

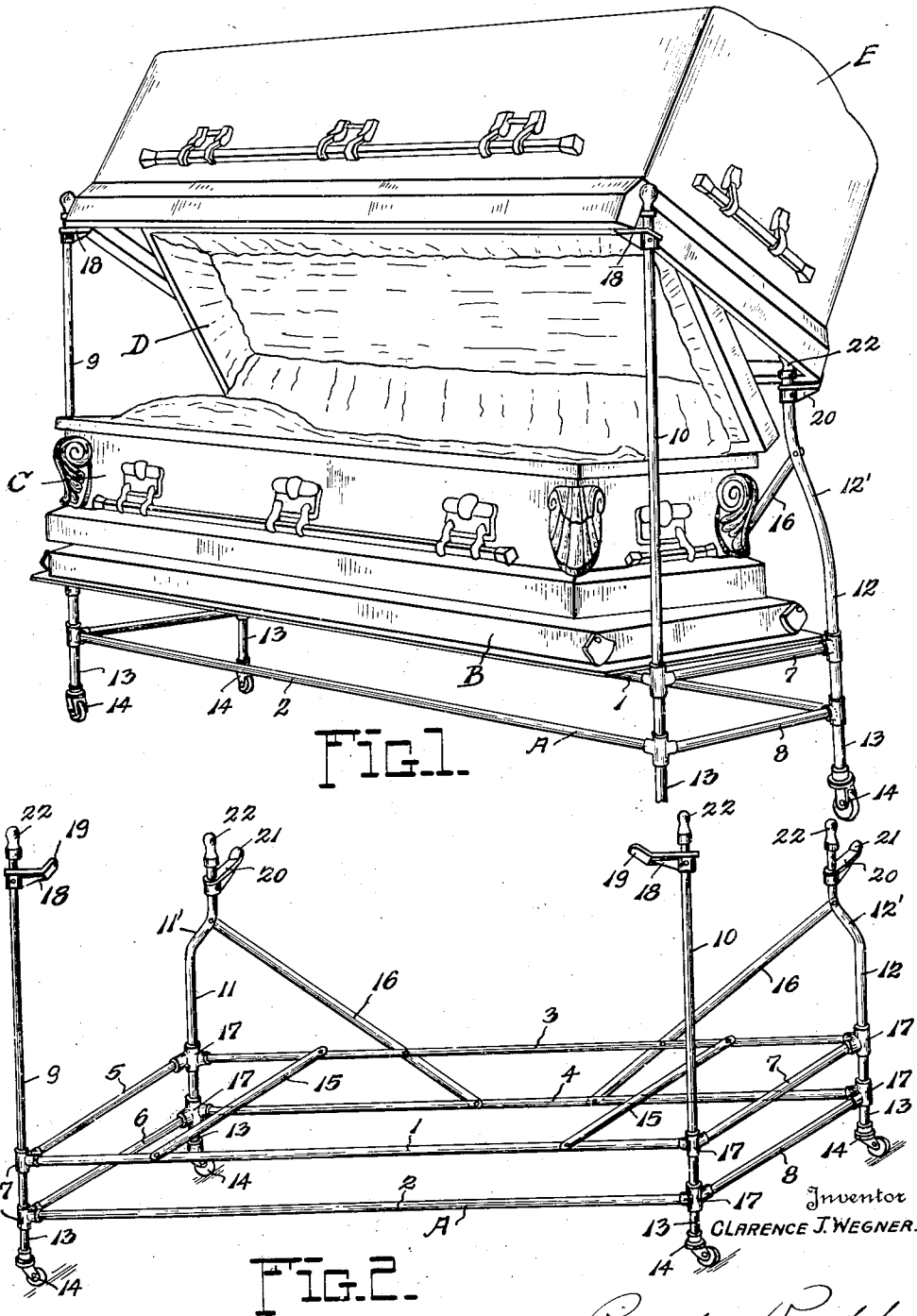
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C. J. WEGNER

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DISPLAY SUPPORT FOR BURIAL CASKETS AND VAULTS

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DISPLAY SUPPORT FOR BURIAL CASKETS
AND VAULTSClarence J. Wegner, Galion, Ohio, assignor to
The Perfection Steel Body Company, Cleve-
land, Ohio, a corporation

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6 Claims. (Cl. 211-84)

The growing use of burial vaults for receiving and enclosing burial caskets when placed in graves makes desirable the employment in undertaking establishments and manufacturers' display rooms where caskets and such vaults are displayed, of some convenient means for supporting the casket and vault to facilitate the selection thereof by prospective purchasers of the same.

With the foregoing in view, the present invention comprises a relatively simple construction of display support upon which may be conveniently arranged the base of a burial vault, a burial casket, and the top or cover of the vault in such a way that space is economized, and so disposed as to readily show a prospective purchaser just how the casket and vault are used in combination for burial purposes.

By the use of several display stands or supports of the present invention, each stand or support may have displayed thereon a particular type of casket and a particular construction of vault which may harmonize or go well together according to the taste of the person responsible for the selection of a casket and vault combination.

In carrying out this invention, not only is the construction proposed intended to be very simple, but since the weight of a casket and vault when combined is very considerable, an object is to secure a very rigid construction of stand together with one in which the casket may be mounted in an open position to display all of its artistic features and the vault displayed in such a manner that the cover or top may be positioned normally open or upraised from the base with the casket beneath.

With the foregoing objectives in mind, therefore, my stand or support is a combination device involving a substantial and rigid base frame supported on legs equipped with casters so as to be readily portable, there being provided rigid corner posts rising from the base frame and carrying rest members in the form of lateral arms disposed to support and interlock with the front portion of the vault cover or top, there being associated arms for engaging and interlocking with the rear portion of said vault cover or top, all in such manner as to prevent liability of displacement of the vault member and yet firmly holding the latter in an inclined position superposed relatively to the casket and base of the vault which are carried by the main base frame of the apparatus.

My invention comprehends certain other spe-

cific features of the combination which will appear more fully upon reference to the following description and to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a stand or support embodying the invention and illustrating the burial vault base, casket, and burial vault cover or top as when being displayed by means of the invention, one of the front legs of the support being broken away but being fully illustrated in Figure 2.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the stand or support alone, showing more clearly the construction of the corner posts and the mounting of the rest arms carried thereby.

Specifically describing the improvements of this invention, it is notable that the stand or support thereof comprises a base frame generally designated A and including the longitudinal front bars 1 and 2, the latter disposed beneath the former; the longitudinal rear bars 3 and 4, the bar 4 disposed beneath the bar 3; the transverse end bars 5 and 6, the bar 6 beneath the bar 5; and the complementary transverse end bars 7 and 8, the bar 8 disposed beneath the bar 7. Corner posts, those at the front designated 9 and 10, and those at the rear designated 11 and 12, are provided and suitably joined to the several bars 1 to 8 inclusive, in the manner shown in the drawing. Legs 13 extend downwardly from each corner portion of the base frame A and are equipped with casters 14 for purposes of portability of the apparatus. For purposes of bracing and support, crossbars 15 are disposed parallel with the end bars 5, 6, 7, and 8, and connect the front and rear bars 1 and 3 a short distance from the ends of the stand. Diagonal braces 16 are attached at their upper ends near the upper portions of the rear posts 11 and 12 and incline downwardly toward the middle portions of the rear bar 4 where they are riveted or otherwise fastened to this bar 4. They are likewise riveted or similarly fastened to the upper rear bar 3 but their lower terminals are opposite the bar 4. The base frame A of the construction set forth, as well as the posts and legs forming parts thereof, may be made of pipe lengths and these pipe lengths may be joined together by screw threaded couplings or unions generally designated at 17. The parts 15 and 16 may be flat bars if desired, though this is not a necessary requirement, as any suitable rigid bars may be employed.

The front posts 9 and 10 are taller than the rear posts 11 and 12 and carry at their upper ends laterally extending rest members 18 project-

ing toward one another and equipped with upwardly extending projections 19. In like manner the rear posts 11 and 12 are equipped with rearwardly extending rest members 20 having upwardly extending projections 21 at their rear terminals. The upper portions of the posts 11 and 12 are bent laterally toward one another for a purpose to be hereinafter referred to. Preferably the upper extremities of the posts 9, 10, 11, and 12 are equipped with engaging knob-like heads 22 of similar form, and these are preferably of somewhat ornamental structure to enhance the appearance of the stand when put into use. The heads 22, however, perform a mechanical function in that the heads 22 of the front posts 9 and 10 engage with the end portions of the cover or top of the vault, and the heads 22 of the rear posts 11 and 12 engage within the cover or top of the vault, when the vault or cover is disposed in displayed position upon the stand or support of the invention. The rest members 18 and 20 may be riveted upon the posts which carry them, or, in the event it is desired that they be adjustable, instead of rivets, removable pins may be used to pass through the hubs of the rest members and the posts, and the posts may be equipped with a series of openings through which the pins may pass so that slight vertical adjustment of the parts 18 and 20 may be obtained, whereby corresponding adjustment of the vault top or cover may be achieved in the displaying of this part upon the stand or support.

With the construction of my device understood as above set forth, the use of the invention is quite obvious upon reference to Figure 1, wherein the base frame A is illustrated as carrying the base or bottom B of a vault of a well known metallic type at present commonly in use. Upon the base B of the vault is disposed the casket C, and the cover or top of the casket designated D is shown open. Superposed relatively to the casket C is the top or cover E of the vault itself and this cover will be seen to be disposed in an inclined position with its front portion interlocked with the rest members 18, with the heads 22 of the front posts 9 and 10 abutting with the top E at the outer sides of the ends thereof. The rear side of the vault top or cover E is supported by directly engaging upon the rest members 20, and the heads 22 of the rear posts 11 and 12 engage the inner surface of the rear side of the vault cover. The members 19 and 21 of the rest members 18 and 20 respectively so engage with the cover E as to assist in preventing sliding off or displacement of the cover from the rest members in an obvious manner. In order that the rest members 20 may be disposed inwardly of the ends of the cover E and the heads 22 of the posts 11 and 12 may engage inside of said cover, the upper portions of the posts 11 and 12 are bent inwardly or toward each other as shown at 11' and 12' respectively to insure the arrangement of parts just above referred to.

By the use of my invention it is apparent that a burial vault and casket may be quickly mounted upon the stand or support and the various parts may be arranged as shown in Figure 1 without difficulty and with assurance that they will not be displaced accidentally in the event of pressure against them in any one of different directions possible. The entire construction in view of its simplicity and rigidity is very serviceable in practical use, and moreover it is neat and possessed of a certain degree of ornamentality

as required, having in view the purposes of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A stand or support for displaying burial caskets and vaults, the same comprising a base frame, legs supporting the base frame, front and rear corner posts projecting upwardly from the base frame, the upper end portions of the rear corner posts being extended at an angle to the lower portions and toward each other, and rest members carried by the upper end portions of the corner posts below the upper extremities thereof, said rest members to engage the front and rear portions of a burial vault, and the upper extremities of the corner posts likewise to engage portions of the burial vault cover whereby to prevent accidental displacement of the latter.

2. A stand or support for displaying burial caskets and vaults, the same comprising a base frame, legs supporting the base frame, front and rear corner posts projecting upwardly from the base frame, the upper end portions of the rear corner posts being extended at an angle to the lower portions and toward each other, rest members carried by the upper end portions of the corner posts below the upper extremities thereof, said rest members to engage the front and rear portions of a burial vault, and the upper extremities of the corner posts likewise to engage portions of the burial vault cover whereby to prevent accidental displacement of the latter, the rest members for the front corner posts comprising arms projecting laterally from the posts toward each other and equipped with upwardly extending end projections, the rest members for the rear corner posts projecting rearwardly therefrom and comprising arms equipped with upwardly extending projections, and head members on the front posts capable of engaging outside the ends of the burial vault cover and the outside of the rear posts capable of engaging inside the burial vault cover for the purpose set forth.

3. A stand or support for displaying burial caskets and vaults, the same comprising a base frame, legs supporting the base frame, front and rear corner posts projecting upwardly from the base frame, the upper end portions of the rear corner posts being extended at an angle to the lower portions and toward each other, rest members carried by the upper end portions of the corner posts below the upper extremities thereof, said rest members to engage the front and rear portions of a burial vault, and the upper extremities of the corner posts likewise to engage portions of the burial vault cover whereby to prevent accidental displacement of the latter, the base frame comprising parallel superposed front and rear longitudinal bars and parallel superposed transverse end bars connecting said front and rear bars, the said posts and base frame parts being made of pipe sections, coupling unions at the corners of the base frame uniting the front and rear longitudinal bars with the adjacent transverse end bars, crossbars parallel with the transverse end bars and connecting upper ones of the longitudinal front and rear bars, the rear posts being bent laterally toward each other near their upper ends and below the rest members carried thereby, the upper extremities of the corner posts being equipped with knob-like heads at points above the rest members.

4. A stand for displaying burial caskets and vaults, comprising a frame including spaced front

and rear posts of different heights united to the frame and rigid therewith, rest members carried by the upper portions of the front posts and extending inwardly to receive one side of the vault cover between the front posts, and other rests extending rearwardly from the rear posts and constructed and arranged to support the opposite side of the vault cover, to prevent accidental displacement therefrom.

5. A combination stand for displaying burial caskets and vaults, the same comprising a base frame including supporting legs, the said frame being horizontally disposed so as to support thereon the base or bottom of a burial vault upon which vault a casket may rest for display purposes, front and rear posts projecting upwardly from said base frame, the rear posts being spaced from one another and the front posts being spaced from the rear posts, said posts being rigidly united to the base frame to form integral members thereof projecting upwardly therefrom, the said rear posts of the base frame being shorter than the front posts, rest members carried by the upper portions of the rear posts to support thereon the rear portion of the body of a burial vault, and rest members projecting from the upper end portions of the front posts to be engaged with the front portion of the body of a burial vault whereby when the burial vault body is engaged and supported on the rests of the said posts said body will be inclined rearwardly and downwardly from its front to its rear sides.

6. A combination stand for displaying burial caskets and vaults, comprising a horizontal base including legs at the corner portions thereof, said base being adapted to support the bottom of a burial vault thereon so disposed that it may receive in a displayed position a casket carried upon the upper surface thereof, a plurality of front and rear posts disposed adjacent to the ends of the base frame and projecting upwardly from the base frame, said posts being united rigidly to the base frame and forming integral upwardly extending members projecting therefrom, rest members projecting laterally from the front posts at points below the upper extremities of the latter and adapted to engage with the front portion of a burial vault body, and other rest members projecting laterally from the rear posts adjacent to the upper extremities of the latter to engage with the rear portion of the body of the burial vault when the latter is disposed in position upon the rests of the front and rear posts, the rear posts being somewhat shorter than the front posts whereby when the body of the burial vault is disposed upon the rests of the front and rear posts said body will incline rearwardly and downwardly to facilitate obtaining a display space beneath it and the bottom which is adapted to rest upon the base frame of the stand, whereby the top of the casket carried by the base of the vault disposed upon the base frame may be maintained in an open display position.

CLARENCE J. WEGNER.

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