Oct. 22, 1940. B. F. JOHNSON 2,218,752

HANDLE MECHANISM

Filed April 6, 1940

Fig. 1

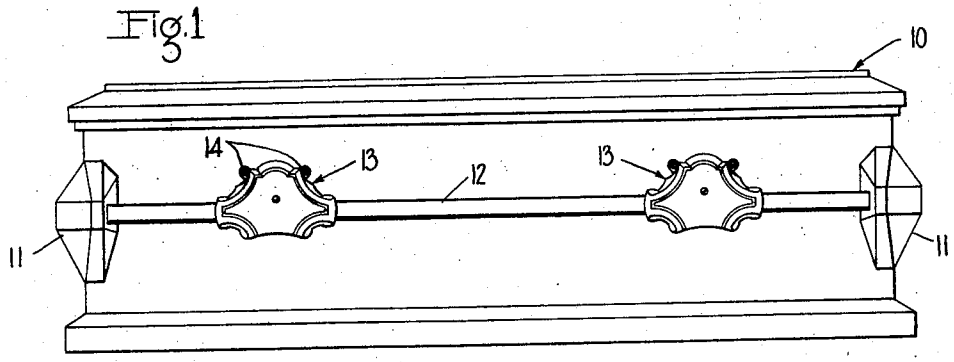


Fig. 2

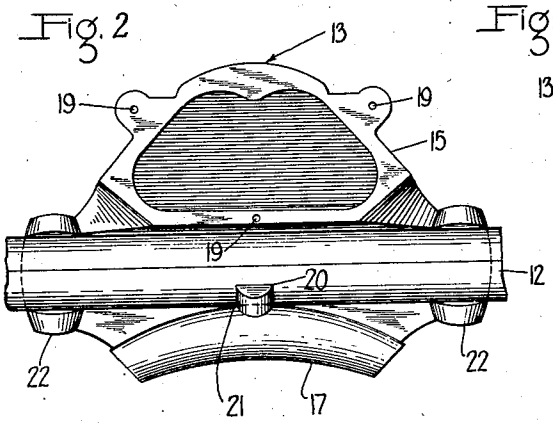


Fig. 3

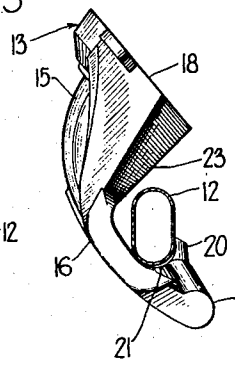


Fig. 4

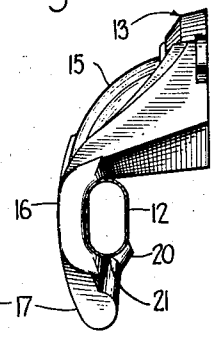


Fig. 5

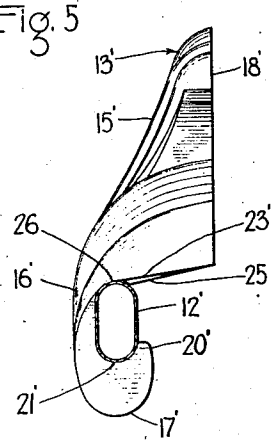
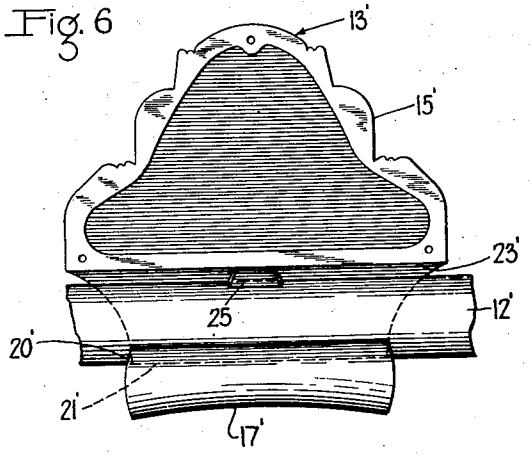


Fig. 6



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HANDLE MECHANISM

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Application April 6, 1940, Serial No. 328,222

8 Claims. (Cl. 16—111)

This invention relates to handle mechanisms, and more particularly to handle mechanisms for attachment to caskets.

The hardware attached to caskets must present a pleasing and ornamental appearance in keeping with the purpose for which the casket is designed. The present invention contemplates the provision of an improved handle mechanism, forming part of the hardware attached to the casket, wherein a lifting bar and its supporting lug members may be readily assembled together in a manner to present a highly pleasing appearance.

A further object of the invention is to provide a handle mechanism comprising a lifting bar and supporting lug members so arranged that the lifting bar and lug members may be assembled together and held in assembled relation by virtue of a wedge action alone.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description relating to the details of construction, as illustrated in the attached drawing, where,

Fig. 1 shows in outline form a casket equipped with a handle mechanism embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view showing the rear side of an assembly of a lifting bar and supporting lug member.

Fig. 3 is an end view showing the manner in which a lug member is assembled with the lifting bar.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing the lug member and lifting bar in assembled relation.

Fig. 5 shows an assembly of a lug member and a lifting bar of a modified construction.

Fig. 6 is a rear view of the assembly shown in Fig. 5.

Referring first to Fig. 1, the casket is designated by the numeral 10 and is provided with corner pieces 11 into which the ends of lifting bar 12 extend. Lug members 13, of identical design, are attached to the side of the casket by screws or bolts 14 and serve the purpose of supporting the lifting bar 12.

Referring now to Figs. 2, 3 and 4, the lug member 13 is preferably a hollow cast body having three integral portions which I shall designate as the attaching portion 15, the spacing portion 16 and the lifting bar receiving portion 17.

The attaching portion 15 has a face 18 which is shaped to be mounted against the side wall of the casket and is provided with holes 19 through which screws or bolts may be passed.

The spacing portion 16 extends downwardly from the attaching portion 15 and, as will hereinafter appear, is for the purpose of spacing the lifting bar 12 a sufficient distance from the casket side wall to permit a ready grip of the lifting bar.

The lifting bar retaining portion 17 projects from the spacing portion 16 in a direction toward the mounting face 18 and thus provides in conjunction with a projecting element 20 a seat 21 upon which the lifting bar 12 may rest.

The spacing portion 16 may also be provided with wings 22 having lugs extended across the bottom and top sides of the lifting bar 12. These wings are not essential to carrying forward the invention, but do assist to a certain degree in supporting and stabilizing the lifting bar. They may be incorporated to enhance the ornamental appearance of the lug member.

When assembling the handle mechanism on the casket, the lifting bar 12 may be first assembled with the corner pieces 11 when these are being attached to the casket. Each of the lug members 13 is then first placed against the lifting bar as shown in Fig. 3, with the lower edge of the lifting bar resting on seat 21, and then rotated toward the casket side wall until it assumes the position shown in Fig. 4. The space between the seat 21 and the wall 23 on the under side of the mounting portion 15 is such that force must be applied to rotate the lug member from the position of Fig. 3 to the position of Fig. 4. When the lug member reaches the position of Fig. 4 the lifting bar 12 is wedged in the socket or recess formed by the wall 23 and the seat 21, the lug 20 acting as a retaining member to retain the lifting bar in this wedged assembled relation. It will thus be seen that the lug member and lifting bar may be readily assembled together without the aid of screws, bolts or other fastening devices, and held in an assembled relation by virtue of a wedge action.

Referring now to Figs. 5 and 6, the modified construction there shown comprises a lifting bar 12' assembled with a lug member 13' comprising three portions 15', 16' and 17', corresponding to the portions 15, 16 and 17 of the previous embodiment. The lug member has a mounting face 18' corresponding to the mounting face 18 of the previous embodiment.

This modification differs from the previous embodiment principally in that the projection 20

of the previous embodiment is replaced by an element 20' which extends for the full width of the portion 17' and thus forms a rather long slot or recess constituting the lifting bar seat 21'. In addition, a rib 25 projects downwardly from the under surface 23' of the mounting portion 15' and is notched at 26 to accommodate the upper surface of the lifting bar 12'.

In this modification the lifting bar and lug member are assembled in the same manner as described for the previous embodiment. It will be observed however that the notch 26 in the rib 25, together with the slotted or recessed seat 21', provide a socket or recess in which the lifting bar is permanently held when forced there under pressure.

From the foregoing it will be observed that my invention comprises the assembly of a lifting bar and supporting lug member so designed as to be assembled and held together in assembled relationship by virtue of a wedge action alone, thus obviating the necessity for employing separate fastening devices.

While I have illustrated my invention by showing two preferred embodiments thereof, it is not my intention to be limited to the precise details of these embodiments, nor otherwise than required by the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

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

1. A handle mechanism, comprising, a lifting bar, and a lug member for attachment to a body to be lifted, said lug member comprising an attaching portion and a lifting bar receiving portion having a recess shaped to permit the said lifting bar to be forced thereinto and to be retained therein partly by wedge action and partly by a portion of the receiving portion embracing a portion of the lifting bar.

2. A handle mechanism, comprising, a lifting bar, and a lug member having at least two main portions, the first of which is shaped to be attached to a body to be lifted and the second of which projects from the said first portion to form therewith means to receive said lifting bar, said second portion having a lifting bar receiving recess into which the lifting bar can be manually forced and having walls which partly by wedging action and partly by embracing two sides of the lifting bar retains the lifting bar therein in assembled relation with the lug member.

3. A handle mechanism, comprising, a lifting bar, and a lug member having an attaching portion arranged to be attached to a body to be lifted, a spacing portion projecting from said attaching portion and being shaped to support said lifting bar a spaced distance from said body to be lifted, and an element projecting from said last mentioned portion for defining therewith an open-sided recess into which said lifting bar may be forced by pressure applied to either the lifting bar or the lug member, or both, the walls of the recess being shaped such that the lower edge of the lifting bar is embraced on both sides while the upper edge is wedged against a wall of the recess to hold the parts assembled together.

4. A lug member for a casket handle mechanism of the lifting bar type, comprising, an attaching portion shaped to be attached to a body to be lifted, a spacing portion projecting from said attaching portion, and a plurality of elements projecting from said spacing portion and defining therewith a lifting bar receiving recess, said elements being so arranged that by first inserting one edge of the lifting bar in the recess and then rotating the lug member or the lifting bar relative to each other they are forced into assembled relation and held there by wedge action.

5. A lug member for a casket handle mechanism of the lifting bar type, comprising, an attaching portion shaped to be attached to a body to be lifted, a spacing portion projecting from said attaching portion, a yet different portion projecting from said spacing portion and forming a seat for a lifting bar to rest upon, a retaining element projecting from one side of said seat, and a wedge forming element projecting from said attaching portion and forming therewith and with said seat and retaining element a socket or recess into which a lifting bar may be forced and retained by engagement of said retaining element and said wedge forming element with said lifting bar.

6. A lug member for a handle mechanism, comprising, a body portion having a face shaped to mount against a normally vertical surface, said body portion curving outwardly from said face and then downwardly, a lifting bar receiving portion joined with said downwardly extending portion of the body and extending inwardly in the direction of said face and forming with the downwardly extending portion a recess or socket having surfaces shaped such that one edge of a lifting bar may be first inserted in the recess or socket and then the whole of the lifting bar forced into the recess or socket and held there by frictional engagement with one of said surfaces and by embracement by another.

7. A handle mechanism, comprising, a lifting bar, and a lug member for attachment to a body to be lifted, said lug member comprising an attaching portion and a lifting bar receiving portion having a recess therein into which one edge of the lifting bar may be inserted, and a projection for retaining said one edge of the lifting bar in said recess, the lug member thereupon being attachable to the lifting bar by rotational movement with respect thereto, said recess being shaped to receive the lifting bar and to hold it in assembled relationship by wedge action between one side of the bar and one side of the recess and contact between another side of the bar and said projection.

8. A lug member for a handle mechanism, comprising, a body portion having a face shaped to mount against a normally vertical surface, said body portion curving outwardly and downwardly, elements projecting from said body portion to form therewith a lifting bar receiving recess or socket, the said recess or socket being shaped to first receive the lower edge of a lifting bar whereby upon rotation of the lug member with respect to the lifting bar, the upper edge of the lifting bar may be forced into wedging relationship with one wall of said socket or recess and the lower edge into retaining contact with another wall of said socket or recess.

BEN F. JOHNSON.