May 19, 1936. A. KAUFMAN 2,041,135

ILLUMINATED SIGN

Filed Oct. 3, 1935

Fig. 1.

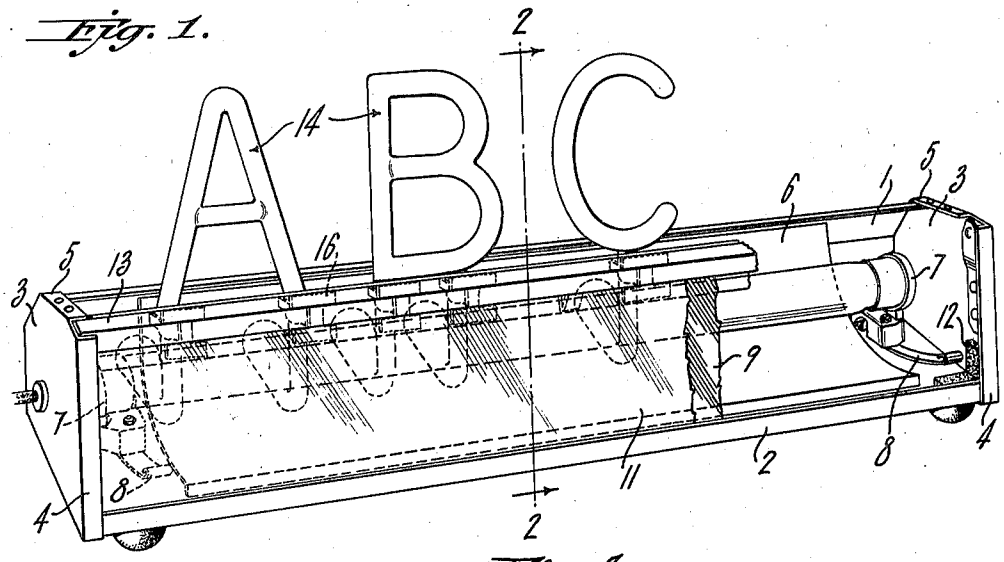


Fig. 4

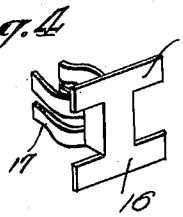
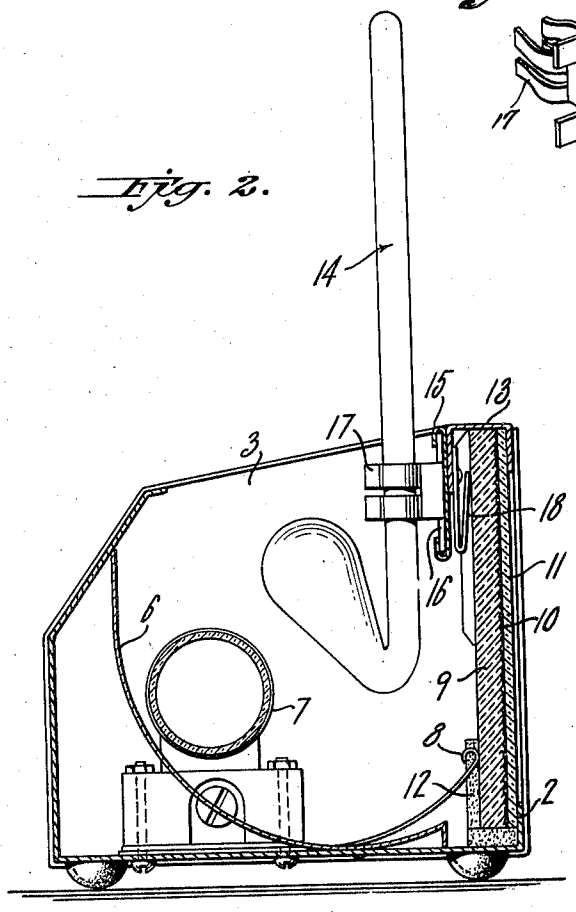


Fig. 2.



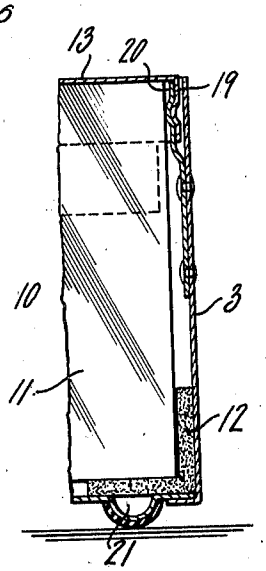


Fig. 3.

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ILLUMINATED SIGN

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Application October 3, 1935, Serial No. 43,356

7 Claims. (Cl. 40—130)

This invention relates to illuminated signs and more particularly to a combined light, casing and support for carrying and illuminating characters as shown and described in the application of Alfonse Kaufman for Display devices, Serial No. 24,242, filed May 31, 1935. Such characters may be in the form of letters, numerals, or emblems and the like, and consist of a sealed and evacuated glass element containing a liquid of low boiling point. Proximity to an electric light bulb or other suitable heat source causes the liquid to rise in the element and a succession of bubbles to pass upward through the liquid.

An object of this invention is to provide an improved illuminated sign which is unusual in design and pleasing in appearance.

Another object is to provide an illuminated sign in which the display may be changed more readily and efficiently.

A further object is to provide an illuminated sign which is simple in construction and reliable in operation.

Other objects and advantages will in part be stated and in part be obvious when the following specification is read in connection with the drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front perspective view partly broken away to show interior construction; Fig. 2 is a cross section taken in line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a fragmental sectional view of one end of the casing, showing in detail the manner of fastening the removable channel member; and Fig. 4 is a rear perspective view of a supporting clip.

Referring in more detail to Fig. 1, the numeral 1 represents a bent sheet metal casing which is turned up along the lower front margin to provide an upstanding flange 2. End walls 3 are provided and are attached to the casing 1 by any suitable means such as riveting. The front margins of the end walls 3 carry an inturned flange 4 and the top margin carries a flange 5 which may be pierced or otherwise arranged to provide suspension means. The interior of the casing 1 carries a curved reflector 6 and sockets 7 for a tubular lamp which overlies the reflector. Leaf springs 8 are secured at one end by the fastening member which secures the sockets 7, and the free ends of the springs project forwardly to bear against the glass panel section 9. The front face of the panel section 9 has ribs or corrugations 10 which serve to diffuse the transmitted light. Bearing against these corrugations is a glass display panel 11 which may carry transparencies or advertising material capable of illumination from the rear. To protect the lower corners of the glass panels 9 and 11, felt pads 12 are inserted in the casing at these points.

A removable channel member 13 fits over the top margin of both panel sections 9 and 11, serving both to secure the panel sections in close contact and as the support for the bubbling display letters 14. Attached to the rear wall of the channel member 13 and extending the entire length thereof is a sheet metal strip 15. The top and bottom edges of strip 15 are bent rearward and upon the strip to provide channels. Clips 17 are stamped from sheet metal blanks with two resilient arm portions bent outwardly to support the letters 14. The rear portion of the clip remains as upper and lower transverse arms 16 joined by a vertical web portion as shown in Fig. 4. The arms 16 are slidably retained in the channels formed in strip 15 as previously described. The clips are inserted at either end of the strip 15 when the channel member 13 is detached, and the clips may be moved along the slot to their desired position when the channel member is in place or detached. By this method of support, the letters 14 may extend from one end of the casing to the other, instead of being restricted to a part thereof, as in prior constructions. In the preferred form of construction the letters 14 are inserted in the clips and cemented thereto in order to prevent any subsequent misalignment from handling or shipment. Supported centrally and on the forward face of the metal strip 15 is a leaf spring 18 which bears against the back of the panel section 9 to resiliently hold the glass panels against movement. At either end of the channel member 13 is a tongue 19 as shown in Fig. 3, which depends from the central web and cooperates with a spring clip 20 carried in casing 1, to secure the letters 14 and channel member 13 to the casing. The tongue 19 and spring clip 20 may be more securely engaged by providing a punched boss on one member and a cooperating depression on the other. Supports 21 are also provided by punching out bosses from the bottom surface of casing 1, and these may have felt or rubber pads attached to prevent marring of any supporting surface.

It will be obvious that many changes and modifications may be made by anyone skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as expressed in the following claims:

1. In an illuminated sign, a casing, a source of illumination in said casing, a panel forming the front wall of said casing, a member detachably secured to said casing and engaging the up-

per margin of said panel, a plurality of clips carrying display characters, and means on said member for slidably supporting said clips adjacent the inner surface of said panel whereby said characters may receive illumination from said source.

2. In an illuminated sign, a casing, a source of illumination in said casing, a translucent display panel mounted in said casing, a detachable channel member secured to said casing at either end and engaging the top margin of said display panel, means carried by said channel member for slidably retaining a plurality of clips, and a plurality of display characters supported by said clips.

3. In an illuminated sign, a casing having an upturned flange along the bottom front margin thereof, end walls on said casing having inturned flanges on the front surfaces thereof, a translucent display panel supported by all of said flanges, a detachable channel member secured to said casing at either end and having a portion overhanging the top margin of said display panel, and a plurality of display characters carried by said channel member and extending upwardly therefrom.

4. In an illuminated sign, a casing having an upturned flange along the bottom front margin thereof, end walls on said casing having inturned flanges on the front surfaces thereof, a translucent display panel supported by all of said flanges, a detachable channel member secured to said casing at either end and having a portion overhanging the top margin of said display panel, a spring associated with said channel member and bearing against said panel, and a plurality of display characters carried by said channel member and extending upwardly therefrom.

5. In an illuminated sign, a casing, a source of illumination in said casing, a translucent panel mounted in said casing, a member detachably secured to said casing, means on said member resiliently engaging said panel, a plurality of clips carrying display characters, and means for slidably supporting said clips on said member.

6. In an illuminated sign, a casing, an electric light, a light socket secured to said casing, a translucent panel mounted in said casing, a spring attached to said light socket and bearing against said panel, a member detachably engaging the top of said panel, a plurality of clips carrying display characters, and means for slidably supporting said clips on said member.

7. In an illuminated sign, a casing, a source of illumination in said casing, a member detachably secured to said casing, a plurality of clips slidably supported on said member, and a plurality of display characters cemented to said clip, whereby said characters are retained in predetermined alignment.

ALFONSE KAUFMAN.