May 26, 1931. E. PINKUS 1,806,915

ILLUMINATED SIGN

Filed Jan. 23, 1930

Fig. 1

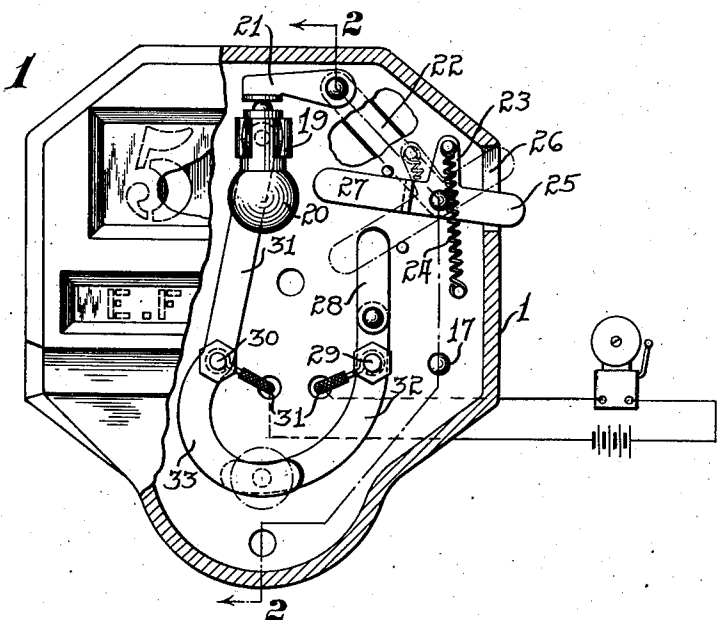
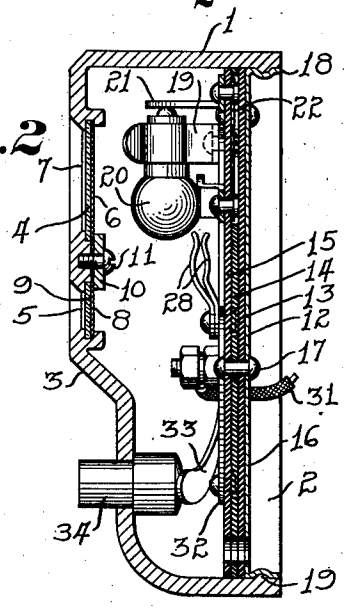


Fig. 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ILLUMINATED SIGN

Application filed January 23, 1930. Serial No. 422,939.

This invention relates to a device for illuminating the number and name plates in connection with houses, or the like, and an object is to provide a simple and efficient device which may be conveniently attached to a house, or the like, for the purpose of visibly displaying the number thereof and the name of the occupant, firm, etc., and which may be readily illuminated as desired, and is adapted to carry a switch for operating the call bell so that the difficulty in locating a particular house, or the like, will be lessened.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear as the description proceeds, and the invention is shown by way of illustration, but not of limitation, in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of the device with a portion of the front wall removed to show the inner workings; and

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional elevation on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

The illustrated embodiment of the invention comprises a casing 1, the inner end 2 of which is open, and the front or face is closed by a wall 3. The casing 1 may be of any suitable material, such as metal, and for convenience in manufacture may be stamped from sheet metal. Formed in the face of the casing 1 are openings 4 and 5, the opening 4 being larger than the opening 5 to receive a plate 6, the metal of which is stamped out to display the desired number. In front of the plate 6 is a glass plate 7. Disposed in the opening 5 is a plate 8, which is stamped out or perforated to show a name, such as the name of the owner of the house. In front of the plate 8 is a glass plate 9. The plates 6 and 8 may be of metal, paper, or any suitable material, which is preferably opaque except in the places perforated to show the numbers or the names. The plates are held in place by a strip 10, which is secured in place by a screw 11 engaging the front or face wall of the casing.

Closing the inner side of the casing 1 is a mounting plate 12, which is made up of the layers 13—14 and 15, preferably of insulating material, such as hard rubber, bakelite, or similar material. The layers 12—13 and 14 are connected to an outer metal plate 16 by rivets 17, and the metal plate 16 is provided with rearwardly extending flanges 18, which are shaped to snap over projections 19 formed on the casing 1 in order to detachably hold the mounting plate in position. Carried by the mounting plate is a spring arm lamp bracket 19, on which is mounted a lamp 20. The lamp 20 is disposed in rear of the number plate 6 for illuminating the same, the light emitted being sufficient also to illuminate the name plate 8. The lamp also engages an arm 21, which is connected by a strip 22 to a switch 23, which is held in closed or open position by a contractile spring 24. One arm 25 of the switch projects through an elongated opening 26 in the side of the casing 1 to enable the switch to be operated from the outside of the casing. The opposite arm 27 of the switch is engageable with the knife blades 28 in order to complete the lamp circuit. The switch 28 is connected to a terminal 29, and the other terminal 30 is connected by a strip 31 to the lamp bracket. 19. Connected to the terminals 29 and 30 are leads 31, which are connected to the usual call bell circuit as shown in Fig. 1.

Also connected to the switch elements 29 and 30 are curved strips 32 and 33, the strip 33 being sprung outwardly as indicated in Fig. 2, normally out of contact with the strip 32. In contact with the end portion of the strip 33 is a push button 34 operable from the outside of the casing beneath the name plate 8. To simplify the manufacture the strips 31 and 33 are integral. It will be seen that by pushing the button 34 bringing the contact strip 32 and 33 into engagement the bell circuit is completed, so that it is possible to ring the bell whether or not the lamp 20 is lighted. In practice, it happens that when the button 34 is pressed to close the bell circuit the current is diverted from the lamp circuit so that the latter is extinguished until the button is released.

By providing the mounting 12 with a plurality of layers, it will be apparent that the rivets connecting the arm or plate 21, and

switch 23, in place may be disposed intermediate the layers 13 and 15, the layer 13 being cut out to provide opening for this purpose. It will also be manifest that the layer 13 is cut out sufficient to receive the strip 22 which lies between the layers 13 and 15. This produces a compact, unitary mounting for the connecting strips and switches which is not only neat in appearance but eliminates the usual outwardly projecting parts and affords a means of insulating the plate from the cover and switches 27. Further this arrangement simplifies manufacture of the device.

While I have shown and described a construction which is the best form known to me at the present time, it is to be understood that changes in details of construction, arrangement, and choice of materials may be effected without departing from the spirit of the invention, especially as defined in the appended claims.

What I claim is new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the class described including a bell circuit and source of current supply, a casing having an open inner end, said casing having an opening formed in the front thereof to receive an indicia plate, a mounting plate closing the inner end of said casing, means detachably connecting said mounting plate to said casing, said mounting plate comprising a plurality of layers of insulating material, a lamp bracket of conducting material carried by said mounting plate, a lamp carried by said bracket positioned in rear of said indicia plate, a pair of terminals, leads for said terminals adapted to be connected to said bell circuit, a connection between one of said terminals and said lamp bracket, means connecting the other of said terminals to said lamp bracket including a manually operable switch having a portion projecting through and operable from the outside of said casing, and a connecting strip leading from said switch and disposed between said insulating layers, a pair of normally separated spring contact plates connecting said terminals, and a push button operable from the outside of said casing engaging one of said plates, whereby said plates may be moved into contact for energizing the bell circuit.

2. In a device of the class described including a bell circuit and source of current supply, a casing having an open inner end, said casing having an opening formed in the front and carrying an indicia plate, a mounting plate closing the inner end of said casing, means detachably connecting said mounting plate to said casing, a lamp bracket of conducting material carried by said mounting plate, a lamp carried by said bracket positioned in rear of said indicia plate, a pair of terminals, leads for said terminals adapted to be connected to said bell circuit, a connection between one of said terminals and said lamp bracket, means connecting the other of said terminals to said lamp bracket including a manually operable switch having a portion projecting through and operable from the outside of said casing, a pair of normally separated spring contact plates connecting said terminals and a push button operable from the outside of said casing engaging one of said plates.

3. In a device of the class described including a bell circuit and source of current supply, a casing having an open inner end and an opening in the front thereof to receive an indicia plate, a cover for said casing, a lamp carried by said cover and positioned in the rear of said front opening, a pair of terminals, leads for said terminals connected to said bell circuit, a connection between one of the terminals and said lamp, a switch connecting the other of said terminals and the lamp, a pair of normally separated spring contact plates connecting said terminals, and means to manually connect said contact plates to close the bell circuit.

4. In a device of the class described, a casing having an open inner end and an opening in the front wall thereof to receive an indicia plate, a cover for the casing formed of a plurality of layers of insulating materials, a pair of spaced conducting members carried by the cover, leads from said members connected to a bell circuit, a lamp connecting to one of said members, a conducting strip disposed between said insulating layers and having one end connected to said lamp, a manually operable switch interposed between the opposite end of said strip and the other of said members, and manually operable means arranged to connect the opposite free ends of the conducting members.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name to this specification.

EUGENE PINKUS.