

CIVILIZATION, INTELLIGENCE, EDUCATION, REFINEMENT

Shown In Respect to the Memory of Those Who Have Passed the Unseen Portal And In Gratifying the Nobler Impulses of the Living

SOMETHING NEW IN THE WORLD IN BURIAL TOMBS

It is a rare privilege to make the initial announcement in this paper that a new everlasting and water-resisting burial tomb is now in use in NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES, also will be in other cemeteries in the near future. It will not have concrete on the outside and asphalt on the inside, but will be of massive and reinforced concrete, heavily covered with a specially prepared and patented preparation of PURE ASPHALT. It is true that well-made concrete will last indefinitely when placed below the frost line in the ground, but all concrete is porous, and, hence, water will penetrate it. It is a matter of simple elementary knowledge that all ground, except in deserts, is annually saturated with water at least for short periods of time. Good drainage will prevent water from staying in the ground above the drains for more than a few hours at a time, but many burial places are not drained at all, and water in contact with any porous substance, even for a short time, will penetrate that material.

The writer has been active in the cemetery business for more than 25 years, but never has he given assurance to any person that a plain concrete vault is water-resisting. It is well known that it will not exclude water. As both wooden and steel boxes have been barred from NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES for several years, and from a few other cemeteries for a short time, because they are neither permanent nor waterproof in the ground, and as the fact that simple concrete vaults are not waterproof has become well known, a vault which is composed partially of concrete and partially of asphalt has been in use for two or three years. It is a scientific fact that asphalt is not porous and, hence, is absolutely water-resisting when properly prepared and applied to concrete; and, also, is everlasting. This combination unites strength, perpetual durability, and water-resisting qualities.

A STEP IN ADVANCE

However, a very thin lining of asphalt on the inner side of a concrete vault, fastened only by the use of ordinary kerosene oil is not considered a permanent fixture there. Practical men who have had ripe experience in concrete work, also in various uses for asphalt and in many phases of waterproofing, assert that it has been proven that water which will surely penetrate the concrete wall will inevitably push against and separate the thin layer of asphalt from the inner side of the concrete walls of the vault. It is only reasonable that such a result should be experienced, as there is certainly nothing permanent in the adherence of such a lining to a concrete wall by the simple action of plain kerosene or any other kind of oil or greasy substance. Suppose a pore in the concrete wall of a grave vault is only one-hundredth the size of a common pin; then one hundred pores will let as much water pass as one pin-hole in a rubber sack, and one thousand pores will admit as much water as ten pin-holes. There are many times one thousand pores in the sides, ends, bottom and cover of a concrete grave vault and, therefore, it will require only a short time for a concrete vault, lined with asphalt, to be filled with water after a sufficient volume of water accumulates between the concrete wall and the asphalt lining to cause a serious bulging (like a water blister on one's hand) and then to force a break in the asphalt lining. Then the vault is no longer waterproof. The concrete is good to furnish strength and durability and the asphalt is good to furnish absolute waterproofing if properly applied to the concrete.

A CONCLUSIVE EXPERIMENT

More than \$2,000 has been spent jointly by a leading asphalt company and the management of NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES in an effort to make an all-asphalt grave vault that would be strong enough to permanently hold up the earth in a grave and to exclude the water. These experiments were made under the personal direction of a graduate chemical and research engineer; but it can't be done! For lack of space the details cannot be given here.

ASPHALT

Asphalt is a very useful product of nature, especially when refined and adapted to various purposes by scientific methods. It is older than history. Much of its nature and uses was known to the Babylonians before the dawn of history. The word is often used as synonymous with BITUMEN, but at present the latter word has a more

general meaning covering several products which have been evolved from the manufacture and refinement of the natural product known originally as bitumen. That monumental work, Hastings Dictionary of the Bible, contains the following under the caption "Bitumen:"

"The mineral substance which has given to the Dead Sea the name Lacus Asphaltites, in which case it is mineral pitch of the group of the hydrocarbons. This mineral is abundant in several eastern countries, and was used in very early times as a substitute for mortar in the buildings of Chaldaea. It is found in Persia, Assam, Upper Burma, particularly at Rangoon, at Baku near the Caspian, and in the valleys leading down from the west to the Dead Sea, especially Wadies, Derejeh, and Mahawat."

KNOWN TO BOTH SCHOLARS AND PRACTICAL MEN

All the standard cyclopedias have articles on this widely used substance. The Cyclopaedia Britannica prints the Greek word used by Aristotle, Latin word used by Pliny, and the German word, each referring to asphalt or "mineral pitch" and says that the meanings of those words refer to "Lacus Asphaltites or Dead Sea where it was found in ancient times." The wide-spread distribution of this mineral substance as given in the various cyclopedias cannot be given at length here for lack of space. However, it was used by the early Egyptians more than 2500 B. C., was well known in Greece during several centuries B. C., also in Carthage, Sicily, Rome, and in later times has been discovered in other localities in Europe, in the United States and in South America. One of the most noted deposits is that known as Rancho la Brea Asphalt Pits located about 8 miles from the city of Los Angeles. In that big deposit the bones of mammoth animals of a prehistoric period have been found in a good state of preservation. In the museum at Los Angeles may be seen these bones and also the remains of trees which have been preserved for thousands of years in that bed of asphalt. There are bones of elephants, camels, tigers, horses, bears, and other animals in addition to the trunks of trees, acorns, pine cones, etc.

It is interesting to note that as long ago as the period of the Babylonians and the Chaldaeans asphalt was used as a cement. Thus, the everlasting and waterproof qualities, especially when improved by modern scientific methods of refinement, are almost as well known to practical and scientific men as is concrete. ASPHALT IS THE IMPERISHABLE MATERIAL OF THE AGES!!

It is important to keep in mind that there are two general kinds or grades of asphalt: (1) That which comes from pure bitumen deposits without any element of value extracted from it in the process of refining it for special uses, and (2) asphalt which is simply one of several by-products extracted from crude mineral petroleum from which such articles of commerce as gasoline, lubricating oil, grease, spraying materials, paraffin, naphtha, benzine, kerosene, and other by-products have been extracted. One of the largest deposits of the pure asphalt used in the WESTERN WATERPROOF TOMB is from that vast deposit in Venezuela and none of the many by-products named have been taken from it. The second kind of asphalt named herein is simply one of the by-products obtained from crude petroleum which is pumped from the ground hundreds or thousands of feet. There is a marked difference in the quality. In the making of floors is there a difference between oak lumber and pine lumber? Is there a difference between the wool which grows on a sheep and the cotton which grows on a plant for making clothing? There is just as much difference in asphalts! Only the purest natural asphalt in its entirety, with impurities only removed and with certain chemical preparations added, is used in the WESTERN WATERPROOF TOMBS.

AN ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMB

The entire Christian world is annually thrilled by wonderfully dramatic scenes representing the trial, crucifixion and entombment of the Savior of the world. The body of Jesus was placed in a new tomb owned by Joseph of Arimathea, presumably a rich man. The modern ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMB is even preferable to such a place as Joseph's "new tomb," especially for our northern climatic conditions. It was the practice of thousands of people hundreds of years B. C. in Palestine—before Portland cement and cutting and building with marble and granite were known—to find natural caves or to hew out tombs in the rocks for use as permanent resting places for their dead. The two considerations for the use

of rock tombs or vaults were that the body should be preserved from contact with water and from contact with the earth. The burial of Jesus must be accepted by the entire Christian world as the outstanding example for Christian interment. The modern ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMB is the nearest method of interment to the "new tomb" of Joseph that is known to the modern world, and that is within reach of millions of people of moderate financial resources at the present time.

MORE DESIRABLE THAN THE RICH MAN'S MAUSOLEUM

In one respect the inexpensive ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMB is preferable to the costly family mausoleum built by rich men above ground in the present era of civilization and in this climate. It is certain that bodies in a family mausoleum above ground will freeze thru every winter and thaw every spring in this climate, and it is equally certain that the contents of a massive ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMB in the ground below the frost line will not freeze. The temperature in this tomb will remain nearly the same the year round for unnumbered centuries, and moisture called "sweat" will not gather on its walls as is usual with plain concrete vaults. It will be dry continuously! These are certainly comforting thoughts. The ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMB is one of the recent triumphs of chemical science for the consolation of intelligent and refined people at only nominal expense, as compared with tombs hewn out of natural rock by the ancients or built out of granite by modern people of wealth.

SCIENTIFIC TREATMENT WITH EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Scientifically treated asphalt is necessary for desirable results in making burial tombs from asphalt. Expensive equipment is required in the operation. Of course, neither crude asphalt nor asphalt used for paving, roofing, or several other purposes would be satisfactory for making grave tombs. The various asphalt deposits yield a product that is considerably different from that of other deposits. Furthermore, a large amount of scientific research has been made in developing a correct grade of asphalt for this special purpose, and several of the methods of manufacture for this ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMB are covered by patents. It is different!

THE TOMB PAR EXCELLENCE

In view of these facts, scientific men have given much study and experimentation to the problem of making a grave tomb that is composed of ASPHALT AND CONCRETE. Those studies and experiments have been crowned with success, and the first ASPHALT-CONCRETE TOMBS recently have been made at NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES.

ALL STATEMENTS PROVEN

In every way this tomb has been carefully tested. To prove its strength, one tomb is now holding up a ton of sandbags, or nearly as much weight as any vault would hold in a grave and without the aid of the earth walls to help hold up the earth on the top of the vault. Another of these vaults is submerged in a lake of water in order to prove absolutely that it is water-resisting, and that a method of sealing the cover to the body of the TOMB with a plastic asphalt preparation makes, at last, an everlasting and water-resisting outer enclosure for the absolute protection, in a dry condition, of the mortal remains of the departed loved ones of all who will act intelligently by buying this TOMB.

UNDERTAKERS ORDERS WILL BE FILLED

The complete schedule of prices for the various sizes of this vault has not yet been prepared but until further notice the size for adult graves will be \$100.

Deliveries will be made upon orders from undertakers to any cemetery in the Chicago area. The first tomb or two delivered at each cemetery will be placed in the grave, and sealed after the funeral; after which the cemetery management will be paid for placing and sealing the vault, if desired. For the present the vault may be ordered by telephoning or writing the office of NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES, telephone, North Chicago 1067, Post Office address, North Chicago, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted to the public in behalf of refined burial methods.

JOHN WESTERN.

NORTHSHORE GARDEN OF MEMORIES

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

Address for more information

NORTH CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

TELEPHONE NORTH CHICAGO 1067

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