July 29, 1941. R. J. DONNELLY 2,250,704

CASKET DROP

Filed Jan. 22, 1938 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

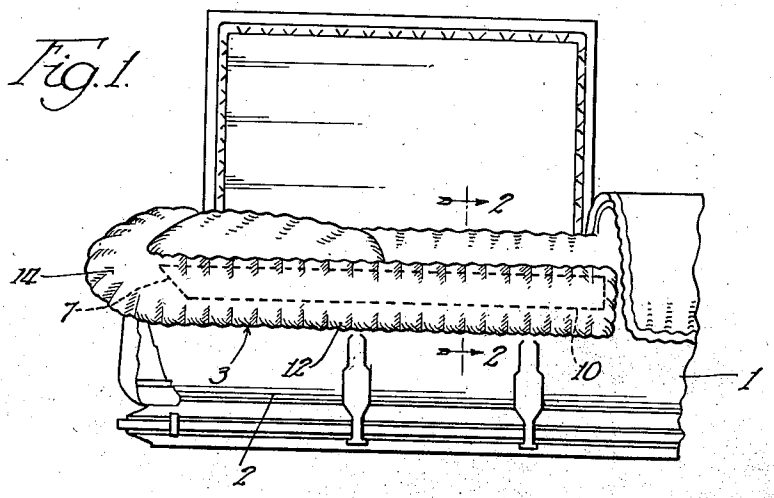


Fig. 3

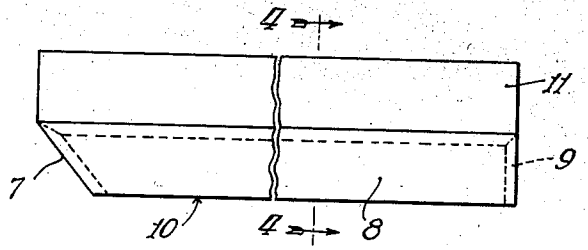


Fig. 2

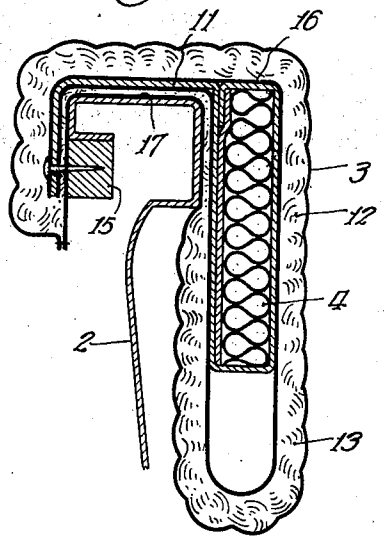


Fig. 4

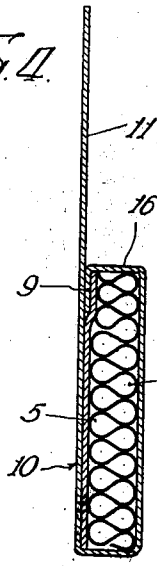
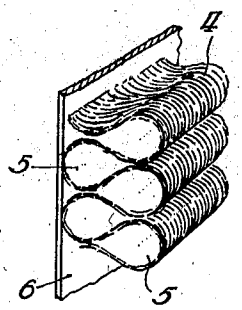


Fig. 5.



Witness:
V. Siljander

Inventor
Richard J. Donnelly
By: Hill & Hill
Attys.

July 29, 1941. R. J. DONNELLY 2,250,704

CASKET DROP

Filed Jan. 22, 1938 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 6.

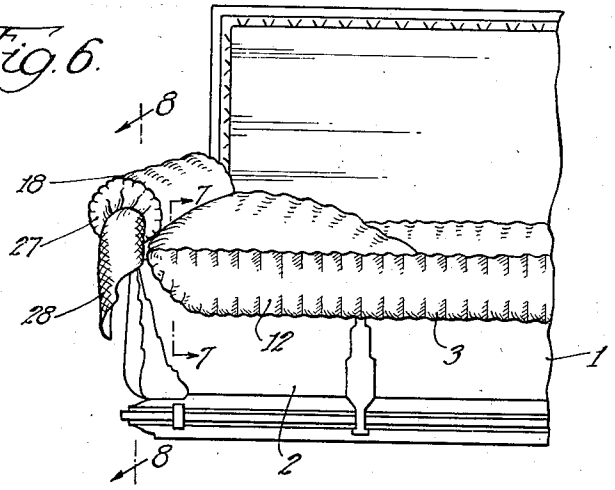


Fig. 7.

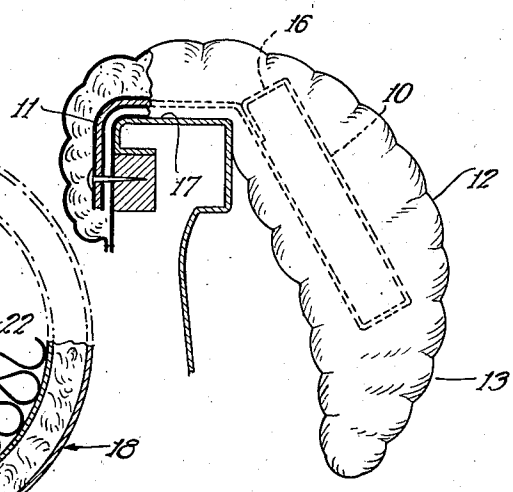
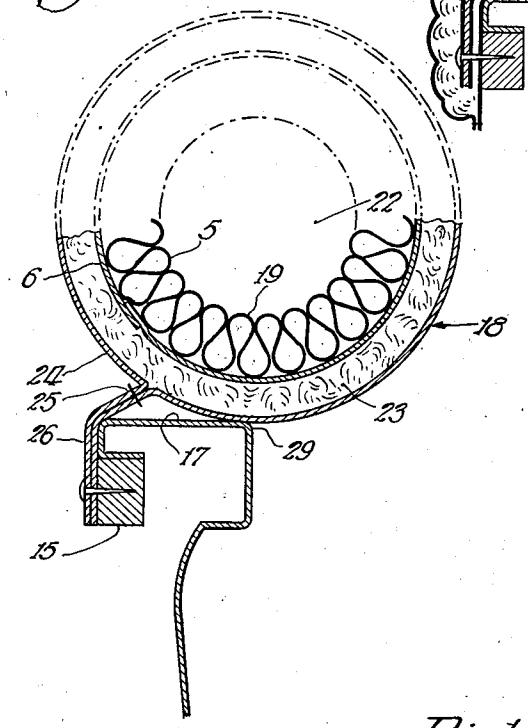


Fig. 8.



Witness:
V. Siljander

Inventor
Richard J. Donnelly
By: Hill & Hill Attys.

Patented July 29, 1941 2,250,704

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,250,704

CASKET DROP

Richard J. Donnelly, Cleveland, Ohio, assignor to F. H. Hill Company, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio, a corporation of Ohio

Application January 22, 1938, Serial No. 186,268

6 Claims. (Cl. 27—19)

My invention relates to caskets, and more particularly to drops and ledge rolls for the same to produce a couch effect in the open casket.

The invention has as an object the production of a casket drop or ledge roll which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, durable and efficient for the purpose for which it is intended.

Another object of the invention is the production of a drop or ledge roll which is lightweight and which is not clumsy or bulky.

Another object of the invention is the production of a drop or ledge roll which is so constructed as to permit closing and opening of the casket without wrinkling the tailored interior, and in which there are no rigid parts to interfere with body adjustment when closed.

The invention has among its further objects the production of a drop or ledge roll which is not only soft and yieldable, but also resilient and will therefore maintain its original shape even though momentarily crushed or distorted.

Many other objects and advantages of the construction herein shown and described will be obvious to those skilled in the art from the disclosure herein given.

To this end my invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and combination of parts herein shown and described and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings wherein like reference characters indicate like or corresponding parts—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a casket and drop;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the complete drop as attached to the casket, taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan elevational view of a drop before the ornamental covering or lining is attached;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view along the line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the resilient inner material employed in the drop or ledge roll;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of a casket and ledge roll;

Fig. 7 is a partial sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6; and

Fig. 8 is a sectional view of the ledge roll taken on the line 8—8 of Fig. 6.

To produce a couch effect in a casket, I employ both the drop as shown in Figs. 2 and 7 and the ledge roll as shown in Figs. 6 and 8 as will hereinafter be described, employing the drop adjacent the front of the casket in all cases and preferably employing the ledge roll adjacent the ends of the casket in conjunction with the front drop. However, the ledge roll may be omitted if desired, and an end drop used in place thereof, as shown in Fig. 1, as either combination will give the desired effect.

Referring now to the drawings, and more particularly to Fig. 1, 1 represents a casket having a front side wall 2 and a drop designated generally by the numeral 3 attached to the inner side thereof, adapted to hang and depend from the top edge to simulate the appearance of a couch, or as is known in the trade, to obtain a couch effect. As shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, this drop comprises a filler 4 of resilient material, which, in the preferred embodiment of my invention, is what is known in the rubber industry as "Nukraft," and, as shown in Fig. 5, is composed of hair dipped in latex and formed in loops 5, which, in turn, are bonded to a fabric back 6, thus forming a very resilient lightweight material which readily resumes and maintains its original shape after being compressed or distorted.

The "Nukraft" or other filler material is cut to the shape desired, and if end drops are used in conjunction with a front drop, the adjacent ends of the side and end drops are mitered as shown at 7 of Figs. 1 and 3 so that the side and end drops will not interfere with each other when they are rotated or folded into the casket when the latter is desired to be closed. The filler material is then covered with a pliable material 8, the edges thereof being turned under as shown at 9 of Fig. 3, after which the whole is glued to the filler material to provide a body member 10. The attaching flap 11 extends from the body portion 10, and in the preferred embodiment of my invention, is merely the free end of the covering material 8. The drop, including the flap 11, is then enclosed in an envelope 12 of ornamental material such as that used in the inner lining of the casket. This covering material is preferably allowed to drop below the lower edge of the body portion as shown at 13 in Figs. 2 and 7. If an end drop is used, the covering material preferably extends in one continuous piece from the front drop to the end drop, as shown at 14 in Fig. 1, thus giving the appearance of a continuance drop around the front and end of the casket.

The completed drop is then attached by means of the flap or strip 11 to a wooden tacking strip 15 located on the inside of the casket wall approximately adjacent the top edge of the inner

side wall. Obviously, this tacking strip 15 may be attached to the casket in any of the conventional ways. The flap 11 may be of a length to position the edge 16 of the drop on a line with the top edge 17 of the casket side wall so that the cover envelope 12 will lie flat thereon when the drop is placed on the edge of the casket and allowed to hang or depend therefrom. If desired, the flap 11 may be shortened slightly, as shown in Fig. 7, to draw the body portion 10 of the drop up on the corner 29 of the top and front edges of the casket so that the drop will be positioned at an angle, as shown in Fig. 7, rather than hanging vertically, as shown in Fig. 2. In this position, the outer covering 12 will take substantially the position shown in Fig. 7, thus giving a well padded appearance with no sharp corners or projections and accenting the couch effect.

The ledge roll designated generally by the numeral 18, as shown in Figs. 6 and 8, comprises a body portion 19 preferably of "Nukraft" which is formed into a roll. The ends 20 and 21 of the backing material 6 overlap one another, as shown in Fig. 8, and are glued together to form a tubular roll having an air space 22 in the center thereof. This roll is then enclosed by ornamental covering material 23 similar to that used in the drop and interior of the casket, which for illustrative purposes is merely blocked in, the numeral 24 representing the outer edge thereof. The edges of the covering material are stitched together at 25, the portion extending therefrom providing a flap or strip 26. The roll 18 is attached to the casket by means of the flap 26 similar in manner to that of the drop 3, the roll resting on the edge 17 approximately adjacent to the corner 29 of the casket. The ends 27 of the ledge roll are covered with similar material, and if desired, may be allowed to hang down, as shown at 28 of Fig. 6, to provide an ornamental effect.

To close the casket, the drops 3 or ledge rolls 18 are merely lifted and rotated into the casket, and if side drops are employed, as the ends thereof are mitered, the end and side drops will not interfere with one another when they are rotated into the casket. If a ledge roll or rolls are used, they are rotated into the casket in a manner similar to the drops, and if necessary, are compressed or flattened slightly so they will take up little room, and due to the resiliency of the body portion 19, will immediately resume their normal position when again rotated out on the edge of the casket. Due, also, to the resiliency of the filler 4, the drop will yield when, for example, a person leans against the casket and will immediately spring back to its original normal position when the pressure is released, thus providing a drop which is at all times neat and uniform in appearance, and which is very durable.

Having thus described my invention it is obvious that various immaterial modifications may be made in the same without departing from the spirit of my invention; hence I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the exact form, construction, arrangement and combination of parts shown and described or uses mentioned.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A casket member of the kind described for attachment to a casket to provide a couch effect, comprising a body portion of a resilient material, and a flexible attaching flap extending from said body portion, for securing said member to the casket side wall.

2. A casket member of the kind described for attachment to a casket to provide a couch effect, comprising a body portion of a resilient material, a pliable covering for said body portion and an attaching flap extending therefrom, for securing said member to the casket side wall.

3. A casket member of the kind described for attachment to a casket to provide a couch effect, comprising a body portion of a resilient material, a pliable covering for said body portion, an attaching flap extending from said body portion for securing said member to the casket side wall, and an ornamental envelope enclosing both the flap and body portion.

4. A casket member of the kind described for attachment to a casket to provide a couch effect, comprising a body portion of a resilient material consisting of a plurality of loops of latex dipped hair, a pliable covering for said body portion and an attaching flap extending therefrom, for securing said member to the casket side wall.

5. A ledge roll of the kind described for attachment to a casket to provide a couch effect, comprising a substantially cylindrical body portion of a resilient material, a pliable covering for said body portion and an attaching flap extending therefrom.

6. A ledge roll of the kind described for attachment to a casket to provide a couch effect, comprising a substantially tubular body portion of a resilient material, and an ornamental covering for said body portion, said covering providing an attaching flap extending therefrom, said body portion compressible for insertion into the casket.

RICHARD J. DONNELLY.