March 25, 1924. 1,487,827

H. H. WEISS

COMBINED TAIL LIGHT, NAME AND LICENSE PLATE HOLDER

Filed Oct. 14, 1922

Fig. 1.

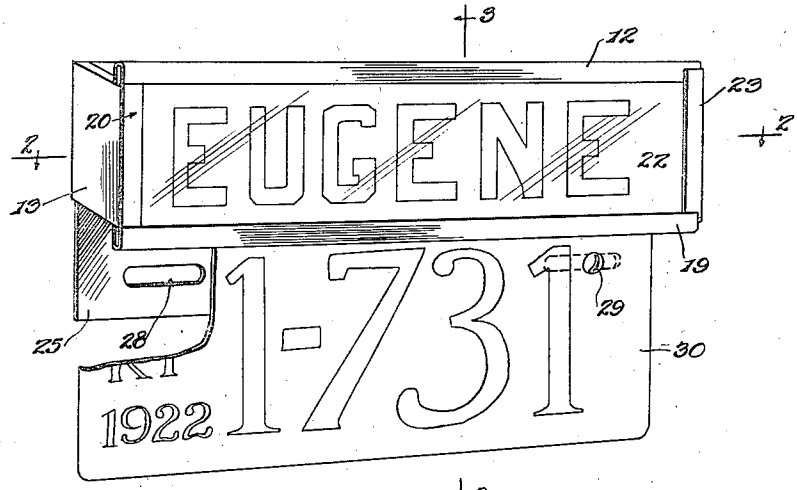


Fig. 2.

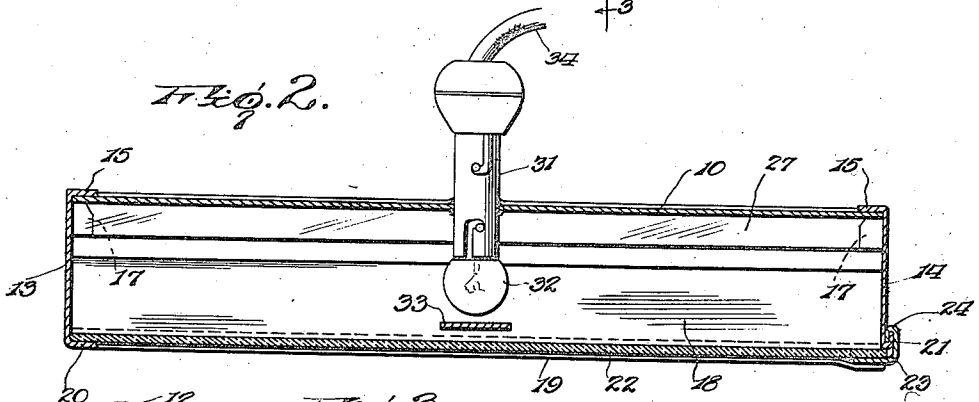


Fig. 3.

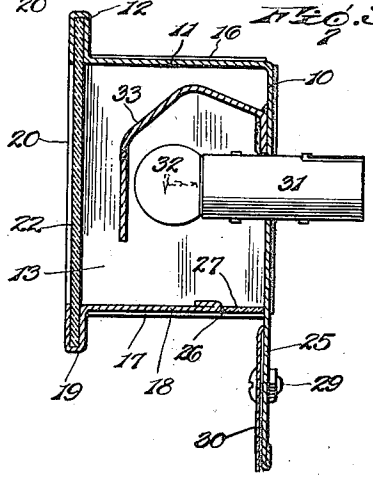
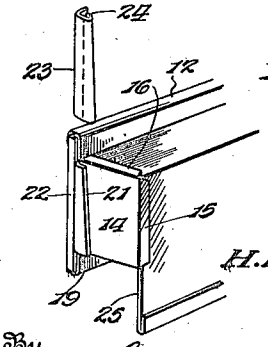


Fig. 4.



Inventor

H. H. Weiss.

By Lacey & Lacey, Attorneys

Patented Mar. 25, 1924. 1,487,827

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT H. WEISS, OF EUGENE, OREGON.

COMBINED TAIL LIGHT, NAME AND LICENSE PLATE HOLDER.

Application filed October 14, 1922. Serial No. 594,479.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT H. WEISS, citizen of the United States, residing at Eugene, in the county of Lane and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Tail Lights, Name and License Plate Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved tail light, name and license plate holder for motor vehicles and seeks, as one of its principal objects, to provide a device which will serve the function of a tail light and, at the same time, will also serve to support a license plate as well as display a name plate bearing the name of the city or town where the owner is resident.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device which will be characterized by structural simplicity and which may be produced at moderate cost.

And the invention has as a still further object to provide a device which may be readily applied and which will be well adapted for general use.

Other and incidental objects will appear hereinafter.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device,

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows,

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows, and

Figure 4 is a reduced perspective view showing the keeper employed for the name plate of the device, removed.

In carrying the invention into effect, I employ a preferably oblong casing which may be formed of sheet metal or other approved material and includes a back wall 10 continued, as particularly shown in Figure 3, to provide a top wall 11 which, at its forward margin, is bent to define an upstanding channel shaped flange 12. Closing the casing at its ends are end walls 13 and 14 having flanges 15 overlying the back wall and similar flanges 16 overlying the top wall, these flanges being suitably secured to the latter walls supporting the end walls in position. The end walls are further provided with bottom flanges 17 and resting upon said flanges is a bottom wall 18 bent at its forward margin to define a depending channel shaped flange 19 facing the flange 12 of the top wall in a plane therewith. As best brought out in Figure 1, the end wall 13 is bent at its forward margin to define a flange 20 extending between the free edges of the flanges 12 and 19 at their adjacent ends connecting the latter flanges so as to prevent spreading thereof, the flange 20 being secured to the flanges 12 and 19 in any appropriate manner. On the other hand, the end wall 14 is bent outwardly and backwardly at its forward margin to define a channel shaped flange 21 gradually increasing in width toward its lower end.

Removably fitting in the flanges 12 and 19 is a transparent name plate 22 closing the casing at its forward side. This plate may bear the name of a city or town where the owner of the vehicle using the device is resident, the letters of the name being imposed upon the plate in any approved manner. However, it should be observed that the letters of the name are preferably colored red. At one end, the plate abuts the end wall 13 of the casing, which wall forms a stop for the plate, while at its opposite end, the plate terminates substantially flush with the end wall 14 and retaining the plate in position is an angle shaped keeper 23. As will be observed, this keeper is formed to overlie the adjacent end of the plate and is bent to define a channel shaped flange 24 mating with the flange 21 of the end wall 14, slidably engaging therebeneath, the flange 24 being increased in depth toward its lower end to conform to the taper of the flange 21. Accordingly, when the keeper is shifted downwardly to active position as shown in Figure 1, the flange 24 will wedge upon the flange 21 for binding the keeper in position, the free margin of the flange 19 being sprung outwardly at its adjacent end to accommodate the keeper for limiting the keeper in its downward movement.

As best shown in Figure 3, the back wall 10 of the casing is extended below the bottom wall 17 to provide a depending apron 25 while said bottom wall terminates short of the back wall to define a relatively narrow window opening 26 extending from end to end of the casing. Resting upon the rear ends of the flanges 17 of the end walls is a transparency 27 closing said opening. This transparency may be formed of celluloid or

other approved material and may be secured in position in any appropriate manner. Formed in the apron 25 are slots 28 and, as suggested in Figure 1, these slots are adapted to accommodate fastening devices 29 connecting a license plate, as conventionally illustrated at 30, with the apron. If desired, the apron may be provided with openings in lieu of the slots or may be provided both with slots and openings, as found most desirable.

Extending through the back wall of the casing is an appropriate lamp socket 31 in the inner end of which is detachably engaged a lamp 32 and secured at one end to the back wall of the casing is a guard 33 which extends forwardly and downwardly in front of the lamp for preventing accidental injury thereto, this guard being adapted to be flexed when the lamp is removed. Detachably engaged in the lamp socket at its outer end is an appropriate plug and leading from said plug is a circuit wire 34 supplying current to the lamp. Thus, in the daytime, the red colored letters of the name upon the name plate 22 will be readily visible while, by energizing the lamp 32 the name upon said plate will likewise be readily readable at night, and due to the coloring of the letters of the name, the device will project a red colored light and will, therefore, amply function as a tail light. At the same time, the license plate 30 will be illuminated through the window opening 26 so that said license plate will be readily visible.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is:

1. A device of the character described including a casing having a tapered portion, a name plate carried by the casing and removable endwise therefrom, and a keeper formed with a tapered portion having wedging engagement with the tapered portion of the casing supporting the keeper to overlie one end of the plate limiting said plate against displacement.

2. A device of the character described including a casing, a name plate carried thereby and removable endwise from the casing, the casing being provided with a tapered flange, and a keeper overlying one end of the plate limiting the plate against displacement and having a flange gradually increasing in depth to mate with said first mentioned flange wedging thereon connecting the keeper with the casing.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HERBERT H. WEISS. [L.S.]