No. 844,940. PATENTED FEB. 19, 1907.

J. HOTCHNER.

ILLUMINATED SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 13, 1906.

Fig. 1.

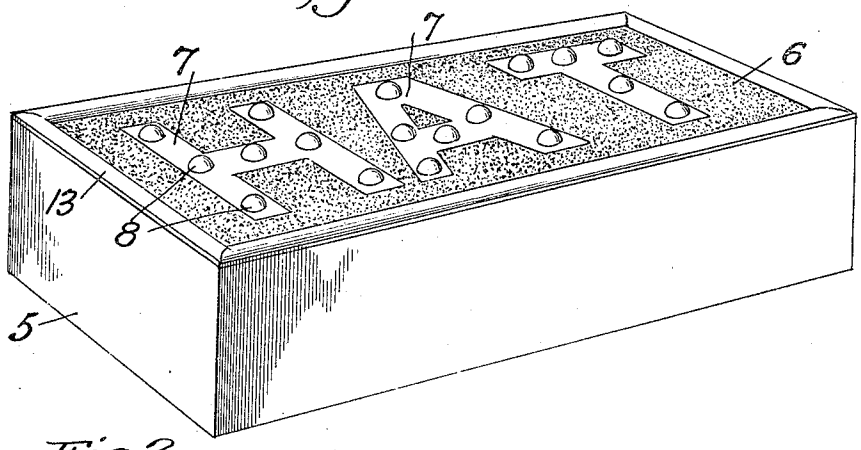


Fig. 2.

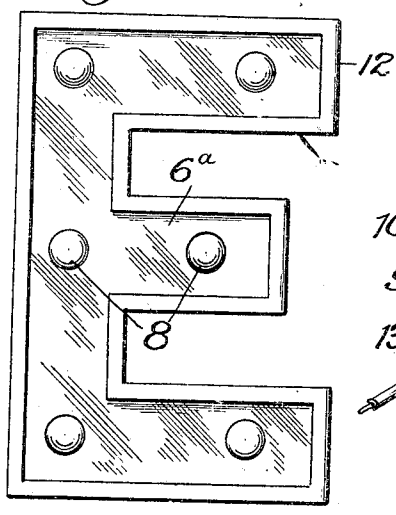


Fig. 3.

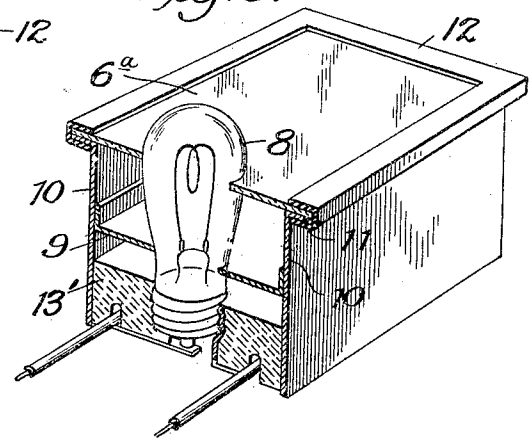
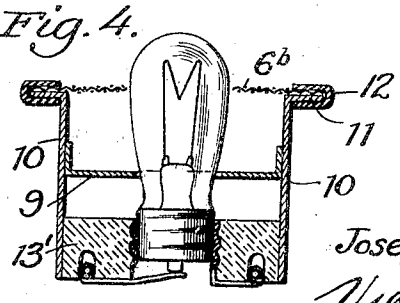


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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ILLUMINATED SIGN.

No. 844,940. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 19, 1907.

Application filed January 13, 1906. Serial No. 295,965.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH HOTCHNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bronx, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Illuminated Signs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to illuminated signs; and its primary object is to provide a novel and highly useful device of this character wherein a single illuminating means has such relation to a light-transmitting sign character that its rays are in part projected through the character to render the same plainly visible and in part projected exteriorly of the character to illuminate the exterior surface thereof and the immediate vicinity.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective of an illuminated sign provided with more than one sign character. Fig. 2 is a plan of an illuminated sign comprising but one sign character. Fig. 3 is a sectional perspective of the sign illustrated in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a transverse section of the sign, illustrating a modified form of sign-panel.

Referring to the drawings by reference-numerals, 5 designates a casing which carries a sign-panel 6 and incandescent electric bulbs 8. The sign-panel may be constructed of a single light-transmitting sign character or a light-transmitting substance having portions of its outer surface coated with an opaque paint or other material in a manner to provide a light-transmitting sign character or an opaque substance formed to provide a light-transmitting sign character, and the substance may be either glass or gauze or any other material suitable for the purpose.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings, 6 designates a light-transmitting sign-panel having portions of its outer surface coated with an opaque paint or other material in a manner to provide light-transmitting sign characters 7. In Figs. 2 and 3, 6^a designates a sign-panel constructed in the form of a single light-transmitting sign character. In Fig. 4, 6^b designates a sign-panel constructed of wire-gauze, which may be made in the form of a single light-transmitting sign character or have portions of its outer surface coated with an opaque paint or other material in a manner to provide one or more light-transmitting sign characters.

The sign character is provided with one or more openings through which projects the upper end or ends of one or more incandescent bulbs 8. The incandescent bulb projects sufficiently beyond the exterior surface of the sign character to position the outer end of its film beyond the outer surface of the character, so as to project its rays in part to illuminate the exterior surface of the character and the immediate vicinity. The greater portion of the film of the lamp is located in rear of the sign character to permit its rays to be in part projected therethrough. Arranged in rear of the incandescent bulb is a reflector 9, which reflects the light through the sign character to render it plainly visible. This reflector is arranged within the casing 5, and in order to increase the reflection of the light through the sign character the inner surface of the upper and lower walls 10 of the casing are treated with a suitable light-reflecting substance. The upper edges of the casing 5 are provided with horizontally-disposed marginal flanges 11, upon which rests the sign-panel 6, which is secured in applied position by a channeled member 12, which embraces the flanges 11 and the edges of the sign-panel, as is fully illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings. If it is found desirable, the sign-panel may be secured in applied position by a molding 13, as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

I have illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings the sign-panel provided with more than one light-transmitting sign character, while I have illustrated in Fig. 2 the sign-panel comprising but one light-transmitting sign character, and in this instance the casing is constructed to conform to the shape of the particular sign character.

The bulbs 8 and electric conductors are suitably secured to the rear wall 13′ of the casing 5.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and mode of operation of the invention should be understood without a further extended description.

Changes in the form, proportions, and minor details of construction may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having fully described and illustrated my invention, what I claim is—

1. An illuminated sign comprising a light-transmitting character, and an illuminating means, said illuminating means partially protruding through the character.

2. An illuminated sign comprising a casing, a light-transmitting character carried by the casing, a reflector arranged within the casing, and an illuminating means arranged within the casing and partially protruding through the character.

3. An illuminated sign comprising a light-transmitting sign-panel, and an illuminating means partially protruding through the panel.

4. An illuminated sign comprising a light-transmitting sign-panel, and a single illuminating means arranged on both sides of the panel.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH HOTCHNER.

Witnesses:

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HARRY C. HEBIG.