Feb. 14, 1939.

E. H. SCHMIDT

2,147,111

UNDERTAKER'S DRESSING TABLE

Filed March 23, 1937

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

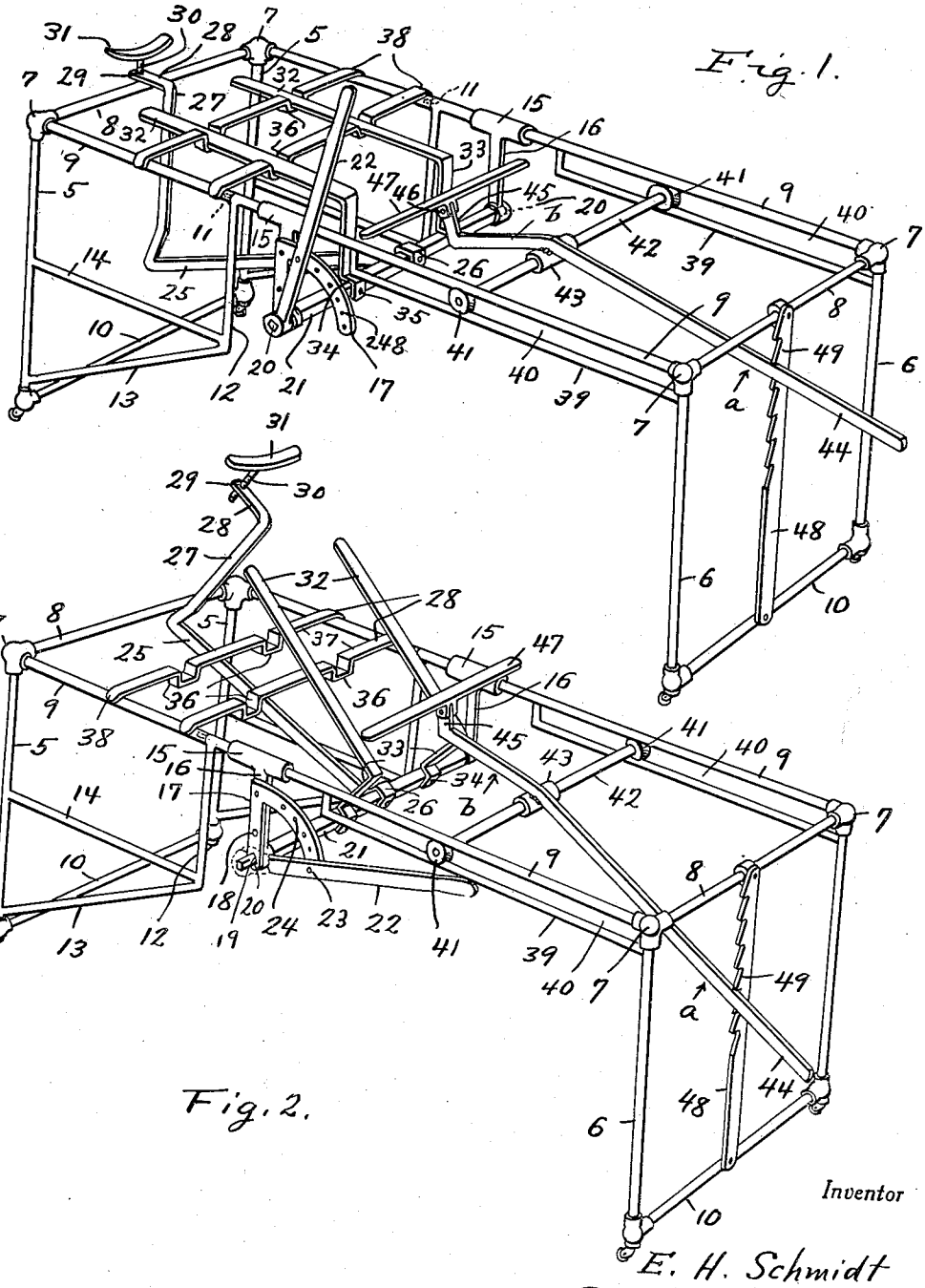


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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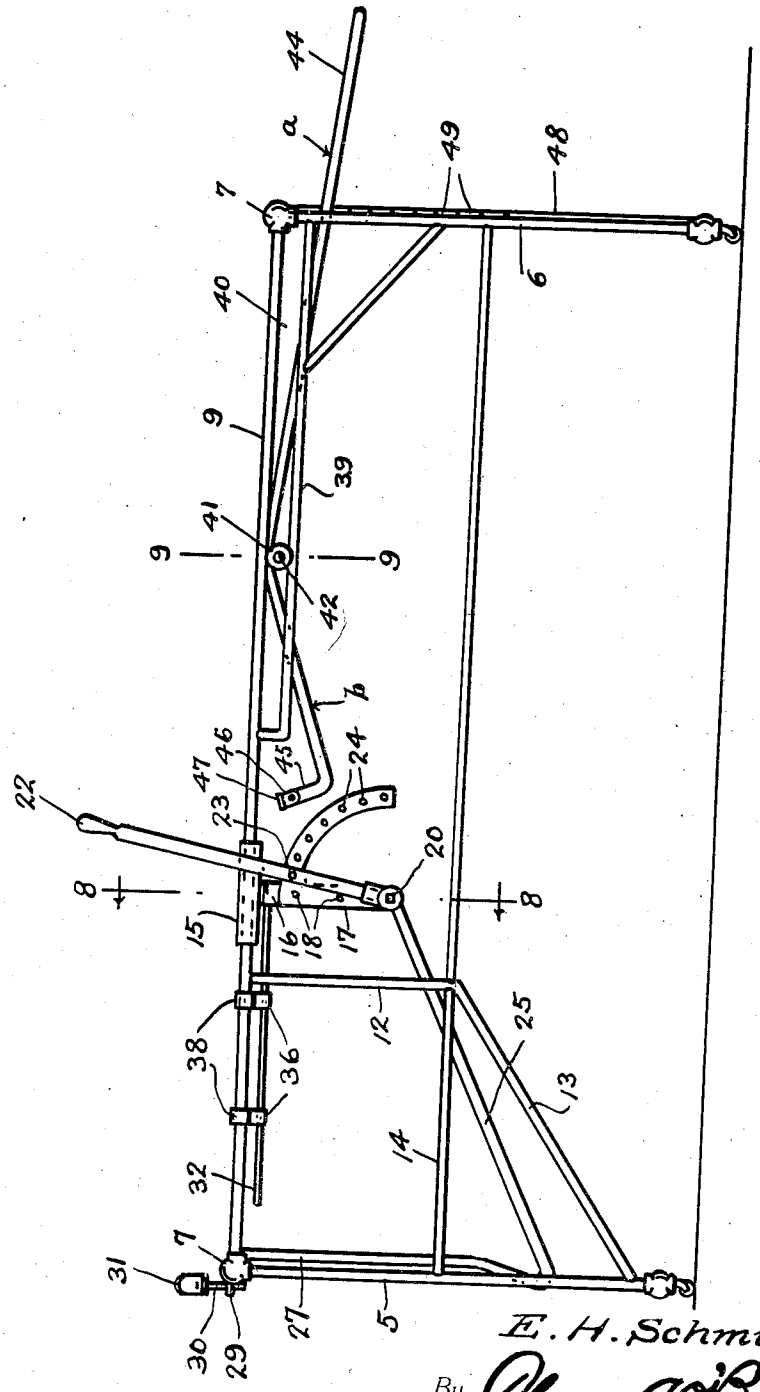
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Fig. 3.



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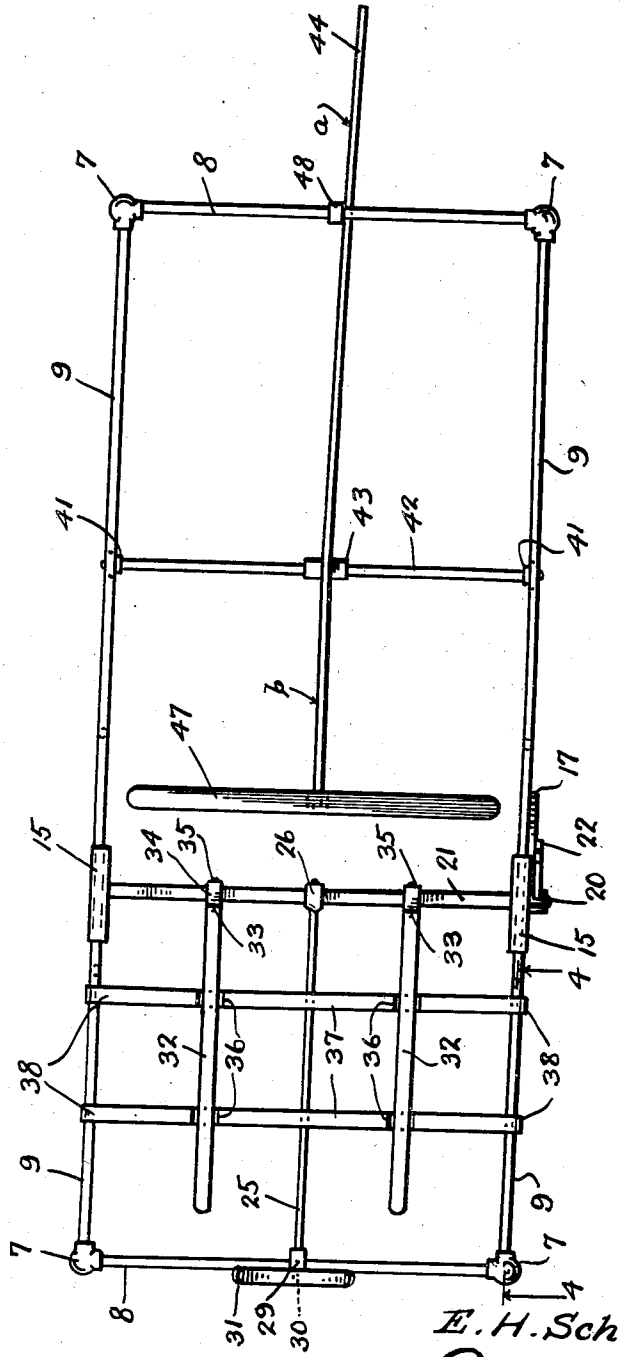
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Fig. 4.



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2,147,111

UNDERTAKER'S DRESSING TABLE

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Application March 23, 1937, Serial No. 132,627

3 Claims. (Cl. 311—10)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in undertakers' equipment and more particularly to a dressing table upon which a corpse can be handled easily and conveniently by the undertaker or his assistant in adjusting clothing on the same.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a table upon which a corpse can be placed and means on the table whereby the head and other parts of the body can be lifted as required to permit the disposition of clothing under the corpse.

Other objects of the invention reside in the durability of construction as well as the simplicity thereof and the ease of operation.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a table constructed in accordance with my invention showing the head-rest and hip supporting bar in lowered position,

Figure 2 is a similar view showing the head-rest and hip supporting bar in elevated position, and

Figure 3 is a view in side elevation with the parts in the position shown in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a view in top plan with the parts in the position shown in Figures 1 and 3.

Referring to the drawings wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen that the frame consists of the end legs 5—5 and the end legs 6—6. The upper ends of the legs 5—5 are connected by unions 7 to the end rail 8 and then to the side rail sections 9—9. The lower portions of each pair of the end legs are connected by the rail 10.

It can be seen, that the top rail sections 9—9 which are preferably of tubular construction are connected by dowel pins 11. At a point adjacent where these sections 9—9 connect, an arm 12 extends downwardly from one section 9 at each side of the apparatus and then extends as at 13 to connect to the lower portion of the corresponding leg 5. Additional brace rods 14 are provided between the brace members 12 and the legs 5.

On the rails 9 at each side of the apparatus a sleeve 15 is slidable. From each one of the sleeves depends a leg 16 to one of which the vertical member of the quadrant 17 is secured as at 18. Through the opening 19 which extends through the one leg 16 and the quadrant 17 extends the other smooth end portion 20 of the squared shaft 21. The smooth end 20 of the shaft 21 is supported by the leg of the other sleeve 15. An elongated hand bar 22 is secured to the first mentioned end 20 of the shaft 21 and has a pin 23 which is engageable into the recesses 24 of the quadrant 17 which is preferably of spring material so that the pin 23 can easily engage and disengage with respect to the recesses 24.

Numeral 25 represents an elongated arm which is provided with a U-shaped end portion 26 engaged over the intermediate portion of the shaft 21 and suitably secured thereto by a bolt or the like. This arm 25 is provided with the upstanding post portion 27 terminating in the substantially right angled extension 28 having a threaded bore 29 therein for receiving the depending threaded shank 30 of the head rest 31.

Elongated spring fingers 32 have downwardly disposed shoulder portions 33 from which extend neck portions 34 secured by a suitable bolt 35 to the squared shaft 21 and these fingers 32 are disposed through the depressed portions 36 of the cross bar 37 the end portions of which are bent downwardly as at 38 for rest upon the side rails 9—9. Thus, when the shaft 21 is operated to lift the head rest 31 and the head of the corpse, the fingers 32 will also swing upwardly bearing against the back of the corpse which rocks the back of the corpse and the head thereof to an inclined position.

Underlying one section 9 at each side of the frame is a second rail 39 which together with the adjacent rail section 9 defines a guideway 40 for the reception of the corresponding guide roller 41. These rollers are grooved as shown in Figure 9 and bear against the rails 9 and 39. The rollers 41 are on the ends of the elongated shaft 42 at the intermediate portion of which is a sleeve 43. This sleeve is welded or otherwise secured to the intermediate portion of the elongated hand bar 44 at a point where the hand portion *a* thereof merges with the diverged leg extension *b*.

The free end portion of the leg extension *b* is provided with the upstanding arm 45 which engages between the depending lugs 46 on the hip-engaging cross bar 47 and is suitably bolted thereto.

To retain this hip supporting bar 47 in any desired elevated position, an elongated ratchet bar 48 is provided. This ratchet bar is vertically disposed between the legs 6—6, the upper and lower ends being secured to the cross rails 8—10. The portion *a* of the hand bar 44 is preferably twisted transversely to an angle oblique from the ratchet bar 48 so that it can readily engage with the ratchet teeth 49 of this bar. In view of this, the bar 48 can be held in any desired position by engaging the same with the teeth 49 thus holding

the corpse in the desired position while clothes are being adjusted under the same. Furthermore, the lifting bar **44** can be pulled longitudinally of the corpse, that is, under the corpse from his hips under his legs and toward his feet so that clothing can be pulled down and along under the corpse as this last described lifting unit is pulled longitudinally of the frame.

While the foregoing specification sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

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

1. In a table of the class described, a skeleton frame comprising a pair of parallel upper side bars, and a combined head and back rest assembly at one end of the frame comprising a pair of sleeves slidably mounted on said bars, respectively, and each having a bracket arm depending therefrom, a transverse rock shaft having opposite ends journalled in said bracket arms, a rod-like head rest support extending from the center of the shaft toward said end of the frame and provided with an upstanding free end, a head rest fast on said end of the support, back rest bars fixed to said shaft and extending toward said end of the frame, and manually operative means for rocking the shaft into different set positions.

2. In a table of the class described, a skeleton frame comprising a pair of parallel upper side bars, a pair of shorter guide bars extending from one end of the table beneath said side bars and forming therewith opposed pairs of upper and lower trackways extending lengthwise of the frame, and a body rest comprising a transverse rod having a pair of rollers on opposite ends thereof interposed between the trackways of said pairs, respectively, whereby said rod is mounted for rocking and travelling movement on said frame, a rod-like body rest support extending from the center of said shaft on one side thereof in the longitudinal center of the frame, an elongated body rest fast on the other end of the support transverse thereto, a hand lever extending from the shaft on the other side thereof whereby said shaft, support and rest may be rocked vertically and travelling movement imparted thereto, and means to releasably secure said lever in selected positions.

3. In a table of the class described, a skeleton frame comprising a pair of parallel upper side bars, and a rest for a portion of the body comprising a transverse rock shaft mounted at its ends for sliding movement along said bars and also for rocking movement, a rod extending centrally from the rock shaft parallel with said bars and midway between the same for vertical movement into different angular positions under rocking movement of the shaft and for endwise movement into different locations along said frame by sliding movement of the shaft, an elongated body rest member mounted on said rod for movement thereby and to extend transversely of the frame, and manipulative means for rocking the shaft into different set positions.

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