April 28, 1942. L. F. POWELL 2,281,049

LUMINOUS INDICIA DISPLAY DEVICE

Filed March 26, 1941

Fig. 1.

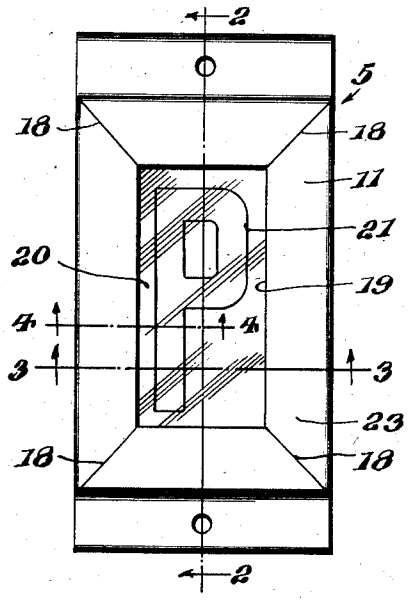


Fig. 2.

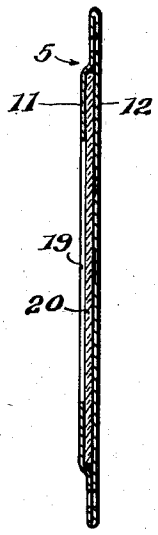
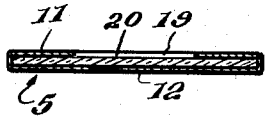


Fig. 3.



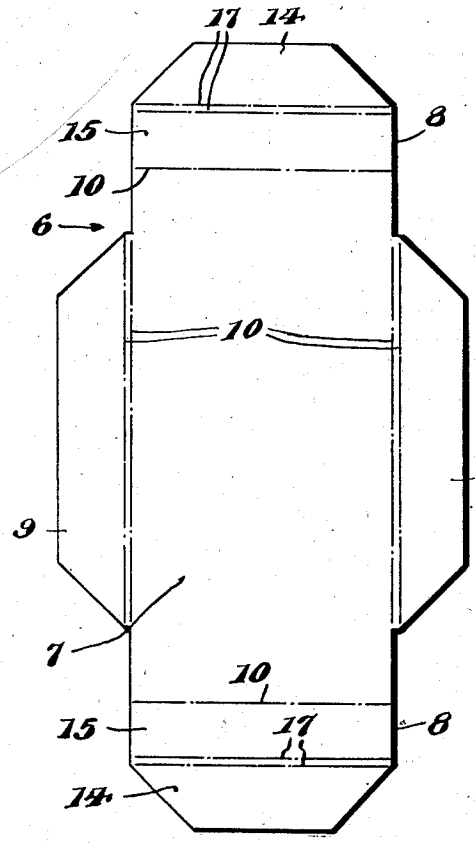


Fig. 4.

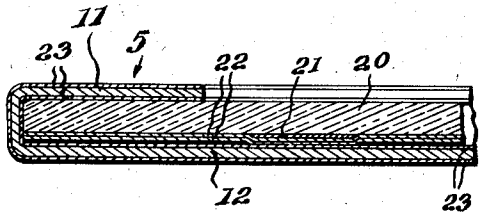


Fig. 5.

Inventor

L. F. Powell,

By McMorrow & Berman

Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LUMINOUS INDICIA DISPLAY DEVICE

Lawrence F. Powell, Denton, Tex.

Application March 26, 1941, Serial No. 385,343

1 Claim. (Cl. 40—134)

My invention relates to luminous indicia display devices and has as one of the principal objects thereof the provision of a device of the above described character so constructed and arranged whereby said device may be displayed in a manner to accentuate the indicia contained thereon.

Another object of my invention is to provide a device of the foregoing described character so constructed and arranged whereby the indicia is protected against destructive elements or matter, for instance, rain, snow and dirt.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of the foregoing described character so constructed and arranged whereby the same may be readily attached on walls, doors and similar structures.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a device of the foregoing described character which is constructed with a relatively flat surface to facilitate attachment of the same to a supporting surface.

A special object of my invention is to provide a device of the foregoing described character having a housing capable of being fashioned from a one-piece blank of material.

An important object of my invention is to provide a device of the character described which is simple in construction, durable in use, efficient in operation and economical in manufacture.

With the above and other objects in view, as hereinafter appear, the invention consists in the combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter set forth and illustrated in the accompanying drawing from which the several features of the invention and the advantages attained thereby will be readily understood by those skilled in the art.

Referring to the drawing wherein like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my invention.

Figures 2, 3 and 4 are sectional views taken on the lines 2—2, 3—3 and 4—4 respectively of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a plan view of the blank.

As illustrated in the drawing, I provide a housing 5 formed from a one-piece blank 6 comprising an elongated body section 7 fashioned with pairs of end and side sections 8 and 9 respectively. The end and side sections 8 and 9, at their jointures with the body section 7, are folded transversely and longitudinally respectively on the fold lines 10 to dispose said end and side sections in overlying relation with the body section. The end and side sections, when thus folded, constitute the front wall 11 while the bottom section 7 constitutes the rear wall 12 of the housing 5.

Interjacent their length, the end sections 8 are each provided with outer and inner portions 14 and 15 respectively and with the inner portion 15 disposed in appressed relation with the front face of the rear wall 13. The outer portions 14 are outwardly offset, with respect to the inner portions 15 and on fold lines 17, to dispose said outer portions 14 and the side sections 9 in spatiality with respect to the rear wall. The end and side sections 8 and 9 are formed with angled end faces 18 disposed in abutting relation and said sections coact to define a window opening 19 in the front of the housing.

Disposed within the housing 5 between the front and rear walls, is a transparent member or pane of glass 20, having its rear face, adjacent the front face of the rear wall 13, provided with luminous indicia or a character 21 formed thereon by means of a substantially white composition or paint consisting of radio-sensitive material, such as zinc or calcium sulfid and a small quantity of radio-active material, such as a salt of radium, the latter rendering the radio-sensitive material permanently luminous in the dark. The rear face of the member 5 is provided with a plurality of coats of shellac 22 or the like to protect and cover the back of the indicia as clearly illustrated in Figure 4. Both sides of the front and rear walls are coated with black material, for instance, black enamel 23 whereby the rear and front walls provide black background and framing respectively to accentuate the luminosity of the indicia 21 arranged on the member 5 within the confines of the window opening when the device is displayed in the dark.

Without further elaboration the foregoing will so fully explain the invention that others may, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt the same for use under various conditions of service. Moreover, it is not indispensable that all the features of the invention be used conjointly since they may be employed advantageously in various combinations and sub-combinations.

It is obvious that the invention is not confined to the herein described use therefor as it may be utilized for any purpose to which it is adaptable. It is therefore to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific construction as illustrated and described as the same is only illustrative of the principles of operation, which are capable of extended application in var-

ious forms, and that the invention comprehends all construction within the scope of the claim.

What I claim is:

In a luminous display device, a metallic casing including a solid back wall and a front wall integral therewith and provided with a window opening for display, a solid transparent panel located between the front and rear walls and tightly held thereby to completely close the window opening, characters of luminous material applied to the face of the panel next to the back wall and viewable through the panel by way of the window opening, a protective coating applied to the face of the rear wall next to the panel for protecting the luminous material, and a black coating applied to the rear and front walls to provide black background and framing respectively for accentuating the luminosity of the characters through the panel.

LAWRENCE F. POWELL.