

W. L. BEAR.
MORTUARY CASKET.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 14, 1912.

1,040,121.

Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

FIG. 1.

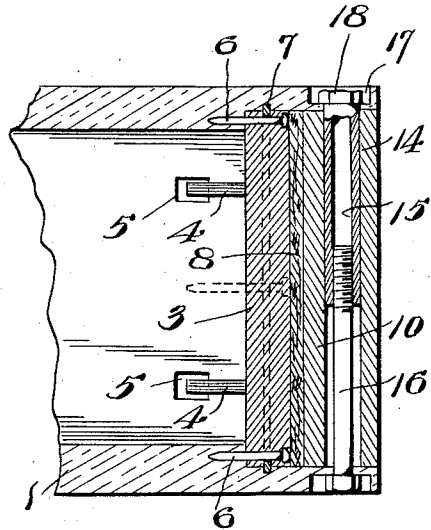
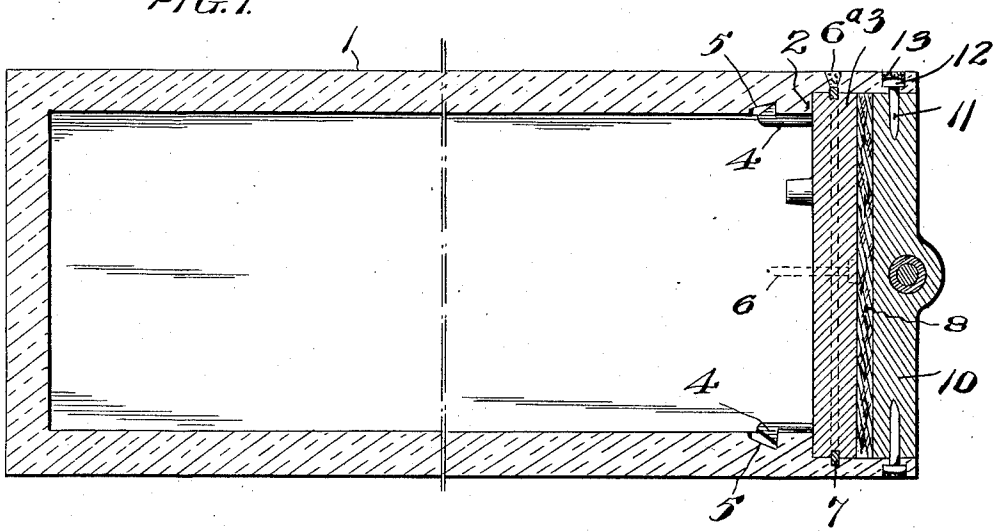


FIG. 2.

WITNESSES

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MORTUARY CASKET.

1,040,121.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM L. BEAR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Mortuary Casket, of which the following is a specification.

An object of my invention is to provide a casket with an indestructible and impervious sealing device.

A further object is to provide antiseptic material between two of the sealing members.

A further object is to provide a novel form of locking means for the outer sealing member.

The invention further consists in the particular form and combination of parts set forth.

The characteristics and advantages of the invention will be sufficiently described hereinafter in connection with a detailed description of the accompanying drawing which shows one exemplifying embodiment of the invention. It is to be understood, however, that the invention can be embodied in many different forms.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of the casket inclosure. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the closure end.

The casket body 1 may be of any convenient shape but is usually of rectangular outline. It may consist of glass, porcelain, enameled iron, bronze, or other indestructible material which is impervious to water or gases. One end of the casket is left open for insertion of the coffin and after insertion this end is permanently and hermetically closed by a special closure which will now be described.

The end of the body is countersunk leaving a shoulder 2. Within the countersink and against the shoulder is placed an inner sealing plate 3, which may be of any suitable material, such as glass, porcelain, enameled iron, bronze, etc. This plate is provided with a plurality of spring-locking hooks 4 suitably connected to the plate and engaging hook sockets 5 formed in the body. Obviously, when the plate is pushed into position these hooks spring back and then outward to engage the sockets and the plate is then automatically and immovably locked in position.

Dowel pins 6 passing through the plate

and through dowel holes in the shoulder 2 further lock and secure the plate in position. The plate is provided about its periphery with a groove, and the countersink or body portion opposite the plate is provided with a complementary groove, and a vent 6^a communicates with this circumferential recess at the top, as shown in Fig. 1. After the plate is in position the groove is filled with molten lead or other suitable metal through the vent 6^a and when set this forms a permanent water and gas-tight seal 7 between the plate and the body. In addition, cement may be placed between the plate and the shoulder 2 and about the edge of the plate when necessary or desirable. A packing 8 is then placed in a layer upon the inner plate. This packing may vary greatly, but in a preferred form consists of a suitable base impregnated with a disinfectant such as formaldehyde. The base may, for example, be asbestos. The outer locking plate 10 is then put in position within the countersink and secured by dowel pins 11. The heads of these pins are countersunk in sockets 12 and the sockets are filled up with cement 13 flush with the outer faces of the casket. The plate is also locked by a double bolt passing through the edges of the casket and a bore 14 provided in the plate. This bolt comprises a hollow internally threaded member 15 and a solid member 16 screw threaded at the end to engage the hollow bolt. The casket is provided with countersinks 17 to receive the nut heads 18 of the bolts which are set up in an obvious manner and then the countersinks may be filled with cement flush with the faces of the casket.

The two locking plates are desirable for complete security and also because they securely retain between them the packing 8 of which the disinfecting medium, such as formaldehyde, neutralizes any gases which might escape past the inner plate 3.

Evidently, when the seal is completed the casket forms a single impervious inclosure which is practically indestructible by the gradual action of natural forces or even by violence.

I claim:

1. In a mortuary casket, the combination of a body open at one end, a primary locking plate, permanent locking means therefor, sealing means therefor, a second sealing

plate, locking means therefor, and a disinfecting packing interposed between the plates.

2. In a mortuary casket, the combination
5 of a body open at one end and having a shoulder, a primary sealing plate located against the shoulder and having spring
hooks permanently engaging sockets in the
body, a complemental groove formed in the
10 body and the plate about the periphery of the latter, a gas-tight seal in said groove, an outer sealing plate and a disinfecting packing interposed between the plates.

3. In a mortuary casket, the combination
of a body, a primary locking plate, sealing 15
means therefor, packing, a second sealing
plate secured outside the packing, dowel
pins securing the second plate and a compound bolt passing through the body and
second plate for locking the latter in posi- 20
tion.

WILLIAM L. BEAR.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, D. C."