W. H. SPENCER.

ILLUMINATED SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 17, 1914.

1,148,341.

Patented July 27, 1915

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

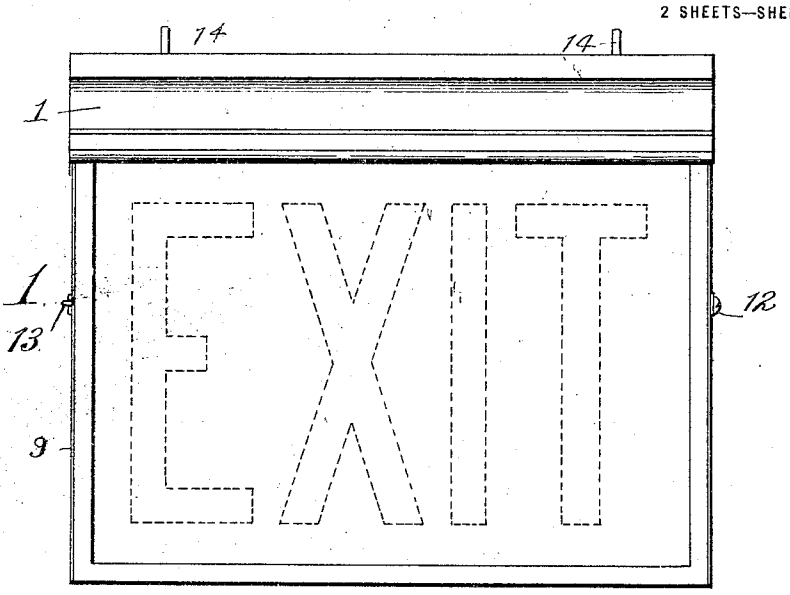
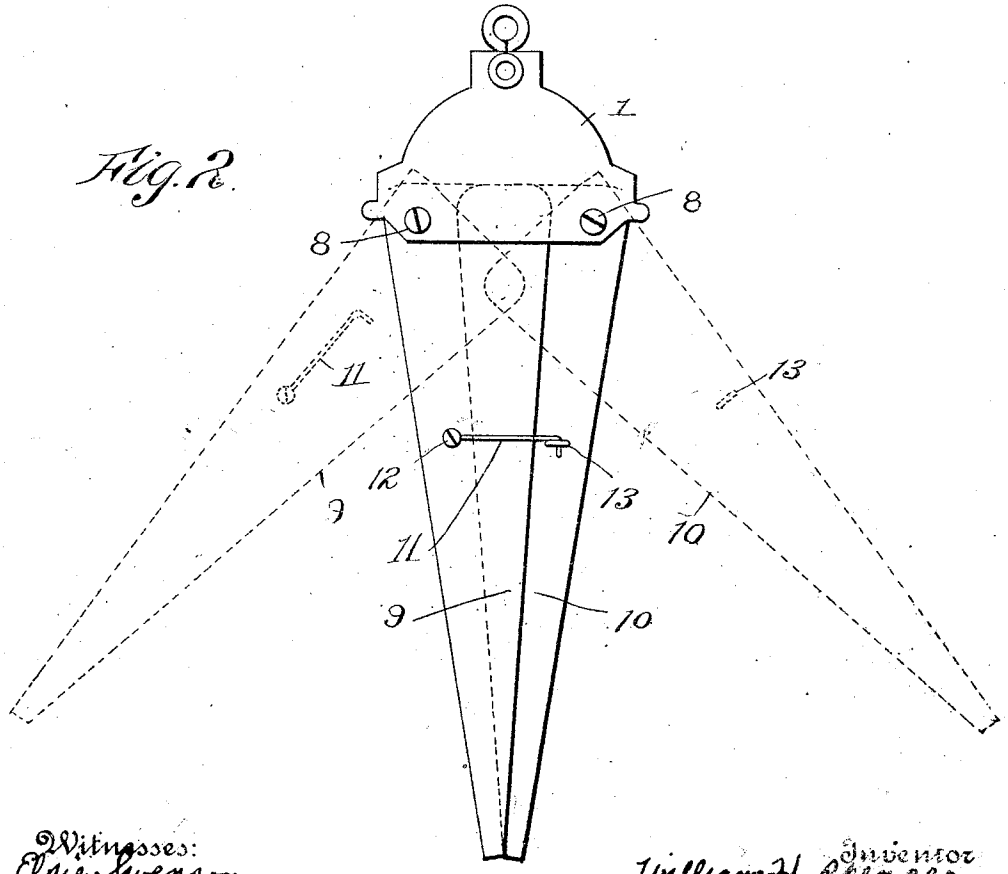


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
Elsie Swenson
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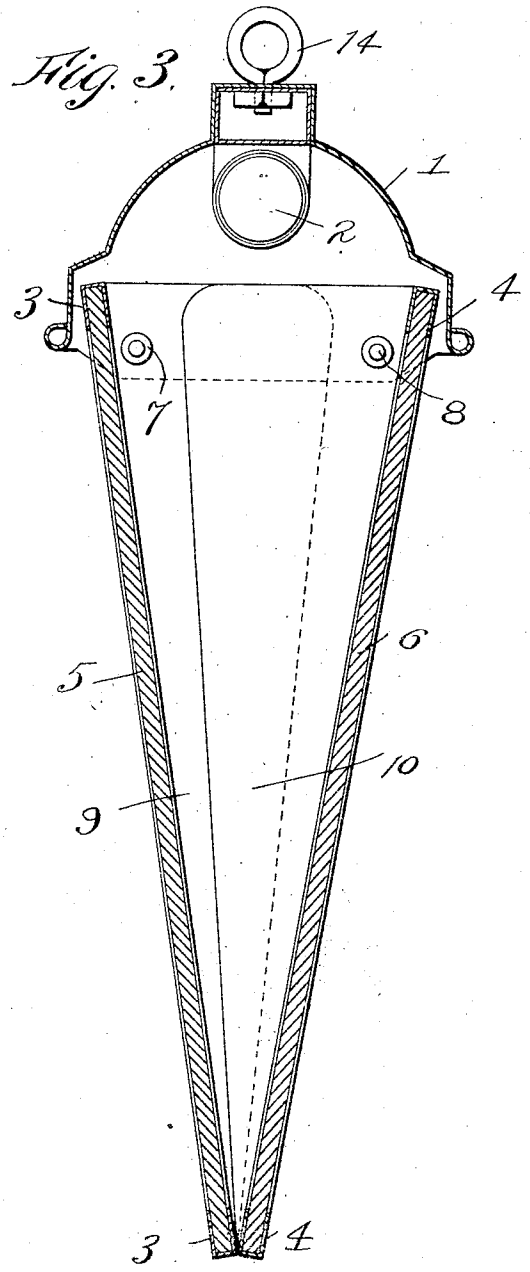
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ILLUMINATED SIGN.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. SPENCER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Illuminated Signs, of which the following is a full and clear specification.

Referring more particularly to the drawings this invention relates to illuminated signs, in which a source of light disposed within a suitable housing is employed to illuminate sign-bearing surfaces constituting the walls of said housing.

The primary object of my invention is to provide an improved construction and arrangement of parts in an illuminated sign of this character according to which the interior of the sign is more readily cleaned and the lights renewed.

The preferred embodiments of my invention are shown on the drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of one embodiment; Fig. 2 is an end-elevation of the same; Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the same.

The embodiment shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 includes a housing comprising a hood 1, within which is mounted the light source 2 (preferably an incandescent light), walls constituted by oppositely disposed frames 3 and 4, which serve to mount the translucent plates 5 and 6, which are adapted to be provided with any suitable characters to be displayed, such as those comprising the word "Exit," shown in Fig. 1. Frames 3 and 4 are hinged to the hood 1, preferably being pivoted on the pins 7 and 8 arranged at opposite ends of the hood 1. By this means, said frames are adapted to swing into the positions shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, thus permitting of any access to the interior of the housing for the purpose of renewing the lamps or for cleaning the inner surface of the plates 5 and 6 said plates are preferably provided with reflecting inner surfaces. As shown best in dotted lines in Fig. 2, each of the frames 3 and 4 are provided with wedge-shaped flanges 9 and 10 at each end which overlap when said frames are in closed position to form a closed housing for the sign. A hook 11, which is pivoted at 12 on one of the flanges 9 at each end, is adapted to engage an eyelet 13 carried by the flange 10 on the oppositely disposed frame 4. When in closed position, the inner surface of the translucent plates 5 and 6 are arranged at a suitable angle to each other and in suitable relation to the light source 2, to cause the light rays from the light source 2 to be reflected from the inner surface of each of said plates 5 and 6 on to the reflecting surface opposite thereto. In this manner, the light emanating from the light source 2 is made to traverse the plates 5 and 6 by being reflected back and forth between them, thus occasioning a uniform illumination throughout the extent of both of said plates. This makes the display characters plainly visible to anyone within sight of the sign. If desired, the inner surface of the plates 5 and 6 may be provided with any suitable coating over any portions of said surface, so as to confine the escape of light to certain desired areas corresponding to the characters to be displayed. According to this embodiment of my invention the dome 1 is provided with rings or eyelets 14 for suspending the sign from any suitable support.

Without entering into detail of the various modifications that can be made in the construction and arrangement of parts within the principle of my invention, what I claim is:

1. In an illuminated sign, a light source, a housing for said light source comprising a hood within which said light source is mounted, and oppositely disposed side walls hinged to said hood and converging to a common line, said side walls being provided with overlapping flanges for closing the ends of said housing.

2. In an illuminated sign a light source, a hood therefor, side walls hinged to said hood and depending therefrom, said side walls being adapted to have their lower edges brought together and translucent plates constituting portions of said side walls, said plates being provided with characters to be displayed, said side walls being provided with end flanges adapted to overlap and form a closed housing when said side walls are in contact along their lower edges.

3. In an illuminated sign, an inverted trough-shaped hood, a light source within said hood, a sign-bearing panel swingingly suspended from said hood on one side of said light source and constituting one wall

of said sign, said sign being provided with another wall extending downwardly from said hood on the opposite side of said light source, and means for releasably securing the lower edges of said oppositely disposed walls together, said walls being provided with overlapping flanges for closing the ends of said sign.

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