

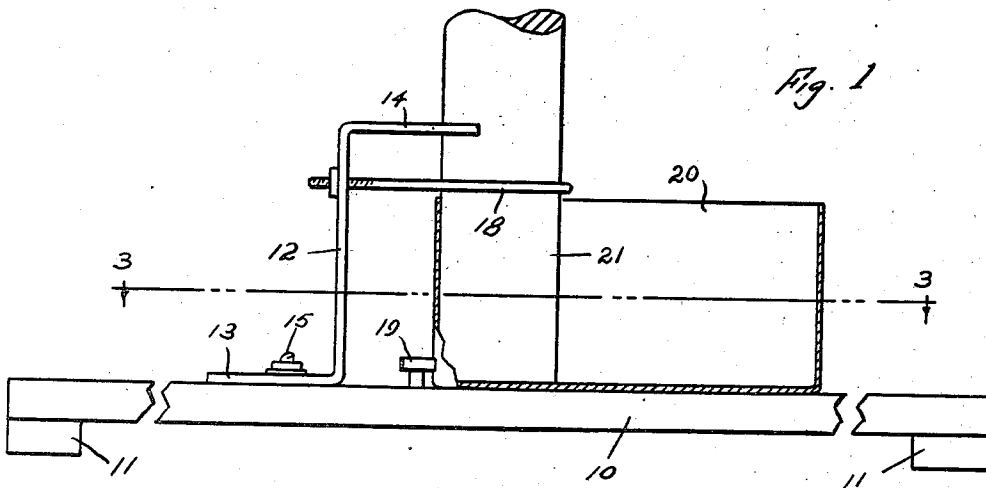
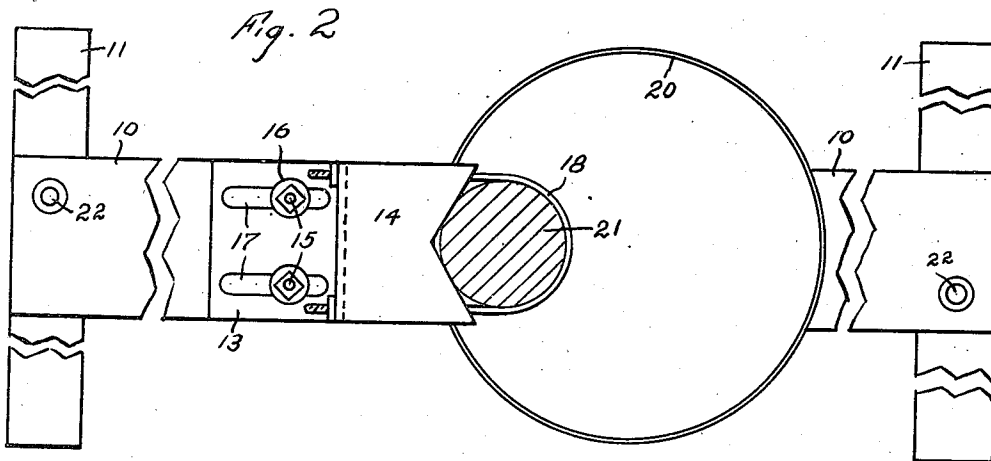
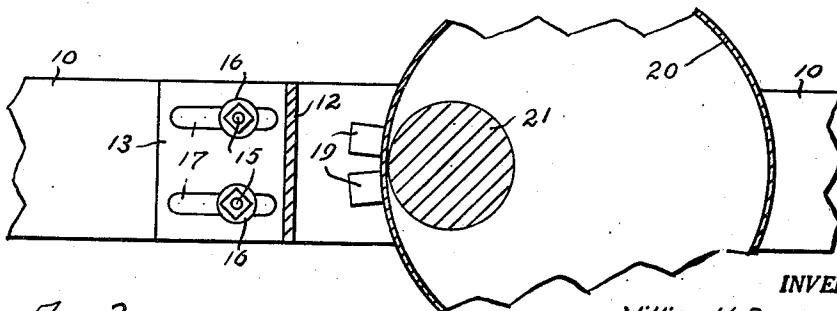
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CHRISTMAS TREE HOLDER

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This invention relates to supports and particularly to supports for Christmas trees or the like.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a novel combination of water receptacle and adjustable holder and a further object is to provide the adjustable holder of superior design for holding a Christmas tree or the like with or without the receptacle for water.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel features and combinations of structure as hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the present preferred embodiment of the invention showing the receptacle in partial section; Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof and Fig. 3 is a fragmentary plan section corresponding substantially to the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring now to the drawings, the numeral 10 indicates a flat strip which may be a board about two feet in length and four inches in width. Secured to the strip at either end are transverse strips which may be boards about two feet in length and two inches in width. The strips 11 may be pivotally secured to the strip 10 as indicated at 22 by rivets or bolts. This will enable the strips 11 to be folded into alignment with the strip 10 for storage when not in use. A piece of sheet metal 12 which is herein referred to as an upper abutment member is provided with a lower horizontally extending terminal portion 13 and an upper horizontally extending terminal portion 14. The terminal portion 13 is provided with slots 17 adapted to receive bolts 15 and to be held adjustably in relation to the strip 10 by the bolts 15. Washers 16 may be interposed between the nuts received on the bolts 15 and the portion 13 of the upper abutment 12. It will be noted that the slots 17 are wider than the diameter of the bolts 15. This makes possible the adjustment of the tree engaging portion 14 in all directions horizontally to accommodate the small irregularities in the shape of the tree trunk.

The lower abutment 19 may consist of two screws received into the strip 10. Square headed screws are shown but ordinary round headed wood screws may be used. Other types of abutment obviously could be used; if the strip 10 is of metal, lugs or a curved lug may be welded on. Adjustability can easily be provided but is not necessary. In the interest of simplicity the wood screws are preferred.

A U-bolt 18 passes through openings in the upper abutment portion 12 at a point about two-thirds of the way up from the portion 13 to the

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portion 14. This provides a sufficient spacing of the U-bolt downwardly to urge the bottom of the trunk 21 strongly against the lower abutment 19 and yet provides greater height for reception of the receptacle 20 than would be the case if the U-bolt were centrally located.

As is best seen from Fig. 1, the receptacle 20 rests on the strip 10 in contact with the lower abutment 19 and the trunk 21 is received in the receptacle 20 and engages against the inner surface thereof adjacent a point at which the receptacle engages the lower abutment.

The holder shown is adapted to hold a Christmas tree trunk or the like with or without the receptacle and its combined effectiveness and cheapness can be realized to some extent without the receptacle; however, the receptacle is a very desirable portion of the device in view of the tendency of Christmas trees to shed their needles. Should it be desired to use the support for supporting a flag staff, for example, the receptacle would be useless; but the support could still be used.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is:

1. In a device of the character described, in combination, a base member having a substantially flat, substantially horizontal upper surface, lower abutment means carried by said base member and projecting above said upper surface, upper abutment means carried by said base member, being transversely and longitudinally adjustable with respect thereto and comprising a lower horizontally extending portion, an upwardly extending portion carried by said horizontally extending portion and an abutment portion carried by said upwardly extending portion and extending horizontally beyond one end of said lower horizontally extending portion, a receptacle supported by said upper surface of said base member and engaging said lower abutment means whereby a Christmas tree trunk or the like may be received in said receptacle and be supported on said upper surface of said base member through the bottom of said receptacle and may be limited in its horizontal motion by engagement against said upper abutment means and against the inner surface of said receptacle adjacent to a point of engagement thereof against said lower abutment means and gripping means carried by said upwardly extending portion of said upper abutment means adapted to engage against said Christmas tree trunk or the like at a point intermediate in height between said lower abutment means and said abutment portion of said upper

abutment means to urge said Christmas tree trunk or the like toward said upper and lower abutment means whereby it is held in fixed upright position with respect to said base member and hold said receptacle between itself and said lower abutment means, said receptacle being of a height less than the distance of said gripping means above said base member.

2. A device set forth in claim 1 further characterized in that said upper abutment means comprises a sheet metal element having a horizontal portion adjustably secured to said base member, an integral portion extending upwardly from said horizontal portion and provided with spaced openings near its edges and an integral portion extending horizontally from said upwardly extending portion, and said gripping means comprising a U-bolt having its legs passing through said openings in the vertical portion of said sheet metal element and adapted to engage a portion of said Christmas tree trunk or the like opposed to the portion thereof which engages said lower and upper abutment means.

3. A Christmas tree holder comprising a wood base member having a flat upper surface, a plurality of wood screws screwed into said upper surface of said base member but having a portion projecting thereabove, a piece of sheet metal having a lower portion extending along said upper surface of said base member and provided with a slot, a bolt extending through said base member and said slot and having a diameter less than the width of said slot, said piece of sheet metal having a central portion integral with said lower portion thereof and extending upwardly therefrom, and an upper portion integral with said central portion and extending therefrom in a direction opposite to said lower portion, said bolt being so located with respect to said wood screws that said upper portion is approximately directly over said wood screws when said bolt is at a point in said slot spaced a substantial distance from both ends thereof, said central portion having openings formed therein above the height which is equidistant between said lower portion and said upper portion and near the edges thereof, and a U-bolt having its legs passing through said openings and adapted to embrace a Christmas tree trunk and urge it toward said wood screws and said upper portion of said piece of sheet metal.

4. In a device of the character described, in combination, a base member having a substantially horizontal upper surface, lower abutment means carried by said base member and projecting above said upper surface, upper abutment means carried by said base member, being transversely and longitudinally adjustable with respect thereto and comprising a lower horizontally extending portion, an upwardly extending portion carried by said horizontally extending portion and an abutment portion carried by said upwardly extending portion and extending horizontally beyond one end of said lower horizontally extending portion, said lower abutment means comprising two spaced elements extending upwardly from said upper surface of said base member whereby a receptacle may be supported by said upper surface of said base member and may engage said spaced elements of said lower abutment means whereby a Christmas tree trunk or the like may be received in said receptacle and be supported on

said upper surface of said base member through the bottom of said receptacle and may be limited in its horizontal motion by engagement against said upper abutment means and against the inner surface of said receptacle adjacent to a point of engagement thereof against said lower abutment means, and gripping means carried by said upwardly extending portion of said upper abutment means adapted to engage against said Christmas tree trunk or the like at a point intermediate in height between said lower abutment means and said abutment portion of said upper abutment means to urge said Christmas tree trunk or the like toward said upper and lower abutment means whereby it is held in fixed upright position with respect to said base member and may hold said receptacle between itself and said lower abutment means, said upper abutment means being longitudinally adjustable with respect to said base member from a point where said abutment portion thereof lies at one side of said spaced elements of said lower abutment means to a point at which said abutment lies at the other side thereof.

5. In a device of the character described, in combination, a base member having a substantially flat, substantially horizontal upper surface, lower abutment means carried by said base member and projecting above said upper surface, upper abutment means carried by said base member and comprising a supporting portion secured to said base member and upstanding therefrom and an abutment portion carried by said supporting portion and extending horizontally beyond one end of said supporting portion, a receptacle supported by said upper surface of said base member and engaging said lower abutment means whereby a Christmas tree trunk or the like may be received in said receptacle and be supported on said upper surface of said base member through the bottom of said receptacle and may be limited in its horizontal motion by engagement against said abutment portion of said upper abutment means and against the inner surface of said receptacle adjacent to a point of engagement thereof against said lower abutment means, and gripping means carried by said supporting portion of said upper abutment means adapted to engage against said Christmas tree trunk or the like at a point intermediate in height between said lower abutment means and said abutment portion of said upper abutment means to urge said Christmas tree trunk or the like toward said upper and lower abutment means whereby it is held in fixed upright position with respect to said base member and holds said receptacle between itself and said lower abutment means, said receptacle being of a height less than the distance of said gripping means above said base member.

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