. The blocks 1*b* and 1*c* with their respective candles tend to balance one another and the block 1*a* forms a stable base for the candelabrum.

In Fig. 6, 5 blocks 1*d*, 1*e*, 1*f*, 1*g* and 1*h* are arranged like stepping stones and are held in assembled relation and are supported by 4 rods 2*c*, 2*d*, 2*e* and 2*f*. The rods are staggered, rods 2*d* and 2*f* being disposed in a forward plane while rods 2*c* and 2*e* are disposed in a rear plane. The rods thus serve as legs providing a stable support for the blocks and their candles.

Fig. 7 shows another arrangement in which blocks 1*g* and 1*l* serve as bases while blocks 1*i*, 1*k* and 1*m* are supported by rods 2*g*, 2*h*, 2*i* and 2*j* projecting upwardly from the blocks 1*g* and 1*l*. Candles are inserted in the central holes of all of the blocks including those forming the base. The arrangements illustrated in the drawings are only a few of the many arrangements that are possible with the construction in accordance with the invention.

Still further variety can be obtained by using blocks and rods of different shapes, colors, materials and sizes.

As an example of such modifications, there is shown in Figs. 3 and 4 a circular block **11** having a central candle-receiving hole **13** and a plurality of circumferentially spaced rod-receiving holes **14**. The holes **14** are of hexagonal shape to receive rods of like size and cross section. To save weight and material, the underside of the block is hollowed out as indicated at **14** leaving a flange **16** around the central hole **13** and a peripheral flange **17** which merges into bosses **18** around the holes **14**. The block shown in Figs. 3 and 4 can be readily molded from suitable plastic material. While bushings similar to bushings **5** of Figs. 1 and 2 can, if desired, be used in the rod-receiving holes. This is generally unnecessary if the plastic or other material from which the blocks are formed has sufficient strength and wear-resistance and a suitable co-efficient of friction.

It will be understood that the features of the several embodiments illustrated are interchangeable insofar as they are not incompatible and that many other modifications may be made within the scope of the present invention.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A candelabrum comprising a plurality of square blocks each having a central candle-receiving hole and a hole adjacent each corner and a plurality of rods frictionally fitting in said holes adjacent each corner, said blocks and rods being assembled with said blocks offset laterally and vertically from one another and said rods received in selected corner holes of said blocks and holding said blocks in selected position.

2. A candelabrum comprising a plurality of blocks each having a central candle-receiving hole and a plurality of holes adjacent the periphery of the block, said plurality of holes being each provided with a bushing, said bushings having a high co-efficient of friction, and a plurality of rods frictionally fitting in said peripheral holes, said blocks and rods being assembled with said blocks offset laterally and vertically from one another and said rods received in selected peripheral holes of said blocks and holding said blocks in selected position.

3. A candelabrum comprising a plurality of circular candleholders each having a central candle-receiving hole and a plurality of holes adjacent the periphery of the candleholders and a plurality of rods frictionally fitting in said peripheral holes, said candleholders and rods being assembled with said candleholders offset laterally and vertically from one another and said rods received in selected peripheral holes of said candleholders and holding said candleholders in selected position.

4. A candelabrum comprising a plurality of blocks each having a central candle-receiving hole and a plurality of holes adjacent the periphery of the block, said blocks having the underside recessed, and a plurality of rods frictionally fitting in said peripheral holes, said blocks and rods being assembled with said blocks offset laterally and vertically from one another and said rods received in selected peripheral holes of said blocks and holding said blocks in selected position.

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