Sept. 10, 1963 J. N. HOLLIS 3,103,053

BURIAL VAULT ASSEMBLY

Filed March 30, 1962

FIG. 1

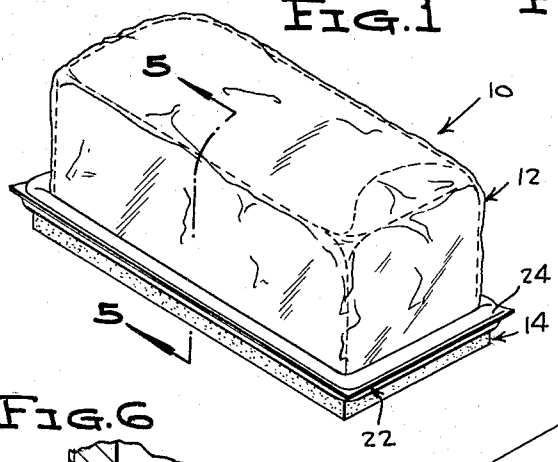


FIG. 2

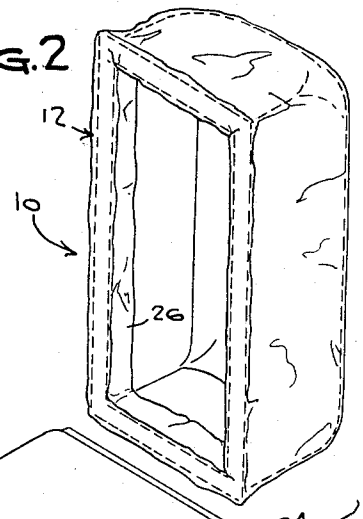
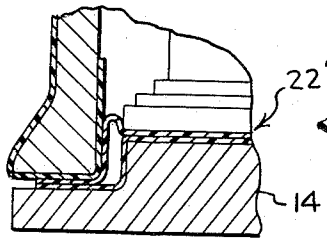


FIG. 6



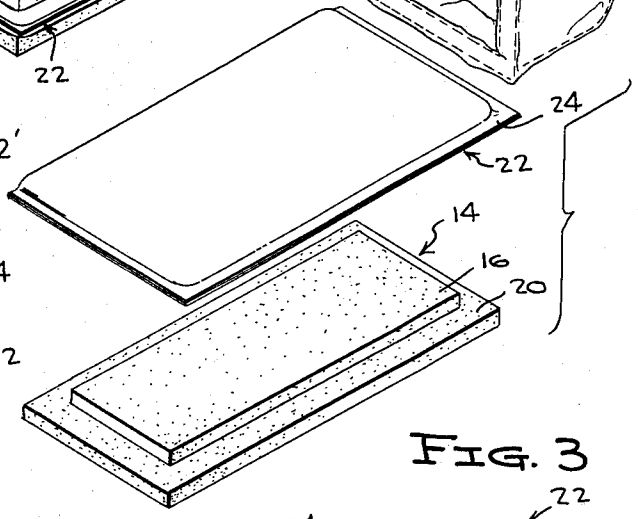
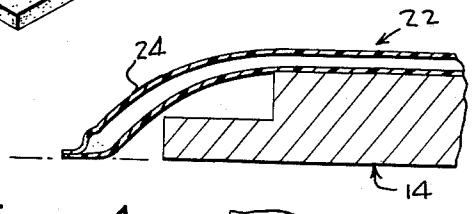


FIG. 3



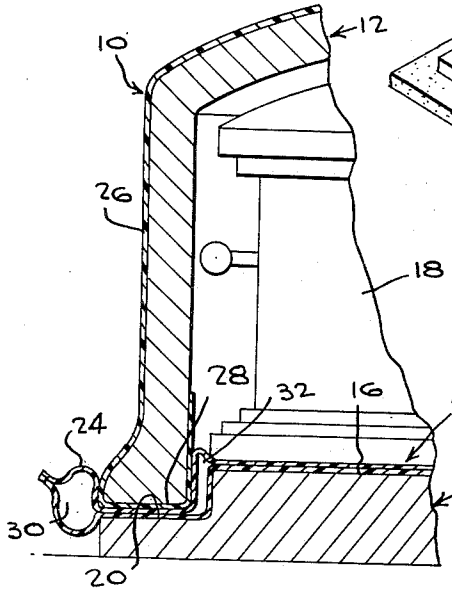


FIG. 4

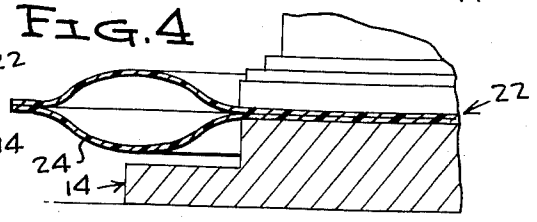


FIG. 5

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BURIAL VAULT ASSEMBLY

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The present invention relates to a burial vault assembly.

Burial vault assemblies previously proposed and presently in use have not been entirely satisfactory in a number of instances due to the lack of a positive sealing means between the lower end of the box-like cover and the base on which the casket rests. Such covers and bases are generally constructed of concrete or the like which is not entirely impervious to the transmission of moisture therethrough. Additionally, the sealing means employed, asphalt, mortar, or the like, between the lower edge of the cover and the base has in a number of instances deteriorated over a period of time and permitted the entry into the vault of destrictive vermin and larvae.

The present invention has for its principal object to provide a burial vault assembly which lends itself to long lasting protection of a casket contained therein.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a sealing means readily lending itself to the incorporation therein of a material for discouraging entry into the vault of vermin, larvae or the like.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a burial vault assembly which is simple in structure, one which lends itself to manufacture at reasonable cost, and one which is highly effective in action.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will be fully apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the annexed drawing, in which:

FIGURE 1 is an isometric view of the assembly of the present invention, shown in closed condition;

FIGURE 2 is an isometric exploded view showing the assembly in open condition;

FIGURE 3 is a fragmentary view of a portion of the base member of the assembly with a portion of the sac overlying the base member portion, prior to the positioning of the casket upon the base member;

FIGURE 4 is a view similar to FIGURE 3, showing the deformation of the sac when a casket is positioned so as to rest upon the base member and prior to the closing of the vault. by the cover or box which extends over the casket;

FIGURE 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of FIGURE 1 and on an enlarged scale, showing the further deformation of the sac by the cover or box extending over the casket, and

FIGURE 6 is a fragmentary sectional view of a modified form of the invention.

Referring in greater detail to the drawing in which like numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views, the reference numeral **10** designates generally the burial vault assembly of the present invention and which includes a cover or box **12** opened at the lower end and a base member **14** of a configuration and size to extend over and close the open end of the box **12**.

The base member **14** includes a raised portion **16** adapted for positioning thereon a casket **18**. The marginal edge portion of the base member **14** is provided with a ledge **20** which supports the open end of the box **12** when

the latter is positioned over the casket **18**. This much of the assembly is of conventional construction and may be fabricated of concrete, metal, or other material by any conventional method of manufacture.

The assembly **10** of the present invention provides a closed sac **22** superimposed and extending over the base member **14** with the bounding edge portions, as at **24** in FIGURES 3, 4, and 5, projecting beyond the base member **14**. When the box **12** is in position overlying the casket **18**, the open end of the box **12** engages and is supported upon the bounding edge portions **24** of the sac **22**.

A flexible cover **26** extends over the box **12** and has the marginal parts thereof, as at **28**, in FIGURE 5, interposed between the open end of the box **12** and the bounding edge portions **24** of the sac **22**. A coating such as plastic or the like may be substituted for the cover **26**.

When the sac **22** is fabricated, a quantity of treated fluid is confined within the sac **22**, the fluid being selected from material which is suitable to repel or poison vermin, larvae, or the like.

As shown in FIGURE 5, when the cover or box **12** is in position overlying the casket **18**, the open end of the box **12** deforms the sac edge portion **24** so as to form a first endless liquid filled tube exteriorly of and adjacent the open end of the box **12** and a second endless liquid filled tube interiorly of and adjacent the open end of the box **12**, the tubes being designated respectively by the numerals **30** and **32**.

The sac **22** is fabricated of two sheets of flexible plastic sealed together around the perimeter by suitable sealing means. The cover **26** is also fabricated of flexible plastic and is bonded to the surface of the box **12** by any suitable adhesive found practical.

If found desirable, the ledge **20** and the sac edge portion **24** may also be adhesively secured together and the ledge **20** or the free end of the box **12** provided with means for puncturing the sac **22** so as to permit the gradual escape of the fluid contained therein in order to contaminate the surrounding earth when the base member **14** is supported upon a ground surface and the assembly **10** buried within the earth.

The sac **22** may be fabricated with two separate tube-like compartments if desired. Air, gas, or a drying agent may be employed to fill either the outer compartment or the inner compartment in place of fluid if found practical.

In FIGURE 6 a modified form of the sac is shown at **22'**. This form of the invention contemplates having the bounding edge of the sac **22'** terminating inwardly of the outer edge of the base member **14**. The sac **22'** may have a single compartment around its edge or a double compartment, and such compartment or compartments may be filled with fluid, air, gas or other material as above stated with reference to the sac **22**.

What is claimed is:

1. In a burial vault assembly, a box open at the lower end, a base member of a configuration and size to extend over and close the open end of said box adapted to rest upon a ground surface, said base member having a casket support portion and a marginal portion extending about the perimeter of said casket support portion for supporting the open end of the box, a closed sac having a quantity of treating fluid confined therein superimposed upon and extending over the casket support portion and the marginal

portion with the bounding edge portions projecting beyond the marginal portion, a casket engaging and supported upon the casket support portion of the sac, said box being positioned upon said sac so that it encloses the casket with the open end engaging and supported upon the marginal portion of the sac, the box wall being thinner than the width of the marginal portion of the base member and the inner surface of the box wall being spaced away from the casket support portion of the base member whereby a space is formed between the casket support portion and the inner surface of the box and the sac is formed into a first endless tube exteriorly of the box and the base member and a second endless tube filling said space.

2. The burial vault assembly according to claim 1 wherein the casket support portion is raised and the marginal portion is in the form of a ledge.

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