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W. H. BALK

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SIGN

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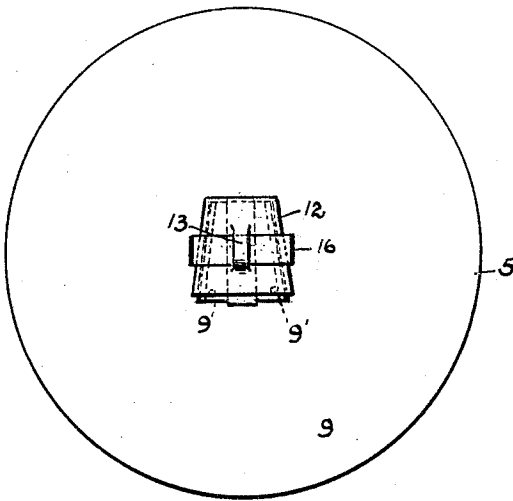


Fig. 1

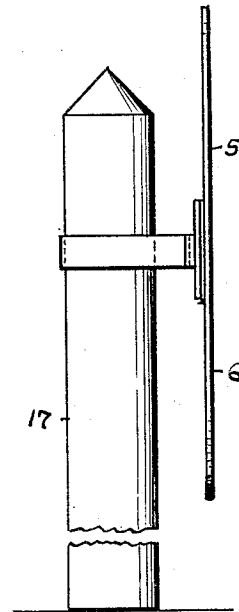


Fig. 2

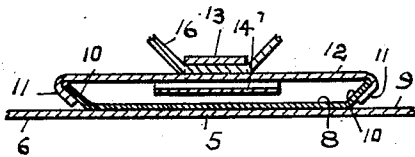


Fig. 3

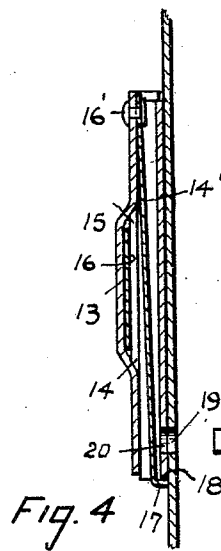


Fig. 4

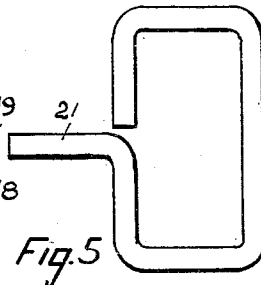


Fig. 5

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My invention relates to signs in general, but more particularly to the so-called "No Parking" sign commonly employed by city police departments. Such signs must frequently be removed to avoid damage to the signs during the spraying of trees, or for replacement by other signs bearing a different message or warning. This involves considerable labor and expense, particularly where the signs cover a wide area.

The general object of the present invention is to provide a sign which may be readily attached to or detached from a post or other suitable support. Another object of the invention is to render it difficult for an unauthorized person to remove the sign.

Further objects and advantages will be apparent as the specification is compared with the accompanying drawings, in which Fig. 1 is a rear elevation of a sign embodying the invention, and Fig. 2 a side elevation of Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are enlarged fragmental sections taken on lines 3-3 and 4-4 respectively of Fig. 1, and Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a pointed instrument of wire used to unlock the sign from its support.

Referring more particularly to the drawings wherein I have illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention, the present sign comprises a body 5 formed from a flat sheet of durable material such as iron or steel preferably circular in shape, on the front face 6 of which may be painted a No-Parking or other warning. A small plate or hanger member 8 secured to the rear face 9 of the body 5 as by rivets 9' is formed with outwardly bent upwardly converging side edges or flanges 10, adapted to co-operate with interlocking effect with the inwardly turned and upwardly converging side edges or flanges 11 of somewhat similar plate or bracket member 12.

The plate 12 is provided with a central vertically disposed loop 13 formed by slotting the plate as at 14 and forcing the cut portion outwardly to provide a space or slot 15 sufficiently large to permit the insertion of a metal strap 16 or the like through the loop. This strap is adapted to encircle and be secured to a post or tree 17 by any suit-

able means, not shown, and when thus secured supports the plate 12 in convenient position for attaching the sign 5 thereto or detaching the same therefrom. The plate 12 preferably, is not removed from its support except when the sign is permanently removed and consequently it is a simple matter to replace the sign 5, after temporary removal.

To assemble or install sign 5, it is merely necessary to press the hanger member 8 with an upward movement to the front face of member 12, against the tension of a bent leaf spring 14' secured at its upper end to the member 12 by rivet 16'. After the respective flanged edges 10 and 11 of the two members 8 and 12 have thus been brought into interlocking engagement, a further slight upward movement of the sign 5 and member 8 attached thereto will bring the members into the superposed position illustrated in Figure 1. When this position is reached, which is the limit of upward movement, the free lower flanged end 17 of leaf spring 14' will spring over the bottom edge 18 of the member 8 and effectually lock the sign to the member 12.

After the sign has been installed its removal can only be effected by forcing the free end of lead spring 14' against the face of the member 12 to release the flange 17 of the spring from engagement with the bottom edge 18 of member 8, whereupon the sign can be removed from its support by sliding converging flanges 10 downwardly out of engagement with the flanges 11 of the respective members 8 and 12. Thus, I provide a small opening 19 in the sign 5 which registers with a similar opening 20 in the hanger member 8. A pointed instrument 21 of heavy wire is inserted through these openings to force the spring 14' to unlocked position. The hole 19 will preferably be covered by paint, and as its existence will be known only to the police department, the danger of tampering by unauthorized persons is reduced to a minimum.

What I claim is:

1. A sign comprising a body having a hanger member attached thereto, a bracket member, co-operating interlocking means on said members for slidably securing said mem-

bers together, a flanged leaf spring on said bracket member for automatically locking said members against relative longitudinal movement when said members have been slid to interlocking position, and registering openings in said body and said hanger member adjacent the flanged leaf spring.

2. A sign comprising a body having a hanger member attached thereto, a bracket member, co-operating interlocking means on said members for slidably securing said members together, a flanged leaf spring on said bracket member for automatically locking said members against relative longitudinal movement when said members have been slid to interlocking position, and normally hidden registering openings in said body and said hanger member adjacent the flanged leaf spring.

3. A sign comprising a body having a hanger member secured thereto, the edges of said member having converging side flanges, a bracket member having converging side flanges adapted for interlocking engagement with said first mentioned flanges, a leaf spring secured to the bracket member and formed with a flange adapted to automatically engage the edge of the hanger member, when the latter is superposed on said bracket member with the said flanges in interlocking engagement, said body and said hanger member having registering openings leading to the flanged end of said spring whereby said spring can be readily pressed to inoperative position by an instrument inserted through said openings.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
WILLIAM H. BALK.

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