C. F. PETTKOSKE.

CASKET CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 20, 1920.

1,374,320.

Patented Apr. 12, 1921.

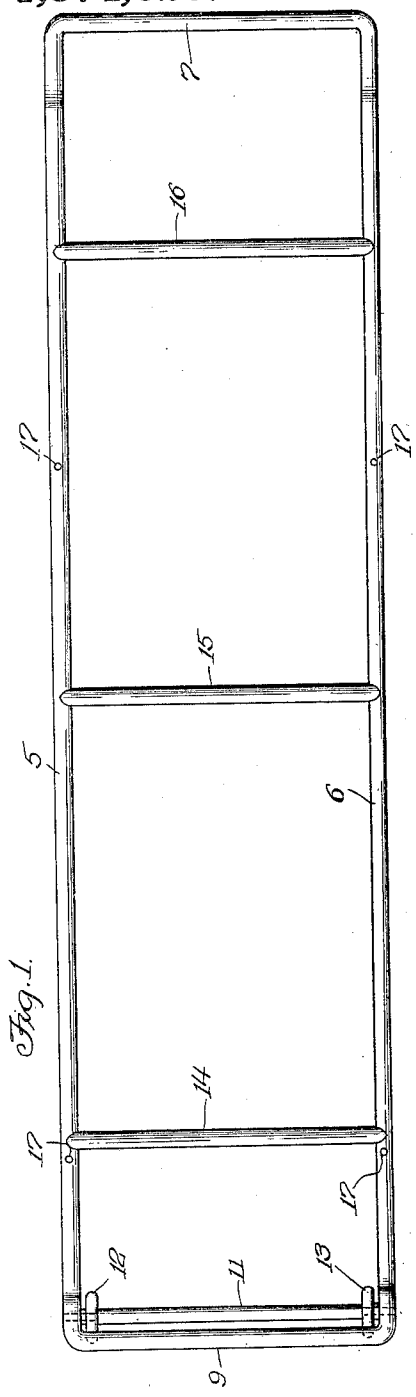


Fig. 1.

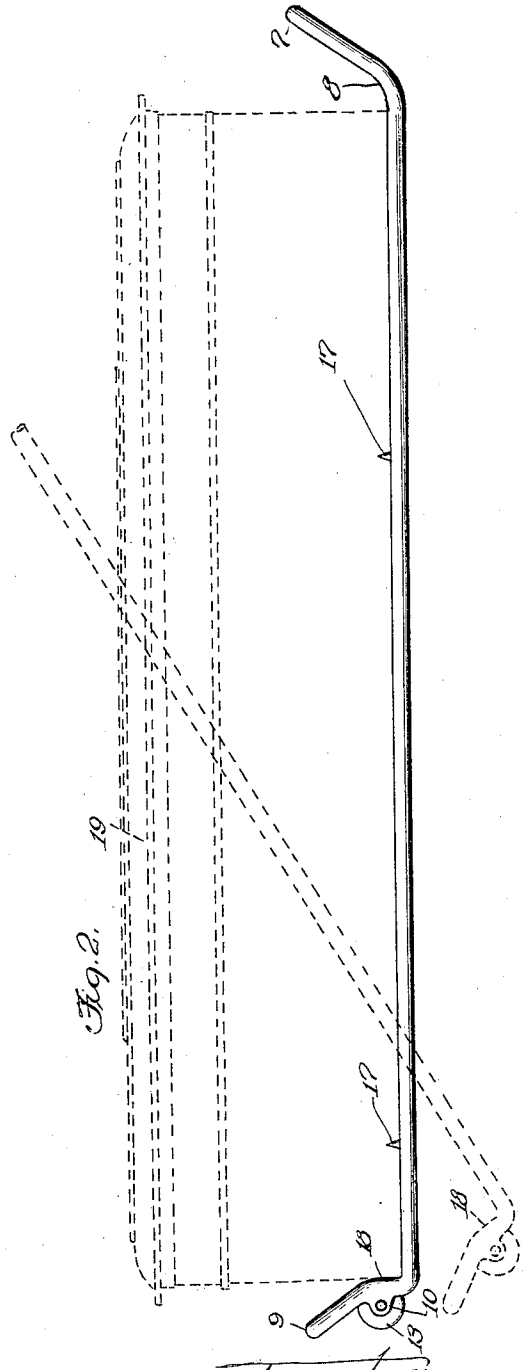


Fig. 2.

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CASKET-CARRIER.

1,374,320. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 12, 1921.

Application filed September 20, 1920. Serial No. 411,506.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLEOPHAS F. PETTKOSKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casket-Carriers, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in casket carriers.

One of the objects of the invention is the provision of a carrier frame, upon which to rest a casket by which it may be carried by persons walking at the ends instead of at the sides of the casket, and which end handles are supplementary to the side handles attached to the casket.

Another object of the invention is to provide wheels on one end of the frame upon which the casket may be trundled when necessity requires this mode of progress.

Other, further and more specific objects of the invention will become readily apparent, to persons skilled in the art, from a consideration of the following description when taken in conjunction with the drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 shows a plan view of the frame structure.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the position of the casket in dotted lines.

In both views the same reference characters are employed to indicate similar parts.

Most caskets are provided with handles only upon the sides and when carrying a heavily laden casket down a relatively narrow stairway, the side handles are not available and, therefore, the entire burden falls upon a smaller number of pallbearers who must necessarily seize the front and rear ends which are unprovided with handles.

The object of this invention is to provide supplementary handles at each end of the casket sufficiently extensive to be grasped and held by two persons, when needed, at each end of the casket. The carrier is also provided with two rollers at one end so that the casket may be rolled or trundled from one stairway to another across a relatively narrow landing platform usually located between two sections of winding stairways. The device is also convenient when the casket is to be carried through a relatively narrow doorway, in which event the burden bearers on each side of the casket give way to those persons who have hold of the end handles provided by the frame, or who change their positions from the sides to the ends of the casket, thereby more conveniently passing through the doorway.

The frame illustrated consists of two side members 5 and 6 joined by an end member 7 which is upturned at 8 and affords a handle to be located at one end of the casket when the casket is mounted upon the frame. The other end of the frame is joined by a cross member 9 which is also upturned and provides a handle. Journaled in projections 10, from the handle 9, is an axle 11 which carries two wheels 12 and 13. To strengthen the structure, cross rungs 14, 15 and 16 are secured to the side members 5 and 6. A series of spurs 17 are fixed to the side members 5 and 6 at intervals, intended to engage the bottom surface of the casket to prevent it slipping sidewise from the frame. The casket 19 is shown in position on the frame in dotted lines in Fig. 2. The handles 7 and 9 are upturned above the frame members 5 and 6 so as to locate the center of gravity at or below the handles and, for the further purpose, being upturned, they are more easily grasped than if they were in the same horizontal plane with the frame members. The cross member 9 forms a shoulder, as at 18, for one end of the casket so that when the other end, where the handle 7 is located, is elevated, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, for the purpose of moving the casket on the rollers 12 and 13, the shoulder 18 will prevent the casket from raising up on the obliquely inclined portion of the handle 9. The frame structure, or the distance of separation of the side members 5 and 6 substantially equals the width of the average casket, so that the frame will not project materially beyond the transverse dimensions of the casket and occupy an excessive amount of space on the stairway. The trestles upon which the casket is to rest at the end of the journey, may be of such length that they may easily be included between the side members 5 and 6 and between the cross members 14 and 15, and 15—16, respectively, so that when the casket is brought to these supports, the frame may be released and moved downwardly until it rests upon the floor.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

A casket carrier comprising an elongated rectangular frame, having end members and side members, said end members extending upwardly from the side members and serving as end handles for the casket to be carried thereon, a pair of fixed shoulders formed by bending the side members vertically and outwardly at the junction of one end member and each side member and a wheel pivoted near each shoulder.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name.

CLEOPHAS F. PETTKOSKE.