

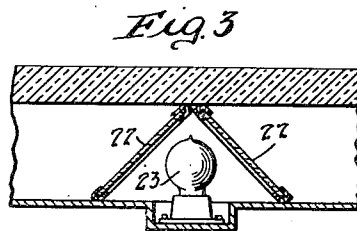
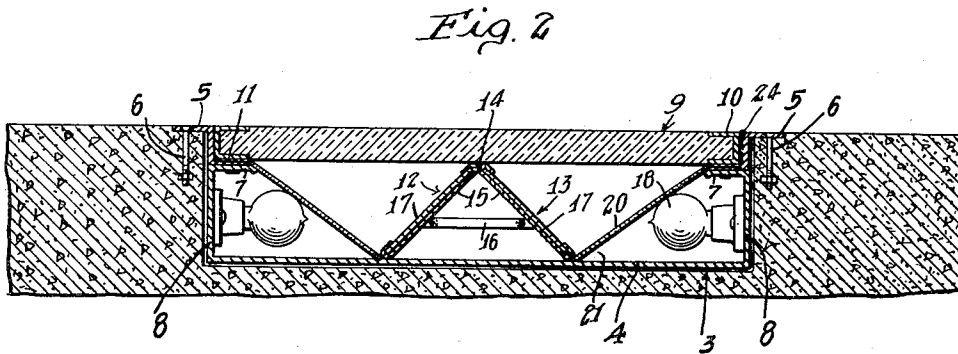
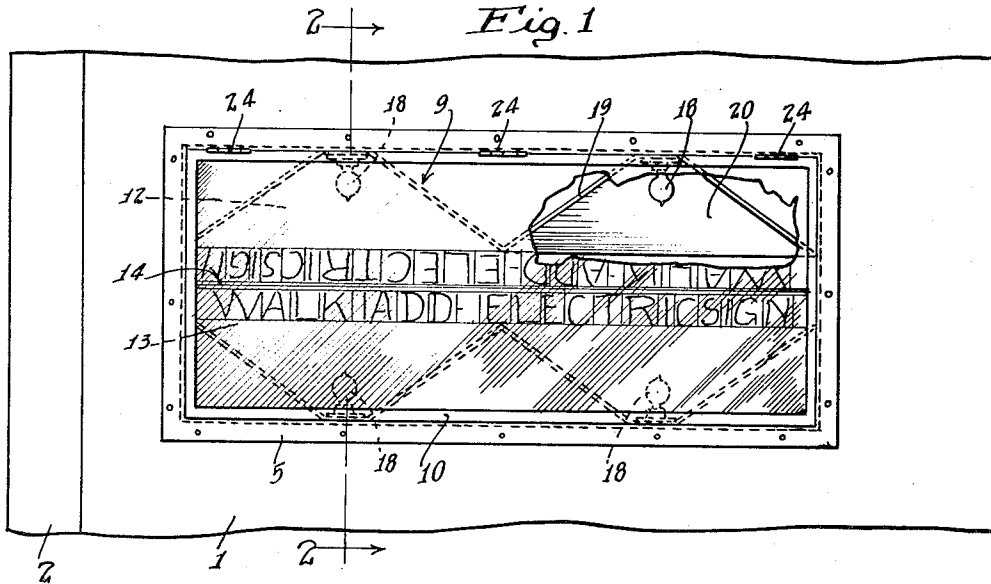
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SIDEWALK SIGN

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SIDEWALK SIGN

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3 Claims. (Cl. 40—132)

This invention relates to an illuminated sidewalk sign, and the general object of the invention is to produce a sign of simple construction, which will operate to present reading matter to the view of persons passing in both directions along the sidewalk.

In its preferred embodiment, the sign includes two sign plates or signs, arranged in such a way that neither sign interferes with the reading of the other sign.

Further objects of the invention will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the novel parts and combination of parts to be described hereinafter, all of which contribute to produce an efficient sidewalk sign.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is described in the following specification, while the broad scope of the invention is pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan showing a short portion of a sidewalk, and illustrating a sign embodying my invention set in the sidewalk.

Fig. 2 is a cross-section upon an enlarged scale, taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a section similar to Fig. 2, but illustrating another embodiment of the invention. In this view parts are broken away.

In practicing my invention, I provide a transparent cover that closes a recess in the sidewalk, and in this recess I provide a pair of signs located at an intermediate point under the cover and extending in a general horizontal direction. These signs are inclined at an angle with respect to each other, and in such a way that a person approaching in one direction can read one of the signs, but cannot read the other. This enables each sign to be presented in an upright position to a person passing in one direction, but prevents the other sign, which would be in an inverted position, from being seen at the same time that the visible sign is being read. The signs may be opaque and illuminated by light thrown upon their outer surface, or they may be translucent and illuminated by a light placed behind them.

Referring more particularly to the parts, 1 indicates a sidewalk, and 2 indicates a curb at the edge of the same. In applying the invention I provide the recess 3, which extends downwardly into the sidewalk from its upper surface, and this recess is preferably elongated in a direction at right angles to the curb.

The construction preferably includes a metal sign-box 4, which is set in the recess and which

may be secured in place by means of a marginal flange 5, which, if desired, may be anchored in the cement of the sidewalk by fastening devices 6 of any suitable construction. The sign-box 4 includes an inwardly projecting flange 7 that projects inwardly from its vertical side walls 8, and this flange 7 supports a cover 9 of transparent material such as glass. This cover 9 is, of course, of considerable depth or thickness to insure that it will not become broken by the weight of a person stepping upon it. Its edge is provided with a channel 10 of metal that extends continuously all around it, and this channel preferably rests upon a rubber gasket 11 on the upper side of the flange 7.

The sign-box 4 is preferably elongated in the direction at right angles to the curb 2. At an intermediate point under the cover and preferably at its middle point, I provide two signs 12 and 13. These signs are in an inclined plane and have their upper edges 14 adjacent to each other. Each sign is preferably held in a guide plate or frame 15, and the upper edges of these guide frames may abut against each other, as shown in Fig. 2. The guide frames 15 may be connected together by a cross bar 16. The signs 12 and 13 are preferably composed of separate plates 17, each of which carries a letter, and these plates may be slipped into position from the ends of the guide frames 15 so as to set up any reading matter desired. The signs 12 and 13 are preferably disposed at an angle of about 45° to the vertical, so that when a person approaches from the right side, for example, as viewed in Fig. 2, he will be able to read the sign 13, but the sign 12 will have its edge presented to him so that it will not be visible until the person has passed the sign 13. In this way it will be evident that persons passing in both directions, can read one of the signs, but the sign that faces in the opposite direction will be substantially invisible so that it will not interfere with the reading of the sign that is intended to be presented to view. In the embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, the signs 12 and 13 are of opaque material with the letters of the sign of a color to contrast with the background of the sign. In this case each sign is illuminated from a point on the interior of the box 4, preferably by means of two lamps 18, which are disposed at a suitable distance apart so as to give a uniform lighting to the area of the sign. I prefer to provide a pair of reflector plates 19 corresponding to each lamp so that the lamp is placed at the angle between these plates, which diverge from each

other toward the sign; and between the lamps and the sign, I prefer to employ an inclined diffusion plate 20, the lower edge of which rests against the bottom edge of the adjacent sign frame 15, the upper edge resting against the end of the flange 7.

It will be evident that it is not essential to employ this diffusion plate, but it assists in producing a uniform lighting effect on all the letters of the sign, which is desirable. When this plate is used, however, the reflector plates 19 must be of substantially triangular form, because their tips will lie in the angle 21 between the diffusion plate and the bottom wall of the box 4.

In Figure 3 I illustrate an embodiment of the invention in which the signs 22 are transparent or translucent signs with contrasting letters, so that the sign can be illuminated readily from the rear. In this case I use a plurality of lamps such as the lamp 23, which is disposed in the space between the two signs. In this way the illuminating means is common to both signs.

In order to facilitate access to the sign, I prefer to have the cover 9 secured to the upper edge of the box 4 by hinges 24.

What I claim is:

1. In an illuminated sidewalk sign, the combination of a recess formed in the upper face of the sidewalk and extending down into the interior thereof, a movable transparent cover closing the recess on its upper side at the upper face of the sidewalk, a pair of signs located at an intermediate point under the cover extending in a horizontal direction, said signs being located in planes inclined in opposite directions with respect to each other and with the upper edges of the signs adjacent to each other so that a person approaching on the sidewalk in a direction lying in the plane substantially at right angles to the direction in which the signs extend, will see the side face of the nearest sign and only the edge of the opposite sign; and means for illuminating the signs.

2. In an illuminated sidewalk sign, the combination of a recess formed in the upper face of the sidewalk and extending down into the interior thereof, a movable transparent cover closing the recess on its upper side at the upper face of the sidewalk, a pair of signs located at an intermediate point under the cover extending in a horizontal direction, said signs being located in planes inclined in opposite directions with respect to each other and with the upper edges of the signs adjacent to each other so that a person approaching on the sidewalk in a direction lying in the plane substantially at right angles to the direction in which the signs extend, will see the side face of the nearest sign and only the edge of the opposite sign; a lamp mounted in front of each sign with an inclined diffusion plate between each lamp and the sign that it illuminates, said diffusion plate having its lower edge adjacent the lower edge of the sign.

3. In an illuminated sidewalk sign, the combination of a recess formed in the upper face of the sidewalk and extending down into the interior thereof, a movable transparent cover closing the recess on its upper side at the upper face of the sidewalk, a pair of signs located at an intermediate point under the cover extending in a horizontal direction, said signs being located in planes inclined in opposite directions with respect to each other and with the upper edges of the signs adjacent to each other so that a person approaching on the sidewalk in a direction lying in the plane substantially at right angles to the direction in which the signs extend, will see the side face of the nearest sign and only the edge of the opposite sign; said signs being translucent, and illuminating means common to both signs located between the signs.

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