Dec. 6, 1932. A. W. DENNIS 1,890,371

MARKING APPARATUS

Filed July 14, 1930

Fig. 1.

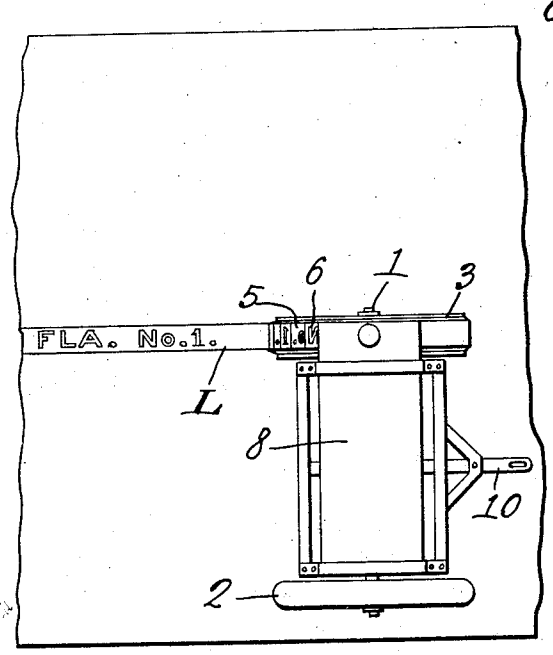


Fig. 3.

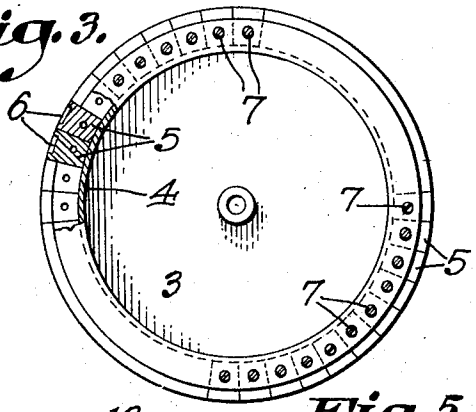


Fig. 5.

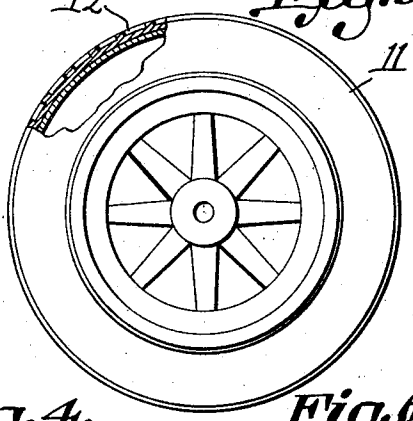


Fig. 2.

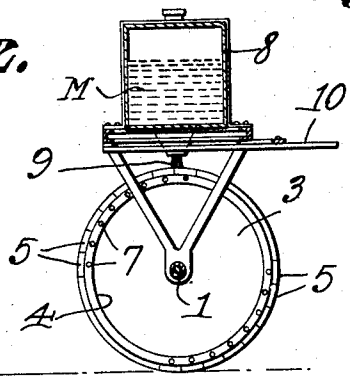


Fig. 4.

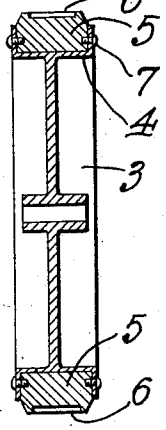
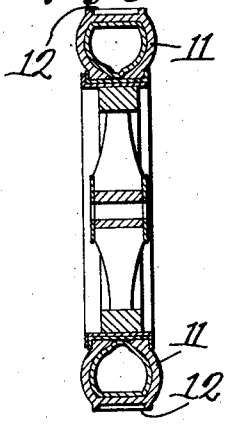


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ARTHUR W. DENNIS, OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

MARKING APPARATUS

Application filed July 14, 1930. Serial No. 467,873.

This invention relates to an apparatus for marking roads and the like so as to display any suitable data such as the name or number of the highway, the name of the adjacent town, etc., this data being preferably located where it can be used as a center line for traffic, and for marking off traffic lanes, parking spaces, etc.

One of the objects is to provide apparatus of this character which can be printed on the surface by moving a wheel thereover, there being printing elements such as a stencil, raised type or the like for producing characters on the roadway, these elements being interchangeable to print any data desired.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, may be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawing the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view showing the apparatus printing on the surface of a road a center line containing designating data.

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through the apparatus.

Figure 3 is a side elevation of a printing wheel, a portion being broken away.

Figure 4 is a transverse section therethrough.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 3 showing another form of wheel.

Figure 6 is a transverse section therethrough.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 designates an axle supported at one end by an ordinary vehicle wheel 2 while its other end is supported by a printing wheel 3. This printing wheel can be of any desired construction, one form being shown in Figures 1 to 4. In this structure the wheel has an annular channel 4 in its rim and seated in this channel are type blocks 5 of rubber or the like having characters cut thereinto as shown at 6. These blocks are held in place removably by screws 7 or the like.

The faces of the type blocks are flush so as to produce a printing surface extending entirely around the wheel and the blocks can be arranged to print any data desired displayed in a broad line or band.

The axle 1 supports a container 8 for holding marking material M in liquid form and this material can be applied to the printing surface of the wheel by any suitable means. In the drawing a fountain brush 9 has been shown for this purpose but obviously a roller or other device could be used, such means being well known in the art.

The structure described forms a vehicle having a draft tongue 10 or other means whereby it can be connected to a truck or the like and drawn along a highway. Under some conditions the wheel 3 could be substituted for one of the wheels of a motor vehicle and the container 8 suitably supported thereabove.

When the apparatus is moved along the surface to be marked the wheel 3 will travel where the data is to be printed and the type blocks 5 will cooperate to produce a broad line L in which the characters will be outlined. Thus the line can be used for directing traffic and at the same time convey a message to the drivers of vehicles. The designation of the highway, etc., can thus be displayed.

Under some conditions it is desirable to mount the printing elments on the tread of a pneumatic tire. Such a structure has been shown in Figures 5 and 6. The tire 11 has printing elements 12 molded on or connected to its tread portion and these will obviously form a yielding contact with the highway surface and print on either a smooth or a rough surface. This form of printing wheel is particularly useful on a motor vehicle although it can also be employed advantageously on a structure like that shown in Figure 1.

What is claimed is:

A road marking apparatus including a trailer structure having supporting wheels, there being an annular channel in one of the

wheels, interchangeable type blocks removably seated in the channel having printing faces constituting the ground engaging tread of the wheel, a container extending transversely across and supported by the trailer, one end thereof overhanging the type carrying wheel and having an outlet, said container constituting a holder for liquid marking material and a weight for the wheels, and a brush depending from the container for transferring marking material to the type faces of the blocks, said brush and wheel being held against movement toward and from each other.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature.

ARTHUR W. DENNIS.