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L. N. MOSS

INTERCHANGEABLE SIGN ELEMENT

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Fig. 1.

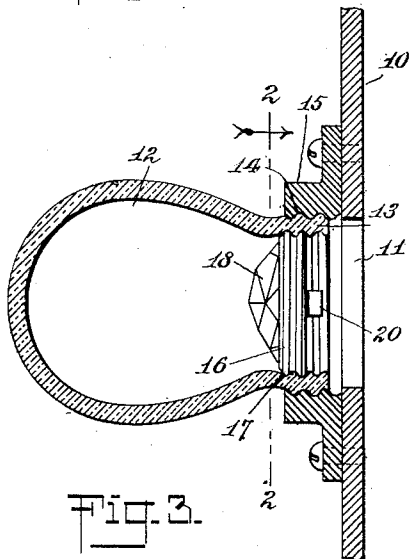


Fig. 2.

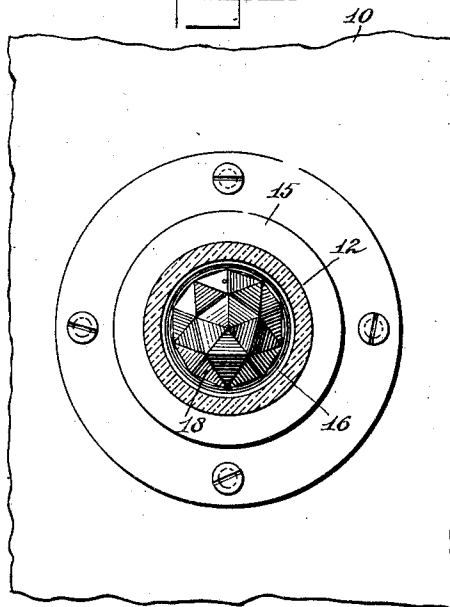


Fig. 3.

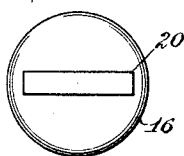


Fig. 5.

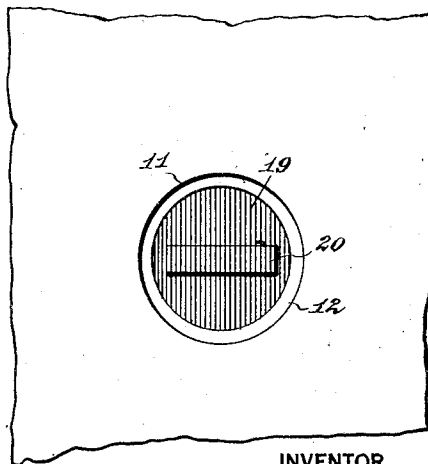
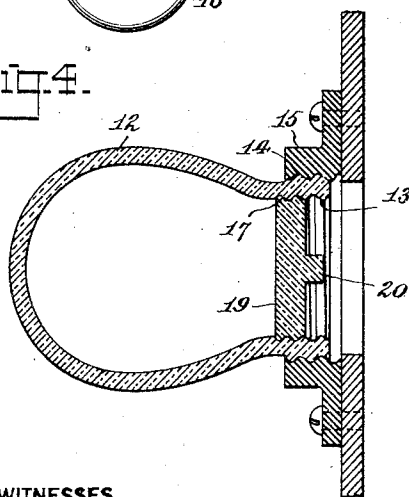


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INTERCHANGEABLE SIGN ELEMENT.

Application filed November 2, 1926. Serial No. 145,880.

This invention relates to illuminated signs and has particular reference to an interchangeable or convertible sign element which is particularly applicable to signs of the type set forth in my co-pending application, Serial No. 140,901, filed October 11, 1926. One of the outstanding objects of the present invention is to provide a sign element which simulates an electric bulb and which may be illuminated either by reflection from a flood light or by penetration of light rays there-through from a source of light.

More specifically the invention comprehends a convertible or interchangeable sign element including a bulb and interengageable means within the open inner end thereof and on a plurality of respectively transparent and reflective plugs whereby interchanging of the type of plugs desired is facilitated to render the bulbs convertible for flood lighting or penetration illumination.

The invention furthermore comprehends the use of bulbs and plugs of different colors which may be combined in various ways to obtain a multiplicity of effects.

The invention aims as a further object to provide interchangeable convertible sign elements which are comparatively simple, inexpensive and efficient.

With the above and other recited objects in view, reference is had to the following specification and accompanying drawings in which there is exhibited one example or embodiment of the invention which is in no way intended as a limitation upon the scope of the appended claims as it is to be clearly understood that variations and modifications which properly fall within the scope of said claims may be resorted to when found expedient.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 is a sectional view illustrating one of the sign elements in applied position and having a reflector plug associated therewith to permit of the use of the element in connection with a flood light.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken approximately on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a rear view of the plug element removed;

Figure 4 is a sectional view similar to Figure 1 with a transparent plug associated with the bulb to permit of illumination by penetration;

Figure 5 is a rear view of the device as illustrated in Figure 4.

Referring to the drawings by characters of reference, 10 designates the sign base which may be the wall of a cabinet, a panel or the like, and which base is provided with an aperture or apertures 11. The sign element constituting the present invention includes a bulb 12 of glass or other transparent material, substantially simulating an electric lamp or bulb, and provided at its open restricted end with interior and exterior threads 13 and 14. The exterior threads 14 are adapted to engage within the threaded socket member 15 which is attached to the base 10 and is disposed in alignment with the aperture 11 whereby the bulb 12 is detachably connected with the base. The sign element further includes a plug 16 which is exteriorly threaded at 17 to detachably fit within the interior threaded end 13 of the bulb and said plug may either be opaque and have a reflecting lens 18 on its outer face, or may be of a transparent nature as designated by the reference character 19 in Figure 4. The reflector or transparent plugs may be of different colors as may be the bulbs 12 whereby different or varied color effects may be obtained. Where the sign is to be illuminated by a flood light the reflector plugs are associated with the bulbs 12, and conversely where an interior penetrating source of light is to be used for illuminating the sign transparent plugs 19 are associated with the bulbs. In order to facilitate the association and disassociation of the plugs with the bulbs the plugs are preferably formed on the rear face with a rib 20 to constitute a finger grip for screwing and unscrewing the plugs.

From the foregoing it will thus be seen that an interchangeable and convertible sign element has been devised which may be employed as a means for simulating electric bulbs by the use of a single source of light to economize in the consumption of current used.

What is claimed is:

1. In a sign including an apertured base, convertible and interchangeable elements adapted to be respectively illuminated by penetration and flood lighting, said elements including a transparent bulb, interengageable means on the bulb and sign base for connecting the bulb to the base in alignment with the aperture and interengageable means within the open end of the bulb and on a plurality

of respectively transparent and reflective plugs to interchangeably connect the plugs within the bulbs whereby to render the bulbs convertible for flood lighting or penetration  
5 illumination.

2. A convertible and interchangeable sign element, including a bulb having an exteriorly threaded open end adapted for engagement with a threaded support and internal  
10 threads at said open end and on a plurality of respectively transparent and reflective plugs to interchangeably connect the plugs within the bulbs whereby to render the bulbs convertible for flood-lighting or penetration il-  
15 lumination.

3. A convertible and interchangeable sign element, including a bulb having an exteriorly threaded open end adapted for engagement with a threaded support and internal threads at said open end and on a plurality of  
20 respectively transparent and reflective plugs to interchangeably connect the plugs within the bulbs whereby to render the bulbs convertible for flood-lighting or penetration illumination, the said plugs and bulbs being  
25 made in various colors whereby varying combinations may be employed for different effects.

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