

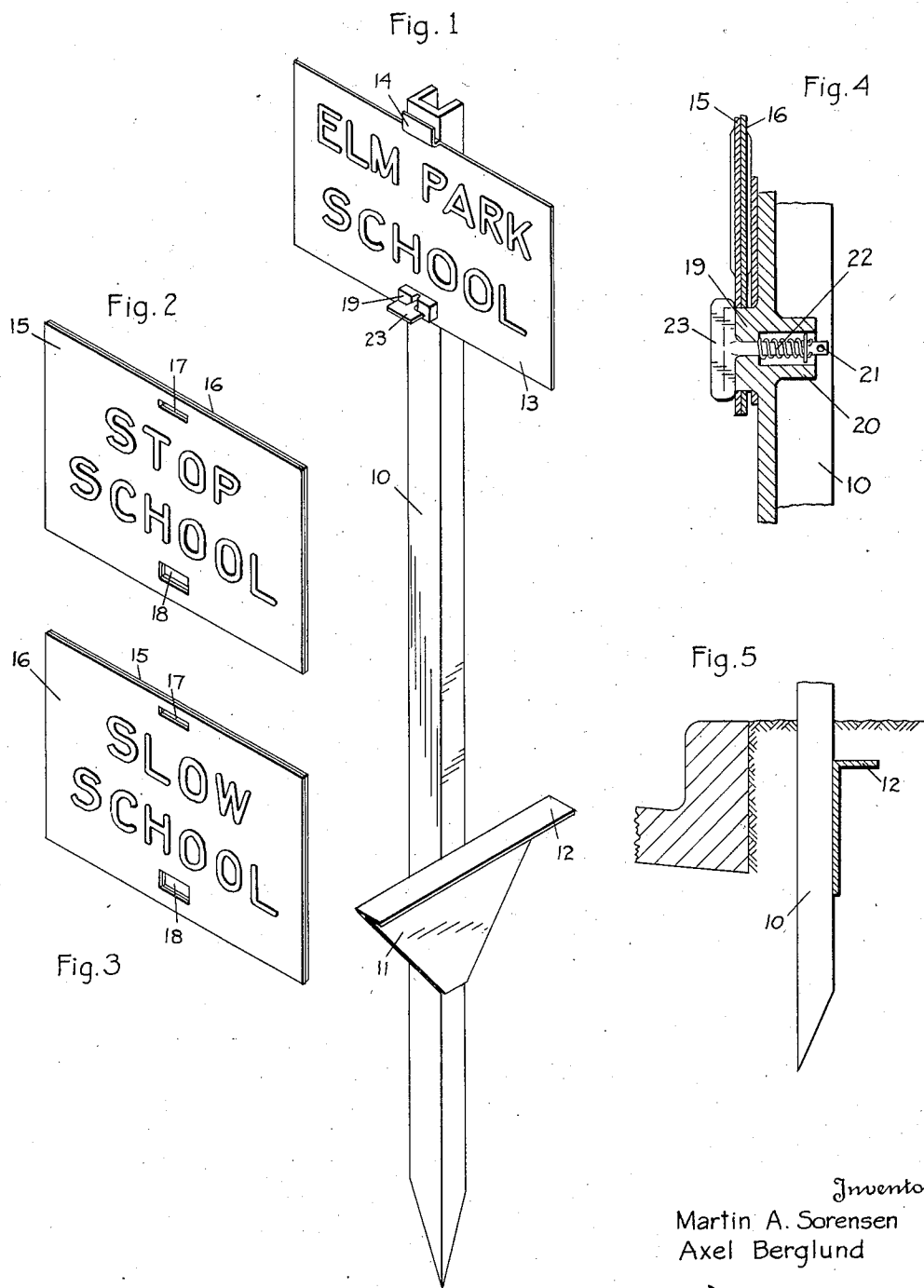
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INTERCHANGEABLE SIGN

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INTERCHANGEABLE SIGN

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Our invention relates to signs and more particularly to signs involving a change in the message conveyed by the sign.

The object of the invention is the provision of a sign post having projecting devices for releasably securing any of a plurality of signs thereto.

Another of our objects is the provision of a sign having messages on both faces thereof, the sign being reversible.

Another of our objects is the provision of a latching device for holding the sign on the post in such a manner that it will not chatter in the wind.

Another of our objects is the provision of a post carrying a sign and having an anchor so positioned as to determine the position of the post relative to the curb of the pavement.

Having in view these objects and others which will be pointed out in the following description, we will now refer to the drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the sign post.

Figures 2 and 3 are views showing the two opposite faces of a sign which is adapted to be detachably secured to the post shown in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a view in vertical section showing a latching device for holding the sign in place.

Figure 5 is a view in vertical section showing the relation of the post to the surface of the soil and to the curb of the pavement.

The post itself is preferably made of channel iron with squared sides as shown in Figure 1. The post 10 is provided at its upper end with means for detachably securing interchangeable signs and it is further provided at an intermediate point with an anchor 11. The anchor is secured to the post 10 as by welding and it consists of two parts, the lower being triangular to facilitate its entry into the soil while the upper part at 12 is outturned to resist penetration to too great a depth into the soil and to firmly anchor the post against movement. As shown in Figure 5 the post is sunk to a depth where the flange 12 will be underneath the surface of the soil and entirely concealed.

The upper portion of the post 10 may carry a permanent sign as shown at 13 in Figure 1. When used as a traffic sign in the vicinity of school houses it may carry the name of the school as shown or any other permanent idea like School Zone. Immediately above the sign 13 is an L-shaped bracket 14 and below the sign 13 is a

spring clip for engaging the sign which is to cover the sign 13.

The signs shown in Figures 2 and 3 are rectangular and slightly larger in their dimensions than the sign 13. The signs 15 and 16 are provided with sign indicia such as Stop School on the sign 15 and Slow School on the sign 16. It is preferred to provide these signs with embossed indicia and for this reason a light grade of sheet metal is employed and the two signs 15 and 16 are placed back to back and united in any desirable manner, as by welding. The combined signs 15—16 are provided with an upper slot 17 for engaging the bracket 14. They are also provided with a lower slot 18 for engaging the spring clip.

Referring now to Figures 1 and 4, the post 10 is provided with a double projection 19 having a narrow vertical channel between the two parts. A collar 20 projects rearwardly or inside the channelled post 10. A bolt 21 passes through this channel and it is provided with a coil spring 22 which normally urges the bolt rearwardly or toward the inner side of the post 10. The bolt terminates at its front end in a head 23 which is adapted to seat against turning in a groove between the double block 19. At the same time the head 23 is of such a length that while it is in its horizontal position it passes readily through the slot 18. The double block 19 seats snugly in the slot 18 but projects slightly beyond the side so that the head 23 may be turned into latching engagement in the block 19. This is best shown in Figure 4 in which the vertical dotted line represents the outer edge of the block 19.

The sign as above described is admirably adapted for use in controlling traffic on streets and highways in the vicinity of school houses. The janitor or one of the boys may be made responsible for changing the signs at the proper times. The number of children crossing the street or highway is greatest before the opening of school, after the closing of school and during intermissions such as the noon hour. At such times the sign 15 is in effect to stop all cars temporarily before passing the sign. While the school is in session it is only occasionally that the children cross the street or highway and at such times the sign 16 is left exposed to warn the motorist to watch out for children who might be crossing at the time. At night and during vacations, the signs 15 and 16 may be stored in the school house so that the sign 13 is the only one exposed to merely give the motorist the information contained on the sign 13.

The sign also takes into consideration the presence of school children who are sometimes apt to be mischievous. The anchor is seated underneath the surface of the soil making it very difficult for a boy to lift the post out of the soil. The weight of the soil on the flange 12 and the resistance encountered is too great for a school boy to lift. The flange 12 is also so positioned that the boy will probably face the pavement while attempting to lift it and this would cause him to straddle the post with his two feet on the flange 12. He would then find it an impossible task to lift both himself and the post. The latch bolt 21 readily snaps into place and latches the sign without any difficulty whatever. If it is desired to provide a "boy-proof" securing means, the rear end of the bolt 21 is apertured for the insertion of a padlock.

The sign has been designed initially and primarily for use in controlling the traffic in the vicinity of school houses. It is obvious, however, that the sign may have other uses not only on streets and highways but in all other places where interchangeable signs may be used. We therefore wish it to be understood that we claim all of the equivalents of the structures recited in the appended claims.

It should be noted that the anchor 11 is secured to the post 10 in a position such as to determine the position of the posts relative to the pavement. The sign at the side of the pavement must necessarily face the traffic. The anchor 11 is thus secured in a plane at right angles to the plane of the sign 13 and it is secured to the post on the side which is to be away from the curb and parallel thereto. The importance of this feature resides in the fact that such posts are often set by unskilled labor with the result that they are very likely to be set in such a manner that the sign does not face the oncoming traffic. The anchor 11 cannot be brought too close to the curb of the pavement and the post must therefore be set with the anchor on the side

of the post opposite the pavement. After the position of the post is determined, an unskilled laborer, no matter how careless, will have no difficulty in correctly setting all of the posts.

Having thus described our invention in such full, clear, and exact terms that its construction and operation will be readily understood by others skilled in the art to which it pertains, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A post and a permanent sign secured thereto, a temporary sign adapted to completely cover said permanent sign, a hook projecting forwardly from said post at the top edge of said permanent sign, a projection from said post passing through the lower edge portion of said permanent sign, said temporary sign having an aperture in the upper portion thereof for receiving said hook and having an aperture in the lower portion thereof for receiving said projection, and a spring-pressed bolt passing through said projection and through the lower aperture of said temporary sign.

2. A sign post and a removable and reversible sign therefor, said sign having indicia on both faces thereof and being provided with elongated apertures in the upper and lower edge portions thereof, a hook projecting forwardly from said post for engagement with said sign through the upper aperture thereof, a projection on said post for engaging said sign through the lower aperture thereof, a bolt having an elongated head and passing through said projection and adapted for passage through the lower slot of said sign whereby the turning of said bolt will cause said head to bear against said sign at the forward surface thereof, and a coiled spring surrounding the rear surface of said bolt for drawing said head tightly against the forward surface of said sign to thereby prevent vibration and chattering.

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