

Nov. 18, 1930.

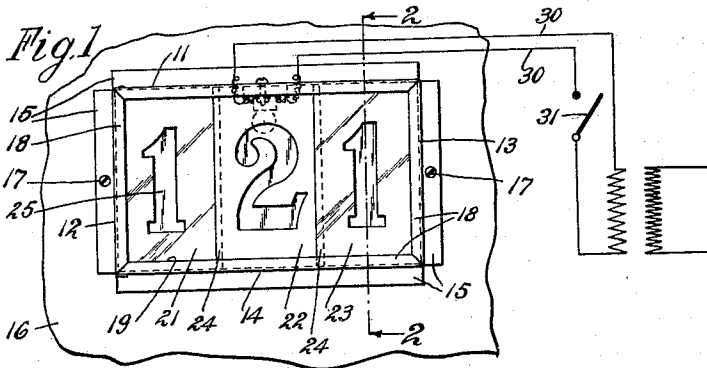
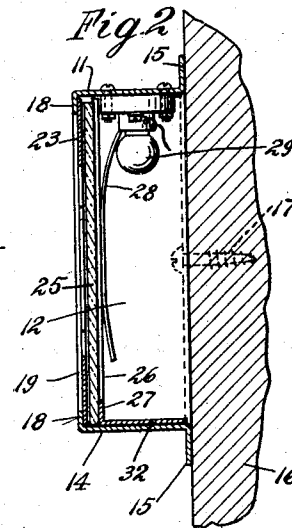
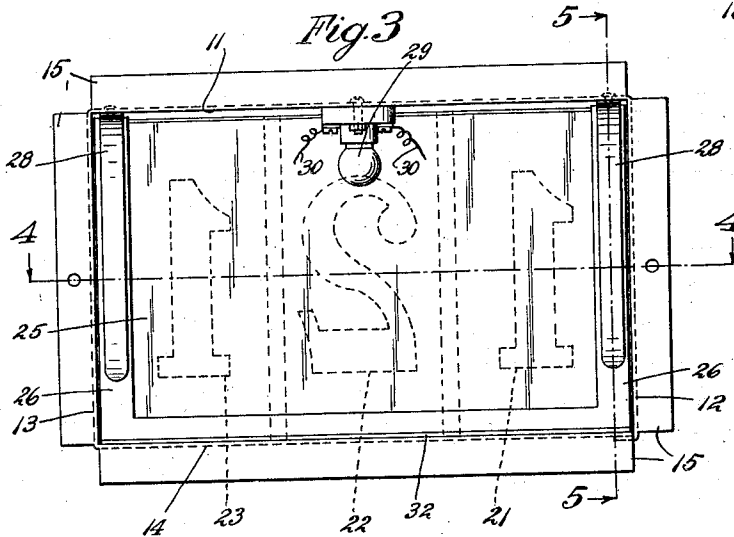
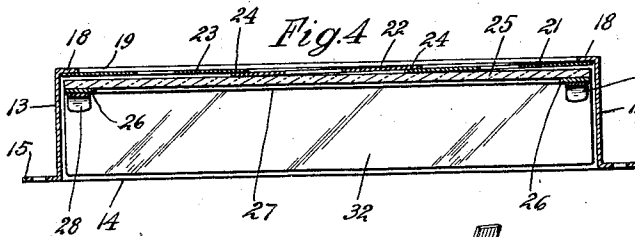
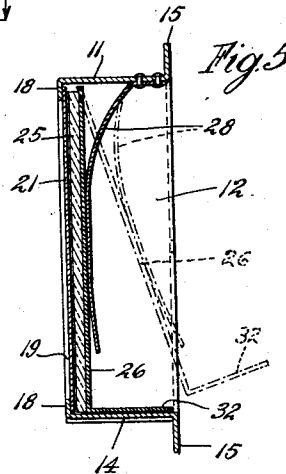
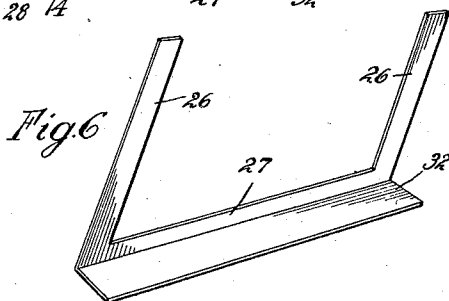
G. H. BARNES

1,781,677

ILLUMINATED SIGN

Filed April 30, 1927

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Nov. 18, 1930.

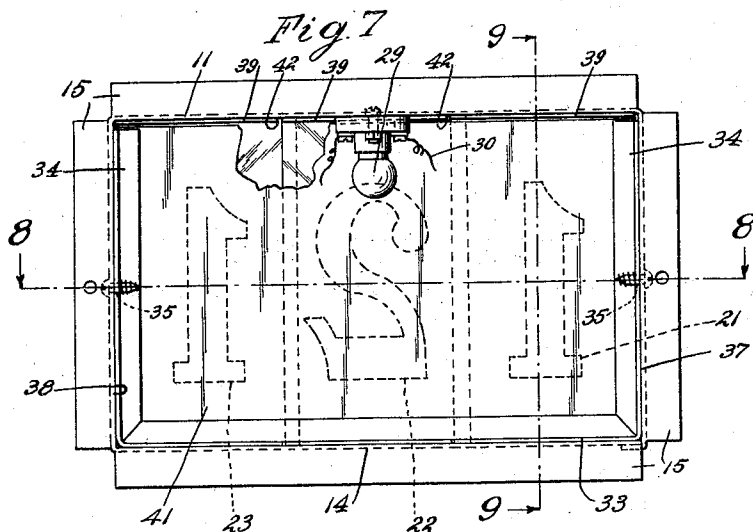
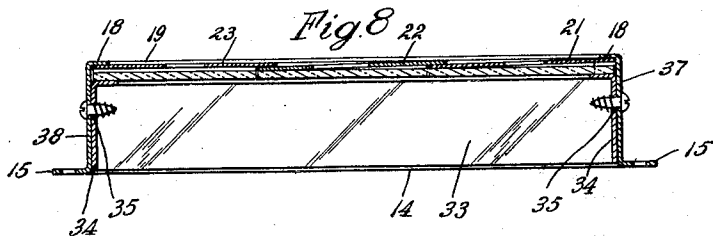
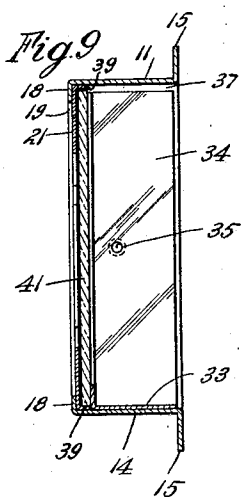
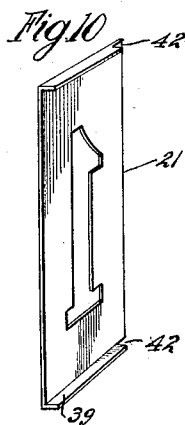
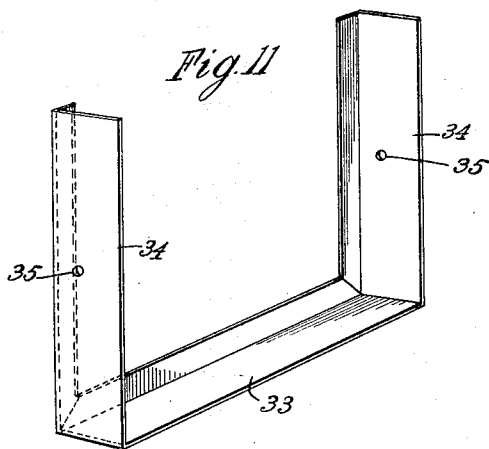
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1,781,677

ILLUMINATED SIGN

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ILLUMINATED SIGN

Application filed April 30, 1927. Serial No. 187,890.

The invention relates broadly to illuminated signs and particularly to means adapted for use in displaying house numbers, or the like, to increase the visibility at night.

5 An object of the invention is to provide a housing carrying opaque members having character openings therein, and a source of light to make the character openings easily visible at night when the housing is illuminated.

10 An object of the invention is to provide means for yieldingly securing opaque members having character openings therein against an opening in a housing, so that only the character openings will be visibly illuminated, and which may be removed therefrom without detaching the housing from its position on a house, store, or wherever it is utilized.

20 An object of the invention is to provide a device of the class described that is efficient in use, inexpensive of manufacture and that can be installed without the aid of a skilled mechanic.

25 With the foregoing and such other objects in view as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed; it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment herein described, may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

35 In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is an assembled view of the device showing the wiring leading to its source of energy through a transformer.

40 Fig. 2 is a transverse section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 viewed from the opposite or inside of the device.

45 Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of a view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3, indicating the overlapping of the opaque members relative to each other.

50 Fig. 5 is a transverse section taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 3 and showing in dotted lines the position that a frame assumes when swung outwardly to remove the opaque members.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a demountable frame.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing a modified form of the invention.

Fig. 8 is a longitudinal view taken on line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 9—9 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of one form of opaque member shown with a character opening therein.

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of the frame to be used in connection with the modified form of the invention shown in Fig. 7.

65 The housing, preferably made of sheet metal, comprises top wall 11, end walls 12 and 13, and a bottom wall 14. The outer edges of the top, bottom and side walls being flared outwardly as at 15 to form a flange provided with apertures for securing the housing in place, as for instance against a portion of a building as indicated in fragment at 16, by means of screws 17 extending through said apertures.

75 The front edges of the top, end and side walls are bent inwardly, as at 18, to form a front opening 19, and a plurality of opaque members 21, 22 and 23 are provided to lie in the casing or housing against the flanges 18 to cover the opening. These opaque members are provided with character openings, such as a character of the numeral 1 and so on, indicating the number of the house, which are disposed within the housing in overlapping engagement with each other, as illustrated at 24 to prevent any light emanating from within the housing outwardly. A transparent or translucent member 25, such as glass or the like, is placed against the opaque members as illustrated in Fig. 2 to hold said members against the opening in the housing.

85 A removable frame, as illustrated in Fig. 6, comprising end members 26 and a bottom member 27, has a projecting flange projecting substantially at right angles from the bottom member 27, the frame being arranged to be inserted within the housing and so disposed that the side members 26 engage the end edges of the transparent member 25.

90 An arcuate yielding member 28 is secured

to each end of the top wall of the housing, close to the rear edge, and engages the ends 26 of the frame to hold it yieldingly against the transparent member 25, thus holding the opaque members 21, 22 and 23, and transparent member securely against the opening 19 in the front of the housing.

A light bulb 29 is secured to the top wall of the housing and wiring 30 leading therefrom to a source of power, and if desired a transformer may be utilized in connection with a high voltage circuit, a switch 31 being provided to close the circuit when it is desired to illuminate the character openings in the sign.

To remove the opaque members to change from one set of opaque members to another having different character openings, they are pressed inwardly at their lower edge until the frame 32 and spring 28 assume the positions shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, in which position the opaque members may be readily pulled out forwardly through the opening 19 provided in the housing for that purpose, and new members inserted after which the frame and associated parts will be urged back to their former position by the springs.

The modified form shown in Figures 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 is substantially the same as that shown in the other figures, with the exception that it is not provided with yielding means for permitting of forcing the frame and opaque members backwardly so that the opaque members may be taken out of place through the opening in the front of the frame. In this instance, the frame comprises a bottom section 33 and side sections 34, all of the same angular cross section. Apertures 35 are provided in the sections 34, all of the same angular cross section. Apertures 35 are provided in the sections 34 arranged to register with similar apertures in the end walls 37 and 38 of the housing shown in Fig. 7 to hold the frame secure in place against the transparent and opaque members.

The opaque member, shown in Fig. 10, has inwardly projecting top and bottom flanges 39 arranged to carry the transparent member 41 therein, and are provided with cutout portions 42 so that said opaque members may overlap one another to provide a housing impervious to light.

I claim:

1. In a device of the class described, a housing comprising side and front walls having outwardly extending flanges formed integral with the side walls, the front wall having an opening, a transparent member covering said opening, opaque members having character openings therein disposed against said transparent member, a removable frame against said transparent member, and yielding means secured to the housing holding said frame against said opaque members.

2. In a device of the class described, a hous-

ing having an opening in its front wall, a plurality of slidable opaque members having flanges formed integral and extending from its opposite top and bottom ends, said flanges having a cut-out portion adapting said opaque members to overlapping disposition, a removable frame within and extending along the bottom and side walls of said housing, and springs secured to the housing arranged to engage the side members of the frame.

3. In a device of the class described, a housing having an opening in its front wall, a plurality of slidable opaque members having flanges formed integral and extending from their top and bottom ends, said flanges having a cut out portion adapting said opaque members to overlapping disposition, a transparent member arranged to hold said opaque members in place, a removable frame within said housing and contacting with the edges of said transparent member, and springs secured to the housing and arranged to engage the side members of the frame.

4. In a device of the class described, a housing having an opening in its front wall; a light bulb in said housing; a plurality of slidable opaque members having character openings therein and flanges formed integral and extending from the top and bottom ends thereof arranged to seat against said housing, said flanges having a cut out portion adapting said opaque members to overlapping interlocking disposition, and a frame within said housing for detachably securing said opaque members in place.

5. In a device of the class described, a housing having an opening in its front wall; a light bulb in said housing; a plurality of slidable opaque members having character openings therein and flanges formed integral and extending from the top and bottom ends thereof arranged to seat against said housing; said flanges having a cut out portion adapting the opaque members to overlapping interlocking disposition; a transparent member arranged to hold said opaque members in place; a frame within said housing for detachably holding said transparent member in place.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature at 10 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois.
GEORGE H. BARNES.