

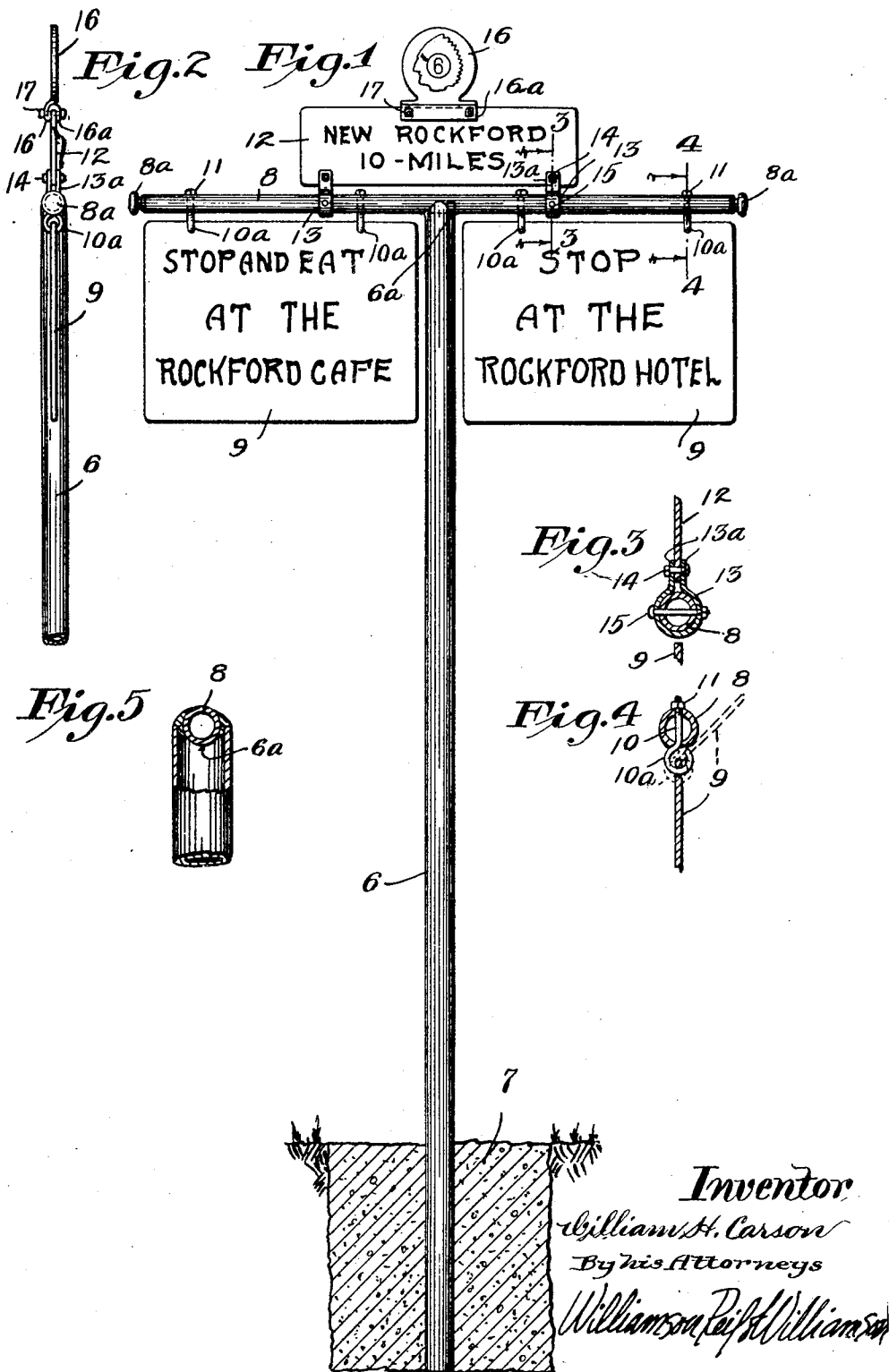
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ROAD SIGN

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ROAD SIGN

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This invention relates to signs, especially adapted for application at the sides of a road or highway for the purpose of attracting the attention of tourists or passers-by.

5 It is an object of my invention to provide a simple sign structure of few parts adapted to withstand heavy wear and attractive in appearance.

10 Another object is to provide a road sign, especially adapted to display several different advertisements or matters of information and so constructed that it will not sag or be blown over by heavy winds and further cannot be easily damaged by passers-by.

15 Another object is to provide a road sign which will readily attract the attention of tourists and passers-by but which will not obstruct the view from the road or be objectionable on the ground that it mars the scenery and natural beauty.

20 Another object is to provide a road sign having at least a pair of panels swingably mounted to decrease the resistance to the wind, the construction of the support for said panels and the mounting of said panels thereon being extremely simple but of improved and novel structure.

25 These and other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views and in which:

30 Fig. 1 is a front elevation of an improved embodiment of my invention;

Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same;

35 Fig. 3 is a cross section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, showing the manner of attaching the upper panel to the support or standard;

40 Fig. 4 is a cross section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1 showing my novel means for swingably attaching the lower panels to the beam or head of the support; and

45 Fig. 5 is a detail view mostly in vertical section, showing the manner in which the beam or head piece is rigidly attached to the vertical supporting member or post.

50 As illustrated, I provide a support in the form of a vertical post 6, which may be of

tubular construction, the lower end of said post preferably being set in a suitable base 7, which may be constructed of concrete. A cross piece or beam 8 is rigidly affixed to the upper end of post 6. This cross piece is preferably of tubular structure and of smaller diameter than the post 6. The upper end of the post 6 is provided with a semi-circular recess 6a cut therein to receive the cross piece 8 and the central portion of the cross piece is preferably welded securely to the said recessed upper end as shown in Fig. 5. In constructing my signs the recesses 6a may be formed by drilling a suitable sized circular hole through the tubular stock from which the posts are made. The stock is then cut in two on a line intersecting the circular hole, leaving the semi-circular recesses 6a at the ends of the two posts.

70 A pair of display plates shown of rectangular form are suspended from the cross piece 8, one disposed at each side of post 6. It is desirable to swingably suspend these plates in order that they will not offer too great a resistance to the wind and it is also desirable to provide simple connection means which will positively prevent displacement of the plates, while rendering replacement easy and which will also minimize the noise or squeaking when the plates are swung in a wind. To these ends, I prefer to connect the plates by means of hook bolts 10 having threaded shanks passing vertically through suitable apertures formed in the cross piece 8 and adjustably secured to said cross piece by means of nuts 11 engaging the upper ends of said shanks. Hook bolts 10 terminate in arcuate hooks 10a at their lower ends, said hooks being opened only a sufficient distance to accommodate the thickness of the plates 9, said hooks being adapted to pass through suitable apertures in the plates adjacent the upper horizontal edges thereof. After connection with the plates, the nuts are tightened upon the upper ends of the shanks of bolts 10 and the hooks are thus drawn against the lower portion of cross piece 8 positively preventing displacement of said plates from the hooks when said plates are swung.

A vertical upper display plate 12 is rigidly affixed to the cross piece 8 extending centrally of said cross piece and alined therewith. I prefer to secure upper plate 12 in the manner illustrated in Fig. 3 wherein a pair of clips 13 surrounds cross piece 8 having the upstanding fingers 13a between which plate 12 may be clamped by means of suitable clamping bolts 14. Horizontal bolts 15 may extend through the circular portion of clip 13 and diametrically through cross piece 8 to prevent the clips from turning upon the cross piece.

If desired, a highway marker or additional display plate 16 may be centrally secured to the upper edge of the upper plate 12 extending preferably vertical and in alinement with plate 12. The plate 16 is preferably made of sheet metal and has a clip or U-shaped portion 16a at its lower edge, said clip portion straddling the upper edge of plate 12 and secured thereto by means of transverse clamping bolts 17 extending through the opposite sides of said clip and also through plate 12.

The ends of cross piece 8 are preferably closed by ornamental knobs or plugs 8a which may have cylindrical inner portions adapted to snugly telescope within the extremities of the cross piece.

The signs are preferably installed at the sides of the road with the cross piece 8 extending at right angles to the road, whereby passers-by will be able to readily observe the sign when passing in either direction. Because of the novel structure of the joint between the cross piece and posts, no braces or reinforcements are needed to secure the parts together and posts 6 will not sag nor will the joint become weakened due to the fact that the plates 9 are disposed on opposite sides of the posts and precisely balance the cross piece. The sign plates 9 cannot become detached from cross piece 8 until nuts 11 are released permitting the hook bolts 10 to be withdrawn sufficiently to allow the plates to be removed through the small recesses between the ends of the hooks and the shanks.

With my structure all of the display plates are supported a considerable distance above the ground and are disposed crosswise of the road and so arranged as to obstruct a minimum of the view from the road while nevertheless necessarily attracting the attention of passers-by. By placing information of value to tourists, such as the mileage to the next town on the centrally located upper panel the tourist or passers-by must necessarily simultaneously view the advertising plates. Several states have passed laws prohibiting outdoor advertising on highways which obstructs or mars the beauty of the scenery at the sides of the road. My sign structure is unobjectionable and has already

been approved of in the State of North Dakota.

In many road signs commercially manufactured at this time where cross pieces are employed, the support is made of tubular structure and the cross pieces secured to the post by malleable or cast fittings threadedly or otherwise securing the parts together. In many cases the fittings which are subjected to the strain of heavy winds and snow storms break, thus requiring servicing and replacement. With my structure the joint between the cross piece and the support is stronger than any other part of the sign and the display plates are connected and affixed in such manner that they cannot be displaced or released by heavy winds and that furthermore they will last for an indefinite period.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have provided an extremely simple but highly efficient sign especially adapted for installation upon roads or highways, presenting an ornate and neat appearance, of great durability and adapted to withstand heavy winds and inclement weather. The construction and combination of the several parts makes the sign especially adaptable for a highway sign where information as to the next town or the highway is displayed on the upper panels, while advertising matter is prominently displayed on the sign panels 9 below the cross piece.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the parts without departing from the scope of applicant's invention.

What is claimed is:

A sign comprising a tubular upright post having a semi-circular recess formed in the upper end thereof, a cross piece of circular cross section and of smaller diameter than said post nested in said recessed portion and rigidly secured thereto, said cross piece having arms of equal length projecting horizontally from said post, hook bolts having vertical shanks extending through said cross piece and having depending hook portions adapted to be clamped against the under side of said cross piece and a pair of detachable sign panels disposed on opposite sides of said post and swingably supported from said hook portions.

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