S. F. THOMAS.

PLASTIC SIGN.

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1,204,613.

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Fig. 1.

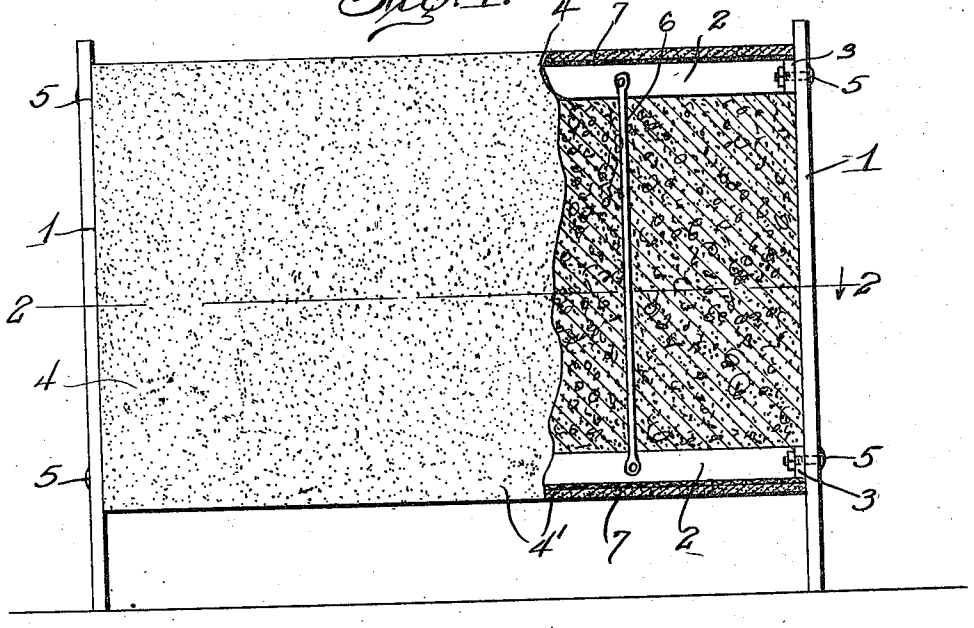
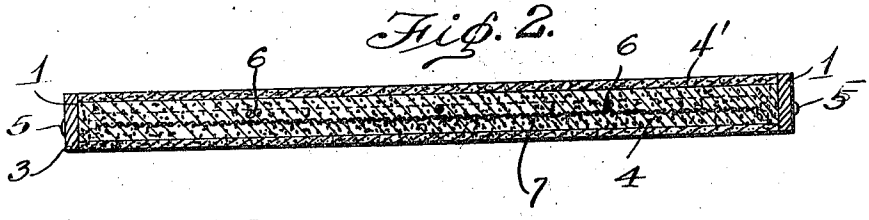


Fig. 2.



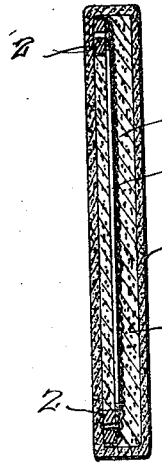


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES

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PLASTIC SIGN.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL F. THOMAS, citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Plastic Signs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to sign boards and more particularly to a sign board of the plastic or composition type.

Sign boards of wood, or of wood and tin are objectionable in many ways. Unfavorable weather conditions soon cause the wood to rot and paint, if applied to tin, to crack, blister and peel. Bill posters, if applied to wood, properly adhere but present an uneven surface because of the cracks and inequalities in the surface of the wood, and if applied to tin, improperly and ineffectually adhere.

It is therefore the object of the present invention to generally improve in sign board construction and to provide in a sign board a means whereby the above and other objectionable features will cease to exist. This may be accomplished by constructing the sign board of a reinforced sufficiently hard plastic composition such as cement.

The above and additional objects are accomplished by such means as are illustrated in their preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawings, described in the following specification and then more particularly pointed out in the claims which are appended hereto and form a part of this application.

In describing my invention in detail reference will be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:

Figure 1 is an elevation of a sign board, partly broken away, constructed in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view.

Referring now to the drawings by numerals, 1—1 designates the end uprights or standards which support the sign board in an upright or vertical position. The mentioned uprights may be of wood, metal or other sufficiently strong material. Strips 2, provided with terminal angular extensions 3 connect the mentioned uprights 1, and with the said uprights afford a support for the plastic composition constituting the sign board designated 4. Said strips 2 are fastened to the uprights 3 as indicated at 5. Brace rods 6 connect the strips 2 at intervals throughout the length of the said strips and with said strips and the uprights 1 constitute an all metallic or a combined wood and metallic supporting frame. A reinforcing element in the nature of a wire mesh screen 7 or other foraminous material is embedded in the plastic material 4, the mentioned screen being of a size approximately that of the sign board. The longitudinal edges of the said screen 7 overlap the strips 2 and by reason of such arrangement additionally reinforce and brace the sign.

A filler consisting of an inexpensive, rough surfaced plastic material is then placed between the uprights to inclose the strips 2, the brace rod 6 and the screen 7, the mentioned filler constituting the body of the sign. That a smooth outer surface may be provided, the said filler is next coated with a better grade of plastic material 4′, which latter material is so smoothed and shaped as to provide a sign board structure of the desired formation. This outer plastic material may be painted with letters to complete the sign, or, if desired, coated with an adhesive substance to receive and support a bill poster or the like.

In actual practice, the metal or wood and metal lathing or frame is to be covered with a rough coat or scratch coat of mortar consisting of two-parts sharp bar or washed sand, one-part wood or paper pulp, one-part hydrated or slaked lime, and one-part Portland cement; the mixture, before hardened, to be applied by hand. After the rough or scratch coat has become set or hard a second coat shall be similarly applied. This second coat may be said to consist of three-parts sharp sand and two-parts Portland cement, and when sufficiently set or hardened, shall be finished to a smooth even surface by a trowel or float or other similar tool used for that purpose.

From the foregoing, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings it is evident that a sign board has been provided which in its nature may be said to be practically indestructible; that weather conditions will in no way deteriorate or cause the sign board to become impaired and incapable of continued use; and that the smooth hard outer surface may be scraped

any number of times without causing fissures or crevices to be made in the outer coating or cement.

It will be understood that the above description and accompanying drawings comprehend only the general and preferred embodiment of my invention and that various minor changes in details of construction, proportion and arrangement of parts may be made within the scope of the appended claims and without sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention.

It is to be understood that the sign board, when arranged end to end and in alined relation, may constitute a fence or screen of sufficient strength and rigidity to withstand any and all hardships likely to be borne thereby.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a sign, a frame comprising upright supporting posts and strips connecting the posts, and a plastic body within the frame and inclosing the strips.

2. In a sign, a frame comprising upright supporting posts, horizontal strips connecting the posts, rods connecting the strips and a plastic body within the frame and inclosing the strips and rods.

3. In a sign, a frame comprising upright supporting posts, strips for connecting the upper and lower ends of the posts, said strips having right angular terminals affording the connection, rods connecting the strips and a plastic body within the frame and inclosing the strips and rods.

4. In a sign, a frame including uprights, horizontal strips forming a connection between the uprights, means for releasably fastening said strips to the uprights, rods connecting the strips and a plastic body within the frame and inclosing the strips and rods.

5. In a sign, a frame including uprights, horizontal strips having right angular apertured terminals engaging said uprights to form a connection therebetween, releasable fastening means extending through the uprights and engaging the terminals, reinforcing rods connecting the strips, and a plastic body forming the sign board within the frame and inclosing the strips and rods, the said uprights being removable from the plastic body by loosening the aforesaid fastenings.

6. In a sign, a frame including uprights, horizontal strips releasably connected to the uprights and extending therebetween, reinforcing rods connecting the strips, foraminous material extending between the strips and uprights, a plastic sign board within the frame comprising a thickness of relatively coarse material disposed upon each side of the foraminous material and inclosing the rods, and a layer of relatively finer surfacing material applied to the coarse thickness and inclosing the same and the strips.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL F. THOMAS.

Witnesses:
SIDNEY W. STEINER,
HARRY J. RICKER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents Washington, D C."