Jan. 26, 1926. 1,570,884

E. J. FORD

ILLUMINATED REGISTER

Filed July 19, 1925

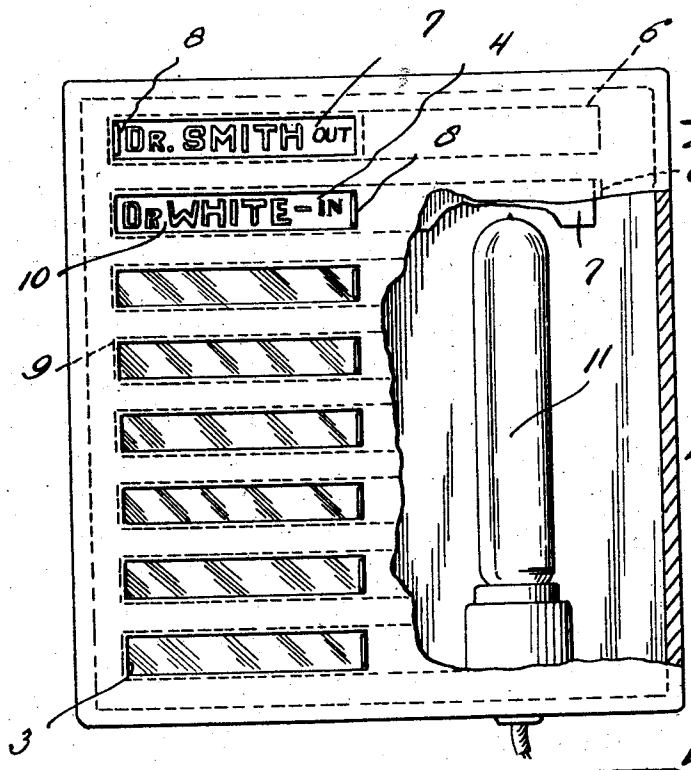


Fig. 1.

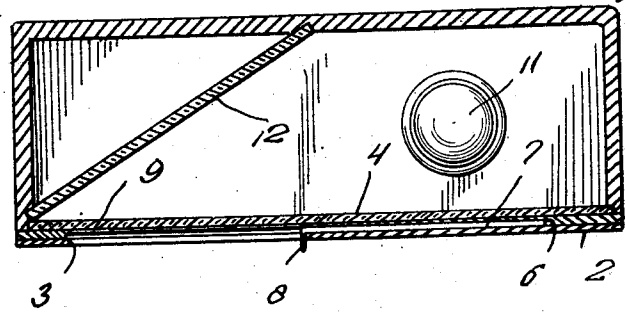


Fig. 2.

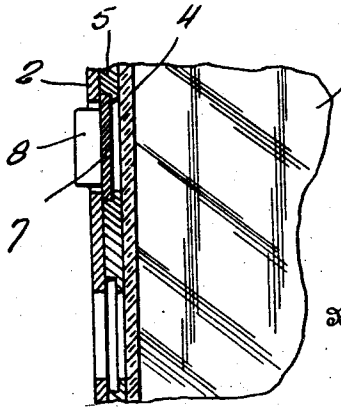


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMERY J. FORD, OF EVERETT, WASHINGTON.

ILLUMINATED REGISTER.

Application filed January 19, 1925. Serial No. 3,465.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMERY J. FORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Everett, in the county of Snohomish and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Illuminated Registers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved register of the type found in public buildings, hospitals, clinics, and other places where names of the occupants of the place are displayed for convenience, and it has more particular reference to a device of this kind which is illuminated and so constructed as to indicate whether a particular person is out or in.

Briefly, the invention comprises a casing, in which a source of illumination is disposed. The facing or front wall of the casing is formed with sight openings covered by a transparent member, upon which the names are inscribed to render them visible through the opening. The illumination aids in rendering the names clearly visible.

Cooperative with the sight openings are closing slides adapted to cover the names inscribed upon the transparent number, each slide also carrying the same name which it covers on said transparent member.

One feature of the invention is to provide an elongated casing, in which a single source of illumination is arranged, the light rays from said source playing upon an angularly disposed mirror disposed behind the sight openings to project the reflected rays through said sight openings, thereby enabling a single bulb of convenient size to serve to illuminate a multiplicity of names.

Another feature of the invention is to make the sight openings cover slides of imperforate material, so that when they are in closed position they will indicate that that particular person is out and vice versa.

Other features of construction and advantages derived from their use will become apparent from the following description and drawings.

In the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this application, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same:

Figure 1 is a front elevation, with a portion broken away and shown in section, of a name register constructed in accordance with the present invention, showing the preferred embodiment thereof.

Figure 2 is a horizontal section, showing the general arrangement of parts.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary detail section, showing the construction of certain of the details more clearly.

As before indicated, in carrying out the invention, I employ a casing 1, which may be of any appropriate configuration, and of a size to accommodate any number of registered names desired. In the present instance, this casing is open at its front. Functioning to close this open front is a three-ply closure member. The outer ply is in the form of a brass or other form of metal plate 2. I prefer to use brass, bronze or the like to add to the appearance of the device. This plate 2 is provided in vertical alignment at one side with vertically spaced slots 3, which may be conveniently designated as sight openings. Spaced from the metal plate 2 is a plate of glass 4. If desired, one side of this glass may be frosted, to subdue the light rays which are adapted to pass therethrough.

Interposed between the plates 2 and 4 is another plate 5 of appropriate material, which may be properly referred to as a mounting member. At the right hand side, this plate 5 is provided with grooves 6, adapted to slidably receive sliding plates 7, provided at one end with outturned finger pieces 8. As shown more clearly in Figure 3, the brass facing plate 2 cooperates with the grooves to form guides for these slides. At the left hand sides the grooves 6 open into slots 9 exposing the glass plate 4. The slots 9 serve to expose elongated areas of the glass plate 4. Referring to Figure 1, it will be seen that these elongated areas have painted or otherwise inscribed thereon the name of an individual, for instance "Doctor White" as indicated at 10. Opposite the name, and on the glass, and separated from the name by a hyphen is the word "In." As shown, the aforesaid slide 7, which is adapted to cooperate with the sight opening for covering this name, also has painted or inscribed thereon the same name. On the slide will be found the word "Out."

Supported in any appropriate manner within the casing, behind the imperforate portion of the closing member is the source of illumination in the form of an elongated

electric light incandescent bulb 11. Also in the casing, and arranged behind the sight opening and disposed at an approximate 45° angle is a mirror 12, which has its effective surface disposed outwardly. Obviously, with this arrangement, the light rays from the bulb will play upon the mirror surface, and will be reflected from the latter and projected through the glass 4 and slots 9 and 3 respectively, when the slides 7 are open.

Under ordinary conditions, the casing will be illuminated internally at all times, or during office hours, and if, for instance, Doctor White is in, the slide surface covering his name will be moved to a position as indicated in Figure 1 to uncover the name borne upon the transparent glass plate 4. Should he go out he will close the slide to bring the imperforate part into a position to conceal the word "In." At the same time, the word "Out" will be displayed upon the slide. The advantage of a structure of this kind is thought to be clearly evident, and inasmuch as the structure and arrangement of parts has been clearly shown and described, it is thought that a more lengthy description of the invention is probably unnecessary.

Although I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that minor changes coming within the field of invention claimed may be resorted to, if desired.

I claim:

1. A register of the class described comprising an open front casing, a closure for said open front, said closure embodying an outer plate provided with sight openings, an inner transparent plate having portions extending over said openings, names being inscribed upon said portions, translucent slides mounted to cover said sight openings and names, a single source of illumination in said casing, and means for casting light rays from said source through said sight openings.

2. A register of the class described comprising a casing, said casing being open at its front, a closure for said open front, said closure embodying an outer plate provided with sight openings, an inner transparent plate, and an intermediate grooved plate, the portions of said transparent plate opposite said sight openings being provided with names adapted to be displayed through said sight openings, translucent slides mounted in the grooves in the intermediate plate and cooperable with said sight openings, a mirror arranged in said casing in back of said sight openings, said mirror being adapted to reflect light rays through all of said openings and being disposed at an angle with respect to said openings, and a single source of illumination in said casing adapted to project light rays onto said reflector.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EMERY J. FORD.