Nov. 11, 1930. H. C. GAMMETER 1,781,277

SIGN CONSTRUCTION

Filed Feb. 27, 1928 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

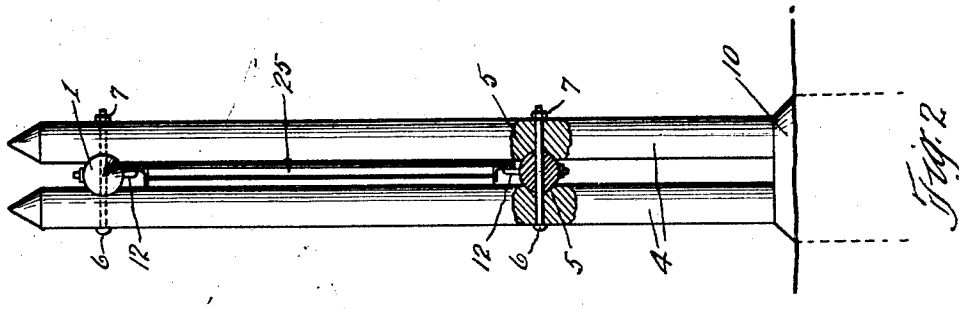


Fig. 2

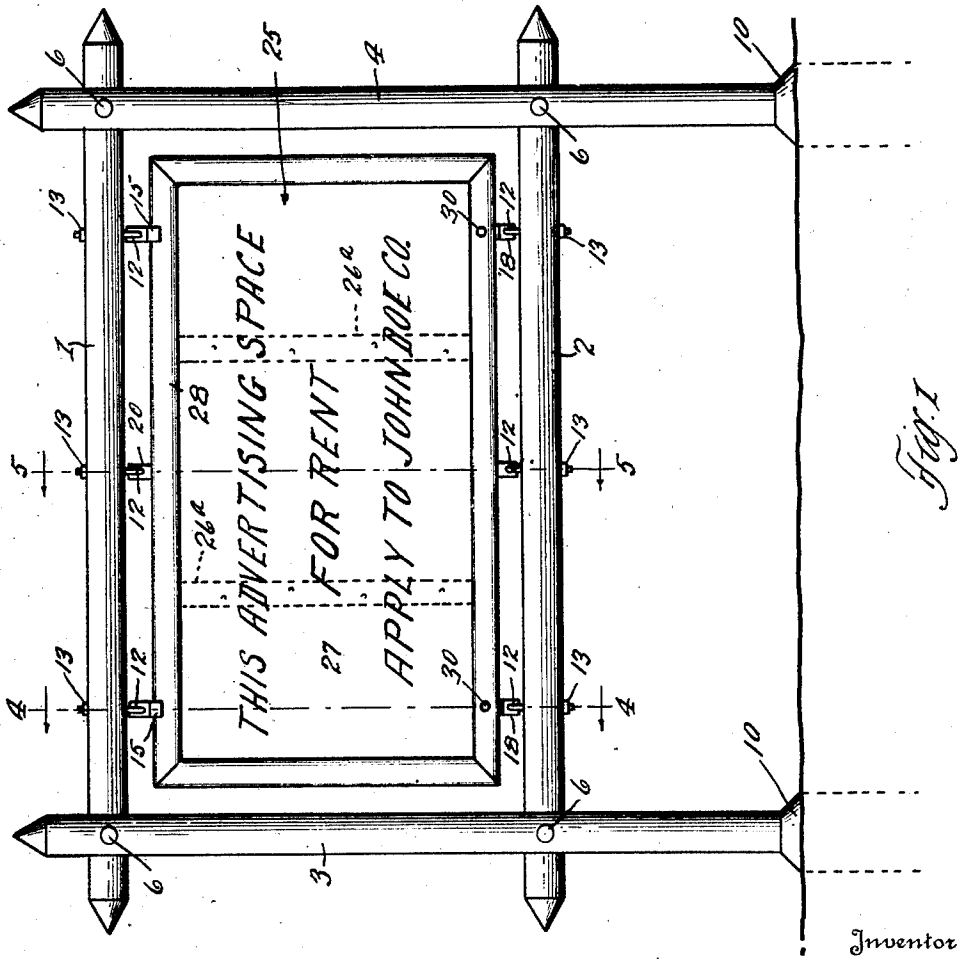


Fig. 1

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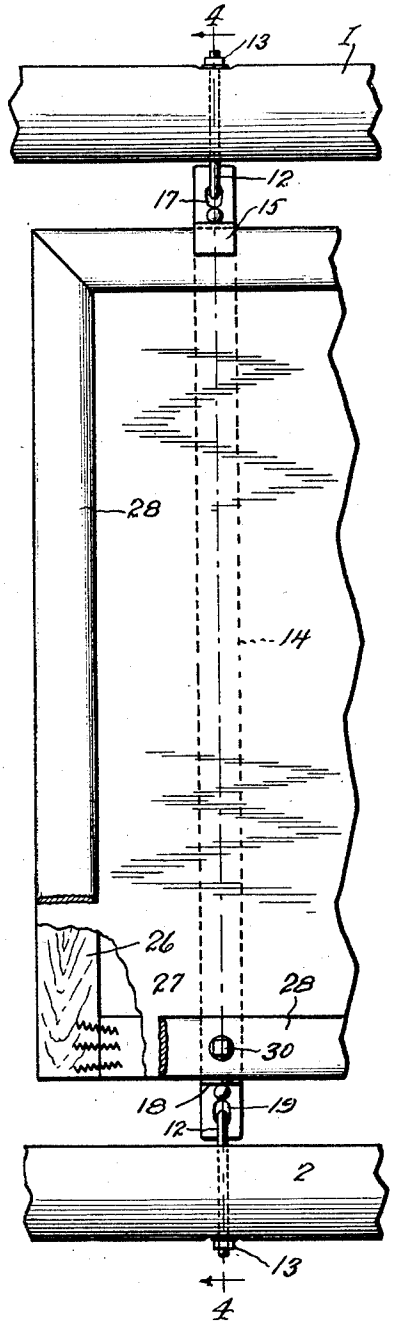


Fig. 3

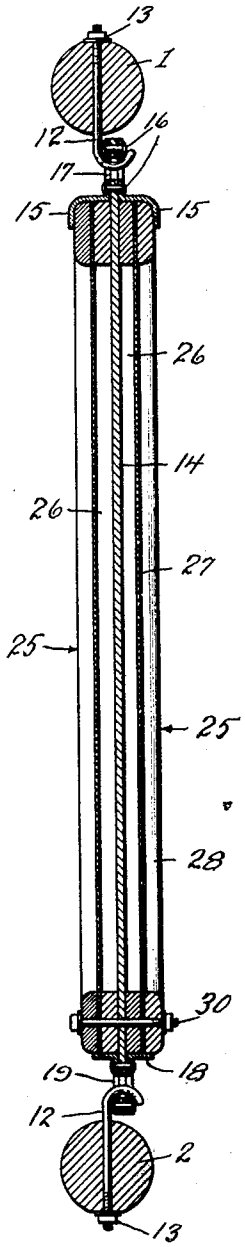


Fig. 4

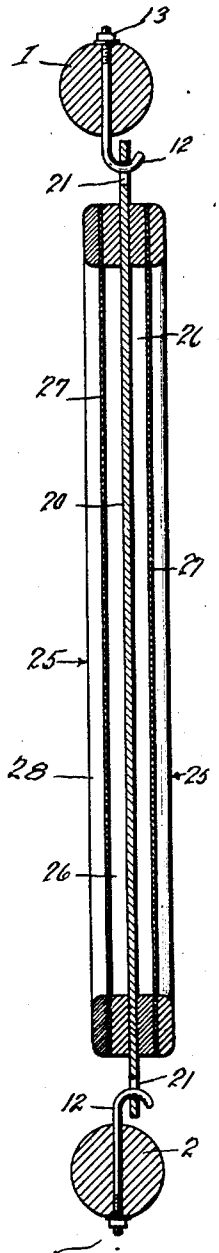


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SIGN CONSTRUCTION

Application filed February 27, 1928. Serial No. 257,144.

My present invention, like that constituting the subject matter of my copending application Serial No. 224,540, filed October 7, 1927, relates to signs that are adapted for use as outdoor advertising devices, markers for parks and institutions, and other similar displays.

Like that of the former case, the primary purpose of this invention is to produce a device of the above mentioned character that is artistic, neat and attractive of appearance and, therefore, not open to the objections urged against the ordinary type of sign-boards.

Another object is to produce devices of the foregoing nature having removable panels on which the matter to be displayed is painted or to which it is otherwise applied. This construction permits the signs to be easily and quickly changed from time to time; enables the sign bearing panels to be painted or otherwise produced in a shop and taken to the display locations where they are applied to the supporting structures, and allows the same signs to be interchanged among several locations if desired.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide a somewhat simpler and correspondingly less expensive construction which, in some respects, especially as to wind resistance, is more substantial and durable than its predecessor, and by the nature of which the erection of the sign is facilitated, and the emplacing or changing of the portable panels expedited.

The foregoing objects, with others hereinafter appearing, are attained in the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein Fig. 1 is a front elevation, and Fig. 2 an end elevation, of a sign structure incorporating the invention; Fig. 3 is an enlarged, fragmentary, front elevational view showing an end portion of the panel and adjacent parts of the supporting structure; Fig. 4 is a section on the lines 4—4 of Figs. 1 and 3, and Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

The device comprises, generally, a supporting structure, and sign panels that are removably sustained thereby.

The supporting structure consists of an upper cross member 1 and a lower cross member 2 that are supported by and between two pairs of uprights that are designated, respectively, 3 and 4. The uprights of each pair are parallel and are spaced apart a distance somewhat less than the diameter of the cross members 1 and 2, and where said members pass between the uprights of each pair, said uprights are notched, as shown at 5, to accommodate the full diameter of the cross members. Where the cross members and uprights are thus interengaged with one another, they are provided with aligning holes for the accommodation of bolts 6 to which nuts 7 are applied for drawing the parts firmly together. This relatively simple construction provides a very substantial frame structure that is capable of withstanding high wind pressures. The uprights 3 and 4 are preferably set in cement bases 10 that serve the two purposes of lending rigidity to the structure and protecting the uprights from decay in the region of the ground line. The cement bases may or may not extend entirely to the lower ends of the uprights. It should be explained that the cross members 1 and 2 and the uprights 3 and 4 are preferably of wood and of the same diameter, thus making it possible to construct all these parts from the same prepared material.

At suitable points along the cross members 1 and 2 are vertical holes through which the body portions of hooks 12 are extended, and nuts 13 are applied to the threaded ends of the hooks above the cross member 1 and below the cross member 2. Engaged with the hooks 12 that are located adjacent the ends of the cross members 1 and 2 are metal straps 14 of suitable width. Applied to the front and rear sides of the upper ends of the straps 14 are clips 15, the securing of said clips to the straps being effected in any suitable manner, as by means of rivets 16. The straps and the portions of the clips that engage therewith have registering slots, designated 17, through which the hooks 12 are passed. Ledges 18 are similarly connected to the front and rear sides of the lower ends of the straps 14 and have slots 19 for the reception

of the corresponding lower hooks 12. A strap 20, similar to the straps 14, but minus the clips 15 and ledges 18, have slots 21 that are engaged over the vertically spaced hooks 12 that are shown as located at substantially the longitudinal center of the structure.

The sign panels, designated generally by the numeral 25, are each constructed, according to the present embodiment of the invention, as follows: To a rectangular wooden frame 26 is secured the marginal portion of a metal sheet 27, on which the sign is painted or to which it is otherwise applied, and overlying said portion of the sheet is a finishing frame 28 that is composed of top, bottom and end members that are mitered at the corners of the panel. The frame 26 may include intermediate vertical members shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and designated 26ª, and the metal sheet 27 may be tacked thereto. It is obvious that the concealed frame 26 may include any number and arrangement of cross members to which the sheet 27 may be attached for imparting stiffness to the latter and for retaining it in flat condition. The members of the finishing frame 28 may be attached to the concealed frame 26 by screws, nails or other fastening means that pass through the edge portion of the sheet 27.

The panels 25 are applied to the supporting structure by engaging their upper edges beneath the clips 15 and swinging them inwardly against the straps 14 and 20 so as to dispose their lower edges on the ledges 18. They may be held in this position by engaging bolts 30 through aligned holes in the panels and in the straps 14. This provides a very simple method of applying and removing the panels, it being only necessary to remove the two bolts 30 to disconnect the panels from the supporting structure. In the present construction the strap 20, devoid of clips and ledges, constitutes only a wind brace, and my reason for omitting the clips and ledges from this strap is to avoid the accuracy which would be made necessary if the panels were to have three points of bearing at the top and at the bottom. Obviously the straps 14 are placed under tension when the hooks 12 are drawn up by the nuts 13, as otherwise said straps would be loose and fail in their purpose as above set forth, especially as to their wind bracing function.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a device of the character described, the combination of opposed supports arranged in vertically spaced relation, a plurality of not less than three elongated elements sustained by and tensioned between said supports, panel embracing clips immovably secured to two of said elements adjacent their upper ends, ledges having unobstructed top surfaces and likewise secured to said two elements adjacent their lower ends, a sign panel that is adapted to be placed flatwise against said elements with its upper edge embraced by said clips and its lower edge resting upon said ledges, and means for removably securing the sign panel to the elements.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination of opposed supports arranged in vertically spaced relation, elongated elements sustained by and between said supports, clips carried by the opposite sides of certain of said elements adjacent the upper ends thereof, ledges carried by the opposite sides of the lower ends of said elements, sign panels that are adapted to be placed in flatwise engagement with the opposite sides of the elements with their upper edges embraced by the aforesaid clips and their lower edges resting upon said ledges, and means for removably securing the panels to the elements.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination of opposed supports arranged in substantially vertically spaced relation, hooks carried by said supports, those of one support being opposed to those of the other, metallic straps sustained by and between the corresponding hooks of the two supports, and a sign panel removably secured to, and in flatwise engagement with, the straps.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination of opposed supports arranged substantially in vertically spaced relation, hooks carried by said supports, those of one support being opposed to those of the other, metallic straps sustained by and between the corresponding hooks of the two supports, clips carried by certain of said straps adjacent one support, ledges carried by certain of said straps adjacent the other support, and a sign panel adapted to be placed in flatwise engagement with the straps with its upper edge embraced by the clips and its lower edges bearing upon said ledges, and means for detachably securing the panel in the position described.

5. In a device of the character described, the combination of two substantially horizontal supports that are spaced apart vertically, said supports having transverse bores, those of one support being approximately in alignment with those of the other support, hooks having threaded shanks extended upwardly through the bores of the upper support, similar hooks having their shanks projected downwardly through the bores of the lower support, a plurality of metallic straps each having apertures in its ends engaged with the corresponding hooks of the opposed supports, nuts applied to the shanks of the hooks outwardly beyond said supports, clips secured to the upper ends of certain of said straps, ledges secured to the lower ends of certain of said straps, a sign panel that is adapted to be placed in flatwise engagement with the straps with its upper edge embraced by said clips and its lower edge resting upon said ledges, and

means for detachably securing the panel in place upon said ledges.

6. In a device of the character described, the combination of two substantially horizontal supports that are spaced apart vertically, said supports having transverse bores, those of one support being approximately in alignment with those of the other support, hooks having threaded shanks extended through the bores of the supports, the hooks of each support being arranged with their heads toward those of the other support, a plurality of metallic straps each having apertures in its ends that are engaged with the corresponding hooks of the opposed supports, nuts applied to the shanks of the hooks outwardly beyond said supports, clips secured to the opposite sides of the upper ends of certain of said straps, ledges secured to the opposite sides of the lower ends of certain of said straps, sign panels adapted to be placed in flatwise engagement with the opposite sides of the straps with their upper edges embraced by said clips and their lower edges resting upon said ledges, and means passing through the opposed panels and certain of said straps for detachably securing the panels in place upon said ledges.

7. In a device of the character described, the combination of opposed pairs of uprights, cross members having their ends arranged between the uprights of the opposed pairs, the uprights and cross members all being of substantially the same diameter and the uprights of each pair being spaced a distance apart less than said diameter and notched to accommodate the cross members, means passing through the cross members and adjacent parts of the uprights for binding the uprights and cross members together, elongated elements supported by and between the cross members, and sign panels removably secured to, and in flatwise engagement with, the opposite sides of said elements.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

HARRY C. GAMMETER.