

# THE ETERNAL QUESTION NEVER CAN BE EVADED

## Will We Act Sanely—Intelligently By Securing A Final Resting Place While We Can In Northshore Garden of Memories?

The following important considerations should have the serious attention of every adult person concerning the selection and purchase of a final resting place for self and family, viz.:

(1) In the matter of PERMANENCY—a peaceful resting place for those who have gone before should be out in the country at a safe distance from any large and growing city. When such a place is overtaken and surrounded by an urban population it is encompassed by implacable enemies. Certain Chicago cemeteries have one law suit after another year after year. It is when such places are overtaken and surrounded by city residents that many varieties of trees and shrubs cannot be grown by reason of the smoke and the gases in the city atmosphere. It is only under such conditions that people commence legal proceedings, after the lots are sold, the regular income cut off and no perpetual care fund accumulated, to have the cemetery "removed" and the ground turned over to the use of a public park or a children's playground. Only when such a place is not given good care are such proceedings successful, as there is no excuse for destroying a beautiful place. If there is no income to be used for such care, such a place is denounced as a "disgrace to the community" and strong representations are made to a court, to a city council, or other authority that it would be much more for the benefit of the community to have all semblance of the burying ground obliterated and a public park made in its place. That is precisely what was done with a cemetery containing thousands of burials once located in the present sight of Lincoln Park, Chicago. Distance from a large and growing city is ONE OF THE MEANS OF PERPETUITY, while a substantial PERPETUAL CARE FUND yielding a continuous income to be used for the upkeep of such a place is the OTHER GUARANTEE for the perpetuity of a resting place for the dead.

(2) A suitable sight safely located several miles from a large city, with ample elevation, desirable slopes and good soil for growing trees, shrubs, and grass, having been selected, the next very important consideration is **thoro drainage** regardless of expense. In the very early development of NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES a member of a firm of landscape architects who had planned scores of cemeteries in many states of the Union advised the founder that he would not put drains in ground having such slopes as are seen on every hand in NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES. That advice was disregarded and thoro drainage has been put in below the depths of the graves in every section. In a single section \$2,800 was spent for that feature alone. However, in all cases the best WATERPROOF BURIAL VAULT obtainable should be used in which to enclose and protect the casket with its delicate satin linings and the precious body from which life has lately passed. In the most perfectly drained ground, if the ground is frozen when a grave is dug thru the frozen crust and rain falls or snow melts, the water will run into the grave temporarily simply because it cannot go directly into the ground and find the drains. The best vault made costs only \$100. Is it not the part of wisdom to hold down the other funeral expenses in that sum, use a plainer casket and invest \$100 in an everlasting and water-resisting vault or permanent tomb?

(3) Every place of human interment should have the most beautiful plantings which skilled gardeners and well-informed botanists may select and properly group. NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES has more charming trees and shrubs on any one of several of its lot sections than can be found in whole burial places anywhere else in Lake County. This place stands alone amongst all the places of human interment in the entire country in its wonderful color effects. The groups with strikingly royal purple leaves all summer, other groups with silver leaves as bright as that of a silver dollar fresh from the mint, its trees of golden foliage, its red-leaved and its bronze-leaved trees dot the grounds all over and prove a delight to the eye.

(4) NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES has the most complete coverage of **blooming shrubs** to be found in any place of interment. From early spring until late autumn there is always something in bloom to give bright colors. Thousands of heavy lilac plumes of seven varieties, thousands of honeysuckle blossoms, and millions of spirea blossoms lend their charm early in the season, in addition to the exceptionally attractive Japanese quince, the wild cherries, the crab-apples, the redbuds, the mock orange, not to mention many others too numerous to mention here. In June, 1935, the writer attended a two-day session of the Illinois Cemetery Officials. We visited three of the largest and best known cemeteries in Chicago, and passed thru Jackson Park on the trip. In every place colored foliage effects were looked for with close attention but none were visible, while only in a very few

instances small, thin displays of mock orange (Philadelphus) blossoms were seen. At the same time NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES had many fine groups of colored foliage trees and several displays of four varieties of blossoms.

(5) NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES surely has more ROSES in bloom every day from late in June until late in October every year than has any other five cemeteries in all America. It is probable that a stronger statement than that could be made with absolute truth. These roses generally burst forth in all their loveliness about the 10th of June and bloom all of the time to the 25th of October or the 1st of November. Where else can any of these scenes be enjoyed or be found to add beauty to the final resting place of those who have lived, loved and passed to the world beyond? Have the living no duties to perform in this connection in simple justice to those who have departed, and have they no duties to perform in justice to themselves—their own good names and their peace of mind? In this country of the greatest opportunity and the most wide-spread education and refinement, is any man justified in putting his dead in a place of abject squalor simply because it is "cheap"?

(6) NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES is the only GARDEN resting place which assumes absolute control of the character and style of monuments which shall be admitted. In a large majority of cemeteries any kind of a gawky thing called a "monument" has been admitted to mark a burial lot or a grave from the earliest pioneer days down to the present time. No discrimination nor supervision nor control has been used in such places. The result is that almost hideous and revolting scenes characterize places which ought to be beautiful and sacred. They should be places where nature and art work together to make scenes which are GOOD FOR THE SOUL. Some later "burial parks" go to the other extreme by selling lots with the clear understanding that there shall be no monuments above the level of the ground at any time or in any section. NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES does not go to that extreme. Some folks like to have a monument standing above the ground in addition to the marker for each grave, resting on a sturdy foundation and level with the surface of the ground. In some sections it is understood that no monuments above the ground shall ever be admitted. Thus, both classes of patrons can be accommodated. The management likes to have people pleased provided it can be done without a violation of the rules and without going back to the non-descript and almost hideous practices of the pioneers.

(7) NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES was probably the first place of human interment to PROHIBIT THE USE OF WOODEN BOXES in which to place the casket containing the body of a departed one. When one thinks over the subject in a sane manner, is it not strange that folks want to pay for an expensive and showy casket in which to bury their dead only to keep it for a few hours in the home or in the undertaker's place and then to go to the burial place and literally place it in a mudhole where it will be completely surrounded by water and mud in less than 30 minutes after the mourners leave the grave, the water having been bailed out repeatedly up to the time the funeral cortege arrives? Would it not be more sensible—show more true love and loyalty for the memory of the departed—to make sure of absolute protection from contact with the earth and water for the body as the first consideration, and then use the balance of the money to be expended for frail finery? The writer has heard many very substantial cemetery managers say that so far as they were concerned they would have a vault that would forever hold up the earth in the grave and that would exclude the water from contact with the casket and the body; that if they could not have an expensive casket after buying such a vault, they would have a plain wooden box simply lined and painted. It surely would seem that such a course is the intelligent one. Of course, if a temporary show of something that is gaudy to the neighbors is the prime consideration, such people would not reason that way at all, but it is certain that thousands of people are learning to reason just that way. Two years ago Charles Evans Cemetery, of Reading, Pennsylvania, adopted a rule that after that date in every burial made in that place the casket must be protected by an enclosure of brick, stone, or concrete. Thus, the rule did not mention steel vaults, but of course it shut them out from that cemetery. The steel vault combine (16 factories in southern Ohio) asked the court for an injunction to restrain the cemetery from enforcing the rule. Three or four

lawyers tried the case for the steel vault trust while only one acted for the cemetery. The higher courts decided that the cemetery management had a right to make such a rule and to enforce it. The writer may tell the people more of the details of that fight when he has more time and space. The details are interesting.

(8) Everyone who has attended funerals in the crude burial places knows that in nearly all of them automobiles do not enter the grounds during a large portion of the year. If such a thing should be attempted the cars would be stuck in the mud. Are people who live in good homes and enjoy many other modern conveniences and comforts willing to place their dead in such a crude place simply because it is "cheap"? The DRIVEWAYS of NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES will hold up cars or trucks with almost any load which could be piled on, even up to 10 or 12 tons, without making a dent on the surface. The WHITE DRIVEWAYS are unique amongst all American burial places. Is the high esteem of acquaintances important only during life? Is it not highly desirable that genuine respect of the living for the good name of an individual or family be retained after the change which we call "death" has come to the individual or family? Will former friends be so likely to visit the grave of a departed one in an unkempt place that is in every way crude and repellent as they would if that final resting place were in the midst of scenes of natural and artistic beauty?

(9) The great GLADSTONE, prime minister of the British Empire for many years and author of several books which will endure as long as the English language lasts, wrote:

**"Show me the manner in which a community cares for its dead, and I will measure with mathematical exactness, the tender sympathies of its people, their respect for the laws of the land, and their loyalty to high ideals."**

(10) Almost every day in the year the newspapers record instances in which both young and mature adults who have drifted along for many years without taking any action toward securing a FINAL RESTING PLACE for their mortal remains are snapped off in the twinkling of an eye like the snuffing out of a candle flame, thus leaving to relatives or friends the difficult and unpleasant task of ascertaining what means the deceased leaves for securing a lot in a beautiful and permanent place. There are thousands of instances of this class in which all that is mortal of a worthy and highly esteemed citizen is disposed of by depositing the same in a wretched and temporary place simply because it is "cheap." Often this is done so the survivors will have more of the money and property of the deceased to use for their own pleasure. This is never done when the deceased has provided a desirable burial place in advance. Nobody wants to go to see a grave in such a place even though the deceased had thousands of friends and admirers in life. Hence, after the nearest relatives pass away, such a grave is left in abject solitude in a revolting wilderness of weeds, thistles, tall grass, and wild brush until the inevitable time comes when the surrounding population becomes tired of that "disgrace and eye-sore" and takes legal steps to have it turned into a public park or children's playground. Hundreds of such places have met that fate. The near relatives of a person whose grave is in such a wretched place have nothing but shame whenever they think of that departed one's grave.

(11) The TIME TO ACT, in view of all of the considerations mentioned herein, is when the mind is not crushed with grief, but when it is clear to consider everything carefully. What folly it is for supposedly intelligent human beings to seek to put the suggestion of death away from their thoughts! Such people do not realize that for every birth there must be a death and hence, that deaths are just as common as births, that the suggestion should be considered sanely and without prejudice or superstition. People who act otherwise are the ones who are most completely undone and crushed when suddenly overtaken by the Grim Messenger. They suddenly find themselves unable to think, unable to do anything intelligently in the emergency which has overtaken them and from which they had thought to shield themselves but with as little success as does the ungainly ostrich protect himself from danger by hiding his head under a leaf while his large body remains in full view of any enemy. More and more people are learning, as the years pass, to handle this whole subject in a cool, sane manner and to make sensible preparations for the emergency which surely comes to every human being.

Address for more information

# NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES

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Visitors always welcome. Gates close at 7 p.m., two hours later than Chicago cemeteries close.

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