

July 14, 1925.

1,546,249

F. PFOUS

PRICE SIGN

Filed Sept. 6, 1924

Fig. 1.

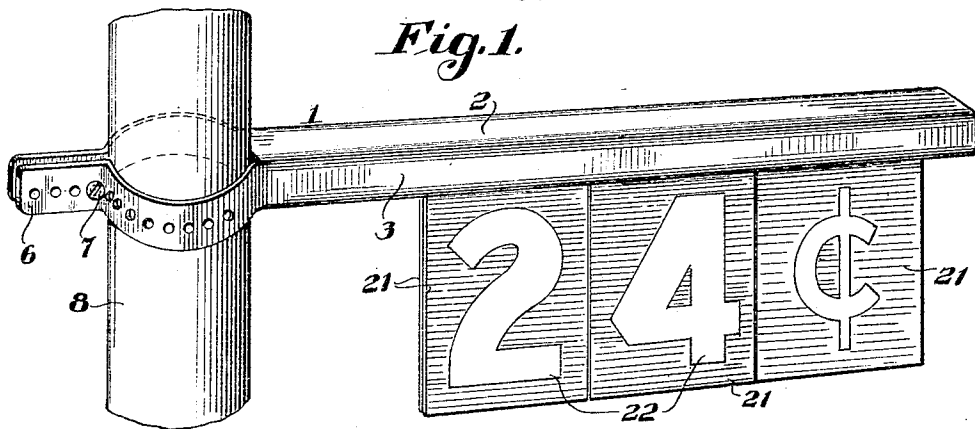


Fig. 2.

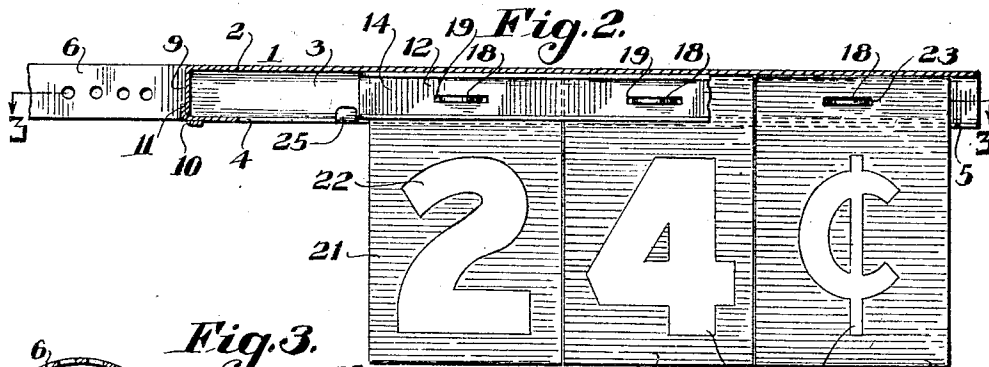


Fig. 3.

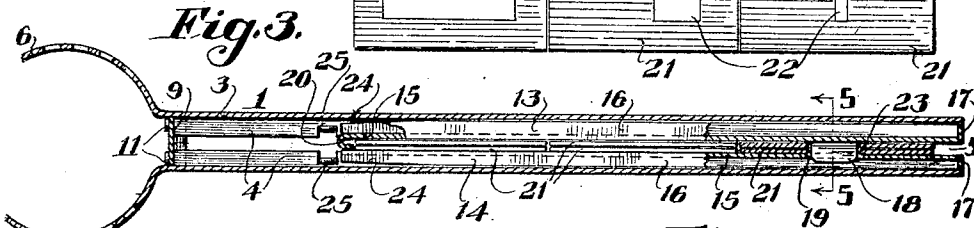


Fig. 4.

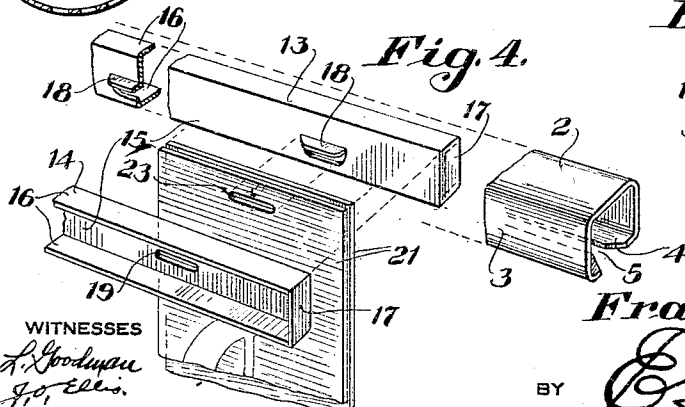
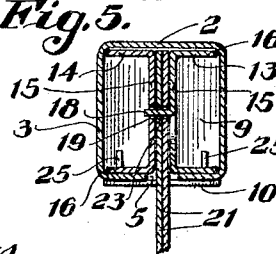


Fig. 5.



INVENTOR

Frank Pfous

BY

E. J. Siger

ATTORNEY

WITNESSES

L. Goodman
J. O. Ellis

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK PFOUS, OF COSHOCTON, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE H. D. BEACH CO., OF COSHOCTON, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

PRICE SIGN.

Application filed September 6, 1924. Serial No. 736,296.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK PFOUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coshocton, in the county of Coshocton and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Price Signs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to price signs, and has for an object the provision of a sign so constructed that plates bearing numerals, or characters indicating the price of a commodity may be changed without removing the sign from its support.

A further object of this invention is to provide a device of this character wherein the plates are held firmly in place and in perfect alinement without the use of screws or bolts which, if used, would have a tendency to rust, making it difficult to change the plates.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of the novel features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangements of parts hereinafter to be fully described and claimed.

A full and complete understanding of the invention may be obtained from a consideration of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, it being understood that while the drawing shows a practical form of the invention, the latter is not to be confined to strict conformity with the showing thereof, but may be changed or modified, so long as such changes and modifications mark no material departure from the salient features of the invention, as specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing, in which similar numerals of reference indicate similar parts throughout the several figures:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the manner in which the invention is supported on a post;

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the invention having a portion broken away to disclose details of construction;

Figure 3 is a horizontal sectional view thereof, taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2, parts being shown in elevation;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary disassembled perspective view showing the association of the parts; and

Figure 5 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 3 and looking in the direction indicated by the arrows.

The bracket 1 is preferably stamped out or formed of one piece of metal, which is bent or machine-pressed to provide a top 2, and depending sides 3 of a hollow guide box which is rectangular in cross section. The lower portions 4 of the sides 3 are bent inwardly toward each other and extend parallel to the top 2, with their adjacent edges uniformly spaced at the bottom to provide the longitudinal opening 5. The sides 3 are extended at one end to form straps 6 and apertured to receive the bolt 7 for securing the bracket 1 to a post or similar support 8.

The end 9, which engages the support 8, is formed of an integral extension of the top 2, which is bent downwardly and then upwardly against the underside of portions 4, and is slotted as at 10 to receive the tongues 11, which are bent up against end 9 and serve to hold the parts in fixed position. The guide box is therefore closed at its inner end and open at its outer end, the opening 5 being correspondingly open and closed at the same ends.

The plate holder 12 is made up of a pair of elongated box-like members 13 and 14, each of which includes a back 15, bent-up sides 16, and a bent-up end 17. The members 13 and 14 are adapted to be placed back to back, with integral struck up tongues 18 on member 13 engaging in the slots 19 in the back of member 14, and the reversely bent hook 20 which is integral with the back of member 13, by its engagement with the back of member 14, tends to hold the members together.

The rectangular sign plates 21 which are preferably made of suitable sheet metal have appropriate numerals or characters prominently displayed thereon, and are provided centrally adjacent their top edges with slots 23, for receiving the tongues 18 to support the plates in depending position in the holder 12.

It will be observed that portions of the sides 16 taper toward the open ends of the

members 13 and 14, as at 24, to insure easy insertion of the plate holder 12 within the bracket 1. Integral lugs 25 bent up from the portions 4 of bracket 1 serve as stops to limit the movement of the plate holder 12 into bracket 1.

In the practice of the invention, the bracket 1 is secured to a suitable support 8 by means of bolt 7, which draws the extension 6 and end 9 tightly against the support. The member 13 is laid upon a supporting surface with its back 15 and tongues 18 up, and the appropriate plates 21 are properly positioned thereon, two on each tongue, in order that the sign will be legible from either side. The end of the back 15 of the member 14 is then inserted under the hook 20 and the tongues 18 inserted within slots 19.

By taking hold of the two members 13 and 14 adjacent their closed ends 17, the entire holder 12, with the attached plates, may be picked up and inserted within the bracket 1 with the plates disposed within the opening 5. The holder is then pushed in until its end engages the stops 25 and the sign is completely assembled.

A characteristic feature of this invention resides in the construction of the sign plate holder, which is removable and insertible as a unit through the open front or outer end of the guide box. The sign plates are arranged in proper order in the holder when the latter is removed from the guide box, and the holders with the sign plates properly connected are then inserted through the open end of the guide box, the plates sliding in the opening 5 in the bottom of the guide box. In this way the holder is housed within the guide box, and the sign plates are removable from the holder only after the latter is withdrawn from the guide box.

It will be observed that the construction shown is particularly adapted for use by gasoline stations for indicating the price of gasoline, which varies almost daily, and a comparatively small number of plates are required for indicating the prices in cents and fractions thereof over a wide range.

What is claimed is:—

1. A device of the class described, comprising a supporting means having a guide box substantially rectangular in cross section, and open at one end, and provided with a longitudinal opening at one side, a sign plate holder shaped to fit within said guide box, a plurality of sign plates carried by said holder at their margins, and projecting therefrom through said opening, spaced interlocking means on said holder and engaging the margins of said sign plates individually, said sign plate holder with the sign plates being removable and insertible as a unit through the open end of the guide box, said sign plates being re-

movable from said holder only after the holder has been withdrawn from said guide box.

2. In a device of the class described, a guide box closed on all sides except one and having a longitudinal opening in said side, said guide box and said opening being open at the outer end and closed at the inner end, and a sign holder insertible through the open end of said guide box and carrying sign plates slidable in said opening, said sign holder having means for retaining the sign plates in position while in the guide box.

3. In a device of the class described, a bracket having a guide box provided with a longitudinal opening in the bottom and open at one end, and a holder insertible through the open end of said guide box and comprising a pair of members, and sign plates mounted between the members and engaged thereby, said sign plates being movable when in position within the guide box through the longitudinal opening thereof.

4. The combination with a guide box open at one end and provided with a longitudinal opening at one side, a sign plate holder consisting of two members, means provided on said members for engaging the sign plates, and means for connecting the two members in clamping engagement with the sign plates, whereby the sign plates may be mounted and retained in proper position before insertion in the guide box.

5. In a device of the class described, a bracket including a guide box provided with a longitudinal opening at one side and open at one end, a sign plate holder comprising a pair of members insertible through the open end of said guide box, means for connecting the two members together, sign plates, and interlocking means between the said members and said sign plates.

6. In a device of the class described, a bracket including a guide box provided with a longitudinal opening in the bottom and open at one end, a sign plate holder comprising a pair of box-like members insertible through the open end of said guide box, means for connecting the members together, sign plates, and means for interlocking the sign plates to said members.

7. In a device of the class described, a sign plate holder comprising a pair of box-like members, means for connecting the members together back to back, sign plates provided with spaced slots, and interlocking means on said members to engage said slots in the sign plates.

8. In a device of the class described, a bracket including a guide box provided with a longitudinal opening and open at one end, a holder for sign plates comprising a pair of box-like members, means for connecting the members together, said members when

connected being insertible through the open end of said guide box, sign plates, and interlocking means between the members of said holder and said sign plates so as to connect them together, the sign plates being movable in the longitudinal opening at the guide box.

9. In a device of the class described, a one-piece bracket comprising a top and depending sides, the lower portion of said sides being inturned with the edges in spaced parallel relation to provide a bottom with a longitudinal opening, apertured extensions on one end of said sides for securing the bracket to a support, and an extension of the top bent down between said apertured extensions and engaging the inturned portions of the sides, said extension of the top being slotted, and tongues to engage said slots to close the inner end of the bracket and at the same time maintain the parts in fixed position.

10. In a device of the class described, a supporting bracket comprising a top, sides, an end and an open bottom, integral apertured extensions of the sides for securing the bracket to a support, said end being an integral extension of the top bent down between said side extensions and engageable

with the bottom, and closing the inner end of the bracket.

11. In a device of the class described, a holder comprising a pair of box-like members, cooperating means on the backs of said members for supporting a plurality of changeable sign plates, and means for holding said members together at one end.

12. In a device of the class described, a holder comprising a pair of box-like members, spaced slotted sign plates interposed between said members, supporting tongues projecting from the back of one of the members, spaced slots in the back of the other member to receive said tongues, and means for holding said members together.

13. In a device of the class described, a holder comprising a pair of box-like members, each member including a back, an end and a pair of sides tapering in depth toward the open end, cooperating means on the backs of said members for supporting a plurality of sign plates in alinement, and means for holding said members together at their open ends.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature.

FRANK PFOUS.