C. P. MURDOCK.

CHANGEABLE ILLUMINATED SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 20, 1912.

1,103,812. Patented July 14, 1914.

Fig. 1

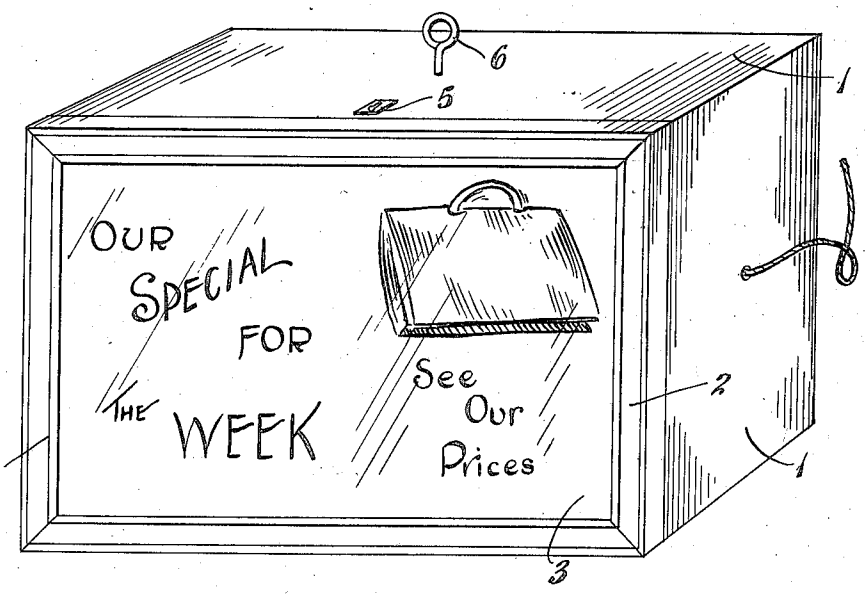


Fig. 2

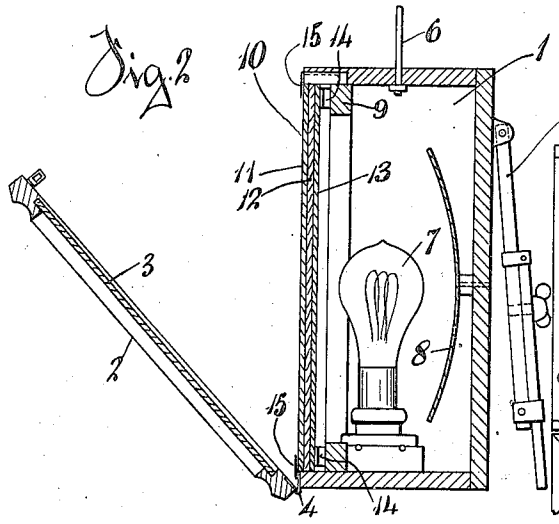


Fig. 3

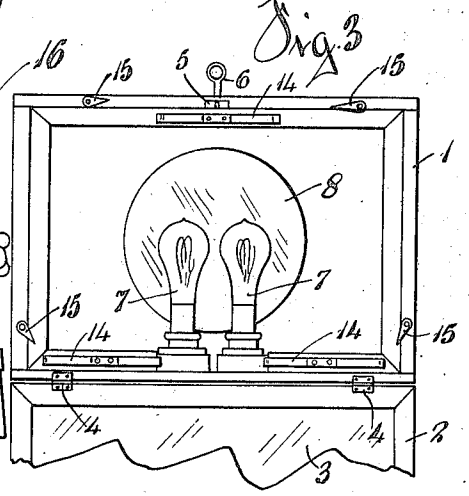


Fig. 4

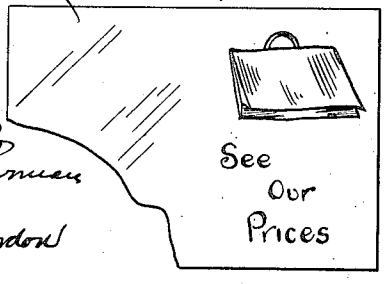
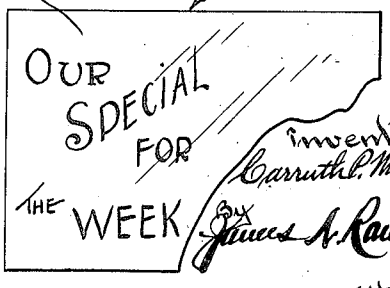


Fig. 5



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CHANGEABLE ILLUMINATED SIGN.

1,103,812. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 14, 1914.

Application filed April 20, 1912. Serial No. 692,203.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARRUTH P. MURDOCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Changeable Illuminated Signs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to novel means for displaying sign matter in electric changeable signs and more particularly to means for displaying sign matter which can be used as a show card in show windows.

My invention consists in the details of construction, and arrangement of the parts and combination of parts as herein set forth and claimed.

In the drawing Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a cross-section taken through the center of the device showing the door in its open position; Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the device with the door open; and Figs. 4 and 5 are views of two separate panes of glass one having lettering only thereon and the other having lettering and picture work thereon.

In the embodiment of my invention, as illustrated, and which shows preferred constructions, 1 represents a receptacle and 2 a door therefor having a pane of clear transparent glass 3 therein and being attached to the receptacle by hinge 4. The receptacle 1 is provided with a lock 5 of any desired type which is adapted to lock the door in closed position. The receptacle 1 is also provided with a handle 6 which enables the device to be suspended, if desired.

The device is intended to be made in a convenient size for it to serve and take the place of show cards in show windows and it is particularly adapted for use at night where it will attract attention because of its electric illumination. The receptacle is provided with a series or plurality of electric lights 7 which are preferably of the flash type and each bulb may be of a different color if desired, thereby producing a variety of color effects. A reflector 8 is provided directly behind said lights and may be constructed in any desired manner and mounted on the wall of the receptacle. A ledge or frame 9 is provided in the receptacle just in front of the electric lights 7 and is rigidly secured to said receptacle. It is the purpose of this frame or ledge to form a base or support for the plurality of panes of glass 10, there being three panes of glass, 11, 12 and 13, shown, but 13 may be any suitable translucent material. Metal springs 14 are provided on the frame as best shown in Fig. 3 which provide a resilient base for said panes and hold the same firmly clamped together and still provide room for more panes if desired. A series of flat pivot clips 15 are provided on the front of the receptacle to clamp the panes in position before the door 2 is closed.

In order that the device may be more readily used for a show card I provide a rear supporting arm 16 which is adjustable and pivoted to the back of the device in order that the device may be tilted to any angle desired like an easel. Thus it is seen that the device can be used as a show card in show windows and is arranged to show up effectively in the day time as the face of the translucent material 13 is equally as satisfactory to the eye as a background for the lettering in the day time as it is with the light shining through at night, having the panes 11 and 12 of clear transparent glass and the lettering thereon as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The translucent material 13 being of beautiful design will form a background for the letters of the panes of glass 11 and 12 by night or by day and thereby display the lettering advantageously at all times. The panes 11, 12 and 13 are easily replaced and rearranged so as to produce a variety of effects and may be changed around or replaced by panes having new sign matter thereon as often as desired by unlocking the door 2 and unclamping the panes as described. Thus the device may be placed in many different show windows and be under the control of the owner of the devices, each device being rented to the owner of a show window. An agent can visit each sign as often as desired and change the sign glasses 11 and 12 or the translucent material 13 to suit the taste and comply with the ideas of the owner of the show window. This constitutes a service which has never before been practised and one which is very valuable in the art of show card advertising.

It will be understood that the lettered glass 11 will be left blank in the space corresponding to the space on which the picture appears on glass 11 and that the glass 12 will be left blank in the space corresponding to the space on which the letter-

ing appears on the glass 11. Should more than two transparent glasses be used to make the component parts of the sign matter sufficiently changeable each will be blank in the space corresponding to the space on which the matter appears on others. It is evident that by the changeable translucent material, the changeable sign matter, the changeable picture work and the changeable color lamp globes flashing at predetermined intervals in sequence and in combination I am enabled to display the sign with a variety of effects.

My invention is capable of some modification without material departure from the spirit or scope thereof and I do not, therefore, wish to be confined to the particular construction and arrangement of parts as herein set forth except as limited by the appended claim but

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a changeable illuminated sign, a casing to inclose a light source and having an open front, a ledge adjacent to the open front and extending on opposite sides thereof, a plurality of superposed and contacting light-pervious plates extending across said open front, a plurality of flat springs secured to said ledge at opposite sides of the open front, engaging with the rearmost plate and yieldably supporting the plurality of plates, a plurality of flat clips mounted on the front of said casing on opposite sides of the opening to engage with and hold said plates back against said springs, and a door hinged to said casing at one side of said open front to close over said plates and over their clips, said door having a light-pervious part to stand in front of the superposed plates when the door is closed, and means for fastening said door in its closed position.

CARRUTH P. MURDOCK.

Witnesses:
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