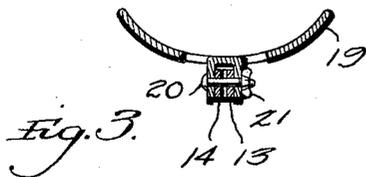
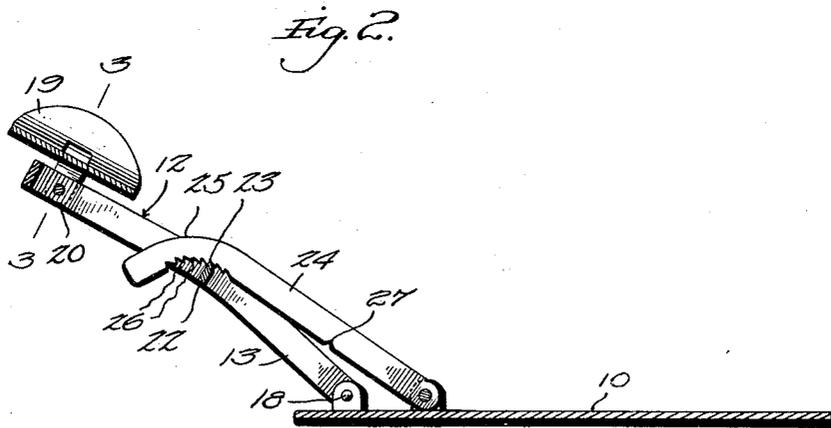
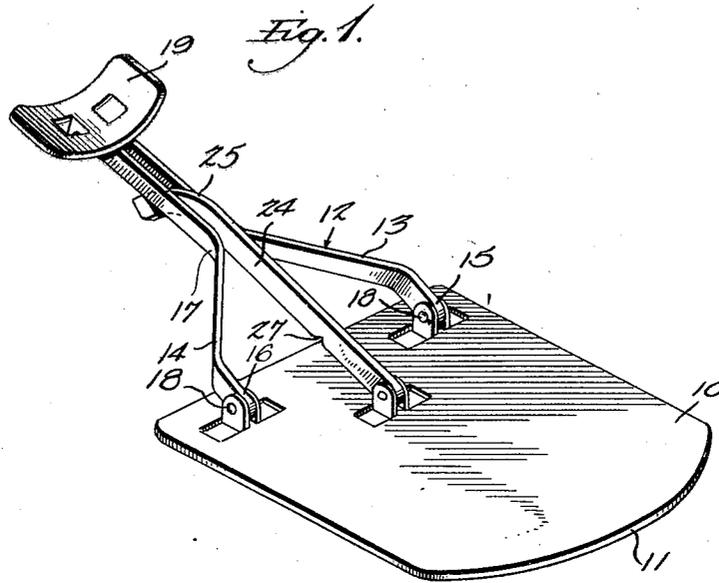


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E. W. APPLING
UNDERTAKER'S DEVICE
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Inventor
EVERETTE W. APPLING

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G. W. Earnshaw
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

EVERETTE W. APPLING, OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI

UNDERTAKER'S DEVICE

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This invention relates to improvements in an undertaker's device particularly adapted for use in supporting the head and upper part of a corpse during preparation thereof prior to the injection of embalming fluid thereinto.

An object of the invention is to provide a device of the character referred to including a pad for the upper part of the body and an adjustable head rest secured to the pad, whereby a convenient and efficient support will be afforded for the head and the upper part of the body while the head is being washed, dressed, shaved, etc.

Another object is to provide novel means for adjusting the head rest whereby it may be easily placed and instantly adjusted to suitable positions.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description.

In the drawings, I have shown a preferred embodiment of my invention. In this showing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device, Figure 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view, parts being shown in elevation, and

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken substantially on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 10 indicates a pad preferably formed of sheet steel or other suitable material and having its forward extremity curved as indicated at 11. The area of the pad is sufficiently large to permit the pad to be placed beneath the shoulders of the body whereby a substantial portion of the latter will be resting on the pad.

A strip of metal indicated as a whole by the numeral 12 is bent to provide a pair of arms 13 and 14, the lower ends of which are pivotally secured to the pad as indicated at 15 and 16. The arms 13 and 14 are spaced apart a substantial distance adjacent their pivot points and extend inwardly toward each other to a point intermediate their ends, indicated at 17, at which point the space between the arms is substantially less and the arms are then arranged parallel for the remainder of their length. Any suitable piv-

otal connection may be made between the arms and the pad. As shown, portions of the pad are punched upwardly to provide bearings between which the ends of the arms are fitted and pivot pins 18 extend through the bearings and arms as will be understood.

Adjacent the upper extremities of the arms a head rest 19 preferably formed of a curved piece of sheet steel or other suitable material is adjustably secured to the arms. As shown, portions of the member 19 are bent downwardly, to fit against the outer surface of the arms and a pivot bolt 20 extends through these portions and the arms. A wing nut 21 is threaded onto the bolt and it will be apparent that the nut provides means for securing the head rest in selected positions about the pivot bolt 20.

At a point between the head rest and the portion of the arms indicated by the numeral 17 a connecting member 22 is arranged between the arms. As shown in Figure 2, this member is provided with a relatively sharp upper edge 23.

Pivotally secured substantially centrally of the width of the pad 10 is a supporting tongue 24. The pivotal joint of the lower extremity of this tongue is substantially similar to the pivotal connection between the arms and the pad and need not be referred to in detail. The upper extremity of the tongue is curved substantially as indicated at 25 and the inner face of this curved surface is provided with a plurality of teeth 26 arranged to be engaged by the connecting member 22. Intermediate the lowermost tooth 26 and the lower end of the tongue a notch 27 is provided.

The operation of the device is as follows:

As previously stated the device is adapted for use in supporting the head and upper portion of a corpse while the head is being prepared prior to the injection of embalming fluid thereinto. The pad 10 is easily slid under the shoulders and the head rest may be adjusted to desired positions to support the head. The upper end of the tongue 24 extends between the arms 13 and 14 and the teeth 26 engage the member 22 to hold the arms in selected positions. Changes in the

position of the head may be instantly made by moving the tongue so that different teeth may be engaged by the member 22.

75 The notch 27 is adapted to engage the member 22 when the device is packed for shipping. For example, when the device is to be shipped the arms 13 and 14 and the tongue 24 are moved until they are substantially flat on the pad 10 and when in this position the member 22 will fit into the notch 27. Thus the device is compactly arranged for shipping.

10 It will be apparent that I have provided a device which will support the head in selected positions, will not interfere with the operations of the undertaker and which may be quickly and easily placed in position and adjusted as desired.

15 It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

20 I claim:

25 1. A device of the character described comprising a body pad, a pair of spaced arms pivotally connected at one end to said pad, a head support adjustably secured adjacent the other ends of said arms, the space between the portions of said arms adjacent said head support being substantially less than the space between the portions of said arms adjacent their pivot points, a member connected between said arms in the first mentioned space, and a supporting tongue pivotally connected at one end to said pad, said tongue being provided with means for engaging said connecting member to secure said arms in selected positions.

40 2. A device of the character described comprising a body pad, a pair of spaced arms pivotally connected at one end to said pad, a head support adjustably secured adjacent the other ends of said arms, a member connected between said arms intermediate their ends, and a supporting tongue pivotally connected at one end to said pad, said tongue being provided with means for engaging said connecting member to secure said arms in selected positions, said means comprising a plurality of spaced teeth arranged adjacent the other end of said tongue, said tongue being further provided with a notch intermediate its ends to engage said member to support the device in folded position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EVERETTE W. APPLING.