

Jan. 12, 1954

D. U. GOULD
BURIAL VAULT

2,665,471

Filed Feb. 20, 1948

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FIG. 1.

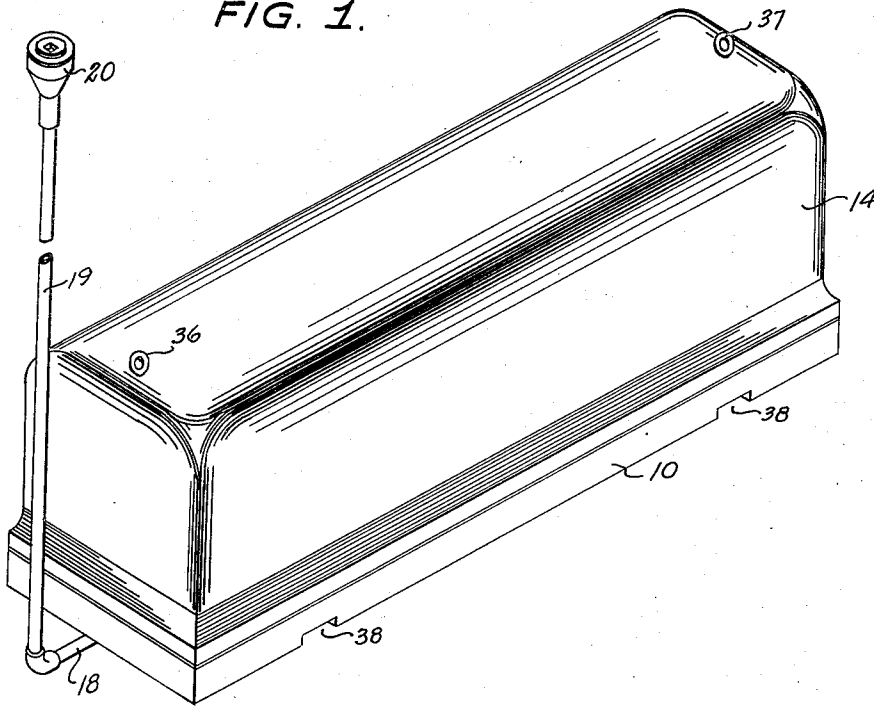
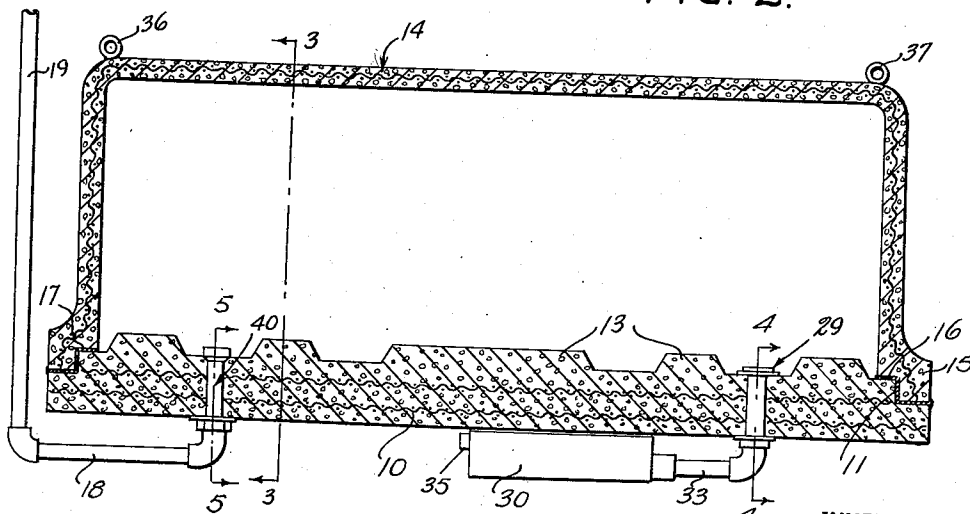


FIG. 2.



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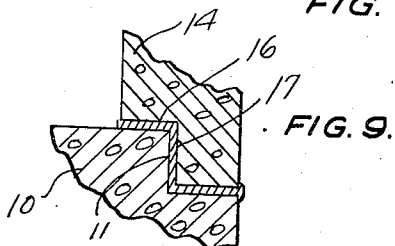
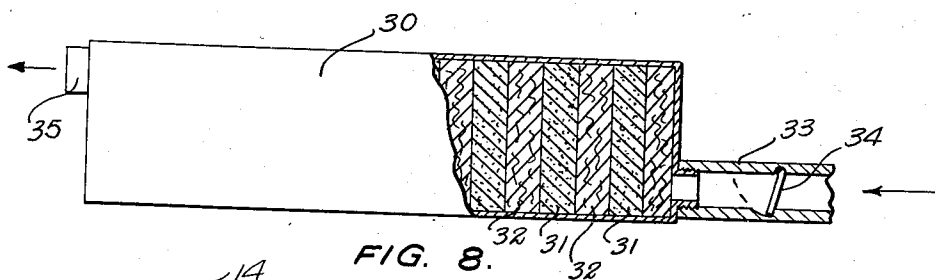
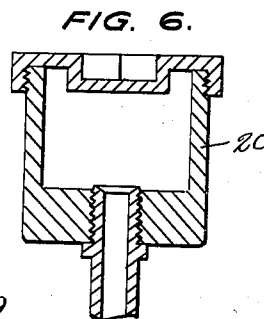
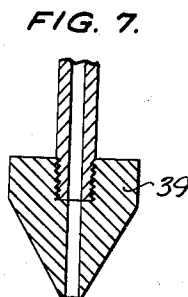
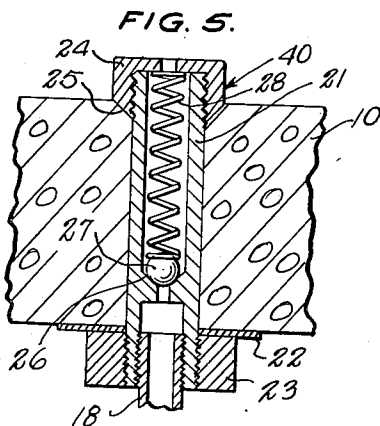
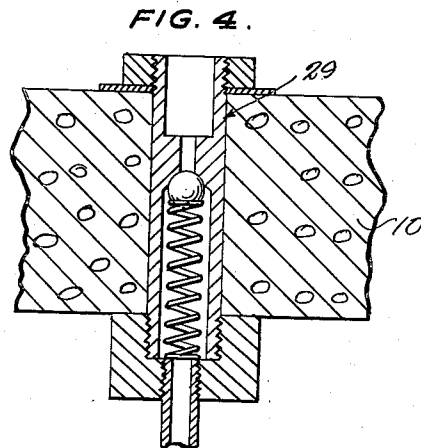
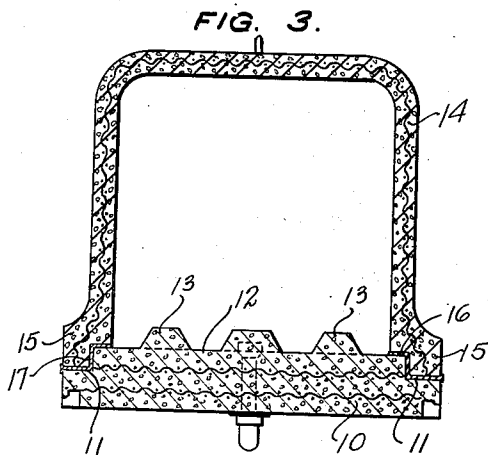
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,665,471

BURIAL VAULT

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Application February 20, 1948, Serial No. 9,829

2 Claims. (Cl. 27—35)

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This invention relates to a burial vault and means for circulating a preservative gas there-through.

An object of the invention is to provide a vault of this kind having novel and effective sealing means as part of its construction.

Another object is to provide a burial vault with gas circulating means including a valve-controlled inlet and outlet, and filtering means associated with the outlet.

Another object is the provision of such a vault having a novel base formation.

Another object is to produce a vault of the characteristics described which is adapted to be produced efficiently and at a minimum of cost.

These and other objects are attained by the means described herein and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the burial vault of this invention.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal cross sectional view through the vault.

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

Figure 4 is a cross sectional view on line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a cross sectional view on line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is an enlarged vertical cross-sectional view through the inlet end of the gas conduit.

Figure 7 is a detail cross-sectional view through a nozzle adapted for use with the construction of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a longitudinal side view, partly in section, of the gas filter and associated valve means forming parts of the invention.

Figure 9 is a detail cross-sectional view through the edge portions of the base and cover of the vault as formed in accordance with this invention.

With the detailed reference to the drawings, the vault comprises a rectangular base or slab 10 constructed preferably of reinforced concrete and having the stepped edge formation shown at 11. The top surface 12 of the base is formed with spaced integral raised portions 13.

A cover 14, also of reinforced concrete, comprises enlarged bottom edges, as indicated at 15 (Figures 2, 3, and 9), having the stepped formation 16, corresponding with the stepped formation 11 of the base, upon which the cover fits. Between these formations a sealing compound 17 is placed, whereby the base and cover may be joined in sealed relation. The cover is preferably cast in one piece whereby to provide

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a structure analogous to a diving bell to prevent the escape of air and/or gas therefrom. Other forms of fluid-tight covers may of course be used within the scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed. Likewise, this form of cover may be used apart from the means for introducing gas into the vault which will now be described.

The invention contemplates the introduction of a gas into the sealed vault for preserving the contents thereof. For this purpose, a conduit comprising a horizontal section 18 and a vertical section 19 extends from the base 10 to the surface of the ground in which the vault normally would be disposed. The upper end of section 19 has a gas inlet device 20 (Figure 6) connected thereto, and the inner end of section 18 has an inlet valve 40 (Figure 5) connected thereto. This comprises a valve pipe 21 secured at the lower end to the base 10 by a lead washer 22 and a bronze nut 23. The upper end of the pipe may be provided with an apertured cap 24, seating in a recess 25 around the pipe.

A valve seat 26 is formed interiorly of pipe 21 for a ball valve 27 held normally against the seat by an expansion spring 28, the upper end of the spring bearing against the inner face of cap 24. The inlet valve construction just described is positioned between two of the raised portions 13 of the base (see Figure 2).

In another part of the base, a gas outlet valve 29 is positioned, as indicated in Figures 2 and 4. Inasmuch as this valve construction is substantially the reverse of the inlet valve construction just outlined, it will be unnecessary to recite the details clearly seen in Figure 4.

The outer end of outlet valve 29 has connected thereto, by a stub pipe 33, a filter 30 (Figure 8) comprising a hollow chamber containing alternating ceramic filters 31 and cellulose felt filters 32. The cellulose felt filters exhaust gases from the vault, and the ceramic filters remove any moisture therefrom. The stub pipe 33 has positioned therein a valve 34 precluding return movement of gas or moisture toward the vault. The filter 30 is provided with an outlet 35 at one end.

The top of cover 14 may have secured at opposite ends thereof a pair of rings 36 and 37 for lowering the cover into position. For lowering the complete vault into place, the base 10 at each side of the bottom, is formed with oppositely disposed grapple recesses 38.

The preservative gas may be periodically introduced into the vault by applying a suitable

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nozzle 39 (forming the termination of the gas supply hose) to the inlet device 20. The inlet valve 40 permits the gas to enter the vault, while the exhaust gases are thereby discharged through outlet valve 29. The raised portions 13 of base 10, upon which the contents of the vault are positioned, provide for complete circulation of the preservative gases around the said contents.

Modifications will suggest themselves upon consideration of the means disclosed herein, but these are believed to be comprised within the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In a burial vault, a sealed coffin enclosure having a bottom wall provided with spaced raised portions upon which a coffin is adapted to rest, the spaces between said raised portions defining passages communicating with the interior of the enclosure, a vertically disposed inlet pipe positioned between adjacent raised portions and extending through and carried by said bottom wall and having the upper end in communication with the passage defined by the adjacent raised portions and having the lower end exteriorly of said bottom wall, an upstanding conduit exteriorly of said enclosure and having the lower end connected to the lower end of said inlet pipe and having the upper end adapted to be connected to a source of preservative gas under pressure, a spring biased check valve in said inlet pipe for the admission of a preservative gas from said conduit into said inlet pipe, a vertically disposed outlet pipe positioned between other of adjacent raised portions and extending through and carried by said bottom wall and having the upper end in communication with the passage defined by the other of adjacent raised portions and having the lower end exteriorly of said bottom wall, a spring biased check valve in said outlet pipe for the discharge of gas from the interior of said enclosure, and a discharge pipe exteriorly of said bottom wall and having one end connected to the lower end of said outlet pipe.

2. In a burial vault, a sealed coffin enclosure having a bottom wall provided with spaced raised portions upon which a coffin is adapted to rest, the spaces between said raised portions defining

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passages communicating with the interior of the enclosure, a vertically disposed inlet pipe positioned between adjacent raised portions and extending through and carried by said bottom wall and having the upper end in communication with the passage defined by the adjacent raised portions and having the lower end exteriorly of said bottom wall, an upstanding conduit exteriorly of said enclosure and having the lower end connected to the lower end of said inlet pipe and having the upper end adapted to be connected to a source of preservative gas under pressure, a spring biased check valve in said inlet pipe for the admission of preservative gas from said conduit into said inlet pipe, a vertically disposed outlet pipe positioned between other of adjacent raised portions and extending through and carried by said bottom wall and having the upper end in communication with the passage defined by the other of adjacent raised portions and having the lower end exteriorly of said bottom wall, a spring biased check valve in said outlet pipe for the discharge of gas from the interior of said enclosure, a discharge pipe exteriorly of said bottom wall and having one end connected to the lower end of said outlet pipe, and a filter interposed in said discharge pipe inwardly of the other end thereof.

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