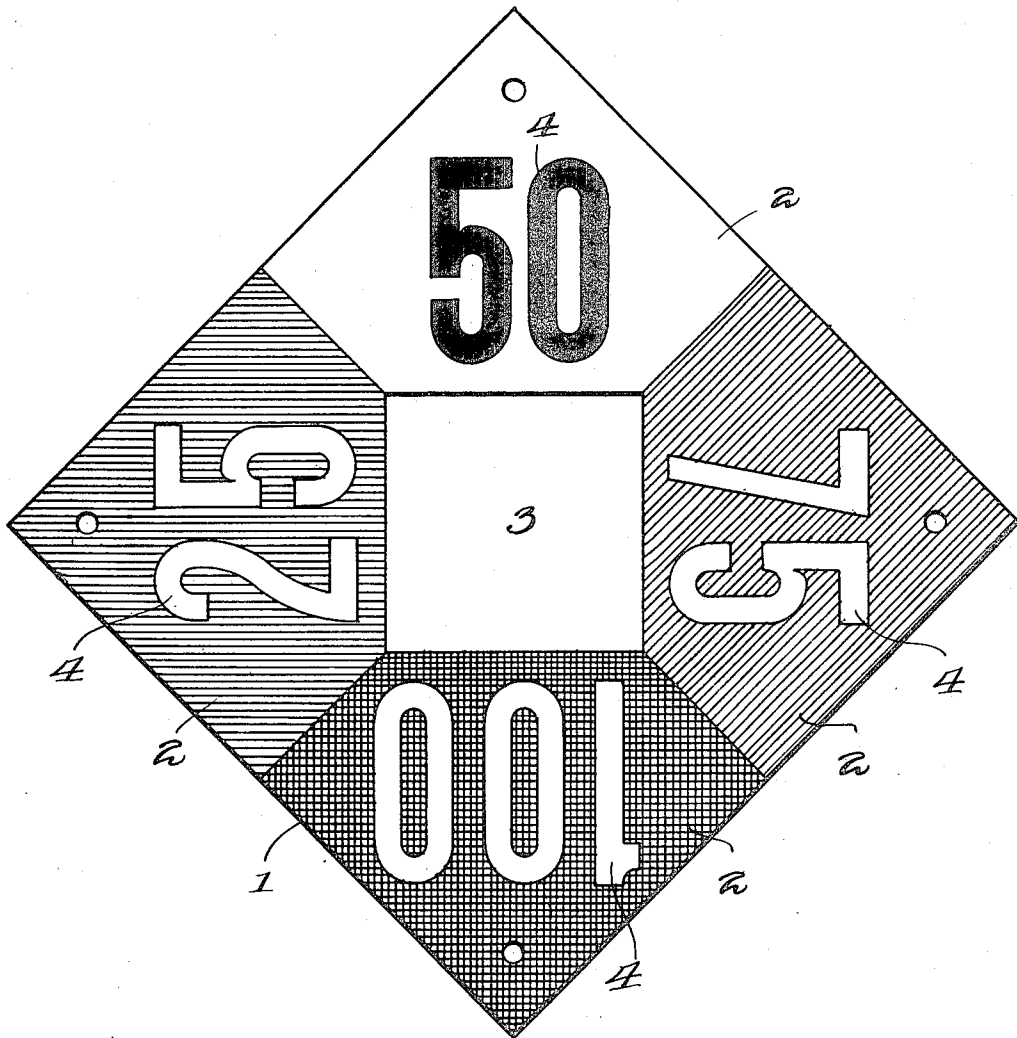


W. E. HARRISON.
SIGNAL APPARATUS.
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1,267,407.

Patented May 28, 1918.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SIGNAL APPARATUS.

1,267,407.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM EDWARD HARRISON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Union City, in the county of Randolph and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Signal Apparatus; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in signal apparatus, and more particularly to such devices as are adapted for use to indicate to tradesmen the character or quantity of commodities desired by a housekeeper.

The object in view is to facilitate determining by the tradesmen of the character of the signal at a relatively long distance. With this and further objects in view as will in part hereinafter become apparent and in part be stated, the invention comprises certain novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as subsequently specified and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing the figure is a plan view of an apparatus embodying the features of the present invention.

Referring to the drawing by numerals, 1 indicates a sheet of material, such as of cardboard or sheet of metal, which may be blocked off in any desired number of spaces or blocks 2, 2, leaving a central space 3 which may be either left blank or used for advertising purposes. Within each block 2 is arranged a number, or other insignia, 4 to indicate either the amount or the quality of the goods or other commodities to be delivered by the tradesmen. A different number 4 will appear, of course, in each one of the blocks 2 from all of the other blocks, and the tradesman will be able to tell by observing this number, indicated at 4, just what is required of him, it being understood, of course, that the uppermost number is the number to be taken by him as his directions. The difficulty experienced with the card 1 when provided merely with the numbers 4 is that the tradesmen must approach the card close enough to observe the number, and it is the object of the present invention to obviate the necessity for such an approach by coloring the blocks or areas 2 different colors, each having its own char-

acteristic color preferably of a nature such as will make it easy to observe at a great distance. By this arrangement of coloring the tradesman not only has the color of the particular block 2 which is uppermost as a guide to suggest to him the particular number indicated at 4, that he is to understand is required, but he will also have the relative arrangement of the other blocks 4 as a further indication of the color of the block which is uppermost. For example, taking the blocks 2 clockwise about the design as it appears on the drawing, the uppermost block 2 may be considered white, the next block, which is the one outstanding horizontally to the right, may be considered green, the bottom block 2 may be considered black, and the block 2 outstanding horizontally to the left may be considered red. When the tradesman sees the card displayed with this arrangement of coloring, he will understand that the number appearing in the uppermost block 2 is to be his guiding number. For example, if the number "50" appears in this block, as indicated in the drawing, and that number for example is to indicate that fifty pounds of ice are to be delivered, the tradesman will not be limited merely to the number "50" as his guide or even to the white color of the block 2 on which the number "50" appears, but will have the help of the colors of all the other blocks in their respective locations. Thus at a glance the tradesman can tell at a long distance just how much ice, or other commodity, he is to deliver even though he may not be able to see the several numbers indicated at 4.

The placard or sheet 1 may be supported in any appropriate way, as by being provided with apertures adjacent its corners to receive a supporting cord or tack, or other appropriate means of suspension.

What I claim is:—

In signaling apparatus, a single display placard blocked off on one side into a series of distinct areas adapted to be simultaneously displayed, and each area being formed with a surface having a different color from all of the other areas, the relation of the areas being such with respect to each other that when one of said areas is displayed in a given position affording the intended meaning of the signal the relationship of the colors of the other areas coöper-

ate to aid the observer in recognizing the
location of the governing area, the placard
having indicia in each area and the indicia
of the several areas being different from one
5 another and corresponding to the intended
meaning of the respective colors.

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

WILLIAM EDWARD HARRISON.

Witnesses:

ANNA ENNIS,

ELLA PIEPER.