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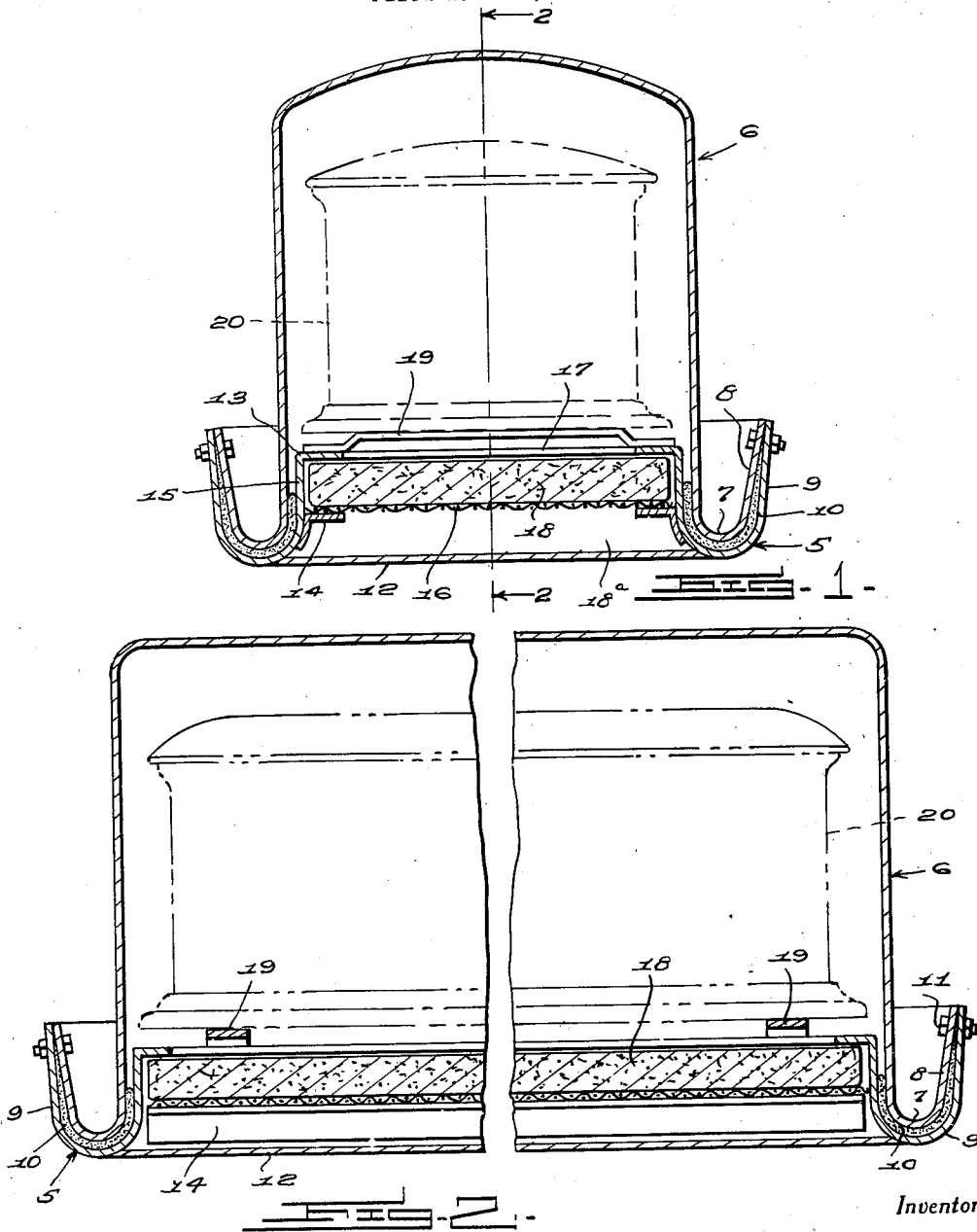
H. E. METZ

2,247,617

BURIAL VAULT

Filed Nov. 30, 1939

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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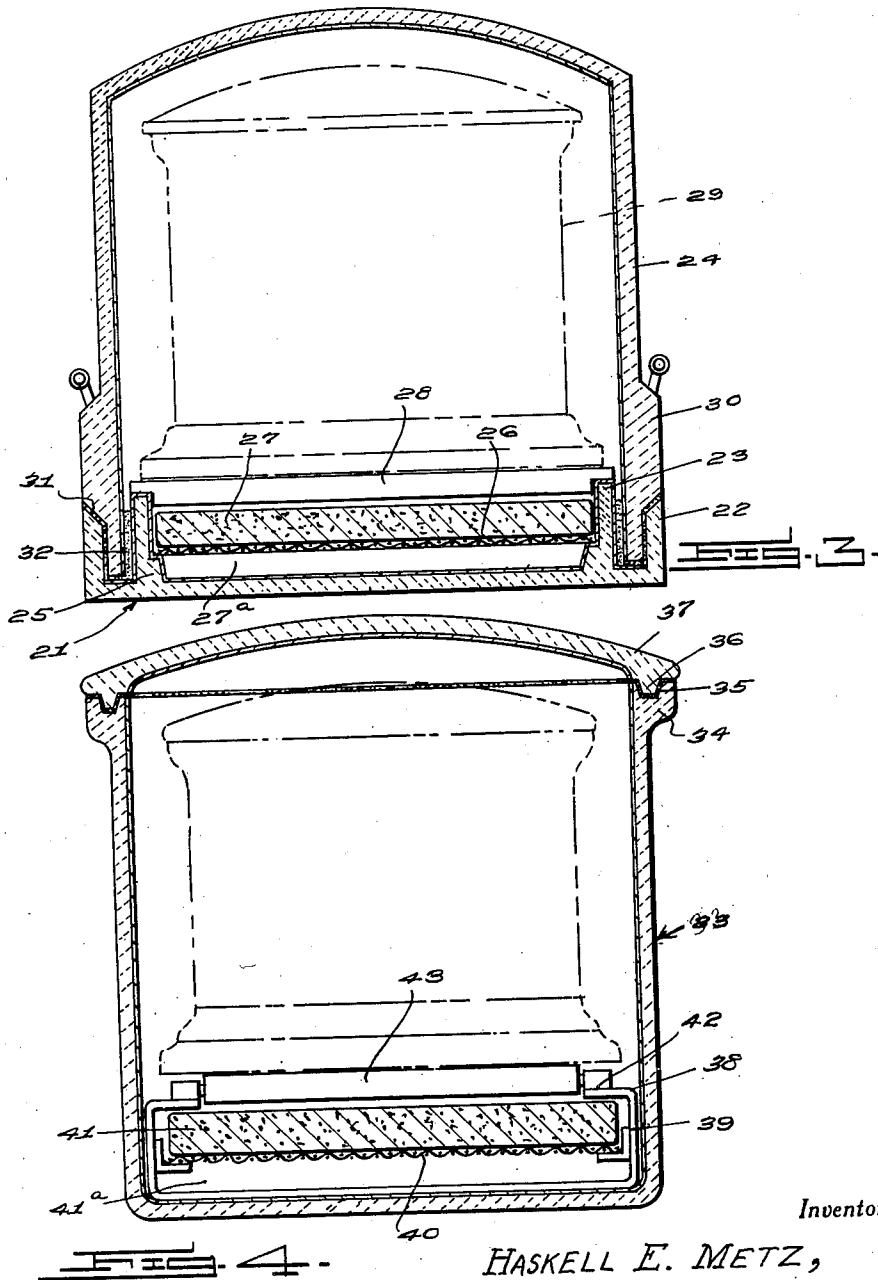
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BURIAL VAULT

Haskell E. Metz, Marion, Ohio

Application November 30, 1939, Serial No. 306,936

2 Claims. (Cl. 27—35)

This invention appertains to new and useful improvements in burial vaults, and more particularly to a vault containing means for absorbing moisture.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a vault in which means is provided for dehydration to the end that the interior of the vault will be maintained dry at all times.

Another important object of the invention is to provide dehydration means for vaults which will absorb all moisture and which can be conveniently embodied in practically any type of vault.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to the reader of the following specification.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 represents a cross-sectional view through a bottom-seal type of metal vault.

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view through a concrete bottom-seal type vault.

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view through a concrete top-seal type vault.

Referring to the drawings wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen in Figures 1 and 2, that numeral 5 generally refers to the bottom section of the bottom-seal vault, while numeral 6 generally refers to the top shell, the lower edges of the end and side walls thereof being curved outwardly as at 7 and disposed upwardly in outwardly flared direction as at 8. The thus formed lower portions of the shell 6 are disposed into the trough 9 at the perimeter of the base section 5. Suitable sealing material 10 is disposed in the trough 9 for thoroughly sealing the lower edge of the shell 6 and trough 9 together, and these portions are further secured together by bolts 11.

The lower section 5 of the vault is provided with the bottom 12, and the top 13. Cleats 14 are secured to the inner side 15 of the trough 9 and serve to support the mesh sheet 16 between which and the top 13 is disposed an elongated bed of absorbent material such as calcium chloride. The top 13 is open as at 17 to allow air to reach the bed which is denoted by numeral 18. Bridge members 19 span the opening 17 and support the casket 20.

Figure 3 discloses a concrete bottom-seal vault which consists of the bottom section 21 having the trough consisting of the outer beveled wall 22 and the inner somewhat taller wall 23. The trough receives the reduced lower portions of 55

the side walls of the shell-like upper section 24. The inner sides of the wall 23 are somewhat thickened as at 25 to define shoulders upon which the mesh sheet 26 rests and upon this is disposed the cake of absorbing material 27 such as calcium chloride. Bars 28 span the space between the walls 23 and are slightly spaced from the cake 27 to allow for circulation of air within the vault. The casket 29 is supported on the bridge bars 28. This type of vault has the thickened portion 30 adjacent its lower edge which is beveled at its lower portion as at 31 to match the beveled portion of the side walls 22 of the trough. The trough contains a suitable sealing material 32.

The form of the invention shown in Figure 4 consists of the bottom section generally referred to by numeral 33 the upper edge of which is thickened as at 34 and formed to define a trough 35 in which is the sealing material for receiving the depending rib 36 on the top 37. In this form of the invention U-shaped frames 38 are provided in the bottom of the trough and are connected by angle iron members 39 which form rests for the mesh sheet 40 and on this mesh sheet is disposed the cake 41 of absorbent material such as calcium chloride. The upper ends of the leg portions of the U-shaped frames 39 are turned inwardly as at 42 to provide rests for the cross bars 43, these bars 43 being preferably spaced from the cake 41 to allow sufficient space for the circulation of air over the cake 41.

It can be seen that in the form of the invention shown in Figure 1, a chamber 18a is afforded below the screen 16 to catch any moisture that may drip from the cake and the corresponding chamber is shown by numeral 41a in the form of the invention shown in Figure 4.

While the foregoing specification sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A burial vault comprising a case having a closure, a riser formation in the lower portion of the case, supporting means for a casket bridging the riser formation, said riser formation being provided with an internal shoulder construction spaced upwardly from the bottom of the case, a perforate sheet horizontally spanning the shoulder construction and a cake of

absorbing material disposed on the said perforate sheet and below the casket supporting means.

2. A burial vault comprising a base, a cover for the base, a riser structure on the base, and within the confines of the cover, said riser being formed to provide a shoulder above the top of the base, a support of foraminous material rest-

ing on the shoulder and in spaced relation to the top of the base, means for supporting a casket at the top of the riser and a mass of moisture absorbing material on the foraminous support.

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