

G. C. NIENTIMP.
SIGN.

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947,699.

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Fig. 1.

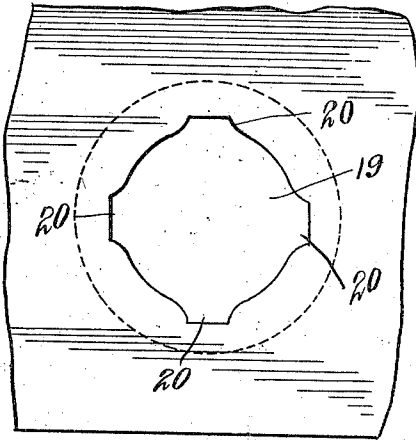


Fig. 2.

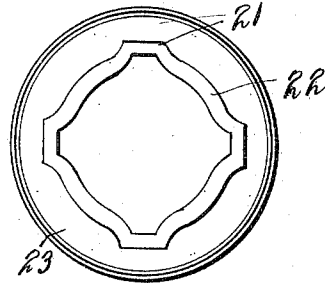


Fig. 4.

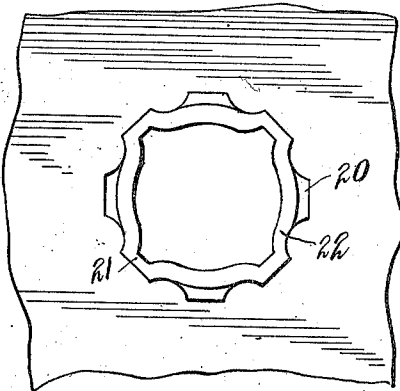


Fig. 3.

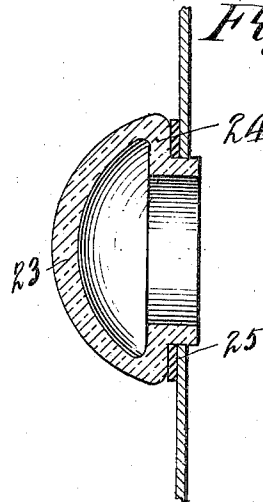
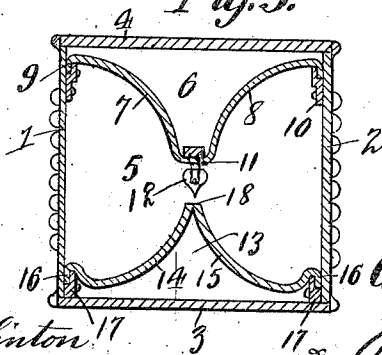


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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SIGN.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. NIENTIMP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Erie, in the county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Signs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to signs and particularly to those employing transparent character forming elements, and the object of my invention is to provide a sign having one or more of its walls provided with a series of openings, the said openings having their walls provided with radially extending offset portions, and to provide character forming elements or bulbs of transparent material provided with annular shoulders upon their inner faces, hollow necks extending from the shoulders, lugs extending from the necks and having their outer faces disposed in spaced relation to the inner faces of the shoulders and adapted for insertion through the offset portions of the openings and adapted when the bulbs or character forming elements are revolved to assume positions between the offset portions, and to further provide elastic washers mounted upon the necks of the bulbs or character forming elements and adapted to lie between the shoulders above mentioned and the walls of the sign with which such elements are engaged, the said washers being adapted for frictional engagement with the walls of the sign so as to prevent rotation of the character forming elements or bulbs.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent as the nature of the invention is better disclosed, and it will be understood that changes within the scope of the claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings, forming a portion of this specification and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views:—Figure 1 is a plan view of a portion of the sign showing the opening formed therein to receive one of the transparent elements. Fig. 2 is a rear view of one of the transparent elements. Fig. 3 is a detail section through a portion of the sign and one of the elements. Fig. 4 is a rear view of a portion of one of the walls of the sign showing the application of one of the transparent elements thereto. Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse section through the sign.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, there is shown a sign which is preferably constructed from sheet metal, and as shown the said sign consists of a front wall 1, a rear wall 2, bottom and top walls 3 and 4 and end walls 5. The sign herein shown is preferably of rectangular form but as is obvious the sign may be of any desirable form best adapted for the purpose intended. The top wall is provided with a longitudinally disposed reflector 6 which has curved or concavo-convexed portions 7 and 8, the terminal ends of said portions being directed toward the walls 1 and 2 at their upper ends, and as shown said terminal ends are bent at right angles in hook form as shown at 9 so as to engage channel iron retainers 10 which are secured by means of solder or the like to the walls 1 and 2 of the sign. The portions 7 and 8 are connected at their lower ends by a horizontally disposed longitudinally extending portion 11 which lies approximately at the center of the sign, and this portion has connected thereto a plurality of incandescent bulbs which may receive current from any suitable electric source, not shown.

A reflector 13 is located beneath the reflector 6, and consists of the downwardly curved portions 14 and 15 which have their outer or terminal ends bent in hook form as shown at 16 to engage channel iron members 17 which are secured in any suitable manner to the walls 2 and 3. The construction just described is such that a longitudinally disposed edge 18 is formed immediately beneath the portion 11 of the reflector 6, and as shown the edge 18 lies directly beneath the bulbs 12. The lower ends of the portions 14 and 15 are directed toward the corners of the sign at the front and rear sides thereof.

The front and rear walls of the receptacle have formed therein a plurality of openings or passages 19 which may be properly arranged or formed to provide certain letters of the alphabet or other characters or adapted when arranged to present reading matter upon the sign and the openings 19 are disposed between the reflectors as will be readily seen upon reference to Fig. 5 of the drawings. The openings are provided with offset portions 20 which are adapted to receive correspondingly shaped lugs 21 which project from the neck 22 of a hollow

substantially semi-circular glass character forming element 23. While glass is preferably employed in the formation of such elements it is obvious that any suitable transparent material may be used. The neck 22 of the element 23 shown particularly in Fig. 4 of the drawings is adapted to receive a rubber or elastic washer 25 which is confined between walls of the sign and the shoulders 24 formed upon the said element.

After the material from which the sign has been made, has been stamped to form the desired characters, the elements 23 above described are positioned in a manner so that the lugs 21 aline with the offset portions 20 of the openings 19 and the said elements are then moved or pushed inwardly to their full extent, after which the said elements are revolved so as to engage the said lugs 21 behind portions of the sign walls and are thus securely locked or held in their proper positions. By using the rubber or elastic washers 25 it will be seen that their frictional engagement with the shoulders 24 effectively prevents casual rotation of the said elements.

The construction herein set forth and described is such that the transparent elements are each formed as stated with a neck portion which is provided with a series of radial lugs disposed with their outer faces to the annular shoulders 24 so as to form a space between the said lugs and the said shoulders, the said space being approximately equal to the thickness of the elastic washer so as to effectively prevent sliding movement of the latter upon the neck and to hold it in such position that it can be readily inserted in the opening formed in the wall of the sign and afterward manipulated so that the lugs can be moved into their operative positions and the washer frictionally engaged with the surface of the wall surrounding the opening without having to manually manip-

ulate or otherwise adjust the washer as will be readily understood.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

1. A sign comprising an inclosure, angle iron members carried by walls of the inclosure, reflectors within the inclosure having hooked ends detachably engaged with the angle iron members, and transparent character forming elements carried by the walls of the inclosure.

2. A sign of the character set forth having a series of openings formed in its walls, said walls of the openings being provided with offset portions having their side walls curved into the walls of the openings, and bulbs of transparent material provided with annular shoulders upon their inner faces, hollow necks extending from the shoulders, lugs extending from the necks and having their outer faces disposed in spaced relation to the inner faces of the shoulders, said lugs being adapted for insertion through the offset portions of the openings formed in the walls of the sign and adapted when the bulbs are revolved to assume positions between the said offset portions, and elastic washers secured to the necks of the bulbs and of a width approximately equal to the spaces between the lugs and the said shoulders so as to prevent sliding movement of said washers upon the necks, said washers when the bulbs are in their operative positions being arranged to frictionally engage the outer faces of the walls of the sign surrounding the said openings.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE C. NIENTIMP.

Witnesses:

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CHARLES A. MERTENS.