Sept. 23, 1930. G. L. FENNO 1,776,314

BEEHIVE STAND

Filed Jan. 11, 1928

Fig. 1.

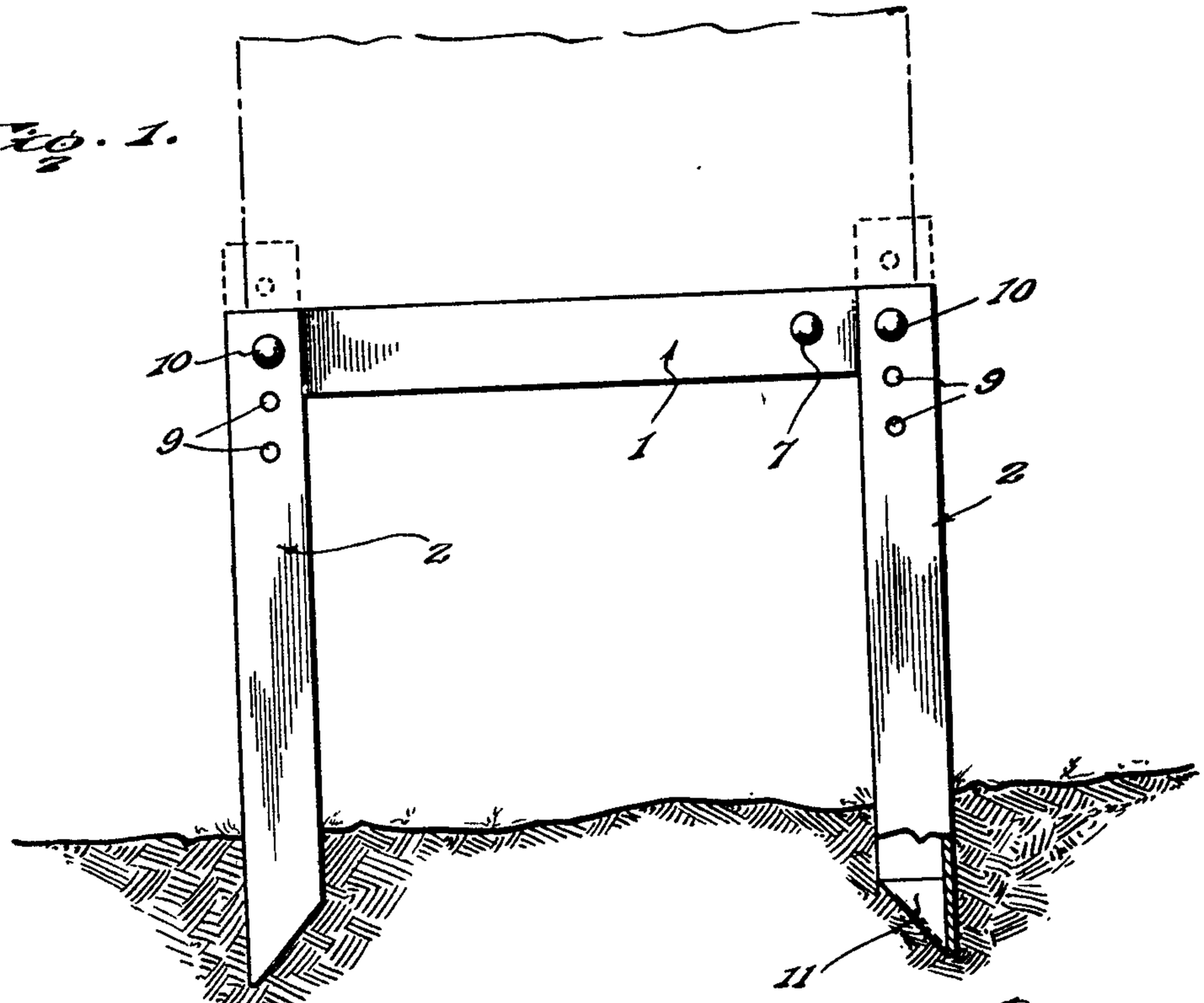


Fig. 2.

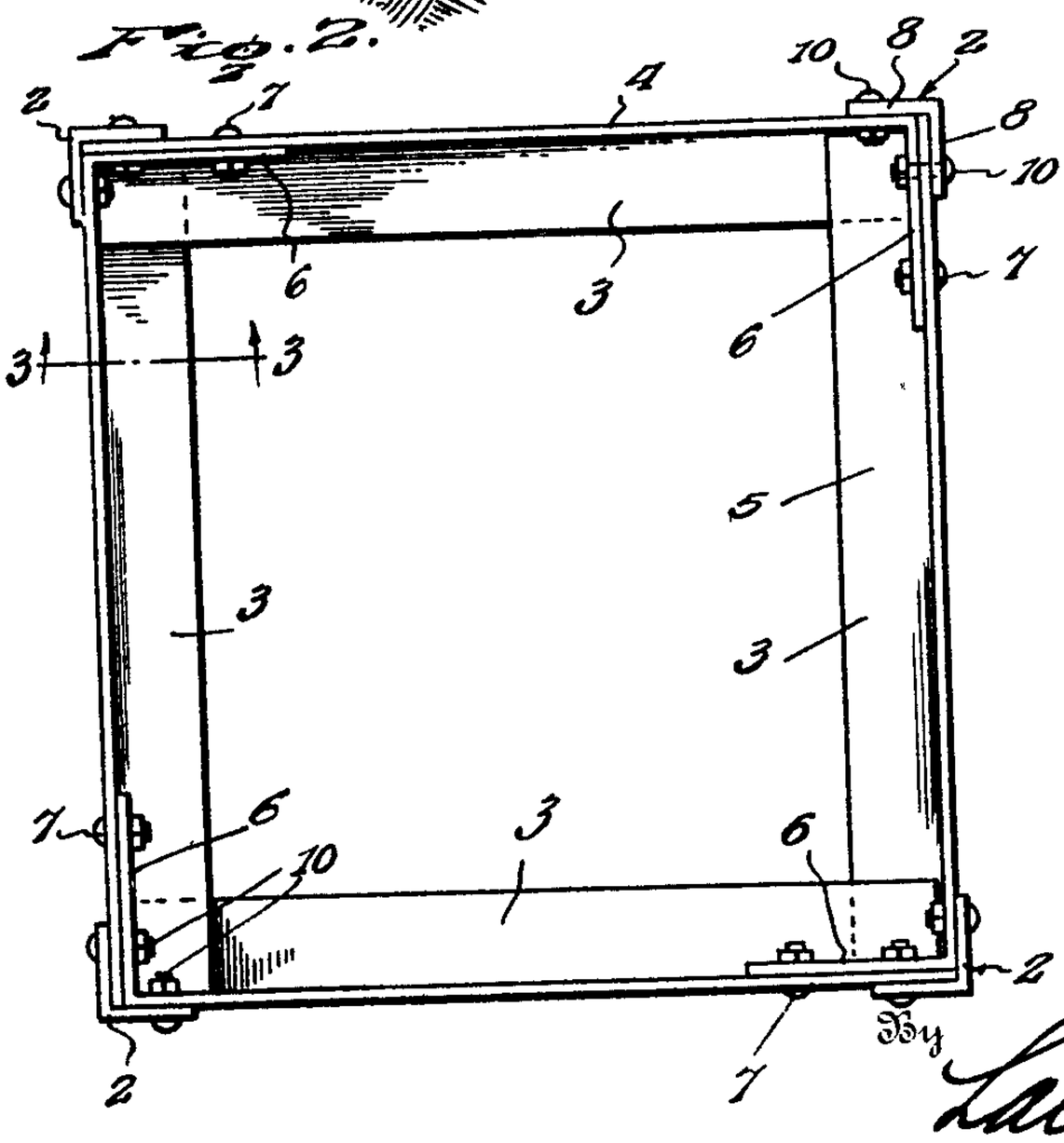


Fig. 3.

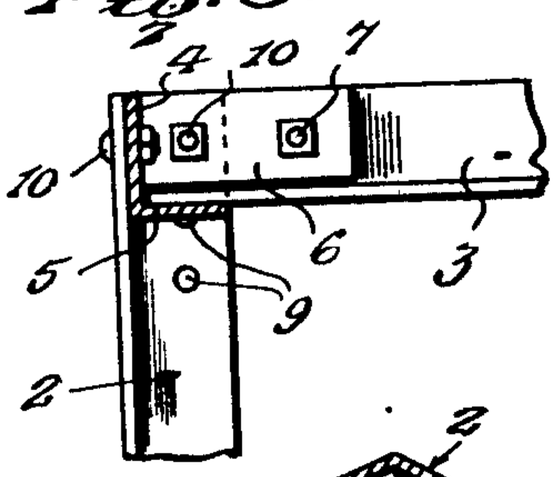
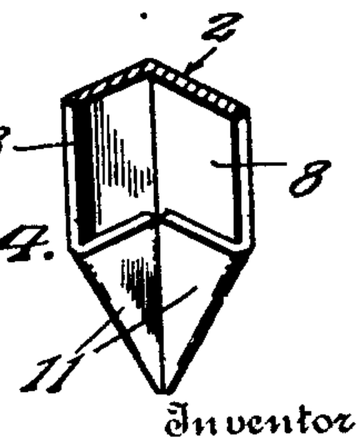


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

GRACE LEE FENNO, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

BEEHIVE STAND

Application filed January 11, 1928. Serial No. 245,993.

This invention relates to supports and more particularly to a stand by means of which a bee hive may be supported in an elevated position so that air may circulate beneath the bee hive and thereby keep the hive dry and prevent it from being damaged by resting upon wet ground.

One object of the invention is to provide a stand of this character which may be stored or shipped in a knock-down condition and readily assembled by the user.

Another object of the invention is to so form the strips of material from which the stand is constructed that they may be very firmly secured and thereby provide a stand which will be very strong and durable and not liable to come apart or sag when subjected to the weight of a bee hive

Another object of the invention is to provide the stand with supporting legs which may be easily forced into the ground and have their upper end portions so connected with the frame of the stand that they may terminate flush with the upper edge of the frame or project above it in order to engage corner portions of a hive supported upon the frame.

Another object of the invention is to so form the frame of the stand that the bee hive when resting upon the stand will have its lower portion disposed within the frame in order to prevent it from accidentally slipping out of its proper position upon the stand.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein

Figure 1 is a view showing the improved stand in side elevation with a hive to be supported thereby indicated by dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the stand;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 and illustrating one corner portion of the stand, and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the lower end portion of one of the supporting legs of the stand.

The stand constituting the subject-matter of this invention includes a frame, indicated in general by the numeral 1, and supporting legs 2 which are disposed at the corners of the frame, as shown in Fig. 2, in depending relation thereto. By referring to Fig. 2, it will be seen that the frame 1 consists of side bars 3, each of which is formed from a strip of angle metal. The strips 3 are disposed transversely of each other and since they are formed of angle metal they provide the frame with vertically extending side flanges 4 and horizontal flanges 5 which project inwardly along the lower edges of the vertical flanges. Each side bar has its vertical flange extended at one end beyond its horizontal flange and this extended end portion of the vertical flange is bent inwardly to extend across the adjacent end of the horizontal flange thereby providing a securing tongue 6 which is of such length that it projects beyond the inner side edge of the horizontal flange. This is clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and referring to these figures it will be seen that, when the side bars are disposed in operative relation to each other with the ends of their horizontal flanges overlapped, the tongues 6 extend along the vertical flanges of adjacent side bars where they are secured by bolts 7 passed through registering openings formed in the vertical flanges and tongues.

The supporting legs 2 are also formed of angle metal in order to provide side flanges 8, and these side flanges are formed with a desired number of openings 9 which are spaced from each other longitudinally of the legs and intended to receive securing bolts 10 which also pass through openings formed in the vertical flanges and tongues 6 of the side bars from which the frame is formed In view of the fact that the legs are provided with a number of openings to receive the securing bolts 10, they may be secured to the frame with their upper ends either flush with the upper edges of the side bars or with their upper end portions projecting upwardly above the frame, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. It will thus be seen that, when the frame is in use, the upper end portions of the legs may be allowed to project upwardly above the frame and engage the corner portions of a bee hive resting upon the horizontal flanges of the frame and thereby provide additional means in addition to

the vertical flanges of the side bars to prevent the bee hive from accidentally moving out of its proper position upon the frame. The lower end portions of the side flanges 8 of the legs are folded inwardly, as shown at 11 in Figs. 1 and 4, thereby providing the legs with reinforcing penetrating points so that the legs may be easily forced into the ground without danger of their being broken or bent out of shape when forced into place.

When the stand is to be used, the strips of angle metal from which the frame is formed are disposed transversely of each other with their end portions overlapped, as shown in Fig. 2, and the bolts 7 passed through the openings provided in the flanges 4 and tongues 6. The supporting legs are then applied to the frame at its corners and the bolts 10 passed through selected openings 9 formed in the legs and through other openings formed in the flanges 4 and tongues. These bolts serve to firmly secure the legs to the side bars of the frame and the legs serve not only to support the frame in an elevated position but also constitute corner reinforcements for the frame and assist the tongues to prevent the side bars of the frame from moving out of their proper positions with respect to each other. After the legs have been applied to the frame, the stand is placed upon the ground where it is desired to have the bee hive located and the supporting legs may be easily driven into the ground a sufficient distance to firmly anchor the stand. Since the lower ends of the legs are tapered and reinforced, as shown in Fig. 4, they may be very easily driven into the ground without bending or breaking. After the stand has been set in place, the bee hive is disposed upon the stand and rests upon the flanges 3 with its lower end portion enclosed by the vertical flanges 4. By this arrangement the stand serves not only to support the bee hive but also prevents it from moving out of its proper position upon the stand and there will be no danger of its slipping and falling upon the ground. If the frame is secured to the legs in such a position that the upper end portions of the legs project upwardly above the stand, these upwardly extending portions of the legs will serve to engage the corner portions of the hive and provide additional means to prevent the hive from moving out of its proper position upon the frame. When a hive is supported upon the stand, air may circulate freely beneath it so that the bottom of the hive will be kept dry and also it may be inspected so that spiders and their eggs and webs may be removed from beneath the hive. When the stand is not in use, it may be easily taken apart and the strips from which it is formed tied together. Therefore, the stand may be reduced to a compact mass and stored in a small space.

During the winter season chicken wire may be wrapped about the stand and the space below the hive enclosed by the wire packed with leaves or any other suitable material to protect the bottom of the hive from cold. Rods may also be applied to the legs with their ends projecting transversely from the stand and a large box disposed over the hive in an inverted position with its open end resting upon the rods in order to enclose the top and sides of the hive and protect it from cold.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. A bee hive stand comprising a frame having companion side bars formed with inwardly extending hive engaging elements, the end portions of said bars being overlapped and secured, supporting legs for said frame disposed vertically at the corners thereof and having side flanges overlapping the end portions of said side bars, the flanges having their upper end portions formed with openings spaced from each other longitudinally of the legs, and removable fasteners passed through the side bars and selected opening in the legs to releasably secure the legs to the frame with their upper ends in determined relation to the upper edges of the side bars.

2. A bee hive stand comprising a frame having companion side bars formed with inwardly extending hive engaging elements, the end portions of said bars being overlapped and releasably secured, supporting legs for said frame disposed vertically at the corners thereof and having side flanges overlapping the end portions of said side bars, the lower end portions of the side flanges being folded inwardly to provide the legs with reinforced penetrating points at their lower ends, and means to releasably secure the upper ends of the legs to the side bars of said frame.

3. A bee hive stand comprising a frame having companion bars extending transversely of each other, each having a vertically extending flange and a horizontal flange extending inwardly from the lower edge of its vertical flange, the vertical flange projecting beyond one end of the horizontal flange and bent to form a tongue extending across the end thereof and projecting transversely therefrom, said bars having their end portions overlapped with the tongue of each bar extending along the vertical flange of an adjoining bar, supporting legs disposed vertically at the corners of said frame and having side flanges fitting against the outer side faces of said bars, and removable fasteners passed through the tongues and vertical flanges of the frame bars and side flanges of the supporting legs to securely connect the bars and legs.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MISS GRACE LEE FENNO. [L. S.]