C. L. BARNES.

EMBALMING AND BURIAL CASKET.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 25, 1908.

915,928

Patented Mar. 23, 1909.

Fig. 1

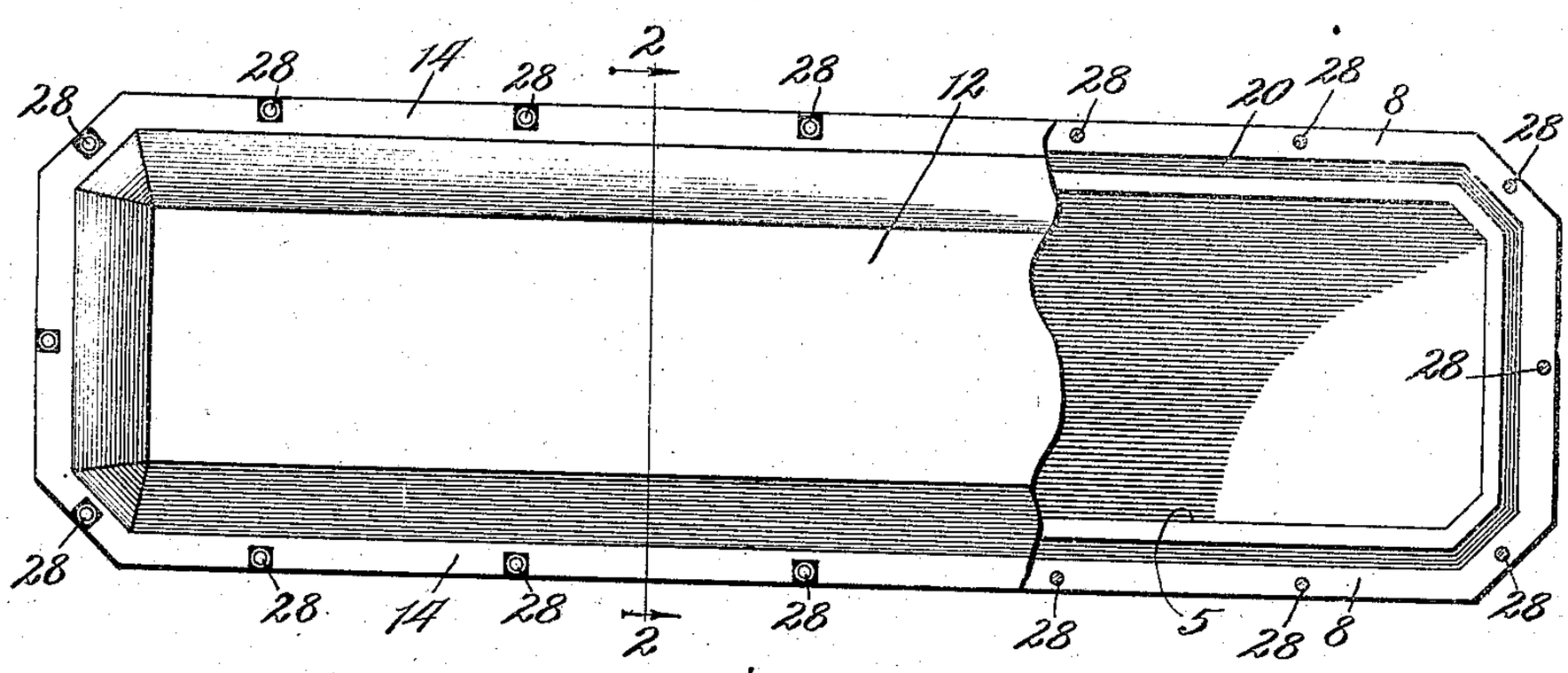
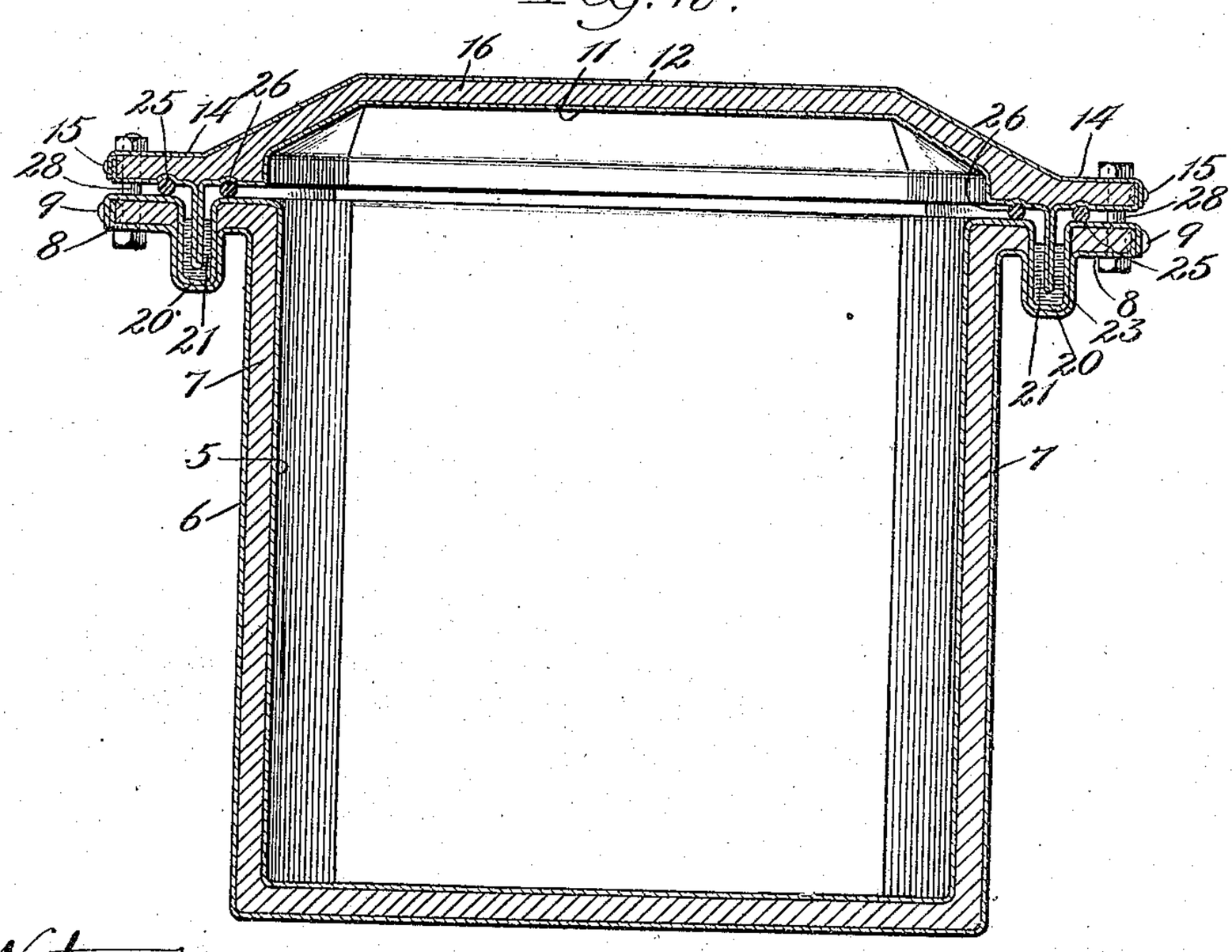


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
Ira D. Perry
G. V. Donahue Jr.

Inventor:
Carl L. Barnes
By Cheever & Cox.
Atty's

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL L. BARNES, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

EMBALMING AND BURIAL CASKET.

No. 915,928. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 23, 1909.

Application filed May 25, 1908. Serial No. 434,957.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL L. BARNES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Embalming and Burial Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a device for use as either an embalming or a burial casket.

The first object of the invention is to make an apparently heavy and massive casket which is really light yet strong and the second object is to provide either this or any sort of a casket with means for securing the lid thereon in such a way that the interior is absolutely air tight, so that gas or air can not pass either into or out of the casket, this particularly so that gases produced either by decomposition of the body therein or those arising from chemicals placed therein for embalming purposes can not escape and are therefore forced to do their intended work within the casket.

Referring to the first object the invention consists in making the body of the casket of two sheets of material spaced apart by some other ordinarily lighter material such as wood, cork, asbestos or cement.

In carrying out the second object of the invention the device consists in providing a liquid seal between the cover and the casket proper so constructed that independently of all other devices the casket is air tight and in supplementing this liquid seal with two or more gaskets or seals of cushion material such as rubber so that a triple seal is formed between the cover and casket proper thereby insuring a perfect sealing of the device.

The invention also consists in details of construction which will be hereafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the casket with the cover partly removed having the device of this invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional detail view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

The body of the casket is constructed of two approximately parallel sheets 5 and 6 of metal spaced apart throughout substantially their entire distance by the filler 7 which as heretofore stated may be of wood, asbestos, cork, cement or any other suitable material. The metals used may be iron, steel, copper, galvanized iron, aluminum or any other metal or metals, one inside the other outside, suitable for the purpose. These two sheets of metal 5 and 6 are preferably pressed or stamped from a single sheet of material and are joined together at the edges of the flanges 8 by rivets 9 for which solder may evidently be substituted without departing from the invention. Similarly the cover is made of two sheets of metal 11 and 12 joined together at the outer edges of the flanges 14 by the rivets 15 or other suitable mechanism, said two sheets of metal 11 and 12 being spaced apart by the filler 16 preferably of light material of the character specified for the filler 7.

In the flanges 8 of the casket proper is formed an annular depression or trough 20 extending preferably entirely around the body of the casket as shown. This recess or trough 20 is normally filled with water, mercury or any other suitable liquid 21 to a sufficient depth so that a downwardly projecting annular flange 23 which is, as shown, formed upon the underside of the flange 14 of the cover and always enters the trough 20 when the cover is in closed position upon the casket is immersed in said liquid 21 to the height shown in the drawing being in an actual casket about one to three inches.

Adjacent to the upper edges of the trough 20 are annular rubber gaskets 25 and 26 extending around the flange 8 as shown upon which the flange 14 of the cover is adapted to rest. While the weight of the cover should be sufficient to hold it upon these gaskets and to hold the downwardly projecting flange 23 in the trough 20 still to make doubly sure of the perfect seal being always maintained in spite of the pressure of any gases which may be in the casket suitable bolts 28 or equivalent devices are provided for fastening the outer edges of the flanges 8 and 14 together.

In the operation of this device the intended contents are placed within the casket, the cover is then placed in the position shown in Fig. 2 in which position the downwardly disposed flange 23 is submerged in the liquid 21 and the cover is in contact with the gaskets 25 and 26 after which the bolts are placed in position. When this closing of the device is completed any gases formed within the casket must first lift the cover, against the resistance of the bolts 28; off from the gaskets 25 and 26 before any gas can even partially escape from the casket, in the absence of any other device by which such escape is still further prevented. But even if the pressure of gas does lift the cover slightly off the

gaskets the presence of the liquid 21 effectually prevents escape. It will thus be seen that by this device three effective seals are provided all of which must have passed by gas within the casket before it can escape, which passage is practically impossible under any ordinary conditions.

The gaskets above mentioned in addition to holding the gas within the casket serve the useful purpose of retaining the sealing liquid within the depression 20, so that it cannot run out of said depression or trough, should the casket be turned on one side or even upside down.

The claims are:

1. A device of the class described, comprising two parts to be joined together, a trough in one of said parts, a flange carried by the other part entering said trough, and gaskets between the two parts on opposite sides of said trough, adapted to prevent the escape of a liquid which may be placed in the trough and in which said flange is immersed when the parts are joined.

2. A device of the class described comprising a recessed body portion and a cover portion to be joined thereto, a trough in one of said members extending entirely around the space adjacent to the recess in the body portion, a flange carried by the other member entering said trough, and gaskets between the two members on opposite edges of said trough adapted to prevent the escape of a liquid placed in the trough and in which said flange is immersed when the two parts are brought together for the purpose of closing the device.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

CARL L. BARNES.

Witnesses:

JOHN C. EDWARD,

DWIGHT B. CHEEVER.