A. W. ALBRECHT.

COLLAPSIBLE BURIAL CASKET.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 26, 1918.

1,349,799.

Patented Aug. 17, 1920.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

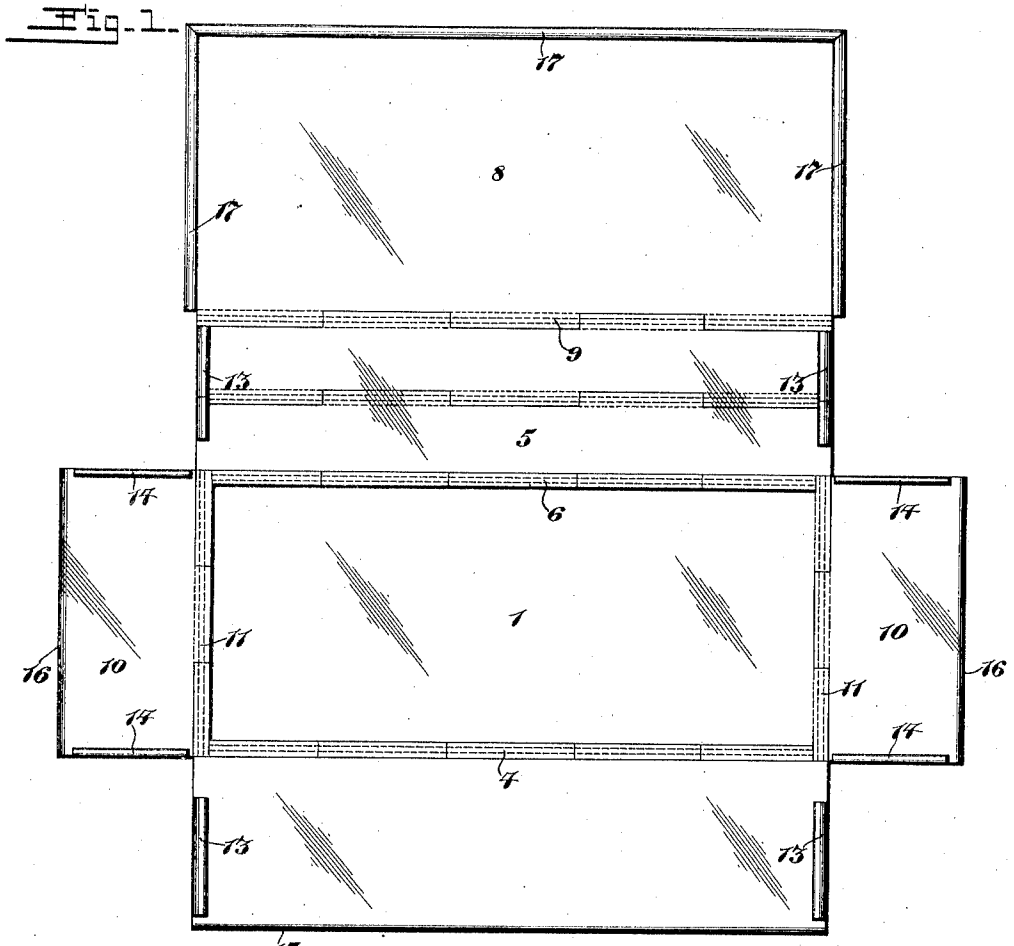
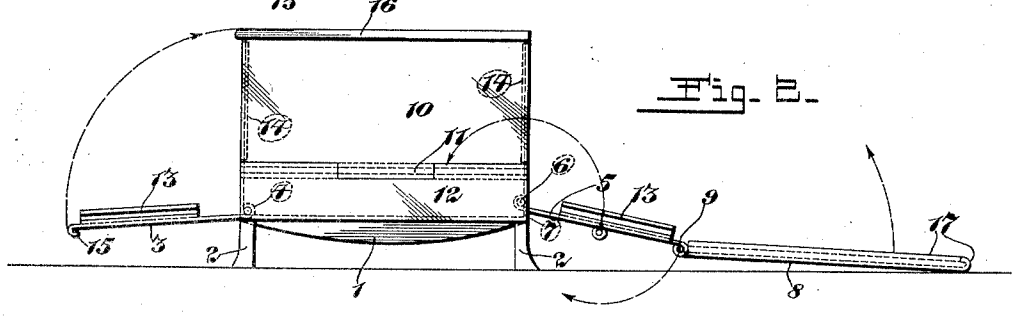


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

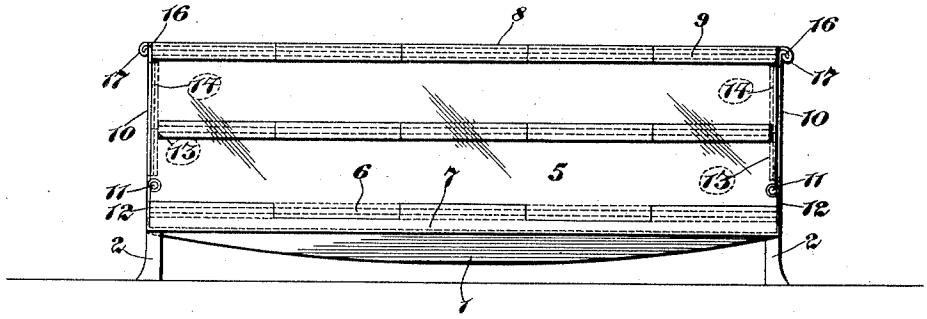


Fig. 4.

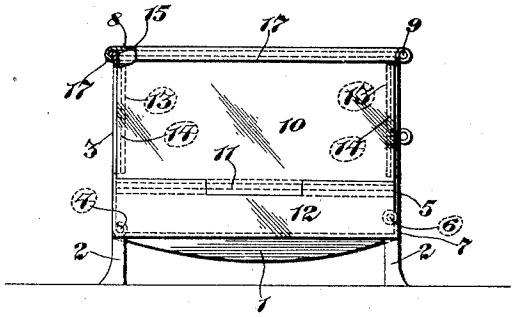
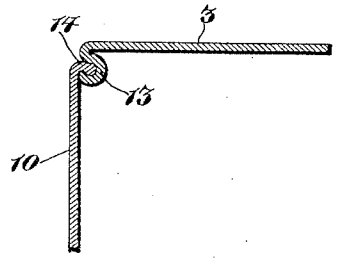


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COLLAPSIBLE BURIAL-CASKET.

1,349,799. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 17, 1920.

Application filed July 26, 1918. Serial No. 246,825.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT W. ALBRECHT, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Collapsible Burial-Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to collapsible burial caskets, and consists in the novel construction hereinafter disclosed.

An object of the invention is to provide a collapsible burial casket which may be readily assembled to form a durable, rigid casket

Another object of the invention is to provide a burial casket composed of sheet metal and having its end, side and top walls hinged so that they may be folded into a relatively small compass for shipping purposes and which casket may be readily set up to form a rigid substantial container, there being provided means for joining the matching edges of the walls and top of the casket forming substantially water and airtight joints.

Additional advantages attainable from the invention will be obvious from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a casket embodying the invention, the side, end and top walls being extended to show the construction and assembly thereof.

Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the casket with the side and top walls extended and the end wall in upright or assembled position.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the casket in assembled position.

Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the casket with the walls in assembled relation.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged section illustrating the joining between the adjacent walls of the casket.

In the embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawing, the casket is shown as comprising a bottom wall 1 which is preferably made with a concave inner surface so that it may be packed with absorbent cotton or other suitable material, and so that any liquid gaining access to the interior of the casket will be caught below the surface of the support for the body contained in the casket. Attached to the bottom walls are legs or supports 2 for supporting the casket above the support upon which it may be placed.

The front side wall 3 is connected with the forward side edge of the bottom wall by a longitudinal hinge rod 4. The front side wall 3 is adapted to be folded inwardly above the bottom of the casket, the hinge point being substantially in a horizontal plane with the top of the bottom wall of the casket.

The rear side wall 5 is composed of two parts hinged together by a rod 5^a, and arranged to fold to position in which the outer surfaces of the two parts are together. The lower part is hinged on a rod 6 supported by the upper edge of a slightly elevated flange 7 formed at right angles to and extending vertically from the back edge of the bottom wall of the casket. To the upper edge of the rear side wall 5 the top wall 8 of the casket is joined by a hinge rod 9. The rear side wall and the top wall are adapted to fold inwardly as indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawing, the top wall turning backwardly upon the hinge 9 so that the exterior surfaces of the walls 5 and 8 are brought against each other, the inner surface of the wall 5 resting upon the outer surface of the wall 3.

The end walls 10 have a hinge connection 11 at the upper edges of vertically extending flanges 12 formed at the ends of the bottom wall. The flanges 12 are of sufficient height so that the hinge connection of the end walls is above the level of the collapsible inwardly folding side walls and top wall. Thus when the side walls, end walls and top wall are collapsed or folded inwardly the amount of space occupied by the casket will be greatly reduced in respect of the casket when in assembled or set up position. When in collapsed position the casket may be readily crated in quantities and shipped, and when required for use may be readily and quickly assembled.

In assembling the casket the matching edges of the walls are arranged to form a tight joint construction so that when assembled the casket will be rigid and practically air and water-tight.

Each of the side walls 3 and 5 has at its ends resilient lateral extensions 13, formed by back-turning the metal at the edges and forming a resilient round wall as illustrated in full detail in Fig. 5.

The end walls at their side vertical edges are in-turned to form a tongue 14 so that when the side and end walls are brought to a vertical position the tongues will en-

gage in the grooves formed by the extensions 13 to hold the walls together and form a tight joint connection between the matching edges. It will be noted that the inner edge of the tongue 14 is slightly enlarged so that it will be firmly held in position in the channel 13 by the free edge of the channel 13 bearing against the enlargement on the tongue 14.

The side wall 3 is formed with an overturned flange 15 at its upper edge and the end walls 10 are formed with similar overturned flanges 16. The top wall 8 has an under-turned resilient flange 17 extending around the edges of the top on the three free sides thereof, so that when the top is brought to a horizontal position by movement on its hinge 9, the flange 17 will engage over the flanges 15 and 16 forming a tight connection between the top, the side and end walls.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

A collapsible burial casket, composed of sheet metal comprising a bottom wall; an upwardly extending end wall portion integral with each end of the bottom wall; a side wall pivoted to one side edge of the bottom wall and being foldable inwardly upon the bottom wall between said end wall portions; an additional side wall composed of a lower part pivotally united to the opposite side edge of the bottom wall and an upper part pivoted to the lower part and arranged to fold upon the lower part between said end wall portions to position the upper edge of the upper part above the edge of the bottom wall to which the lower part of said side wall is pivoted; a top wall of equal width with the bottom wall pivoted to the upper edge of said upper part of said side wall and arranged to fold inwardly between said end wall portions and with its edges vertically above the edges of the bottom wall; end wall upper portions hinged to the upper edges of the end wall lower portions and being foldable inwardly upon the top wall after the top wall has been placed as aforesaid; means for interlocking the vertical edges of the upper end wall portions with the side walls to hold all of walls in vertical position; said means comprising inwardly extended tongues on the vertical edges of the end walls arranged to spring into lateral extensions on the side walls and curved resilient flanges on the edges of the top wall arranged to interlock with flanges on the side and end walls.

ALBERT W. ALBRECHT.