Oct. 22, 1929. E. F. WAMBACH 1,732,869

FABRICATED SIGN

Filed Jan. 27, 1926

Fig. 1

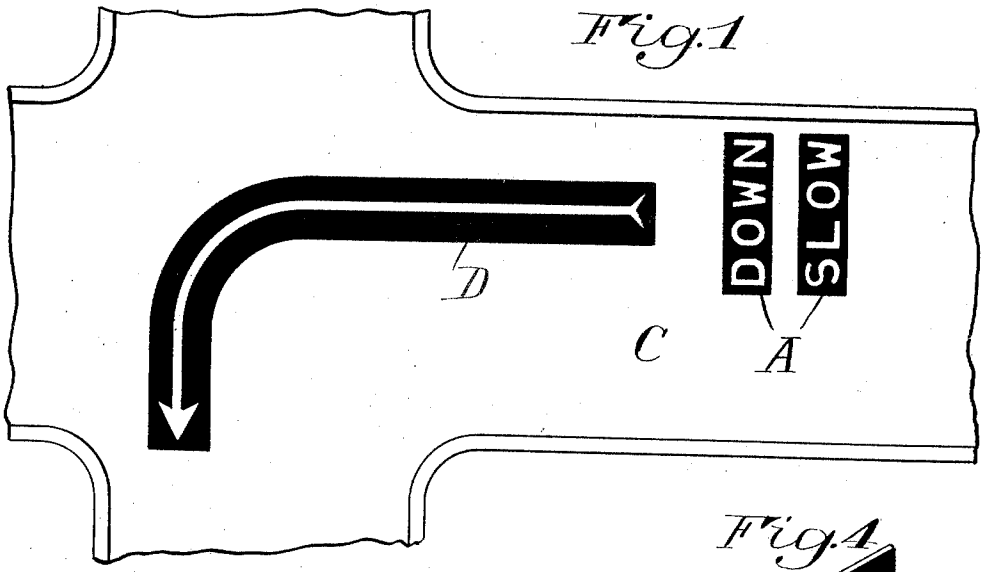


Fig. 2

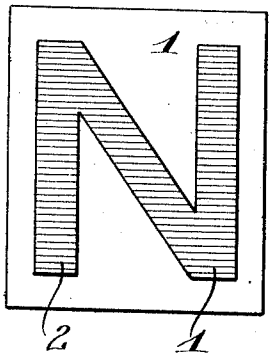


Fig. 3

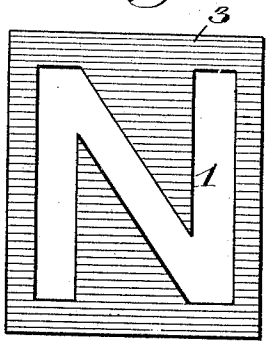


Fig. 4

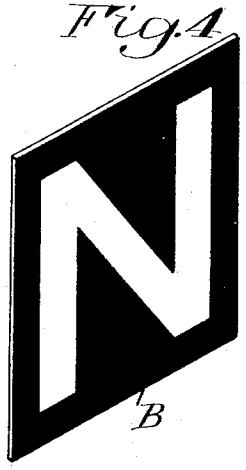
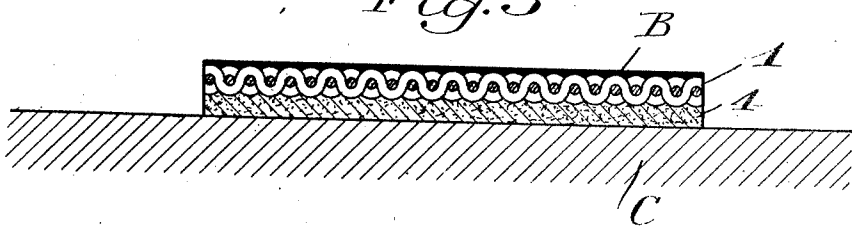


Fig. 5



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Patented Oct. 22, 1929 1,732,869

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

EUGENE F. WAMBACH, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

FABRICATED SIGN

Application filed January 27, 1926. Serial No. 84,011.

My present invention relates to signs and exhibiting apparatus and more particularly to built-up signs and it has for its object to provide a sign and a method of making the same which sign will be particularly applicable for use on the pavements of streets for the purpose of directing traffic. The invention contemplates the provision of letters and devices that may be quickly applied to the pavement in sections and which will wear much longer than the usual painted letters. To these and other ends the invention resides in certain improvements and combinations of parts all as will be hereinafter more fully described, the novel features being pointed out in the claims at the end of the specification.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the pavement at a street intersection showing a sign constructed in accordance with and forming one embodiment of my invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the stencil that is used in making the background of a letter;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the stencil that is used in making the letter on the background;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a finished sign unit and

Figure 5 is an enlarged section of one of said units applied to the pavement.

Similar reference numerals throughout the several views indicate the same parts.

It has hitherto been the practice in designating traffic regulations at street intersections to paint upon the pavement admonitions to drivers in the form of printed words and also cross walk and turning lines. These painted signs have to applied at night when traffic is light and require a certain period to dry. Their application is further dependent upon weather conditions and in any event, the passing of traffic obliterates the paintings so rapidly that they must be frequently renewed.

In the practice of my present invention I apply to the street surface a prepared mark, line, numeral or other designation, which is preferably composed of a fabric impregnated with paint to give the desired design and also carrying an adhesive on its under side to secure it in place.

Referring to Figures 2 and 5, 1 indicates a rectangular sheet of fabric which is adapted to carry a letter, and, in conjunction with other similar sheets forms words such as shown at A in Figure 1. A stencil in the form of the desired letter is shown at 2, and the first operation is laid upon the fabric to mask off a corresponding area. The remaining surface is then impregnated with a paint or covering matter which is blown therein or with which it is otherwise suitably saturated. This method of impregnation results in the paint extending to a substantial depth in the fabric, whereby the life of the paint is substantially the same as the fabric. The stencil 2 is then removed and a complimentary stencil shown at 3 in Figure 3 is applied, which stencil covers the impregnated field but leaves exposed the unpainted surface previously covered by stencil 2. The sheet is then again submitted to a blower or the impregnation of paint or stain of a contrasting color. The result is that the product shown in Figure 4. Usually the field is black and the letter or designation is white, that is black paint is used in operation number 2 and white paint in operation number 3.

A section of the product shown in Figure 4, as before stated, is shown in Figure 5. The covering of paint is shown generally at B. A suitable adhesive 4 is next applied to the underside of the sheet by means of which it may be made to closely adhere to the street surface, which latter is indicated at C and if asphaltum is or a similar substance is used, heat and pressure are brought to bear in obtaining a close adhesion.

The sheets bearing letters such as shown in Figure 4, may be placed side by side upon the pavement to spell words of direction, as shown in Figure 1. Additionally devices such as that indicated at D in Figure 1 may be constructed in the same manner.

Pavement signals constructed in accordance with my invention may be rapidly applied and as they require no drying the interruption to traffic occasioned thereby is slight if any.

The adhesive that I prefer to use is a combination of gums and oils that are what may be termed vulcanized to the fabric strip or letter when it is prepared at the factory. When this is placed in contact with the street pavement, it is caused to adhere thereto, both by the action of the sun and by the action of automobile tires passing over it, which has an ironing effect that presses it down into intimate, close and lasting contact with the pavement.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination with a street pavement, of a prepared sign or signal for the purpose of directing traffic applied thereto and embodying a sheet or strip of stout fabric having a coating of adhesive securing it in place on the pavement surface, and thoroughly impregnated with paint to a substantial depth, said sheet and adhesive being of such character as to be ironed out and consolidated by the wheels of passing vehicles.

2. The combination with a street pavement, of a prepared sign or signal for the purpose of directing traffic applied thereto and embodying a sheet or strip of stout fabric impregnated to a substantial depth with paints of contrasting colors to bring out the sign characters, and having a coating of adhesive securing it in place on the pavement surface, said sheet and adhesive being of such character as to be ironed out and consolidated by the wheels of passing vehicles.

3. A new article of manufacture adapted to be applied to the surface of a street so as to form, a traffic sign, said article comprising a sheet of absorbent fabric, a portion of said fabric being thoroughly impregnated with paint of one color to a substantial depth, and the remainder of said fabric being thoroughly impregnated with paint of a contrasting color so as to form a letter of the alphabet, and a coating of adhesive on one side of said sheet of fabric, said adhesive being of a character adapted to be ironed out and consolidated by the wheels of passing vehicles when said article has been applied to the surface of a street.

4. As an article of manufacture, for use as a sign or signal on a foundation, a strip of fabric having a portion thereof impregnated with paint to a substantial depth and having adhesive applied to the bottom side thereof to secure the same to said foundation, whereby the life of the paint is substantially the same as the fabric.

5. As an article of manufacture, for use as a sign or signal on a foundation, a strip of fabric having a portion thereof impregnated with paint extending substantially entirely through the fabric and representing the desired signal, and other portions of the strip of fabric being impregnated with paint of contrasting color extending a substantial depth in the fabric, the bottom side of the strip having applied thereto adhesive to secure the same to the foundation, whereby the life of the painted portions of the fabric is substantially the same as the fabric.

EUGENE F. WAMBACH.