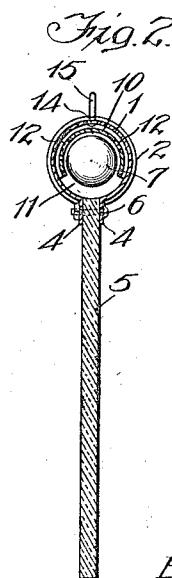
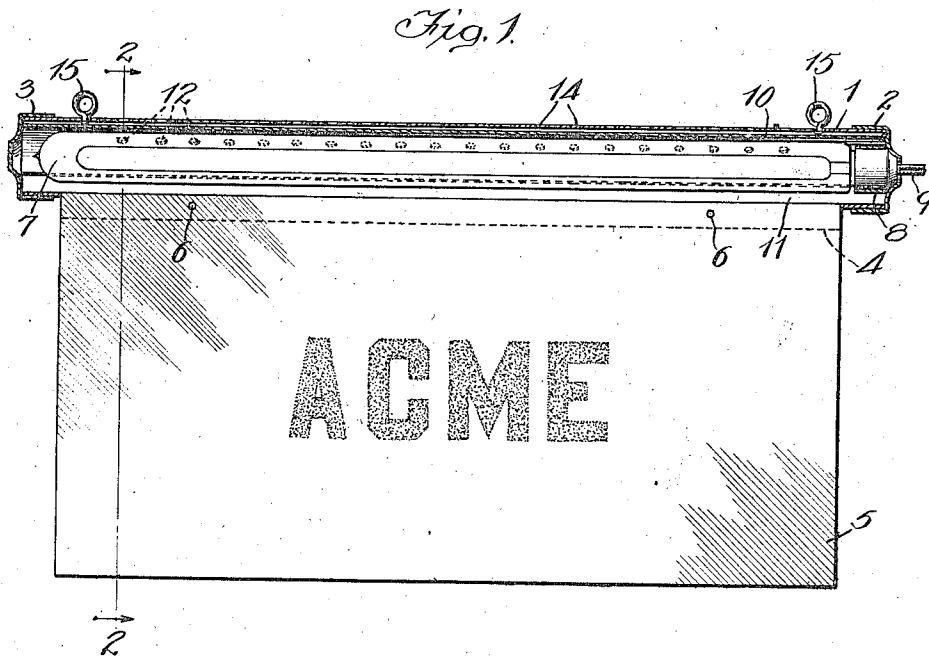


E. A. RICH, JR.
ILLUMINATED SIGN,
APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1914.

1,139,723.

Patented May 18, 1915.



Witnesses:

Robert H. Weir

Arthur H. Carson

Inventor:

Elmer A. Rich Jr.

By

William R. Peck

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELMER A. RICH, JR., OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

ILLUMINATED SIGN.

1,139,723.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 18, 1915.

Application filed July 31, 1914. Serial No. 854,212.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER A. RICH, JR., citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Illuminated Signs, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to illuminated signs, and especially to a type of sign in which a lighting or illuminating device is caused to direct its rays of light to the edge of a plate or other mass of transparent or pellucid material.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a simple, practical and inexpensive construction of sign of the class specified.

Other objects of the invention are to secure effectiveness and efficiency, and to reduce the cost of construction and maintenance, to avoid any possibility of conflagration or fire damage, to provide simple and practical means for supporting the sign, and to secure the foregoing and other desirable results in a simple and expeditious manner.

In carrying out the invention in the way herein set forth, I provide a simple fire proof structure, preferably metallic, capable of serving as a holder for the display portion of the sign, and also capable of holding a suitable lighting or illuminating device; and I also provide a display portion in the form of a simple plate or piece of glass or other suitable transparent or pellucid material, which plate or piece is suitably secured to one edge or part of the holding member and extends therefrom, the piece or plate of glass or other material being preferably supported entirely at said edge and having its other edges free from any frame or inclosure.

The holding member is preferably made in the form of a metallic tube having a suitable aperture along one longitudinal edge or surface, into which the edge of the display portion of the sign may be inserted, said metallic tube being also adapted to inclose a lighting or illuminating device. A tubular shield is confined within said metallic tubing and provided with an open side adjacent said plate, said shield and tubular

member being provided with non-registering apertures.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a view partly in elevation and partly in vertical section of a sign embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a cross section taken on line 2—2 in Fig. 1.

The sign shown in the drawings preferably comprises a tubular member 1 desirably made of metal, although it can be made of other suitable material. This tubular member may be left open at its ends, in which case I preferably provide caps 2 and 3 adapted to cover and close said ends. A longitudinally extending aperture is formed along the under edge or surface of this tubular member 1, and is preferably provided with downwardly extending lips or flanges 4—4, as best shown in Fig. 2. The display portion 5 of the sign is desirably in the form of a plate or piece of glass or other suitable material, and fits between the flanges 4—4, so that the upper edge of said plate 5 is exposed to the interior of the tubular member 1. The plate 5 is conveniently secured in position by screws 6—6 passing through it and through the flanges 4—4. The plate 5 as stated, may be a plate of glass or other suitable material, either transparent or pellucid, and is provided with some suitable display matter which the sign is to bear. In the drawings I show the word Acme applied to the plate 5, being preferably ground or sand blasted on the side of said plate 5.

Within the tube 1 is a lighting or illuminating device 7, conveniently in the form of a long incandescent or other light bulb. This may be held at one end of a socket 8, from which a cord 9 containing suitable conductors is extended. The socket 8 is preferably secured firmly to the cap 2. Within the tubular member 1 I preferably arrange a member or shield 10, conveniently in the form of a long tubular device made of metal or other suitable material and having a portion of its length cut away, as shown in Fig. 2 to form an open space 11 adjacent to the upper edge of the plate 5. In this way the upper part of the electric light bulb 7 is shielded or covered, whereas the lower part is left free to direct its rays into the upper edge of the plate 5. The member 10 is desirably provided with apertures

12—12 and the tube 1 with apertures 14—14, which are desirably out of register with the apertures 12—12, whereby suitable ventilation and outlet for heated air is provided without permitting the escape of any of the light above. Holding or supporting rings 15—15 are desirably attached to the ends of the tubular member 1, whereby the sign may be suspended on suitable supporting devices. Thus it will be seen that the construction is especially simple and inexpensive and at the same time practical, durable and effective. The light from the bulb 7 is directed down into and through the plate 5 and forms a highly effective sign, efficiently displaying the word Acme or other matter which may be provided. It will also be seen that the plate 5 may be detached by removing the screws 6—6 and another plate put in its place, such other plate having, if desired, different display matter. Thus the sign may be used interchangeably for different purposes or different displays.

It will be understood that changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as set forth in the appended claim.

What I claim is:

An illuminated sign comprising a tubular member having longitudinally extending flanges forming an aperture, caps secured to the opposite ends of said tubular member, and a plate of light pervious material having an edge inserted between said flanges, and a tubular shield confined within said tubular member and having an open side adjacent said plate, said shield and tubular member being provided with non-registering apertures.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 23d day of July A. D., 1914.

ELMER A. RICH, Jr.

Witnesses:

A. MILLER BEEFIELD,
A. LYDA JONES.