

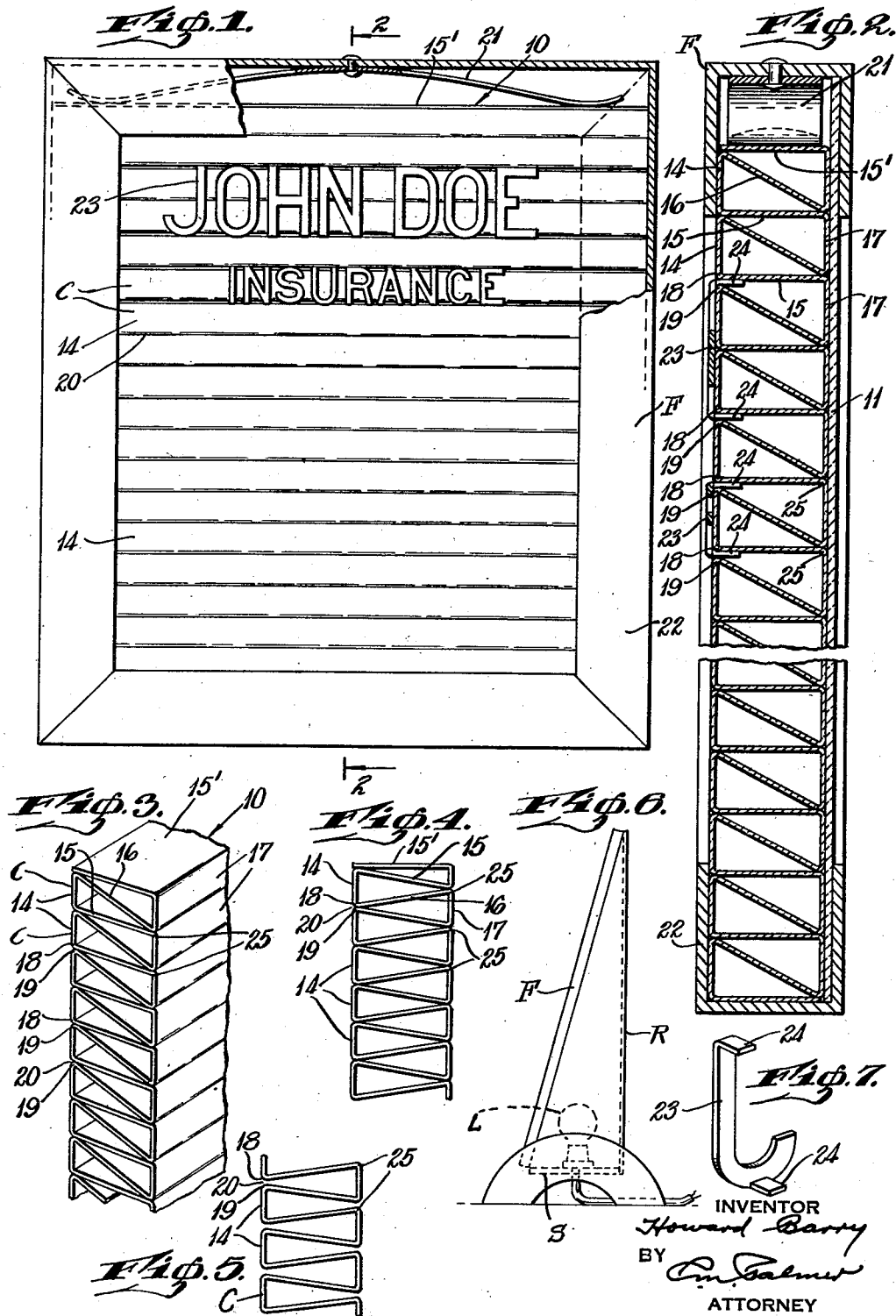
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DISPLAY DEVICE

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DISPLAY DEVICE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 40-142)

The present invention deals with display signs particularly adapted for use as bulletin boards and has for its objects the following: a novel and serviceable indicia holder sustained within the frame of a bulletin board, the holder characterizing a tortuous body having elongated channel shaped members or superimposed ribs defining juxtapositioned lips for removably clamping indicia members for appropriate display; a practical and useful indicia holder of the type al-
luded to but of relatively thin and translucent material and sufficiently resilient for removably sustaining a plurality of indicia members; an improved and simplified display device wherein the tortuous indicia holder is of a suitable plastic material serving as a field or background having a color scheme appreciably in contrast with the indicium member; and a one piece tortuous body defining a plurality of rows of striations for initially positioning spaced tabs or flanges of the indicia members prior to clamping thereof by pairs of juxtapositioned lips of the superimposed ribs. Other objects, features, and advantages of the invention will be better understood from the teachings of the following detailed description considered in the light of the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is an elevational and partly broken view of the display device according to my invention.

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

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view of the tortuous indicia holder.

Fig. 4 is a modified fragmentary view of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary side view of a modified indicia holder.

Fig. 6 illustrates the display device mounted in front of an illuminator, and

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of an indicia member.

Illustrative of the embodiments disclosed the indicia holder generally denoted 10 is arranged within the hollow frame or support F and in front of a translucent backing plate 11, which prevents buckling of or side sway indicia holder 10, the latter according to Fig. 3 having a one piece tortuous body which may be of a resilient sheet metal or of relative thin plastic and translucent material. This tortuous body includes superimposed channel shaped elements or ribs broadly designated C each having a front wall 14 and rearwardly extending upper and lower walls 15 and 16, wall 15 being substantially horizontal while the upper wall 16 inclines, sloping downwardly and rearwardly and merges with the rear

wall 17 and the lower wall 15 merges with the rear wall 17 of the associated and adjacent but lower channel shaped member C; the arrangement being such that the superimposed channel shaped elements may be said to constitute a plurality of hollow ribs having juxtapositioned co-operating curved corner lips 18 and 19 defining flared estuaries or striations 20.

Normally lips 18 and 19 according to the form illustrated in Figs. 1-4 are yieldingly in contact although a leaf spring 21 secured to the top wall of the frame has its curved wings urged against the top wall 15' of the tortuous indicia holder to supplement the normal and inherent lip closing action of the holder, namely, with no indicia held between the pairs of lips, the latter are continuously in contact, the top wall 15' of the holder being in fact a seat for the wings of spring 21, thus constantly applying a downwardly directed force against the indicia holder which is seated on the bottom wall of the frame and between the back plate 11 and front rim 22.

In the form illustrated in Fig. 4, the upper and lower walls 15 and 16 are inclined as shown. Otherwise the holder of Fig. 4 is along the lines according to the form illustrated in Fig. 3. In the form illustrated in Fig. 5, lips 18 and 19 of the ribs C are normally separated but when arranged in the frame, they are held yieldingly closed by the leaf spring 21 and except for this fact the form according to Fig. 5 is along the lines of the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 4.

The indicia member 23 of the type shown in Fig. 7 may be employed in connection with any one of the tortuous holders hereinbefore specifically described, and each indicium member is characterized by the upper and lower flanges or tabs 24. To mount an indicium member on the holder, tabs 24 are merely inserted into striations 20 and between pairs of lips 18 and 19, thus causing these to separate slightly against the resistance of the spring 21 and inherent resiliency of the tortuous holder. Therefore although an indicium member closely straddles a single channel shaped element or rib C or two of these elements as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 the indicia elements are held removably clamped and thus may be conveniently removed when desired by relatively light finger pressure.

Where a tab 24 of an indicium member 23 is inserted between a pair of lips, the wall 15 of the next upper rib and the wall 14 are tilted slightly on the integrally merged hinges 25. The same is true of the form shown in Fig. 4 and of the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 5 when

mounted within the frame F and operated upon by the leaf spring 21.

As shown in Fig. 6 the frame F of the indicia display device is mounted on a support S and lies against a rest panel R and an incandescent lamp L is disposed in back of the display device and since backing plate 11 and the tortuous indicia holder are translucent these members light up the indicia 23 and hence the latter are set off in contrast to be readily viewed. If desired of course, the tortuous holder may be of opaque material in which instant light is directed on the front face of the frame for viewing the indicia characters. Also if desired backing plate 11 may be eliminated since the operation of the tortuous holder is independent of the backing plate although if the latter be employed slight buckling is prevented but even though buckling may exist where the backing is not utilized, the tortuous holder appropriately acts to sustain and grip the indicia members and in every instance where they are removed from the resilient ribs C the lips of these ribs automatically are restored to their normal contracting relation.

As many changes could be made in the above described construction and many widely different species or structural embodiments could be devised without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter hereinbefore described in the specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

1. A display device adapted to removably sustain indicia members comprising a one piece resilient tortuous body defining a channel shaped holder including a plurality of substantially triangularly shaped cross sectional units characterizing superimposed ribs, each of said ribs having a front vertical wall and rearwardly extending upper and lower walls at least one of which is inclined in respect to the other and defining with said front wall upper and lower corner lips, the lower corner lips of said units being disposed contiguous the upper corner lips of the next successive units of said plurality to removably and yieldingly clamp said indicia members, a frame

surrounding said body, and spring means within said frame and cooperating with the upper end of said body for urging said upper and lower lips towards each other.

2. A display device adapted to removably sustain indicia members comprising a one piece resilient tortuous body defining a channel shaped holder including a plurality of substantially triangularly shaped cross sectional units characterizing superimposed ribs; each of said ribs having a front vertical wall, a rearwardly extending upper and inclined wall on a bias in respect to said vertical wall and defining therewith an upper corner lip, a rearwardly extending substantially horizontally arranged wall defining with said front wall a lower corner lip; the lower corner lips of said units being disposed contiguous to and yieldingly in contact with the upper corner lips of the next successive units of said plurality to removably clamp said indicia members, a frame surrounding said body, and spring means within said frame and acting on the upper end of said body for urging said upper and lower lips towards each other.

3. A display device adapted to removably sustain indicia members comprising a one piece hollow resilient tortuous body defining a channel shaped holder including a plurality of substantially triangularly shaped cross sectional units characterizing superimposed and relatively elongated ribs; each of said ribs having a front vertical wall, a rearwardly extending upper and inclined wall on a bias in respect to and integral with said vertical wall and defining therewith an upper corner lip, a rearwardly extending substantially horizontally arranged wall integral with said vertical wall and defining therewith a lower corner lip; the lower corner lips of said units being disposed contiguous to and yieldingly in contact with the upper corner lips of the next successive units of said plurality to removably clamp in said indicia members, a frame surrounding said body, and a leaf spring within said frame and acting on said body for urging said upper and lower corner lips towards each other.

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