

Oct. 24, 1939.

R. F. BROWN

2,177,169

BIER

Filed June 10, 1937

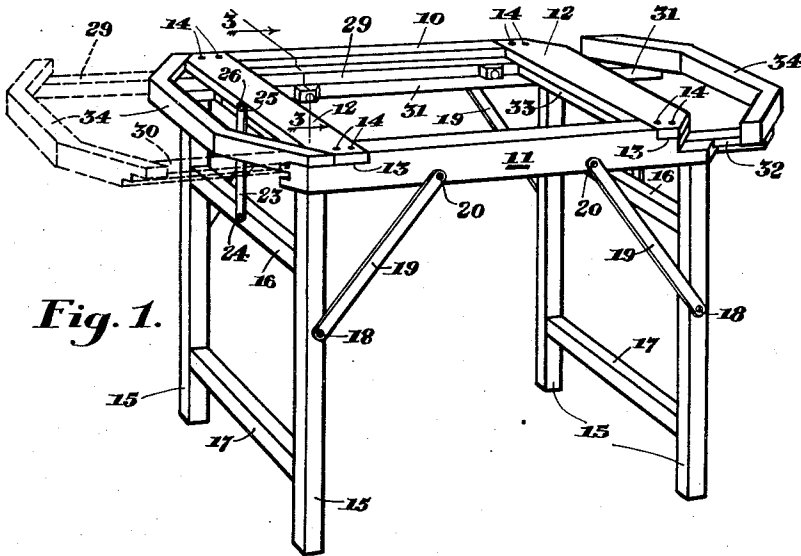


Fig. 1.

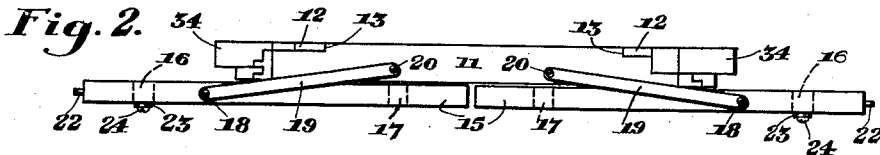


Fig. 2.

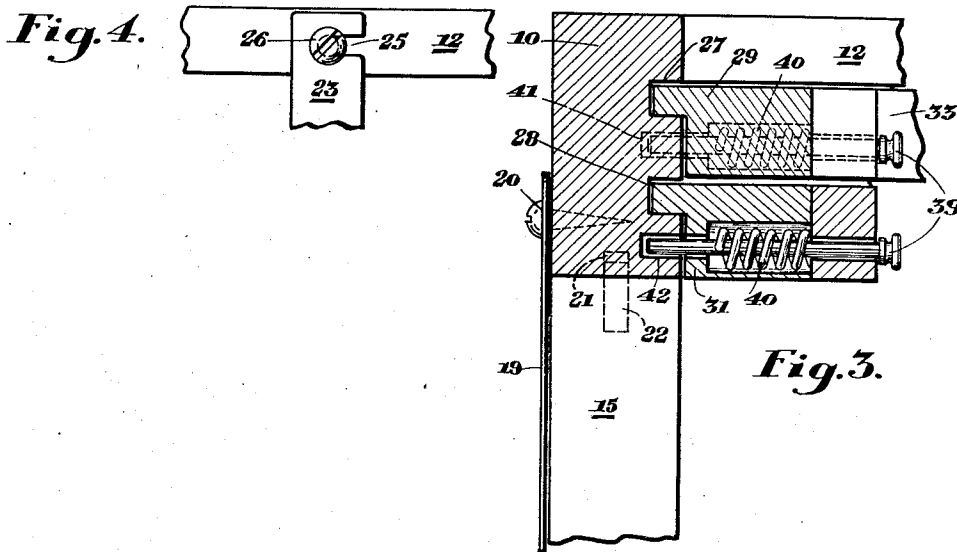


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.

Witness:

John Braddock

INVENTOR.

Russel F. Brown

BY

Ries & Ries
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,177,169

BIER

Russel F. Brown, Flint, Mich.

Application June 10, 1937, Serial No. 147,423

2 Claims. (Cl. 248—166)

The present invention relates to biers, and more particularly to a bier having lengthwise adjustable casket supporting surface for supporting different length caskets.

Inasmuch as children's caskets are necessarily made in a number of different lengths, it is an object of this invention to provide a bier which is adjustable to accommodate caskets of different lengths; it is a further object to provide a bier which may be readily adjusted to the exact length of any small casket; it is a further object to provide a bier having improved collapsible legs so that the bier may be folded for convenient and inconspicuous transportation; and, it is a further object to provide a bier improved in other respects hereinafter appearing.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the bier;

Figure 2 is a side view of the bier when folded;

Figure 3 is an enlarged sectional view on line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary end view of an end rail and parts associated therewith.

Referring then to this drawing, in which like parts of the structure are designated by the same numerals in the several views, the bier there shown comprises a pair of parallel oppositely disposed side rails 10 and 11 rigidly connected at their opposite ends to end rails 12 set flush with the side rails in rabbets 13 in these side rails. The side and end rails are secured together in any convenient manner as by screws 14.

The bier is provided with opposite end pairs of collapsible legs 15, the legs of each end pair being rigidly secured together by upper braces or struts 16, and lower braces 17. To the outer side face of each leg 15 and intermediate the ends thereof is pivotally secured one end of a link 19 by means of screws 18, the other end of which link is otherwise pivotally secured to its adjacent side rail, 10 or 11, by screws 20.

Pin sockets 21 are provided in the bottoms of the side rails 10 and 11 and at each end of each of these rails, and pins 22 in the upper ends of legs 15 are adapted to fit into sockets 21 when the bier is in use to prevent any sidewise or endwise relative movement between the legs and the rails. These pins 22 project only slightly above the upper ends of the legs 15 so that they may easily slide out of the sockets 21 when the legs are folded to their collapsed position of non-use shown in Figure 2.

In order to prevent the pins 22 from accidentally slipping out of their sockets 21, each opposite end

pair of legs is provided with a latch bar 23, one end of which is pivotally connected by a screw 24 to the upper strut 16 and the other end of the latch bar is provided with a slot 25 to receive and detachably retain a keeper 26, here shown as an ordinary wood screw secured to the end rail 12.

The side rails 10 and 11 are provided with upper groove guides 27 and lower groove guides 28. Upper runners 29, 30 are slidably disposed in the upper guides 27, and lower runners 31 and 32 are similarly disposed in the lower guides 28.

To each parallelly disposed pair of runners 29, 30 and 31, 32 a cross bar 33 is rigidly secured adjacent the inner ends thereof while to the outer ends thereof an end support 34 is secured. These end supports, the side rails 10 and 11 and end rails 12 are all flush and form the top of the bier on which the casket is supported.

Small caskets are ordinarily made in lengths of 24 inches, 30 inches, 36 inches, etc., each larger size being six inches longer than the preceding smaller size. So that the bier may be readily set to the exact length for any size casket, upper runner 29 and lower runner 31, both of which lie adjacent the side rail 10, are each provided with a plunger 39 normally inwardly urged by the action of a spring 40. These plungers respectively cooperate with upper plunger receiving apertures 41 in side rail 10 and similar lower plunger receiving apertures 42, the apertures in each row being spaced apart a distance of three inches.

While but one specific embodiment of the invention has been herein shown and described, it will be understood that certain details of the construction shown may be altered or omitted without departing from the spirit of the invention as the same is defined by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A bier comprising a pair of oppositely disposed side rails having upper and lower guides along the inside faces thereof and pin sockets in the bottom of each side rail near either end thereof, end rails rigidly connecting said side rails, end pairs of rail supporting legs, a strut connecting the legs of each end pair, a link pivotally connected to each leg and to its adjoining side rail, pins in the upper ends of said legs, a latch bar pivotally connected to each strut and a keeper for said latch bar on the end rail adjacent thereto, a pair of connected runners slidably disposed in the upper guides in said side rails and a similar pair of runners slidably disposed in the lower guides in said side rails, and an end support secured to each pair of runners at the outer ends thereof.

2. A bier comprising a pair of oppositely dis-

posed side rails having upper and lower guides along the inside faces thereof and upper and lower plunger receiving apertures spaced apart at predetermined distances in the inside face of one of said side rails, end rails rigidly connecting said side rails, legs supporting the structure, a pair of connected runners slidably disposed in the upper guides of said side rails and a similar pair of runners slidably disposed in the lower guides in

said side rail, the upper and lower runners lying adjacent said apertured side rail each having a plunger adapted to releasably seat in one of the upper and lower apertures respectively to stop the slide movement of the pairs of runners, and an end support secured to each pair of runners at the outer ends thereof.

RUSSEL F. BROWN.