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KNOCKDOWN STAND CONSTRUCTION

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1 Claim. (Cl. 311—79)

This invention relates to pedestal-mounted stands, such as tables, trays and other similar product-supporting and receiving structures, the leading object of the invention being to provide an improved stand construction of this character wherein is embodied separable pedestal and tray sections which are so formed that when separated the same enable the stand to be compactly assembled for shipment and storage purposes.

Another object of the invention is to provide a stand of this character wherein the tray section thereof is formed with a centrally disposed polygonal opening having inwardly and upwardly sloping walls formed with angular corners, and wherein the associated pedestal section of the stand comprises a pyramidal body composed of spaced upwardly converging legs which, when the pedestal is extended for use, engage the corners of the tray opening to support the tray section in a removably seated position on the pedestal section.

A further object of the invention is to provide a knock-down stand construction of this kind wherein the pedestal section thereof is composed of a plurality of rod members, each of said members embodying upwardly converging leg-forming lengths which terminate at their upper ends in unitary cross webs and at their lower ends in out-turned foot-forming extensions, and wherein means are provided for flexibly joining the cross webs of said members in providing for relative movement between the same, whereby when said members are set up for use, the same are disposed in a substantially pyramidal order adapted for the reception of an associated tray section and when collapsed to be disposed in flat side by side relation adapted for compact storage.

A further object of the invention is to provide a stand of this character which is adapted for use, among others, as a bird bath, and wherein the stand includes a one piece molded tray section having a centrally disposed upstanding wall defining a multi-sided opening, and wherein said opening is formed for the removable reception of a pyramidal pedestal frame, the latter having tapered side members arranged for engagement with the corners of the opening in the tray section to retain the latter in a supported position on the pedestal frame.

For a further understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a supporting stand formed in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken through the stand;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view disclosing the pedestal-forming members employed in connection with the stand of the present invention, and showing said members in their collapsed positions;

Fig. 4 is a plan view disclosing said pedestal members in full lines in their extended operative positions and in broken lines in a partially collapsed position;

Fig. 5 is a similar view disclosing a modified form of the present invention;

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Fig. 6 is also a similar view disclosing a further modified form.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, my improved stand construction comprises generally a vertically arranged, upwardly tapering pedestal section P, the latter being composed of two sets of rod-like wire legs 5 and 6. These legs at their lower ends are formed with outturned foot extensions 7 and at their upper ends with horizontally arranged cross webs 8. These cross webs are foldably united with each other by means of a connecting ring 9 or its equivalent, the ring being so formed as to permit relative rotation between the sets of legs through substantially 90 degrees, as well as limit rotational sliding movement between the cross webs. The legs 5 and 6 are unsupported by cross members throughout their lengths, as here shown.

The pedestal construction so formed cooperates in this instance with a lower relatively shallow tray or receptacle 10 having a central polygonal, for example, square opening 11 through which the intermediate portions of the legs 5 and 6 extend when the pedestal section is in its open or expanded condition, with the legs of the pedestal section held in such position against collapsing movement. If desired, the stand may further include an upper, relatively shallow receptacle or tray section 12, which like the lower section 10, may be formed to comprise a molded one piece body of ceramic or other suitable composition. Both tray sections 10 and 12 are formed with upstanding bosses 13 providing square openings shown at 11 and 14. These openings, as indicated in Fig. 2, include inwardly and upwardly inclined wall surfaces, the corners formed by these surfaces constituting sockets for receiving the legs 5 and 6 of the pedestal frame or section.

Due to the tapered configuration of the legs when the pedestal section is assembled and their direct contact with the square or multi-angular socket-forming corner walls of the tray openings, the legs of the pedestal section are positively maintained in their extended positions and prevented from turning to the extent indicated by broken lines in Fig. 4. As a result of the tapered construction of the pedestal legs and the walls of the openings 11 and 14, the tray sections 10 and 12 are positively seated in a secure manner on the pedestal section. In this instance, the tray section 10 is disposed below the upper tray section 12, and the spacing between said sections is governed by the proportions of the openings 11 and 14, the opening 11 possessing greater dimensions than the opening 14, and consequently, the tray section 10 is disposed intermediate of the height of the pedestal section, whereas the tray section 12 is disposed when operatively mounted at the top of said pedestal section. This construction eliminates the necessity for using cross bracing in the legs of the pedestal section. Another advantage of the construction is its knockdown formation, whereby the same may be easily packaged and transported in its knocked down condition and yet assembled with facility to provide a strong, rigid and attractive construction.

While the stand is adapted for many uses, I have particularly designed the same for use as a bird bath. In such use, the upper receptacle section 12 is normally filled to a desired level with water while the lower tray or section 10 may function as a seed-receiving trough. However, it will be understood that the stand may be employed in many capacities and I do not limit myself therefore to its use in the specific capacity defined.

The construction is, of course, subject to certain modification, and one such modification has been illustrated in Fig. 5 wherein the pedestal-receiving opening 20 of the tray section 21 instead of being substantially square or rectangular in configuration, as in the previously described form, is of a triangular formation. In association with such a triangular opening in the tray section,

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the pedestal is of tripod formation. In this latter construction, two of the legs, indicated at 22, may be triangularly formed and united at their upper ends by a V-shaped cross web 23. The third leg 24 may be pivoted as at 25 to an intermediate portion of the cross web 23, so that when not in active use, the leg 24 may be folded to lie adjacent to one or the other of the legs 22.

In the construction disclosed in Fig. 6, the central opening 26 of the tray member 27, and which is employed for the reception of the pedestal legs 5 and 6, is substantially circular in its configuration. Such a circular opening has its wall formed with circumferentially spaced depressed regions providing sockets 28 in which the legs of the pedestal are received for the support of the tray member deposited thereon.

The construction of my improved stand is thus simple, sturdy and economical and may be readily formed to present an attractive appearance. The collapsible features of the construction enable the stand to be readily packaged in a compact manner convenient in the storage and shipment thereof.

While I have described the same in certain of its preferred embodiments, nevertheless, it will be understood that the construction is subject to certain modification falling within the scope of the following claim.

I claim:

Stand construction comprising: a pedestal section composed of a plurality of leg-forming members; each of said members being composed of a length of a metallic rod providing a cross web at the top thereof, each web ter-

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minating in relatively downwardly and outwardly progressively diverging side legs; means uniting the cross webs of said members to provide for relative movement therebetween in adjusting the leg members between active positions of extension in which the leg members are radially spaced and inactive positions of collapse in which the members are disposed in side by side relative order; and a separable tray section adapted for non-rotating supported placement on said pedestal section when the leg members of the latter are actively extended, said tray section including a centrally disposed opening bounded by relatively angular corner-forming walls, the corners of said walls receiving the downwardly diverging side legs of the pedestal members to maintain the tray member in a seated position thereon and for simultaneously holding said leg members against rotational movement when in their active positions of extension.

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