

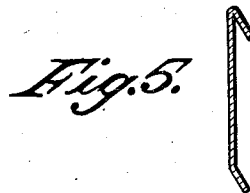
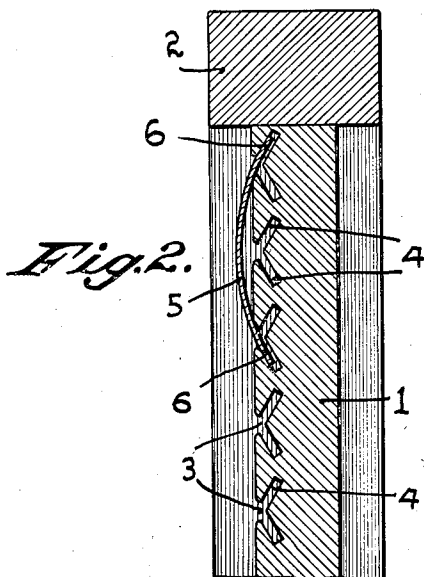
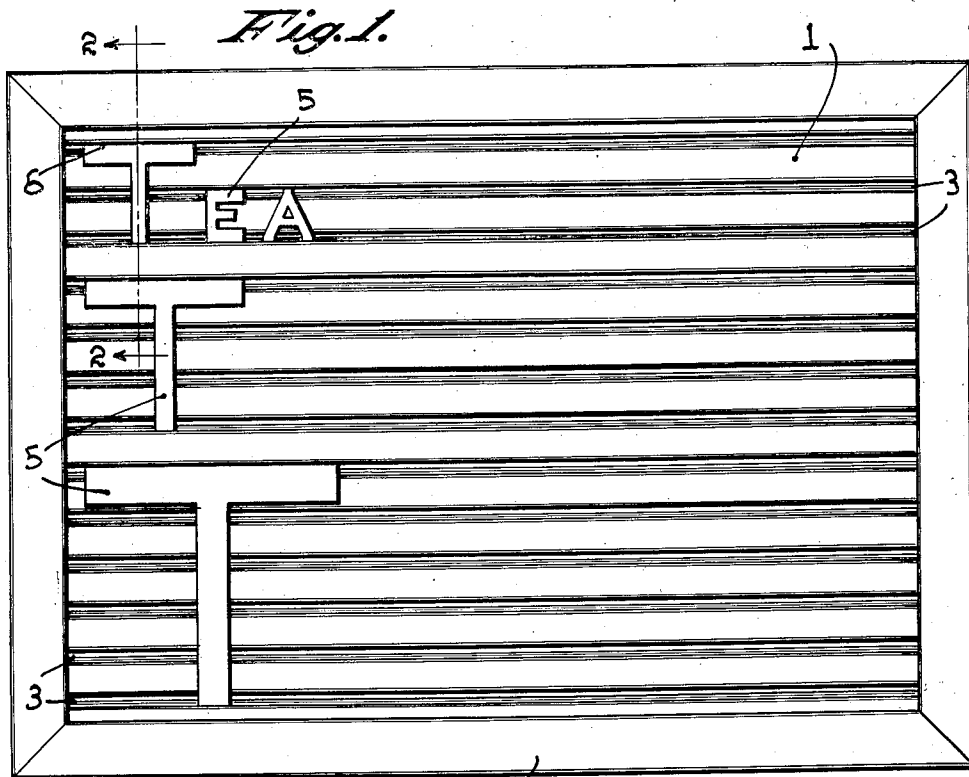
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1,541,655

G. F. PARRIS

CHANGEABLE SIGN

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. PARRIS, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

CHANGEABLE SIGN.

Application filed August 22, 1924. Serial No. 733,583.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that GEORGE F. PARRIS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, has invented new and useful Improvements in Changeable Signs, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the invention is to provide a changeable sign either for advertising or for directory use, as in an office building or an apartment house, and of a construction susceptible of combining the most neat and attractive appearance with the most effective mechanical details; to provide a sign of this character that remains durable with continued use and which may be produced at a minimum cost; and to provide a construction that will permit the use of flexible letters of various materials conventionally used for such purposes with the possibility, where desirable, of using capitals or arbitrarily changing the sizes of different letters or different lines of letters.

With these objects in view, the invention consists in a construction and combination of parts of which a preferred embodiment is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a sign constructed in accordance with the invention, showing the manner in which different sized letters and different sized lines may be employed.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figures 3, 4 and 5 are detail sectional views of modifications in the form of the letters.

The sign proper consists of the base 1 bounded, where desirable, by a frame 2. The base constitutes the background for the indicia and preferably is dyed with a black stain which will not fade when exposed to the sunlight.

To provide means for attaching the letters, the base on the front face is slotted or grooved longitudinally, as indicated at 3. The slots or grooves may be spaced uniformly or they may be arbitrarily spaced, as shown, to provide for a greater or less spacing between certain adjacent slots or grooves, than between others.

The grooves 3 are grooved on both sides, as indicated at 4, and preferably the angle of the grooves 4 is twenty-two and one-half

degrees from the plane of the front face of the base. This is for the purpose of permitting the letters 5 lying as close to the base as possible when attached, and the attaching means for the letters consist of ears 6, formed as integral parts thereof and extending from opposite ends of the letters. In other words, the grooves 3 have their longitudinal side walls grooved at pronounced acute angles with the plane of the face of the base and are divergent, the latter grooves of the walls of the first named grooves converging toward other latter grooves of an adjacent first named groove. It will be noted that the bottoms of the grooves 3 are V-shaped and conform and constitute certain of the sides of the grooves 4. In other words, the bottoms of the grooves 3 and certain sides of the grooves 4 constitute a V-shaped wall with the apexes in the centers of the grooves 3.

The ears are inserted through the grooves 3 and engage in the grooves 4 thereof and the letters, which are preferably of celluloid or may be of paper or metal, are thereby flexed and the resilience of the material serves to hold them in place. It is obvious that by selecting the proper grooves and the proper size letters, the desired indicia may be placed on the sign and any letter or digit of the size desired.

The modifications illustrated in Figures 3, 4 and 5 relate to metal letters. The arrangement shown in Figure 3 provides for deflecting the ears backwardly at an angle of approximately fifty-seven and one-half degrees so that the letter may lie flat against the face of the board. In the arrangement shown in Figure 4, the ears are bent backwardly to an acute angle of twenty-two and one-half degrees to engage converging rather than diverging grooves as with the arrangement shown in Figure 3. In the construction shown in Figure 5, the upper ear is bent downwardly as in Figure 4 and the lower ear deflected backwardly as in Figure 3, thus permitting the letter to be hung on the board with the lower ear acting as an additional means to retain it in place.

The invention having been described, what is claimed as new and useful is:

A changeable sign comprising a solid base provided on its front face with a series of relatively close parallel arbitrarily spaced longitudinal grooves, the walls of which being grooved at pronounced acute angles

with the plane of the face of the base and diverging, the latter grooves of the walls of the first named grooves converging toward other latter grooves of an adjacent
5 first named groove, the bottoms of the first named grooves being V-shaped, conforming to the second named grooves, and flexible letters provided with ear extensions engag-

ing with the second named grooves, either with those which diverge or others that converge, the letters being retained therein by the resilience of the material of the letters. 10

In testimony whereof he affixes his signature.

GEORGE F. PARRIS.