Oct. 2, 1934. C. E. SHRIVER ET AL 1,975,558

CASKET PEDESTAL

Original Filed April 20, 1933 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

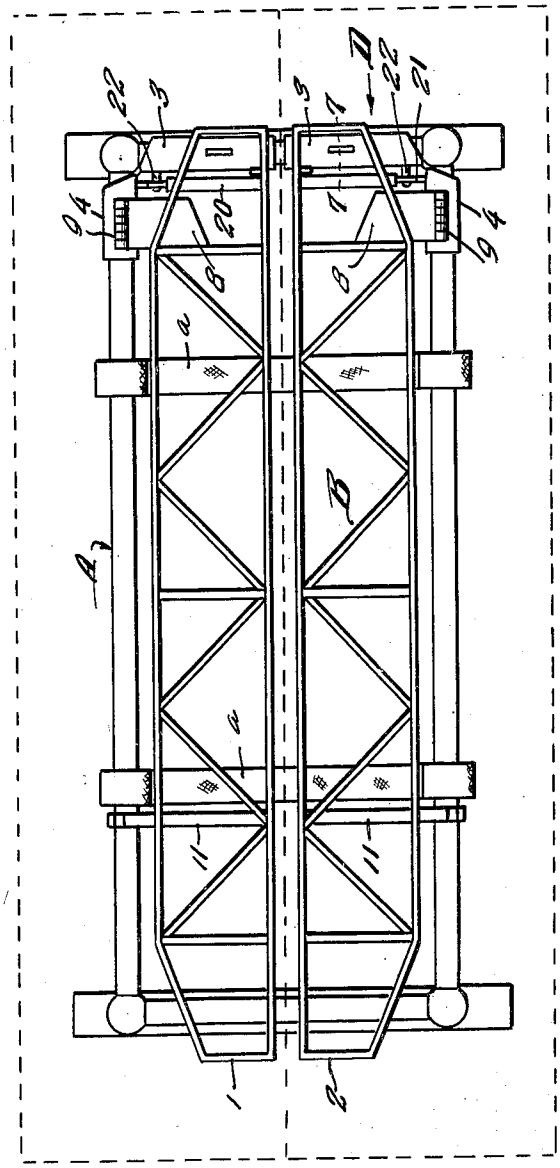


Fig. 1.

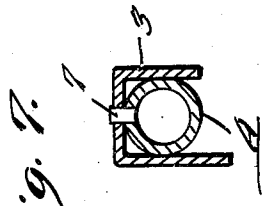


Fig. 2.

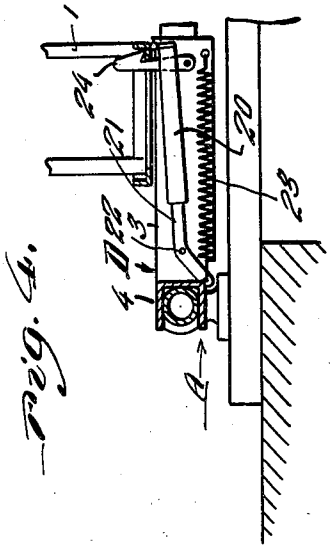


Fig. 3.

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CASKET PEDESTAL

Original Filed April 20, 1933 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

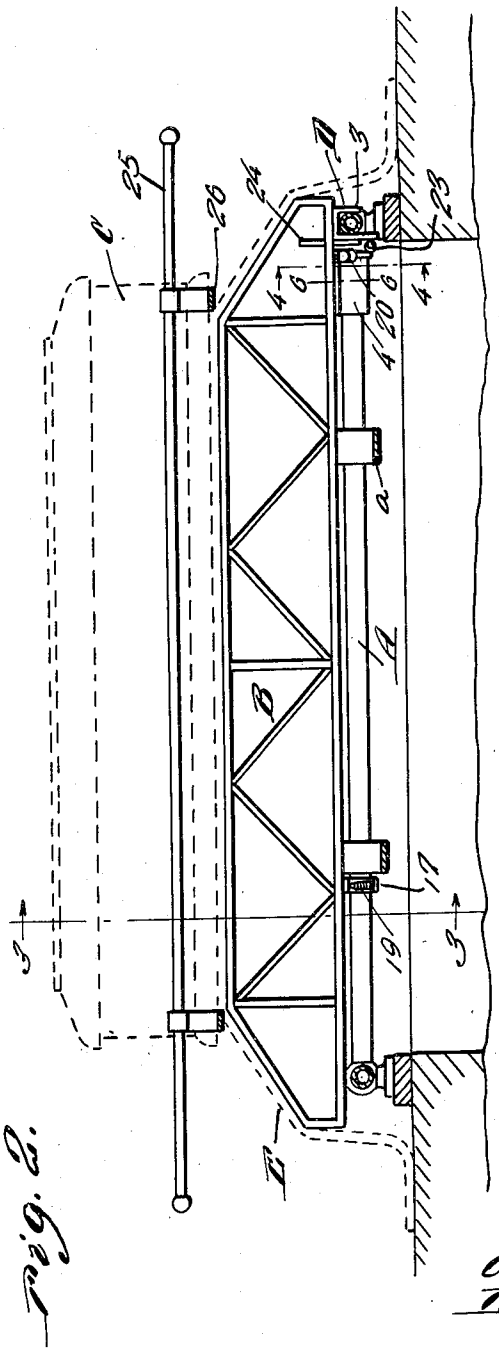


Fig. 2.

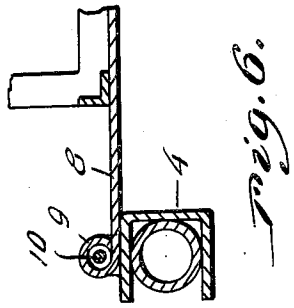


Fig. 6.

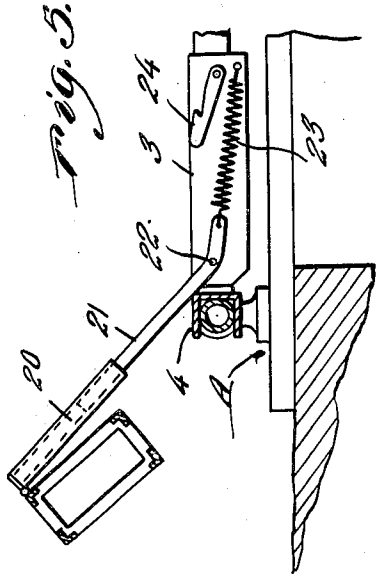


Fig. 5.

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CASKET PEDESTAL

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Fig. 3.

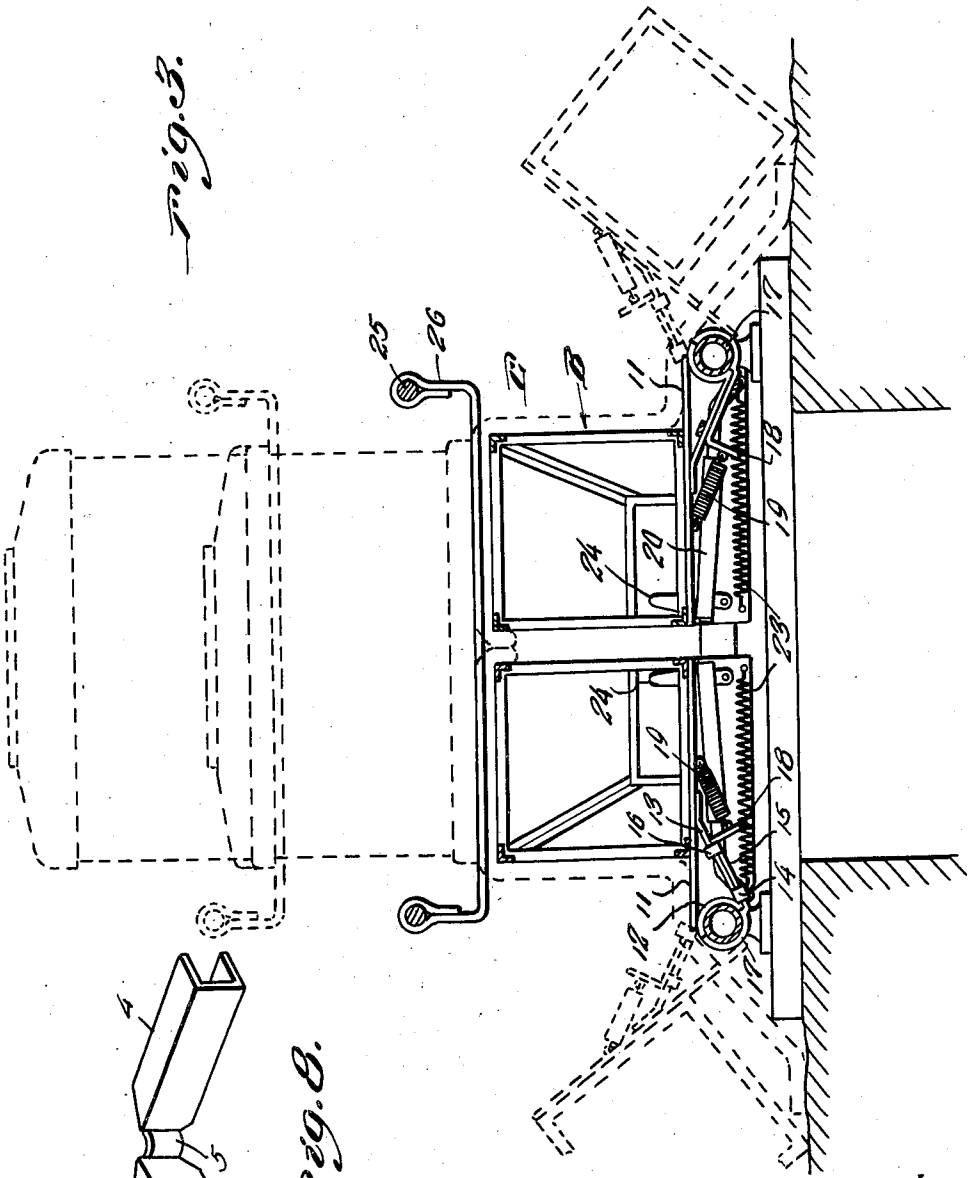
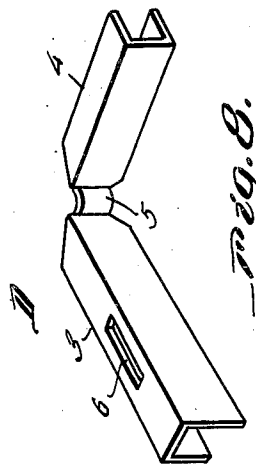


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CASKET PEDESTAL

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Application April 20, 1933, Serial No. 667,102
Renewed July 7, 1934

4 Claims. (Cl. 27—26)

This invention relates to a pedestal for supporting a casket on a lowering device at a grave, the general object of the invention being to provide means for supporting the casket in elevated position on the lowering device and in such a manner that all the parts under the casket can be hidden from view by a grass carpet or other rug, with means whereby the pedestal can be easily swung from under the casket to permit the casket to be lowered on the webs of the lowering device.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a view of the device supported on the lowering device, with the casket removed and showing the carpet in dotted lines.

Figure 2 is an elevation of Figure 1, with parts in section and the carpet and casket shown in dotted lines.

Figure 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 4, but showing the parts in raised position.

Figure 6 is a section on line 6—6 of Figure 2.

Figure 7 is a section on line 7—7 of Figure 1.

Figure 8 is a perspective view of one of the corner members.

In these drawings, the letter A indicates any type of casket lowering device which includes the webs *a* and the pedestal is shown at B and is composed of the two elongated open-work members or sections 1 and 2 which are adapted to rest on the end pieces of the device A and to support the casket C, as shown in dotted lines in Figures 2 and 3. Each of the members 1 and 2 has its ends sloping downwardly and outwardly, as shown in Figure 2, and said ends have their outer sides sloping inwardly, as shown in Figure 1.

An angle member D is adapted to fit over adjacent ends of each side member of the device A and an end member and each member D is composed of the angle shaped members 3 and 4 connected together by a curved web 5. The member 3 is of inverted channel shape, while the member 4 has its open side facing outwardly, as shown in Figure 8. The member 3 is formed with a slot 6 in its bight part for receiving a pin 7 on the end member of the device A, as shown more particularly in Figure 7, with the bight of the member 4 engaging the inner side of the side piece of the device A, as shown in Figure 4. A hinge plate 8 is fastened to one end of each of the members 1 and 2 and extends outwardly and is connected by a hinge connection 9 to the member 4, as shown in Figures 1 and 6, with the barrel of the hinge having a certain amount of play on the hinge pin 10, as shown in Figure 6.

A bar 11 is connected to the under part of each of the members 1 and 2 adjacent the other end of the device and said bar extends beyond the outer side of each member and carries a substantially semi-circular part 12 at its outer end which depends from said outer end and is adapted to engage a part of one of the side members of the device A, as shown in Figure 3. A downwardly and outwardly extending bar 13 is attached to each bar 11 and carries a guide or clip 14 at its lower end in which is slidably engaged a bar 15 which also has a clip or guide 16 at its inner end which engages the bar 13. Thus the bar 15 is slidably supported on the bar 13 and carries at its outer end the substantially semi-circular member 17 which cooperates with the member 12 to grip a side member of the device A and these two parts 12 and 17 permit the bar 11 to swing on the side of the device A. The inner end of the bar 15 is bent downwardly, as shown at 18 and a spring 19 connects this bent end to an intermediate part of the bar 11. Thus this spring 19 tends to hold the bar 15 with the member 17 gripping the side member of the device A, but permits the bar 15 to be moved outwardly so as to cause the member 17 to release the side piece of the device A.

A tubular member 20 has one end pivoted to the inner or free edge of each of the members 1 and 2 and a bar or lever 21 has a sliding fit in the member 20 and is pivotally supported by the part 3 of the member D, as shown at 22 in Figure 5. A spring 23 connects the inner end of the lever 21 to the member 3, as also shown in Figure 5, and tends to hold the lever 21 with the sections 1 or 2 swung outwardly, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 3 and also shown in Figure 5.

A pivoted latch 24 carried by each part 3 tends to hold the sections 1 and 2 in the position shown in Figure 3, but when the latches are moved to releasing position, the springs 23 move the sections to their dotted line position shown in Figure 3.

In placing the device on the lowering device A,

the two members D are turned to a vertical position so that each member 4 can be placed over a side piece of the device A and then each member D is swung downwardly and inwardly so that the member 4 will turn on the side piece and finally assume the position shown in Figure 5, with the member 3 resting on an end piece of the device A, as also shown in Figure 5. During this operation, the bar 15 is moved outwardly against the action of the spring 19, so that the two parts 12 and 17 can receive between them portions of a side member of the device A and then by releasing the bar 15, the spring 19 will move the bar 15 inwardly and cause the member 17 to grip the side member of the device A between itself and the member 12 and thus the two sections 1 and 2 of the pedestal are connected with the device A and by swinging the two sections 1 and 2 inwardly so that they will be engaged by the latches 24, the parts are held in the position shown in full lines in Figure 3.

As shown in this figure, the two members 1 and 2 are spaced apart so that the adjacent edges of the two carpets E can be placed between the upper portions of the two members, the carpet extending over the members and over the device A so that all parts of the device, as well as the device A and the grave, are covered. The casket C is then placed on the pedestal, as shown by dotted lines in Figures 2 and 3.

We also provide means for facilitating the handling of the casket, such means consisting of the two long bars 25 and the straps 26 having their ends connected to the bars so that by placing the ends of the casket on these straps and lifting the bars 25, the casket can be easily transported from place to place and placed on the pedestal.

As will be understood, the parts assume the position shown in Figure 3, with the casket setting on them, during the services at the grave and, as before stated, all the parts are covered by the carpet, excepting the casket. After the services, the casket is raised by placing the straps 26 under the ends thereof and raising the rods 25 and the latches 24 are raised so that the springs 23 will throw the two sections 1 and 2 of the pedestal outwardly from under the casket. Then the casket can be lowered on the straps or webs *a* of the device A and the casket lowered into the grave in the usual manner. As the weight of the casket will hold the two sections of the pedestal in operative position, the latches can be released before the casket is to be raised.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is to be understood that changes may be made in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. In combination with a casket lowering device, a pedestal for supporting a casket on said device, means for hingedly connecting the pedestal to a part of the device, spring means for swinging the pedestal off of the device, and latch means for holding the pedestal on the device and against the action of the spring means.

2. In combination with a casket lowering device, a pedestal comprising two sections, hinge means for connecting the outer edge of each section to an outer part of the casket lowering device, spring means for swinging the sections outwardly from over the device and latch means for holding the sections on the device and against the action of the spring means.

3. In combination with a casket lowering device, a pedestal consisting of a pair of elongated sections, an angle member for an end of each section, each angle member being adapted to engage a corner of the device, a hinge member for connecting one end of each section to a part of an angle member, a bar connected with the opposite end portion of each section and having a semi-circular part at its outer end for engaging a portion of a side member of the device, a second semi-circular member, a bar connected with the second member and slidably engaging a part of the bar, spring means for holding the second semi-circular member in position for clamping a part of a side member of the device between itself and the first semi-circular member, and spring means for normally holding each section to one side of the device, and latch means for holding the sections over the device.

4. A pedestal of the class described comprising a supporting frame, a pair of sections having their outer portions hingedly connected with the supporting frame, spring means for normally holding the sections in outward position, latch means for holding the sections upon the supporting frame, said sections being spaced apart whereby a pair of carpets can be placed over the sections and the supporting frame with their inner edges held in the upper portion of the space, a pair of bars and straps connecting the bars together for supporting a casket between the bars.

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