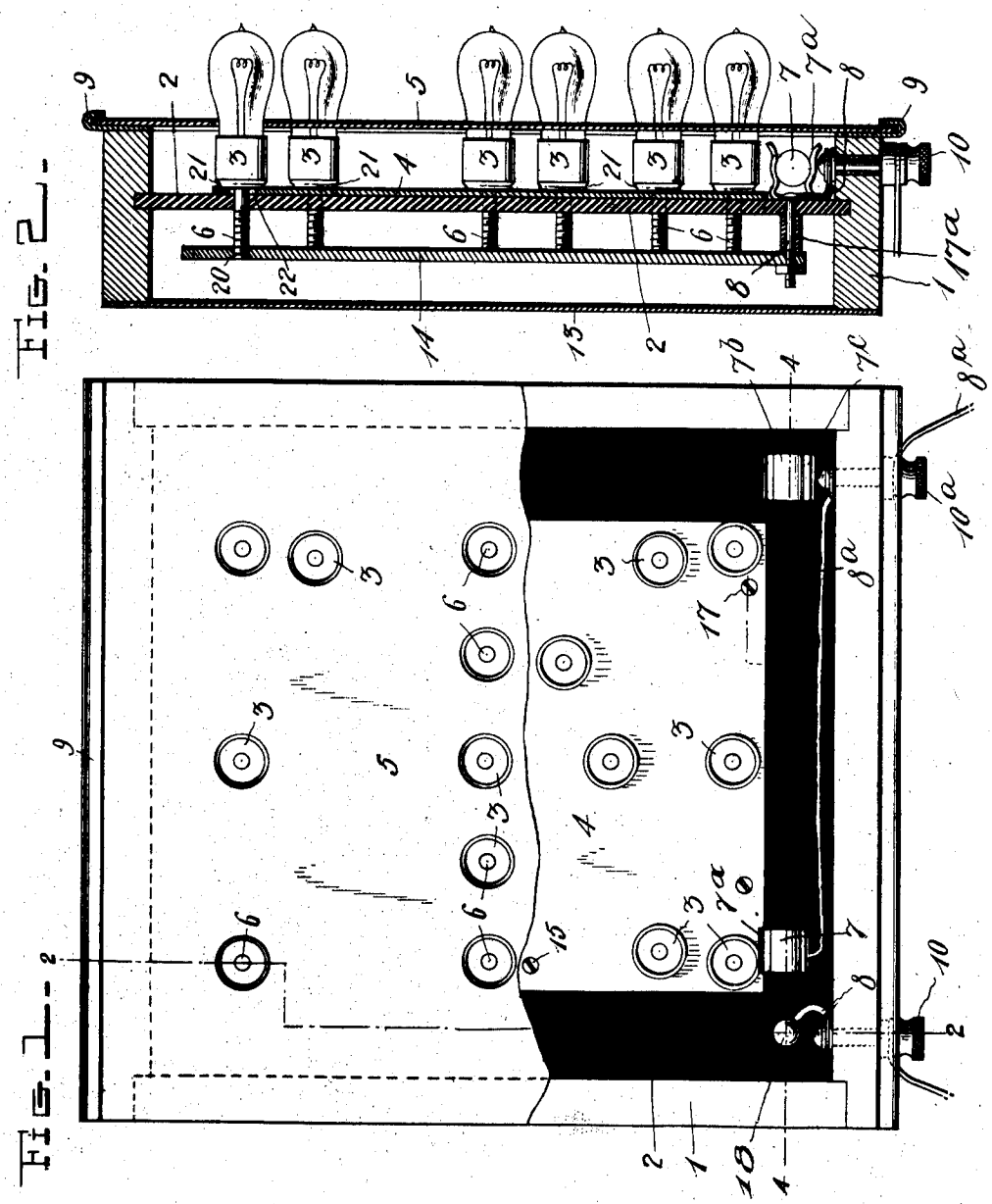
H. J. WALSER.

ELECTRIC SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1906.

902,028. **Patented Oct. 27, 1908.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

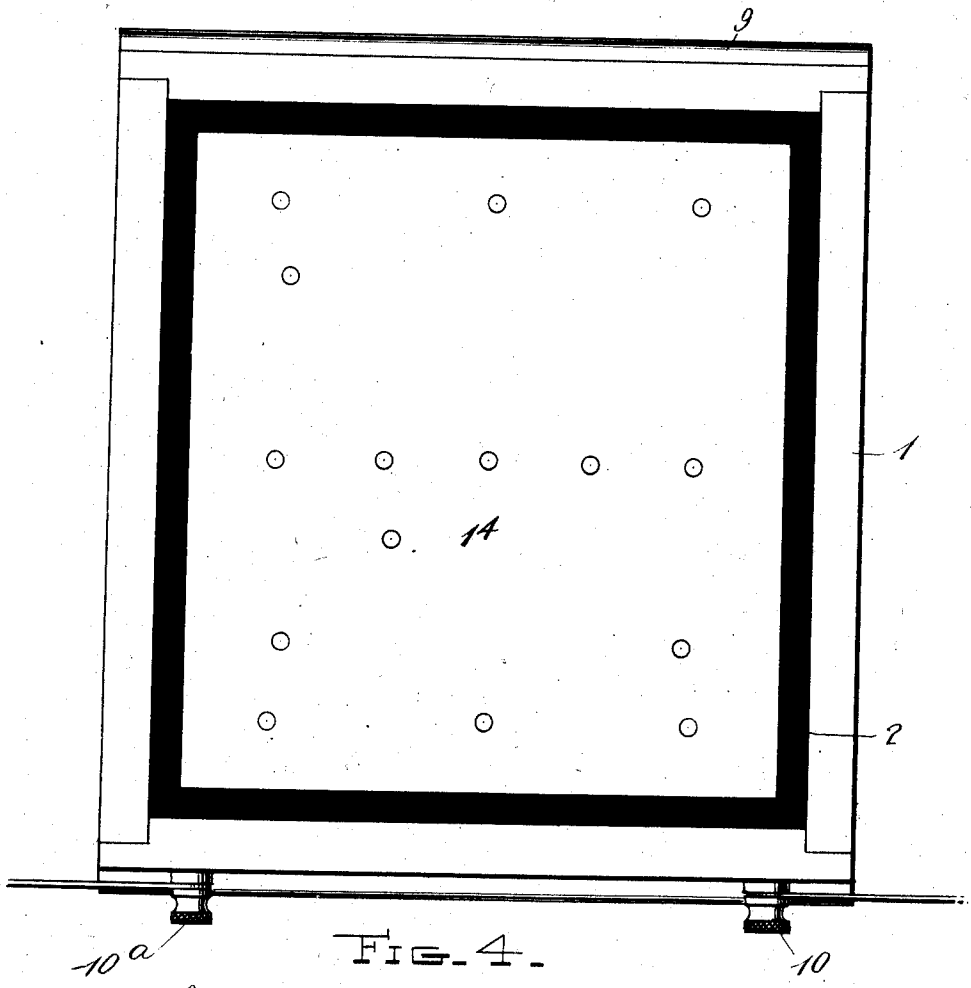
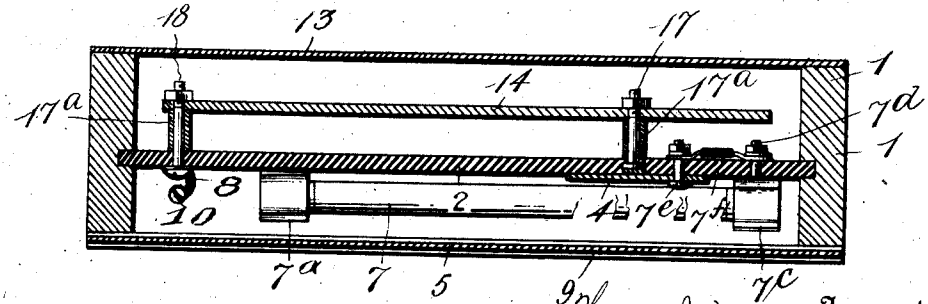


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY J. WALSER, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

ELECTRIC SIGN.

No. 902,028. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 27, 1908.

Application filed May 29, 1906. Serial No. 319,323.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY J. WALSER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Electric Signs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an electrical advertising sign or device, consisting of a panel on which incandescent lamps or the like may be arranged to form letters or numerals.

The object of the invention is to produce an improved device of the kind, characterized by simplicity and an easy and speedy manner or method of changing the lamps to vary the letters or numbers.

A further object of the invention is to provide improved conducting means for supplying the current to the lamps in whatever position they are placed. All the lamp sockets are individually adjustable or changeable, and can be put on or taken off without taking the panel apart and without placing or removing any bolts.

A further object of the invention is to produce a better insulation between the conductors by which the current is supplied to the lamps.

Speaking generally, the invention is embodied in a panel consisting of a frame and having therein a slate base plate upon which the contact plates are supported, said contact plates consisting of a front plate on the face of the slate, connected to one leading-in wire, and a back plate behind the slate and spaced therefrom, and connected to the other leading-in wire. Lamp sockets are provided having one contact against the front plate and a screw conducting connection with the rear plate. The holes in which the sockets are placed are so arranged that any desired letter may be formed and may be otherwise arranged for numerals or other devices.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of the panel with some of the sockets in place and part of the letter face plate broken away. Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a back view with the sheet iron back removed. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Referring specifically to the drawings, 1 indicates a wooden or iron frame which may be made of any desired size and shape, to hold and inclose the other parts of the panel. Within this frame is a slate plate 2 upon which the brass contact plates are supported. The front plate is indicated at 4, and lies against the face of the slate where it is fastened by screws 15.

The back brass plate 14 is spaced behind the slate, being supported in position by bolts 17 and 18 which are bushed with fiber sleeves 17^a to maintain the back plate at the desired space. The bolt 18 serves also as the conductor to carry one side of the circuit to the back plate 14. The circuit enters through a binding post 10 and includes in succession a connecting wire 8, the bolt 18, the plate 14, the lamps, the plate 4, bolt 7^e, wire 7^f, bolt 7^d, clip 7^c, fuse 7, clip 7^a, wire 8^a, and the binding post 10^a. A galvanized iron plate 13 covers the back of the panel, and the front of the panel is covered by a movable letter plate 5, which slides on and off upon strips 9 fixed to the top and bottom of the frame 1. The face plate 5 has therein holes corresponding to the letter desired.

The front and back contact plates 4 and 14, and the slate 2, are provided with registering holes having a well-known arrangement permitting various letters or numbers to be produced by proper grouping of the lamps. The sockets for attaching the lamps are indicated at 3. Each has a central threaded stem 6 which fits through the hole in the slate and screws into one of the threaded holes 20 in the back plate 14. The holes 22 in the front plate 4 are of greater size, so that contact with said threaded stem is avoided, but connection is made with said front plate by means of a ring or rim 21 at the base of the socket, which contacts with said plate around the edge of the hole 22.

It will be seen that one side of the circuit is connected to the plate 14 and the other side with the plate 4 and that these plates are insulated from each other by the slate and also by the space behind the slate. The sockets desired can be readily attached or detached by simply screwing the same in the panel, and the lamps can be added thereto to produce an illumination, one of the lamp contacts being conductively connected to the rim 21 and the other to the stem 6, of the socket. The panel is of course not limited to the size and shape shown. It may be enlarged to include any number of letters or figures or other devices, according to the nature of the sign desired. The particular arrangement of the connection may also be

varied without departing from the scope of the following claim.

I claim:

In an electric display system, a panel having an insulating plate extending across the same, a front conducting plate mounted on the face of said insulating plate, a rear conducting plate supported upon and spaced from the back of the insulating plate, said conducting plates being connected to opposite sides of the circuit, all of said plates having a monogram of registering holes, and interchangeable lamp sockets adapted to be inserted in any of said holes and having contact rims which rest upon the front plate and stems which extend through the holes in the insulating plate and are screwed into the holes in the rear conducting plate.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY J. WALSER.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. BOMMHARDT,

SHIRLEY J. BOMMHARDT.