March 17, 1953 W. SOPOCKO 2,631,394

ILLUMINATED SIGN

Filed Feb. 20, 1951

Fig. 1.

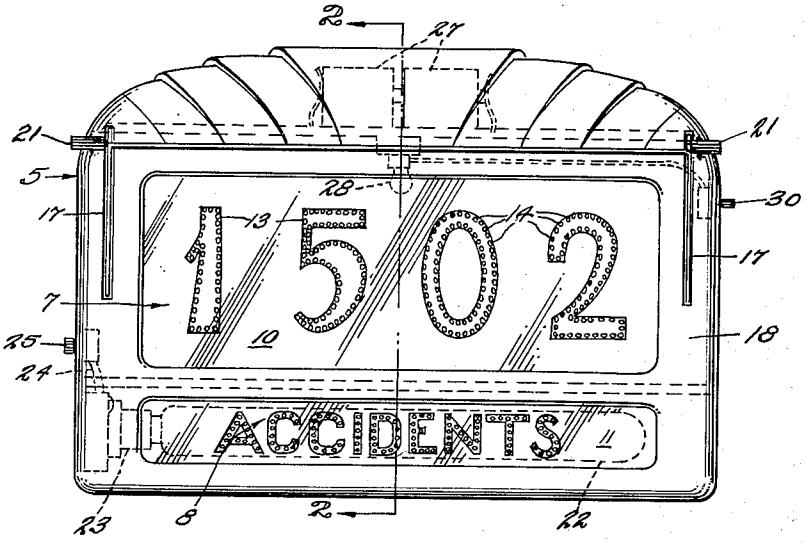


Fig. 2.

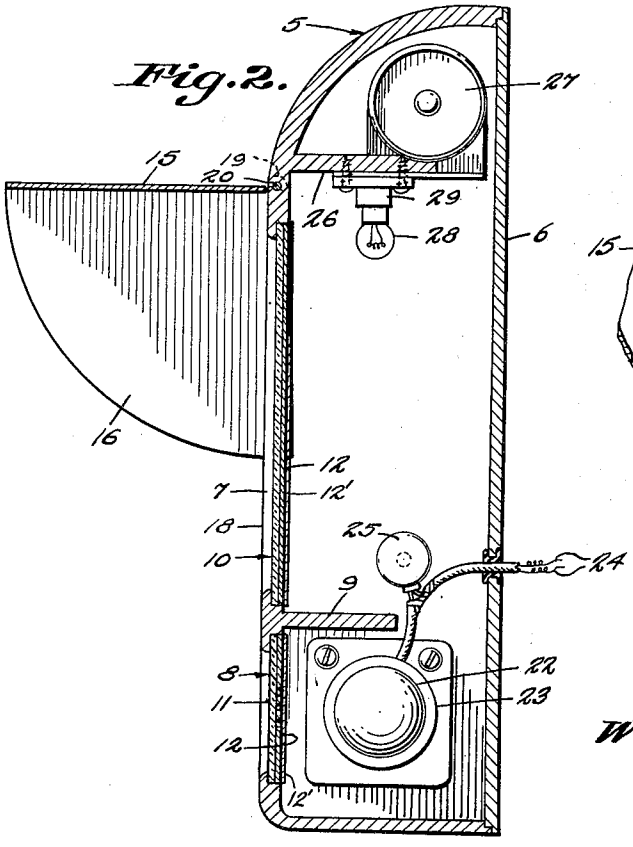


Fig. 3.

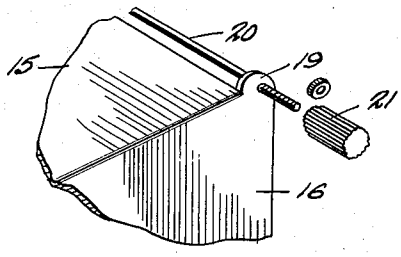
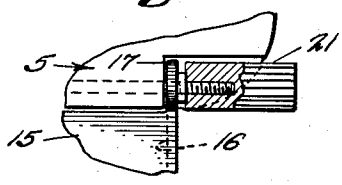


Fig. 4.



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ILLUMINATED SIGN

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1 Claim. (Cl. 40—132)

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This invention relates to illuminated signs, the primary object of the invention being to provide an illuminated sign which may be either in the form of a house number, advertising sign or the like, which is so constructed and arranged that while indicia on the sign will be clearly visible by persons moving in proximity to the sign, the indicia of the sign will be obscured from view from points above the sign, thereby shielding the light rays from the sign and preventing the light rays from constituting an illuminated target for enemy bombing.

Another object of the invention is to provide an illuminated sign provided with a movable shield extended over the display side of the sign, so that the remainder of light rays projected from the sign may be covered against visibility from above and regulated to meet various requirements.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claim, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of an illuminated sign, constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmental elevational view illustrating one corner of the adjustable shield, showing the operating means for the shield.

Fig. 4 is a fragmental elevational view illustrating the finger piece as mounted on the rod for adjusting the shade.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the illuminated sign comprises a box-like body portion or casing 5 the back thereof being closed by means of the removable closure 6.

The front of the body portion is formed with an upper display opening 7 and a lower display opening 8 provided by means of the transverse partition 9 which is substantially wide and disposed within the body portion, the partition terminating short of the removable closure 6, so that light rays may pass from the space below the partition 9, to the space above the partition 9 illuminating the compartments formed above and below the partition 9.

The reference character 10 indicates a pane of

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glass material which covers the upper display opening 7, while a pane of glass 11 covers the lower display opening 8, the panes of glass 10 and 11 being backed up by the opaque sign plates 12 that are secured within a recess formed in the edges of the display openings, as clearly shown by Fig. 2 of the drawing.

The indicia or sign characters may be painted or otherwise placed on the outer surfaces of the sign plates 12, as shown at 13, and the indicia or sign characters are outlined by lines of perforations indicated at 14 so that light rays may pass through the perforations, rendering the indicia or sign characters clearly visible at night, as well as in the daylight.

The translucent plate 12' is positioned against the rear surface of the plate 12, which may be colored to vary the degree of translucency of the plate 12' to meet various requirements of use.

The reference character 15 indicates a shield which includes end sections 16 that depend from the shield 15, the end sections operating through slots 17 formed in the front wall 18 of the sign, the shield being operated from a point exteriorly of the body portion.

Ears 19 extend from the shield and are provided with openings through which the operating rod 20 extends, the rod being provided with threaded ends on which the knurled finger pieces 21 are secured, the knurled finger pieces operating to set up a binding action between the shield and edges of the slots 17, to hold the shield in various angular positions of adjustment, with respect to the front of the display sign.

Mounted within the compartment formed below the transverse partition 9, is the electric lamp 22 mounted in the lamp socket 23 secured to the wall of the casing. The reference character 24 indicates wires that lead from the source of electricity supply, and provide a circuit with the lamp 22. The switch 25 is in the circuit with the lamp 22, and affords means whereby the electric circuit may be completed or broken, to control the lighting of the lamp 22.

Extending inwardly at the upper portion of the casing, is the horizontal partition 26 which provides a compartment with the upper curved top of the casing, in which the dry battery 27 is mounted, the dry battery being in circuit with the lamp 28 which is mounted in the socket 29 secured to the partition 26, there being provided a switch 30 in circuit with the lamp 28, whereby the lamp 28 may be illuminated, should the line supplying current to the lamp 22 become inoperative.

From the foregoing it will be seen that due to

the construction shown and described, I have provided an illuminated sign having lighting means disposed therein illuminating indicia formed on the body portion, and a hinged shield mounted on the body portion and movable with respect to the indicia, obscuring the indicia from view from a point above the body portion.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

An illuminated sign comprising a body portion including a light compartment having a display opening in the front wall thereof, and having vertical slots extending through the front wall at the ends of the display opening, a shield movable over the display opening, said shield embodying a main shield section and end sections formed at the ends of the main shield section adapted to move into said slots, apertured ears extending upwardly from the ends of the main shield section, said body having openings aligning with the openings of the ears, a rod secured within the openings of the ears and passing through the aligning openings of the body, thereby supporting the shield on the body portion, and a knurled finger piece secured to one end of the rod effecting movement of the rod and shield adjusting said shield towards and away from the body over said display opening.

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