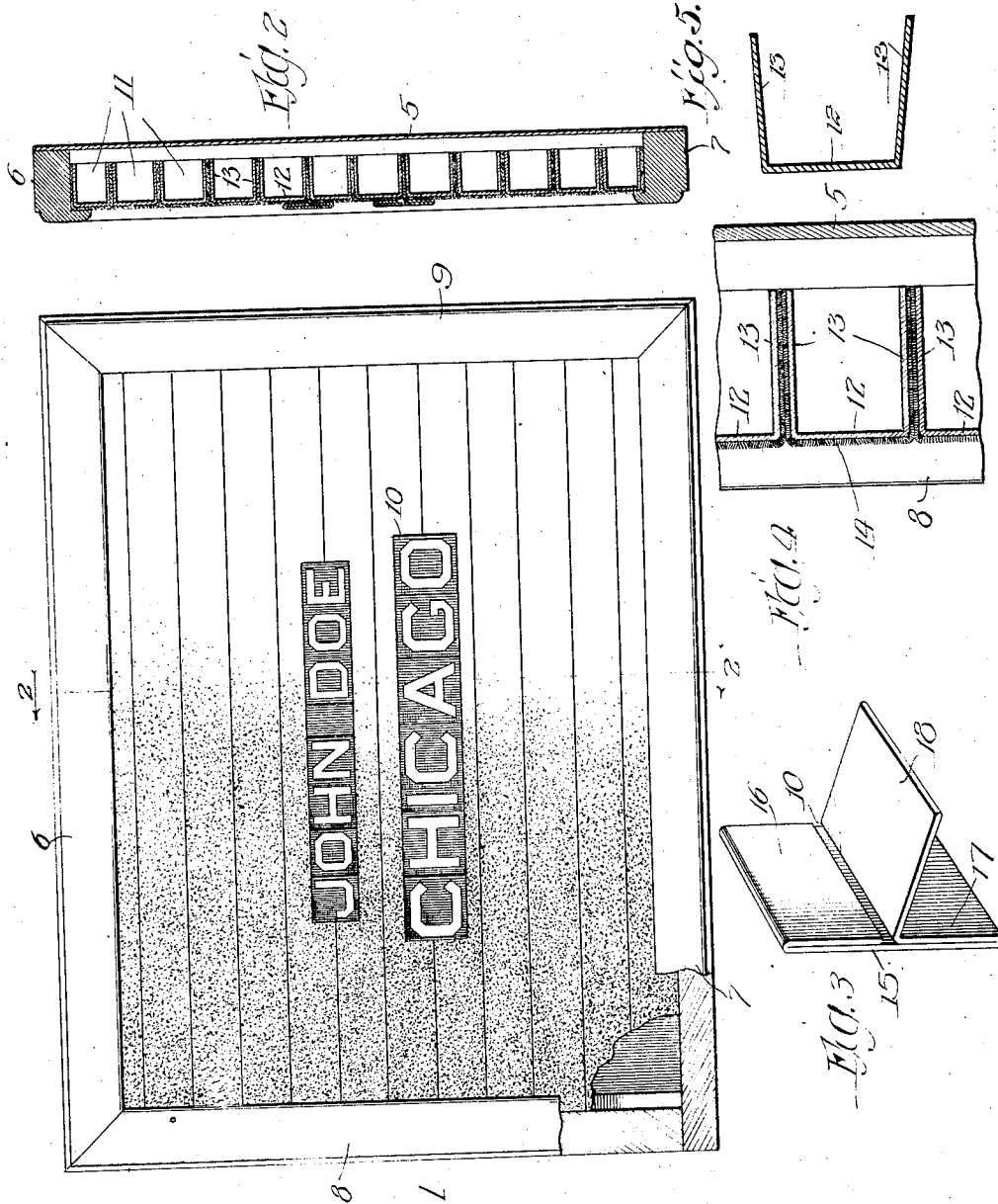


A. SPIELMANN.
CHANGEABLE BULLETIN BOARD.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 20, 1911.

Patented Nov. 25, 1913.

1,079,372.



Witnesses:
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Fig. 1

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLPH SPIELMANN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CHANGEABLE BULLETIN-BOARD.

1,079,372.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 25, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADOLPH SPIELMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Changeable Bulletin-Boards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to bulletin-boards and aims to produce a bulletin-board which will present a neat and pleasing appearance, which will firmly and securely retain the removable characters in position thereon and on which the characters can be readily and quickly changed, thus making the board useful and desirable for hotel announcements, train arrivals and departures, telegraphic reports, base-ball score boards, store directories, or announcements of any character.

The invention in one of its preferred and practical forms will be understood from the following description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings throughout the various views of which like reference characters denote similar parts.

Referring to the drawings—Figure 1 is a front elevation partially in section of a bulletin-board embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of one of my improved character bearing elements; Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view similar to the view shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 5 is a detail enlarged sectional view of one of my channel-shaped members with the cloth covering removed.

From the drawings it will be observed that the board comprises a frame having a back 5 secured to top and bottom members 6 and 7 and end members 8 and 9, respectively. Within this frame is arranged a series of channel-shape members 11 preferably formed of sheet-metal and each comprising a base 12 and rearwardly extending flanges 13. These flanges preferably diverge slightly to facilitate in gripping and holding the character bearing elements. The members are superimposed one upon the other in the frame and preferably extend crosswise thereof, providing a series of grooves or slots between the adjacent members for the reception of the character bearing elements. In some instances the chan-

nel members may be arranged one upon the other with their flanges adjacent and having no insertion or material between the flanges, but in the preferred form of my invention I have covered each of the channel members with a piece of textile material 14, velvet being very suitable for the purpose, which covers the front face of the base 12 and extends back over the outer face of each of the flanges 13. This textile covering may be glued or otherwise secured to the members so that all exposed portions are covered and two thicknesses of the material are present between each pair of adjacent flanges. The textile covering not only adds to the attractiveness of the device by giving it a smooth and finished appearance but also forms frictional surfaces between adjacent channel flanges to assist in gripping and holding the character bearing elements in position.

The character bearing elements, designated generally by reference character 10, are formed from a single piece of material, preferably sheet-metal, which is folded upon itself so as to provide a flat forward face 15 reinforced at the back by the folds 16 and 17 and having a rearwardly projecting extension 18 which is adapted to be inserted between adjacent flanges of the channel members and forms the supporting portion of the element. The flat forward face 15 of the element is provided with any suitable character such as a letter or figure, for instance, and by selecting the proper elements and positioning them on the board any desired instruction, information or announcement may be speedily and easily set up or presented. The size of the board and the number of channel members can be varied, of course, to meet the requirements of any particular locality or any use to which the board may be put and it will be manifest that the number of lines of information which can be set up and the size of the announcement is limited only by the size of the board and the number of character bearing elements at hand.

By reason of the fact that the channel members are made of resilient material it will be apparent that the flanges of adjacent members cooperate to grip and hold the supporting portions 18 of the character elements in position and the gripping action of the flanges is further augmented by the textile covering applied to each member.

The character bearing elements are accordingly gripped and held in position but, because of the resilient character of the channel members and the covering, they may be quite easily withdrawn from between the channel members by simply grasping the edges of the forward face between the fingers and exerting a slight pull. It will thus be obvious that the character bearing elements may be inserted and removed at will with very little effort and that when once in position they are gripped and held against accidental displacement.

While I have shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention it will be obvious that various changes in the size, shape, proportion and arrangement of the various parts may be resorted to within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of the material advantages thereof.

I claim:

1. In a changeable bulletin board, the combination of a frame, a series of channel-shaped members having slightly outwardly flaring resilient walls mounted in the said frame at their ends and free from the frame

therebetween and having the said flanges extending rearwardly in said frame and pressed inwardly of the member into substantially parallel relation, and a plurality of character-bearing members each having a rearwardly extending projection adapted to be inserted between and retained by adjacent flanges of two channel-shaped members whereby the character-bearing elements are held in position.

2. In a changeable bulletin board, the combination of a frame, a series of channel-shaped members having resilient flanges, the adjacent flanges of contiguous members being disposed in juxtaposition, the resilient flanges tending to diverge and each being held by the adjacent flange in substantially parallel relation, and a plurality of character-bearing members each having a rearwardly extending stem adapted to be inserted between and frictionally held by the adjacent flanges.

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Witnesses:

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