Sept. 7, 1948. M. SKOLNIK 2,448,923

CASKET AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

Filed June 5, 1944 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

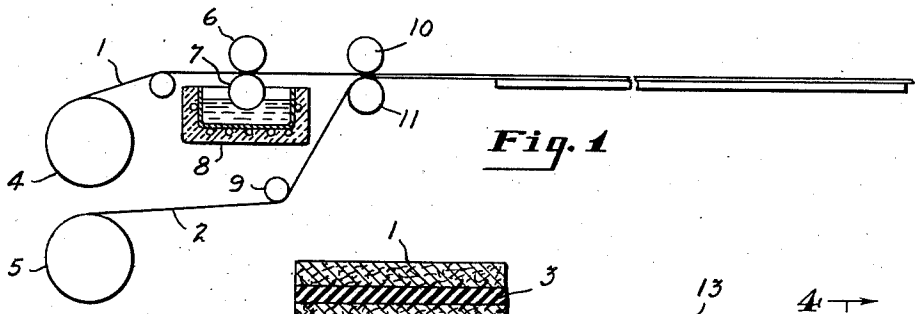


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

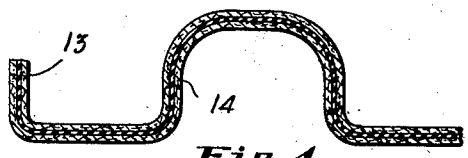


Fig. 4

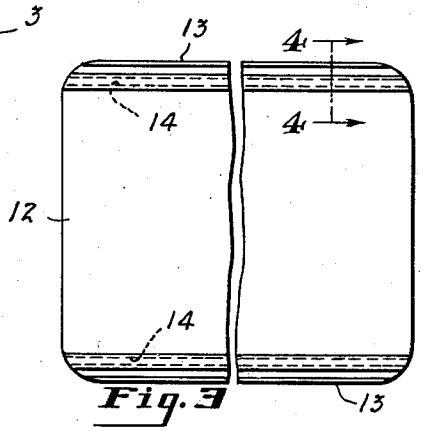


Fig. 3

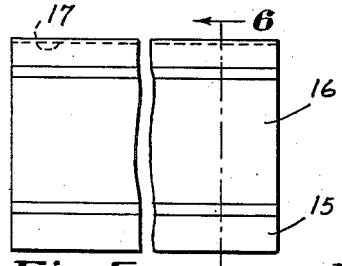


Fig. 5

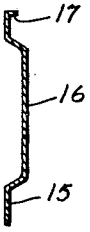


Fig. 6



Fig. 8

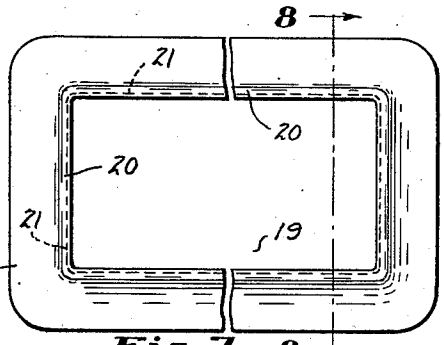


Fig. 7

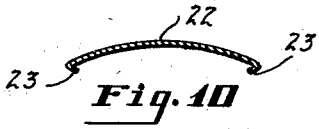


Fig. 10

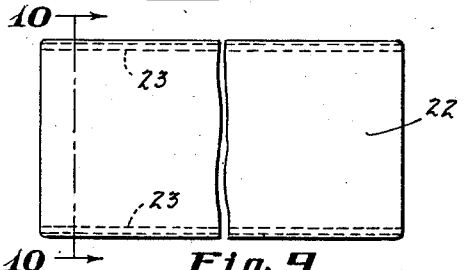


Fig. 9

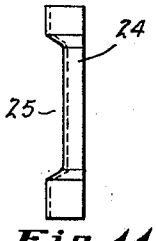


Fig. 11

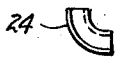


Fig. 12

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CASKET AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

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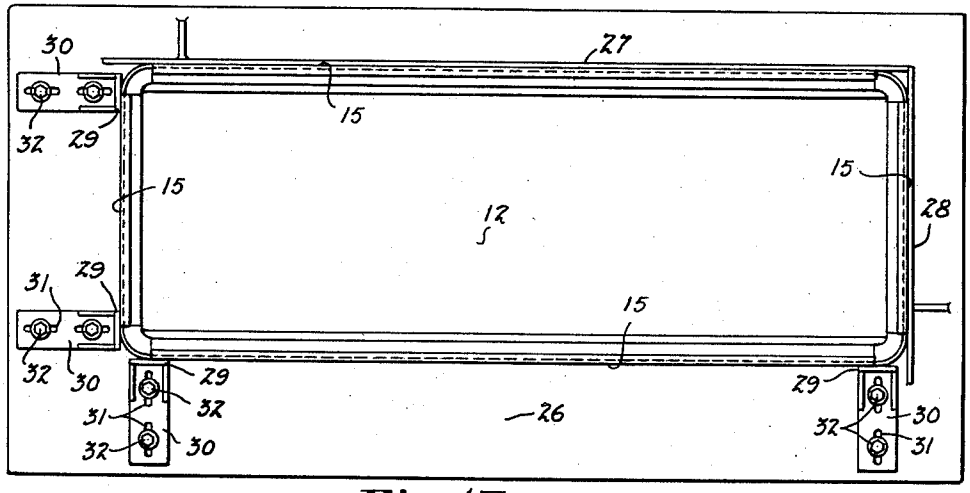


Fig. 13

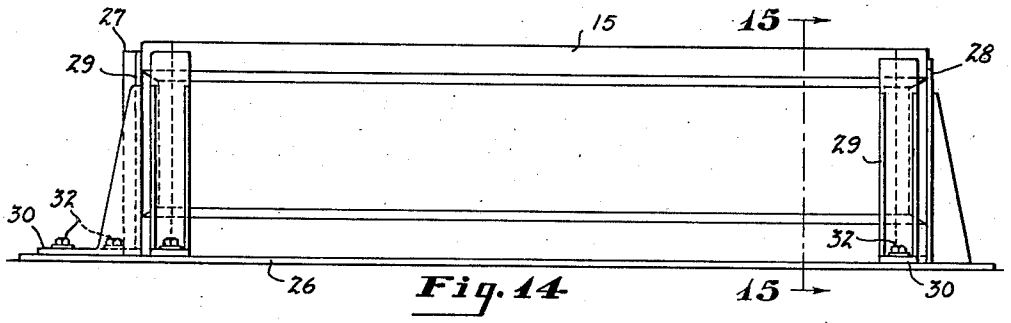


Fig. 14

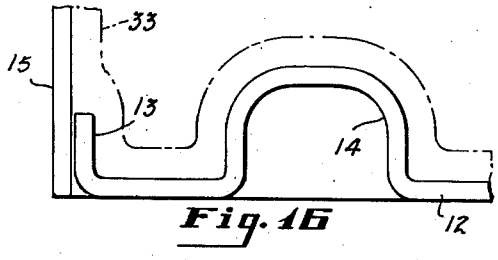


Fig. 16

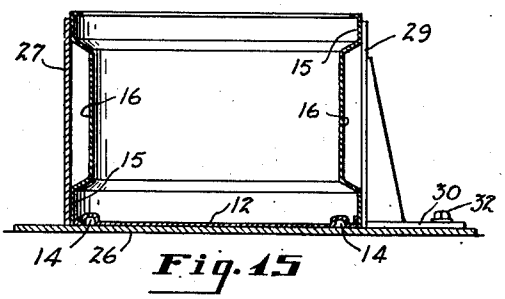


Fig. 15

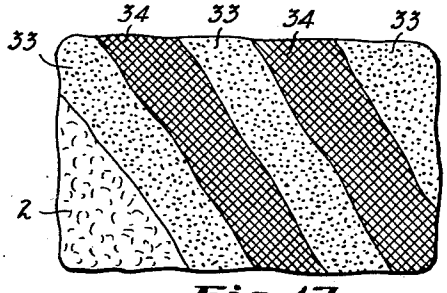


Fig. 17

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Sept. 7, 1948. M. SKOLNIK 2,448,923

CASKET AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

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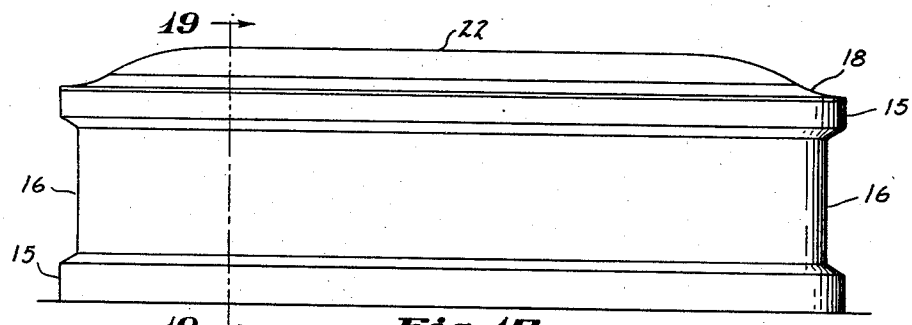


Fig. 18

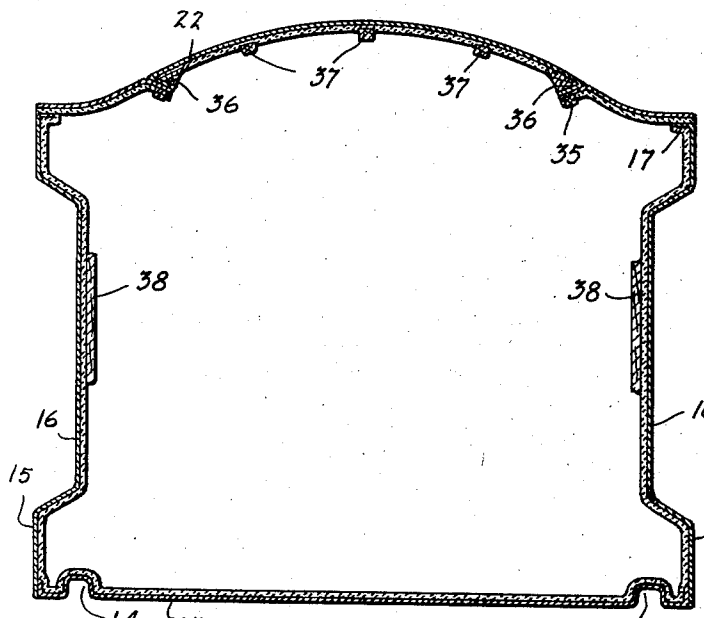


Fig. 19

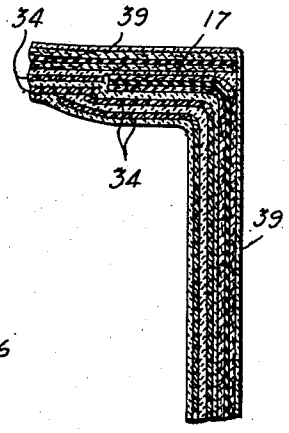


Fig. 20

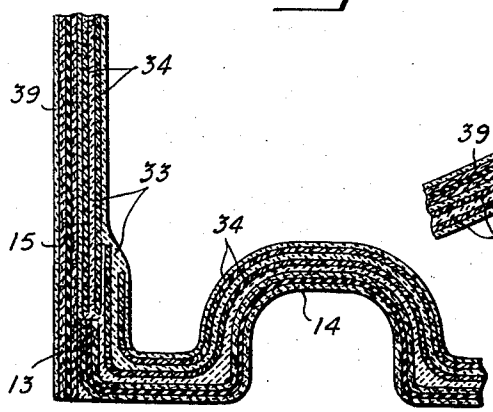


Fig. 22

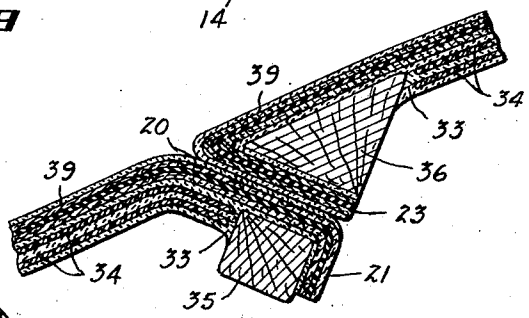


Fig. 21

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Patented Sept. 7, 1948

2,448,923

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,448,923

CASKET AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

Max Skolnik, Chicago, Ill.

Application June 5, 1944, Serial No. 538,835

6 Claims. (Cl. 27—3)

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The subject matter of the present invention is a casket and method of making the same.

The main objects of the invention are to provide a casket of pleasing appearance, light weight and adequate strength, that is constructed of materials that are readily obtainable at low cost and to provide a simple and inexpensive process of making the casket.

A further object of the invention is to provide a casket that is composed of a laminated paper shell shaped to the exterior contour of the casket, an inner stiffening body of cement applied to the interior of the shell, and a finishing coat upon the exterior of the shell.

Another object of the invention is to provide a shell composed of pitch impregnated paper shaped to conform to the exterior contour of the casket and providing a form within which an inner stiffening body of plastic material such as cement may be built and which is adapted to receive a smooth outer layer of magnesium oxychloride cement which provides a smooth hard paint base.

A further object of the invention is to provide a method of making a casket in which a laminated sheet material composed of a pitch impregnated and felt paper and a second paper sheet united to the impregnated paper by a layer of pitch is shaped under pressure while heated and built into a shell conforming to the exterior contour of a casket.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention may be said to comprise a casket and method of making same as illustrated in the accompanying drawing hereinafter described and particularly set forth in appended claims, together with such variations and modifications thereof as will be apparent to one skilled in the art to which the invention pertains.

Reference should be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specifications, in which

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic view showing the method of making the laminated sheet material employed in making a casket of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary section through the laminated sheet materials;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the panel upon which the bottom of the casket is built;

Fig. 4 is a section on an enlarged scale taken on the line indicated at 4—4 in Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a side elevation of one of the vertical wall panels;

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Fig. 6 is a section taken on the line indicated at 6—6 in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a plan view of the top panel;

Fig. 8 is a section taken on the line indicated at 8—8 in Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a plan view of the lid panel;

Fig. 10 is a section taken on the line indicated at 10—10 in Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 is a side elevation of one of the rounded corner panels;

Fig. 12 is a top plan view of the corner panel;

Fig. 13 is a top plan view of a jig with the formed panels assembled thereon to form the casket shell;

Fig. 14 is a side elevation of the jig with the assembled casket shell thereon;

Fig. 15 is a section taken on the line indicated at 15—15 in Fig. 14;

Fig. 16 is a fragmentary section on an enlarged scale through one of the bottom corners of the shell;

Fig. 17 is a fragmentary view showing the cement and fabric layers of the stiffening body that is built up within the interior of the shell;

Fig. 18 is a side elevation of the completed casket;

Fig. 19 is a section taken on the line indicated at 19—19 in Fig. 18, and

Figs. 20, 21 and 22 are sections on a scale larger than Fig. 19, through the top corner, the bottom corner and the lid seat of the casket.

In constructing a casket by the method of the present invention, a shell of laminated sheet material that conforms to the exterior surface of the casket is first built and within the interior of this shell the body of the casket is formed which comprises an inner wall or layer of cement which has the form of the shell and which provides the required strength and rigidity. To the exterior surface of the shell a suitable finish coat is applied. The laminated material employed in making the shell upon which the casket is built, is preferably a pitch impregnated paper, that is adapted to be formed into panels of the desired configuration by pressure in suitable molds after the sheet material has been made plastic by heat.

The method of making the laminated paper and sheet material from which the panels of the casket shell are formed is illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings, and the finished laminated sheet, as shown in Fig. 2, consists of an outer layer of pitch impregnated felt paper 1, an inner layer of unimpregnated paper 2 such as craft paper, and an intermediate layer of pitch 3 which binds the two layers of paper together.

As shown in Fig. 1, the sheets of impregnated felt paper 1 and of craft paper 2 are fed from rolls 4 and 5, the impregnated paper passing between the pressure roll 6 and an applicator roll 7 which is positioned in a pitch tank 8 and applies a coating of melted pitch to the under side of the sheet 1. The craft paper from the roll 5 passes under a guide roller 9 and between pressure rollers 10 and 11 through which the coated paper 1 also passes. The pressure rollers 10 and 11 squeeze the two layers of paper together upon the pitch binder which cements the two sheets together. The pitch employed for impregnating the outer sheet 1 and for the binder 3 may be a resinous or a mineral pitch, and is preferably a high melting point pitch having a melting point from 350 to 375° F. A laminated sheet containing such high melting point pitch is hard and brittle at ordinary atmospheric temperatures, but becomes plastic when heated so that it can be formed under pressure in suitable molds, into panels that conform to the walls of the casket to be formed.

As shown in Figs. 3 and 4, a bottom panel 12 formed from the laminated sheet material has side flanges 13 and a channel 14 parallel with the flanged edges and spaced inwardly a short distance therefrom. The channel 14 forms a finger receiving recess in the completed casket providing a hand grip anywhere along the length of the casket for convenience in handling.

As shown in Figs. 5 and 6, a vertical wall panel 15 is provided with a central depressed portion 16 and an inturned top flange 17. These panels form the side and end walls of the casket.

As shown in Figs. 7 and 8, a top panel 18 is formed with a central rectangular opening 19 and has portions 20 at the margin of the opening, extending inwardly at an inclination to provide a lid seat, an inturned flange 21 being formed at the inner edge of the seat.

As shown in Figs. 9 and 10, a lid panel 22 has an inturned marginal flange 23 that conforms to the marginal seat 20 of the top panel.

As shown in Figs. 11 and 12, curved corner panels 24 are provided which are adapted to engage the edges of the panels 15 and which have central depressed portions 25 that conform to the depressed portions 16 of the side wall panels.

In Figs. 13, 14 and 15 the panels above described are shown assembled in a jig to form a casket shell. The jig in which the shell is assembled has a supporting base 26 for the shell and vertical walls 27 and 28 that serve to position one side and one end of the shell. For holding the assembled shell against the walls 27 and 28, the jig has positioning posts 29 provided with bases 30 resting upon the jig base 26 and provided with slots 31 which receive bolts 32 threaded into the base 26. By means of the bolt and slot connections to the base 26, the posts 29 may be adjusted toward or away from the walls 28 to clamp the shell against said walls.

When assembled in the jig, the shell forming panels preferably have their edge portions which abut joined together in such manner as to prevent accidental displacement of the panels during the application of the cement body thereto. A satisfactory method of securing the panels at their adjoining edges is to coat the edge portions of each of the panels that abut with edge portions of other panels, with melted pitch which when cooled binds the abutting edges together. The flanges 13 of the bottom panel 12 abut against the inner faces of the side wall panels

and the flanges 17 of the vertical wall panels abut the under faces of the top wall panel 18, thereby providing rigid connections for holding the panels of the shell in place.

The assembled shell provides a form within which the body of the casket may be built. As herein shown a stiffening body 33 of cement is applied to the interior of the shell. The cement employed is preferably a magnesium oxychloride cement and may be applied to the interior of the shell by any suitable means such as a brush or a spray.

After a thin layer of cement has been applied to the interior of the shell, the surface of the cement is covered with sheets of a loose woven fabric 34, such as burlap, and additional cement is applied to the fabric, filling the interstices thereof, binding the same to the inner layer of cement and covering the fabric with cement. Two or more layers of fabric may be provided, the cement and fabric being so applied that the layers of cement are alternated with layers of fabric.

As shown in Figs. 20 and 22, the fabric sheets 34 are embedded in the cement parallel with the walls of the shell. The sheets of fabric are of a size somewhat larger than the wall panels and have portions turned up and overlapping at the corners where the panels are joined together. In this manner an integral, one-piece fabric reinforced cement body is formed within the laminated shell.

As shown in Fig. 21, the lid seat 20 may be reinforced by wooden strips 35 that are secured in place beneath the seat 20 and within the flange 21 by the cement body in which the strip is partially embedded. The edge portion of the lid may also be reinforced by means of triangular wooden strips 36 that are anchored in the cement within the marginal flange 23 of the lid panel. Additional reinforcing strips 37 may be embedded in the cement exteriorly of the fabric on the under side of the lid panel. Upon the interior of the side walls of the casket suitable wood blocks 38 may be secured in place by the cement to facilitate the attachment of casket handles. The strips 37 and blocks 38 may provide bases to which the upholstery may be fastened.

After the cement body has been applied to the interior of the shell and lid, the exterior surfaces of the shell and lid have a thin layer 39 of magnesium oxychloride cement applied thereto which provides a smooth, hard base for a finish coat of paint, lacquer or the like. This outer layer of cement may be applied with a brush or spray. Upon the cement coating a paint filler or under coat is applied and thoroughly rubbed in, after which the finish coat is applied.

It is to be understood that variations and modifications of the specific process and product herein shown and described for purposes of illustration may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A casket comprising a shell composed of panels formed of pitch impregnated paper and having edge portions adjoining at the corner of the shell, certain of the adjoining panels being each provided with a flange that abuts a face portion of another panel and is cemented thereto, a stiffening body of cement covering the interior of the shell and adhered thereto, and a layer of magnesium oxychloride cement covering the exterior of the shell and forming a paint base.

2. A casket comprising a shell composed of

formed laminated panels having edge portions joined together with a binder composed of high melting point pitch, each panel having an outer layer of felt paper impregnated with high melting point pitch, an inner layer of unimpregnated paper and a layer of pitch between the paper layers, a stiffening body covering the interior of the shell and adhered thereto, said stiffening body being composed of magnesium oxychloride cement with sheets of fabric embedded therein, and a finish coat upon the exterior of said shell.

3. A casket comprising a shell formed of a laminated sheet material composed of an outer layer of pitch impregnated felt paper, an inner layer of unimpregnated paper and a layer of pitch binding said paper layers together, a stiffening body covering the interior of the shell comprising magnesium oxychloride cement having embedded sheets of fabric and wooden strips anchored therein, and an outer finish coat covering said shell.

4. A casket comprising a shell formed of a laminated sheet material composed of an outer sheet of felt paper impregnated with a high melting point pitch, an inner shell of unimpregnated paper and an intermediate layer of high melting point pitch binding the sheets of paper together, a stiffening body secured to the interior of the shell, and a layer of magnesium oxychloride cement adhered to the outer face of the shell and forming a smooth hard paint base.

5. The herein described method of making a casket which comprises heating sheets of pitch impregnated paper and forming the sheets under pressure while heated into panels conforming to portions of the exterior surface of the casket, assembling said formed panels and securing the adjoining edges together to form a casket shell, applying layers of cement to the interior of the shell to form a stiffening body and applying a finish coat to the exterior of said shell.

6. The herein described method of making a casket which comprises forming a laminated sheet composed of an outer layer of pitch impregnated felt paper, an inner layer of unimpregnated paper and an intermediate layer of pitch binding the paper sheets together, heating sheets of such laminated material to make them plastic and forming the heated sheets under pressure into panels conforming to exterior surfaces of the casket walls, assembling the formed panels and securing their edges together to form a casket shell, applying alternate layers of magnesium oxychloride cement and fabric to the interior of the shell to form a stiffening body, and applying a finish coat to the exterior of said shell.

MAX SKOLNIK.

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