

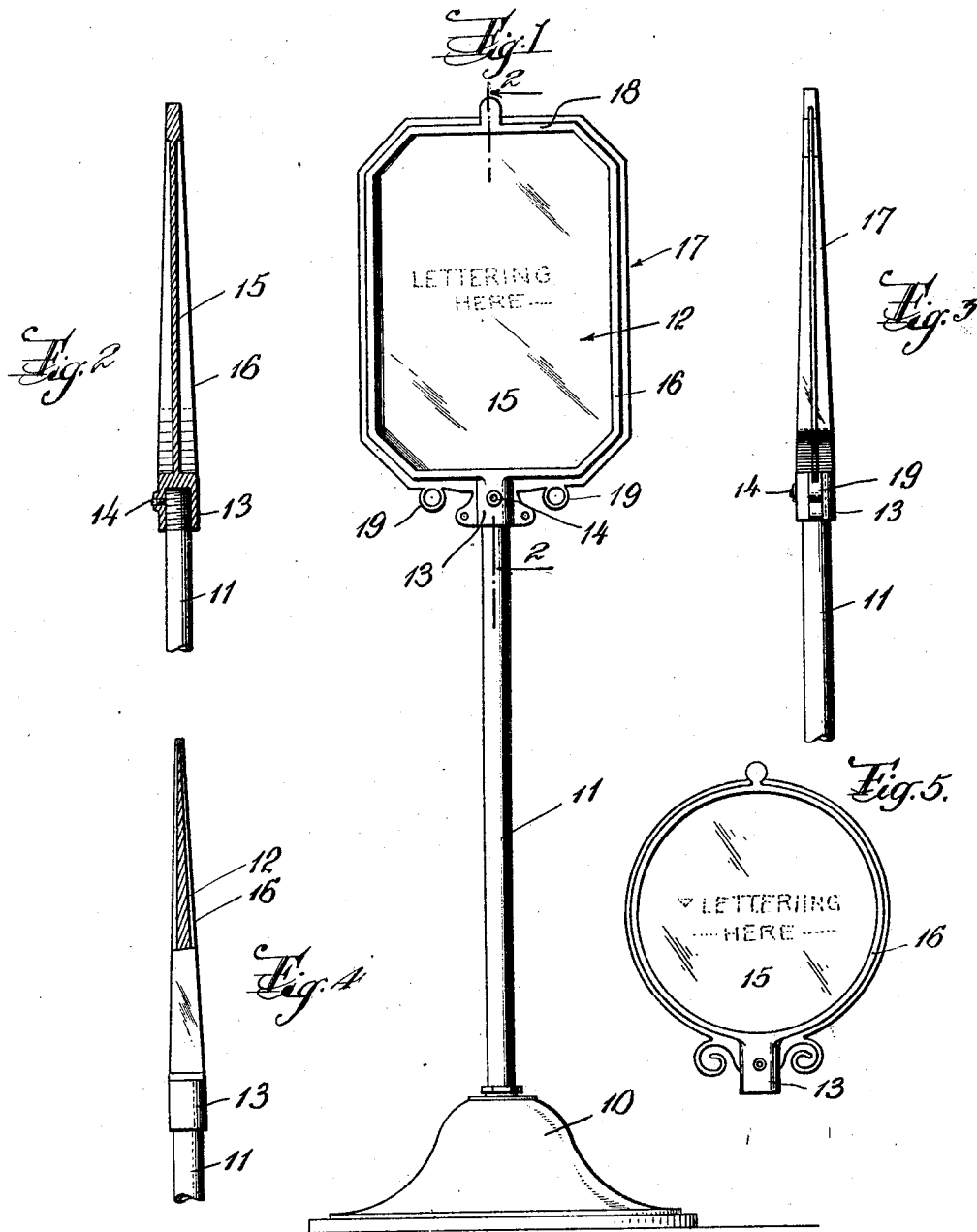
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SIGN

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SIGN

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This invention relates to signs and is concerned more particularly with a sign plate construction which may be used for numerous purposes, such as in the "No parking" signs now commonly used outside of buildings and usually in the street or on the sidewalk near the curbing.

As at present constructed, these signs consist of a support and a sign plate secured to the support and carrying the lettering. In the portable form, the support may take the form of a base and an upright stem mounted therein and carrying the plate at its top. All of these parts are of metal and the sign plate proper is usually of light construction. The signs are subject to injury which occurs most frequently by the plate being broken across the bottom near its point of attachment. The liability of breakage in a portable sign increases with the height of the sign and even if the plate in a portable sign is not broken when the sign is overturned and the plate strikes the ground, the sign is liable to be run over by vehicles and the plate broken from the stem.

In fixed signs, the sign plate is mounted on a suitable support which may take the form of a bracket and here again the plate is frequently broken across just above the point of attachment to the support.

The object of the present invention is to provide a sign of the type described which is of unusually strong construction at those points where breakage ordinarily occurs, the desired object being attained in the new sign without adding substantially to the cost. The new sign in addition has an attractive appearance, since the strengthening elements are so disposed as to provide a neat finish to the plate.

In a portable form, the new sign comprises the usual support in the form of a base and stem and a plate mounted on the upper end of the stem and provided with strengthening rib. This rib may outline the plate or be spaced inwardly from the edge a short distance. It is of greatest depth at the lower edge of the plate where the plate is attached to the stem and the depth of the rib decreases gradually along the sides of the plate to-

ward the upper end. A rib of this construction gives the plate great strength in those areas where breakage has heretofore usually occurred and at the same time the decreasing depth of the rib permits the sign to be easily read from a slight angle. In addition, with the new sign, the plate is protected against breakage in the event that the sign is overturned and the plate run over by a vehicle.

For a better understanding of the invention, reference may be had to the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a view of the new sign in front elevation;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view of a portion of the sign in side elevation;

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view partly in section of a modified construction, and

Fig. 5 is a side elevational view of a modified form of plate;

The sign illustrated comprises the usual domed base 10 made of metal and of suitable weight to give the sign the desired stability. Mounted in the upper end of the base is an upright stem 11, which may be a metal tube on the upper end of which is mounted the sign plate 12. This plate may be of any desired shape but is preferably of rectangular form. The plate is provided with a socket 13 at its lower end, into which the upper end of the stem is threaded and held in place by a set screw 14.

The plate is made preferably of metal, such as cast aluminum, and it is provided with a flat central portion 15 which carries the lettering and an integral rib flange 16. This rib has a substantial depth at the lower end of the sign and the depth gradually diminishes along the vertical sides 17 of the plate, the rib at the upper end 18 of the plate being of least depth. Depending from the rib at the lower end thereof may be formed rings 19 in which lanterns may be hung.

With the construction described, it will be apparent that when the sign is overturned, some point at the edge of the base is the center of turning movement. As the top of the plate strikes the ground, the plate is sub-

jected to the greatest stress adjacent the point where it is connected to the upright. The strengthening rib has its greatest depth at this point and the depth of the rib decreases in accordance with the length of the moment arm determined by the distance from any point on the plate to the point where the plate is connected to the upright. The rib, therefore, strengthens the plate to the desired extent and at the same time, the strengthening afforded by the rib is varied in different parts of the plate from one end to the other in accordance with the varying requirements. If the rib were of the same depth throughout the periphery of the plate, it is apparent that the plate could be given the desired strength, but it would be stiffer at some points than would be necessary. Also, a deep rib all around the plate would produce an unattractive structure and would obscure the lettering and make it difficult to read the sign from the side. With the present arrangement, metal is saved, the plate is strengthened so that breakage on overturning is avoided, and a sign of attractive appearance is produced.

In the construction illustrated in Fig. 1, the rib is spaced inwardly a short distance from the edge of the plate but the rib may be formed at the edge of the plate if desired.

In the construction illustrated in Fig. 4, the plate 12 itself is formed of tapering thickness from top to bottom, the thickness being greatest at the bottom and gradually diminishing as the top is approached. The flange 16 varies in depth as before, and the variation in stiffness of different parts of the plate is provided by the variation in the thickness of the latter and in the depth of the flange.

In the construction illustrated in Fig. 5, the plate is of circular form and the rib outlines it. In this construction the rib has the decreasing depth from bottom to top of the plate as previously disclosed.

What I claim:

1. A sign, which comprises a base, a stem mounted in and extending upwardly from the base, and a plate mounted at its bottom only on the upper end of the stem, this plate having a surface for the application of lettering and having a circumferential flange, the combined thickness of the plate and flange being greatest at the bottom of the plate and decreasing along the sides as the top is approached.

2. A sign, which comprises a base, a stem mounted in the base and extending upwardly therefrom, and a plate mounted at its bottom only on the upper end of the stem, this plate having a plane portion and a stiffening rib around said portion, this rib having its greatest depth adjacent the point where the plate is attached to the stem, said depth de-

creasing along the sides of the plate as the top is approached.

3. A sign, which comprises the combination of a base, a stem mounted in and extending upwardly from the base, and a plate mounted at its bottom only on the upper end of said stem and having a rib around its edges, this rib being of increasing depth from top to bottom of the plate with the greatest depth adjacent the bottom of the plate.

4. A portable sign, which comprises a base, a stem mounted in and extending upwardly from the base, and a plate mounted at its bottom edge only on the top of the stem, this plate having a plane portion of decreasing thickness from bottom to top and being provided with an edge rib throughout its periphery, the depth of the rib decreasing from bottom to top of the plate.

5. A sign, which comprises the combination of a support, and a plate mounted at one end only on the support, this plate being provided with a rib, the depth of the rib decreasing from the supported end of the plate.

6. A sign, which comprises the combination of a support, and a plate attached at one end on one end only of the support, this support being provided with a rib extending substantially at right angles to the plane of the plate and having a depth which decreases from the supported end of the latter.

7. A sign, which comprises the combination of a support, a plate attached at one point to the support, and a rib extending peripherally around said plate, this rib having a depth which decreases from the supported end of the plate.

8. A sign, which comprises the combination of a support, a plate attached at one point to said support, and a rib formed integrally with the plate and projecting angularly with respect to the faces thereof, the rib being spaced inwardly a slight distance from the extreme edges of the plate and having a depth which decreases from the supported end of the plate toward the free end thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOSEPH T. HORNI.