Oct. 16, 1928. 1,688,196

M. MASSON

PLASTIC DISPLAY

Filed June 21, 1926

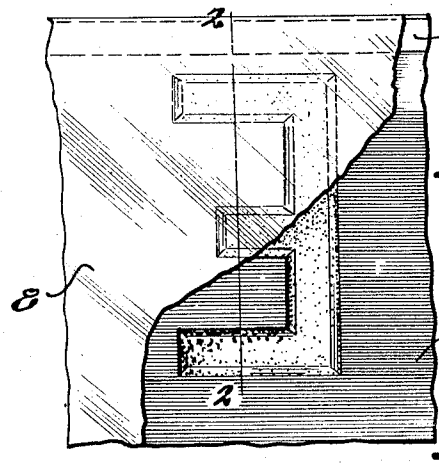


Fig. 1.

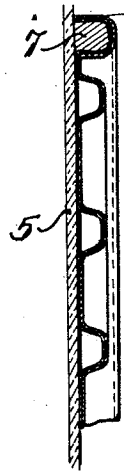


Fig. 2.

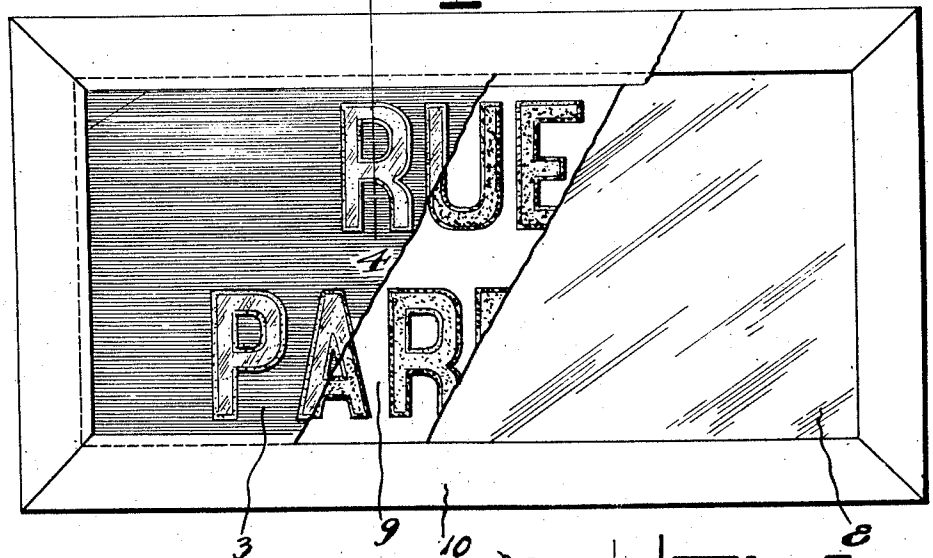


Fig. 3.

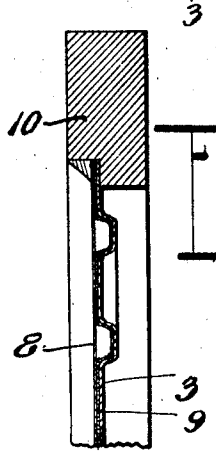


Fig. 4.

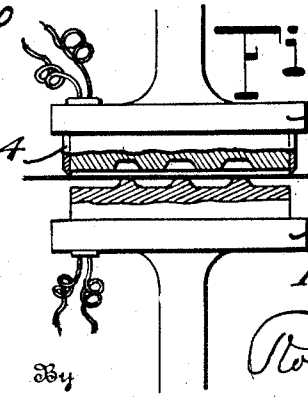


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARCEL MASSON, OF VINCENNES, FRANCE.

PLASTIC DISPLAY.

Application filed June 21, 1926, Serial No. 117,628, and in France May 29, 1926.

This invention relates to articles capable of being used in the construction of signs, advertising, displays and the like wherein letters, numbers or forms are displayed in relief and wherein the parts in relief are made of a translucid plastic such as celluloid, cellulose acetate, caseine, bakelite or the like.

Plastic materials of this type may be shaped as desired and their translucent properties made use of for either day or night displays. The plastic may be also painted or tinted in accordance with any chosen color or decorative scheme or design.

By day, a display material of this kind, made up in relief and transparent form, is visible by reflection while at night it may be made visible by virtue of its transparent property.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a rear elevation of a portion of a display article made in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view showing the display attached to a window pane or similar surface;

Fig. 3 is a front elevation of a modified form of the display, portions being broken away to show the details of construction;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 5 is a diagrammatic view of a pair of die members used for forming and cutting the displays from plastic material.

The first operation in the preparation of the article is that of shaping. The plastic chosen is worked, in sheet form, into a metallic mold having roughly the form of the display desired. Preferably these molds are heated. The form thus produced is then cut or bent by a properly shaped die to give the finished shape sought for. I have shown more or less diagrammatically a pair of heated die members 1 and 2 in position to form the sheet of plastic 3 into the proper shape, including the embossing and cutting of the display into the proper configuration, the cutting instrumentality being designated 4. The article thus produced may be then colored in uniform or blended tints. If desired, it may be painted with a ground color and then toned down, or recesses may be provided and cromographic colors sprayed into the recesses. Colors may be made up in the well known manner and used in conjunction with the finishing of the surfaces of the plastic sheets.

The finished article may be either applied to a glass window pane 5 as shown in Fig. 2 or other form of vitreous display device or it may be suspended directly in front of a source of light. In the former case, the article is shaped so as to have a peripheral groove 6. It suffices then to apply an adhesive 7 into the groove to make the article adhere to the glass. When the article is to be directly suspended, it is preferably shaped in a single piece which includes the various constituent letters or forms making up the display.

If the display is to be used out of doors, it is preferably made up in the form of two parts, one constituted by the forms in relief and the other being made by a plane sheet designated 8 in Fig. 1 fitting over the hollow parts forming the relief design. The plane sheet serves to protect the forms under or behind it from rain, snow, etc. The device may be also protected by using a tripart assembly as shown in Figs. 4 and 5 consisting (1) of colored letters in relief designated 3, (2) of a white or transparent form 9 fitting between the spaces of the letters and (3) of a plane protecting sheet 8 covering (1) and (2). This assembly may be mounted in a suitable frame 10 so as to hold the several elements together and provide a suitable finish for the display article.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:

1. The method of producing displays of plastic material which comprises embossing the plastic material with heated shaping means and simultaneously cutting to the desired configuration, and then coloring the plastic material.

2. The steps in the method of producing displays from multi-sheets of translucent plastic material which comprise forming a sheet in relief designs, applying coloring upon one side of said sheet so as to produce a contrast between the embossed designs and the body of the sheet, and covering the treated side with a protective sheet of plastic material.

3. The steps in the method of producing displays from multi-sheets of translucent plastic material which comprise forming one sheet in relief designs, applying coloring to the sheet other than to the design portion and applying a second sheet of said material of contrasting color to the back of the first sheet

to form a protective covering for the treated side of the first sheet and a color background for the design portion thereof.

4. The steps in the method of producing displays from translucent plastic sheet material which comprise embossing relief designs upon one sheet, applying coloring to the sheet other than to the design portion, embossing a second sheet of contrasting color with a corresponding design, and arranging said sheets in complemental relationship to each other.

5. The steps in the method of producing displays from translucent plastic sheet material which comprise embossing relief designs upon one sheet, applying coloring to the sheet other than to the design portion, embossing a second sheet of contrasting color with a corresponding design, arranging said sheets in complemental relationship to each other, and applying to the back of the second sheet a protective sheet.

6. A multi-sheet display composed of a plurality of sheets of translucent plastic material, said sheets being provided with complemental designs in relief and having applied to their surfaces a color coating to produce contrast between the relief designs and the bodies of the sheets.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MARCEL MASSON.