

Cuban Housing Shortage Affects Even Cemeteries

By HAL BOYLE

HAVANA, March 3 (AP)—The housing shortage is so acute in Cuba's expanding capital it affects even the cemeteries.

The dead as well as the living must contend for space. Only the bones of the rich or eminent persons are accorded the permanent luxury of the six feet of earth that death traditionally bestows in other lands.

In crowded Colon cemetery most tenants get only a three-year lease. When it expires they are removed to make way for newcomers and they wind up in the final democracy of a common bone pit.

The Colon cemetery, one of the great graveyards of the world, is missed by the type of tourist who sees Havana through the daiquiri glasses at Sloppy Joe's bar but is sought out by many students of Latin architecture.

There is enough old marble tenting its ancient dead to build a new Acropolis, and there are huge modern tombs with bronze doors and fine statues that cost \$150,000. It houses many Cuban patriots and a number of Americans, including some killed in the sinking of the battleship Maine, the torch to Cuban freedom.

Place of Beauty
The huge sprawling cemetery, riotous with tropical flowers and the carved monuments with which the Latin races memorialize their dead, is a place of beauty rather than sadness.

The inhabitants dwell pretty much in death as their financial resources permitted in life.

Old Miguel Gonzalez, one of 400 caretakers who earn a living polishing decorative brass handles on the marble tombs, explained the burial system to me.

"In the wealthy section people pay \$75 for a lot which is theirs forever. They build a tomb above ground which costs them from \$200 to \$150,000. Most families have a plot with four places."

Because of the pressure for space large families often have a chamber with twelve small marble boxes at one corner of the plot into which the remains of the elder dead are stored in time.

"In another section," said Gonzalez, "people pay \$60 to rent a cement tomb above ground in which they lie for three years."

In the third section poor people pay \$9 and are buried in the ground for three years. Paupers who die in government hospitals are buried free."

At the end of three years survivors are notified by newspaper advertisements that unless other provisions are made the bones will be disinterred and put in a common pit. Usually there is no response to the ads, the cheap wooden crosses are taken down—and the earth is ready once more.

Cares For Tombs
Old Gonzalez gets from \$1 to \$2 a month from many families to care for their tombs. He has done this for twenty years.

"Now I polish the brass on the graves of many men who used to pay me themselves," he said, "and whenever one of my friends dies I take care of him, too."

He has a craftsman's pride in

came to the cemetery only on anniversaries.

But he pointed over to a tomb where a black-clad woman of early middle age was placing flowers.

"Not many are like that one," he said. "Her husband died ten years ago. Ever since she has come with fresh flowers to visit him."

Classified Ads Bring Results.

Schoolboy Takes Shot At Teacher

NEWARK, N. J., March 3 (AP)

A 15-year-old boy's vocational school pupil who fired three shots at his teacher yesterday mumbled to police last night "I didn't mean to hurt him—I only wanted to scare him."

All the shots were wild. Identified by Detective Lieu-

tenant William Wagner as William McHenry, the boy was held at the juvenile detention home without a formal charge.

The teacher, John Hulstrunk, 45, dashed wildly out of the room when the boy's 32-caliber pistol jammed after three shots.

The teacher told police McHenry had become resentful when reprimanded.

City Delivery Service, Ph. 8417.



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DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL	INVENTORY IN DOLLARS	SALE ENDS	HOW TO BUY	SPECIAL OFFERING BY NUMBER ONLY
Ship Equipment	\$ 10,491.74	Mar. 10	Fixed Price	PDO-61-656
Metal Forming & Cutting Machinery	\$8,635.17	Mar. 10	Sealed Bid	PDO-61-697
New & Used Ship's Curtain & Rubberized Blankets	8,331.20	Mar. 10	Fixed Price	PDO-64-694
Welding Rod & Welder Parts	24,695.49	Mar. 10	Sealed Bid	PDO-64-710
Pneumatic Grinder & Drills, Riveting Guns	26,765.72	Mar. 10	Sealed Bid	PDO-66-711
Air Ejector, Condenser, Lube Oil Heater, Strainer	21,376.49	Mar. 11	Sealed Bid	PDO-62-723
Straddle Trucks, Baling Machine, Conveyor, Baggage Truck, Hand Trucks	15,179.55	Mar. 11	Fixed Price	PDO-65-724
Are Welding Machines	96,445.00	Mar. 11	Sealed Bid	PDO-64-726
Fans (Ventilating Electric)	15,417.20	Mar. 11	Sealed Bid	PDO-61-733
Misc. Household, Office & Industrial Furniture & Supplies	28,067.71	Mar. 11	Fixed Price	PDO-31-729
D.C. Electric Motors, Controllers, Limit Switches, Control Fittings	26,434.81	Mar. 12	Sealed Bid	PDO-61-712
Chemicals & Chemical Products	16,097.90	Mar. 12	Sealed Bid	PDO-71-731
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Miscellaneous Hand Tools	15,416.55	Mar. 12	Fixed Price	PDO-17-747
Mobile Cranes, Trolley-Dollies	16,854.44	Mar. 13	Fixed Price	PDO-65-734
Electrodes, Welding Rod	41,103.91	Mar. 13	Sealed Bid	PDO-64-740
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Mining Machinery	143,417.73	Mar. 13	Sealed Bid	PDO-63-750
Clocks, etc.	8,131.30	Mar. 13	Fixed Price	PDO-29-762
Metal Cutting Machines	132,512.21	Mar. 13	Fixed Price	PDO-81-680
Bench Rammer, Air Grinders, Simpson Mixer, Acetylene Cutting Machine, Rollers, Scales	70,324.22	Mar. 14	Sealed Bid	PDO-64-735
Miscellaneous Hardware Items, Mill Supplies, Air Hose, Rigging Hardware	74,014.31	Mar. 17	Fixed Price	PDO-16-715
Welding & Cutting Tips—Welding Stations (Control) Jacks—Boring Bar—Automotive Sets, Etc.	61,112.40	Mar. 17	Sealed Bid	PDO-64-733
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Metal Cutting Machines & Tools	21,197.78	Mar. 18	Sealed Bid	PDO-63-751
Chain Hoists; Paper Baler—Hand Trucks	13,137.53	Mar. 18	Fixed Price	PDO-65-759
Mattresses	47,578.00	Mar. 18	Sealed Bid	PDO-32-768
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Chain Hoists; Universal Joints; Balltop Rollers; Hand Trucks	17,408.42	Mar. 21	Sealed Bid	PDO-65-767
Pumps & Spare Parts	252,468.42	Mar. 24	Sealed Bid	PDL-63-701
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Aircraft		Continuous	Fixed Price	C6-738

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These sales listings describe the war surplus materials and tell how to purchase. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Customer Service Division at the address below.



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☐ PDL-63-701 ☐ PDO-17-747
☐ PDO-65-711 ☐ PDL-18-748
☐ PDO-61-712 ☐ PDO-63-759
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☐ PDO-62-723 ☐ PDO-67-756
☐ PDO-65-724 ☐ PDO-65-759
☐ PDO-64-726 ☐ PDO-31-761
☐ PDO-31-729 ☐ PDO-62-762
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☐ PDO-81-732 ☐ PDO-91-764
☐ PDO-61-733 ☐ PDO-47-765
☐ PDO-65-734 ☐ PDO-65-767
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- Watch the newspapers for information as to when and where these items are available—as all items on this SET-ASIDE LIST will be available ONLY IN LIMITED QUANTITIES.
- Further information may be obtained from Veterans Division at the address below, or Selective Service Boards, and various posts of Veterans organizations throughout the state.
- This change applies ONLY TO SET-ASIDE ITEMS. Veteran's certification will still be required for all other surplus materials for business, agricultural, or professional uses, or as a condition of employment.

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Prospective buyers are asked to confirm dates and commodities as they are subject to change.

For further information about any of these offerings contact ... PD-797-14

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