Aug. 29, 1950 F. E. NEWMAN 2,520,648

CHANGEABLE SIGN

Filed May 18, 1946 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

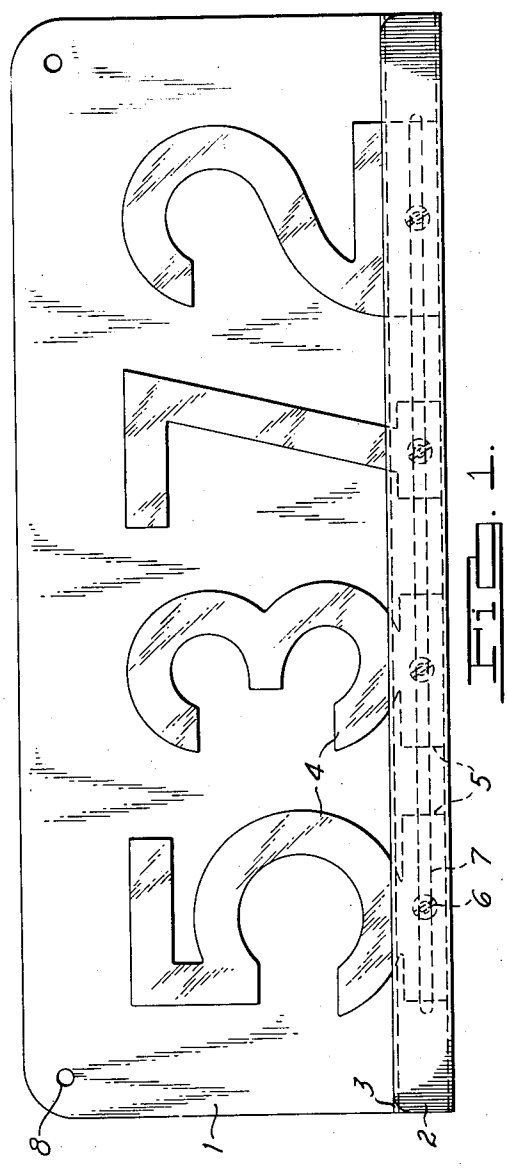


Fig. 1.

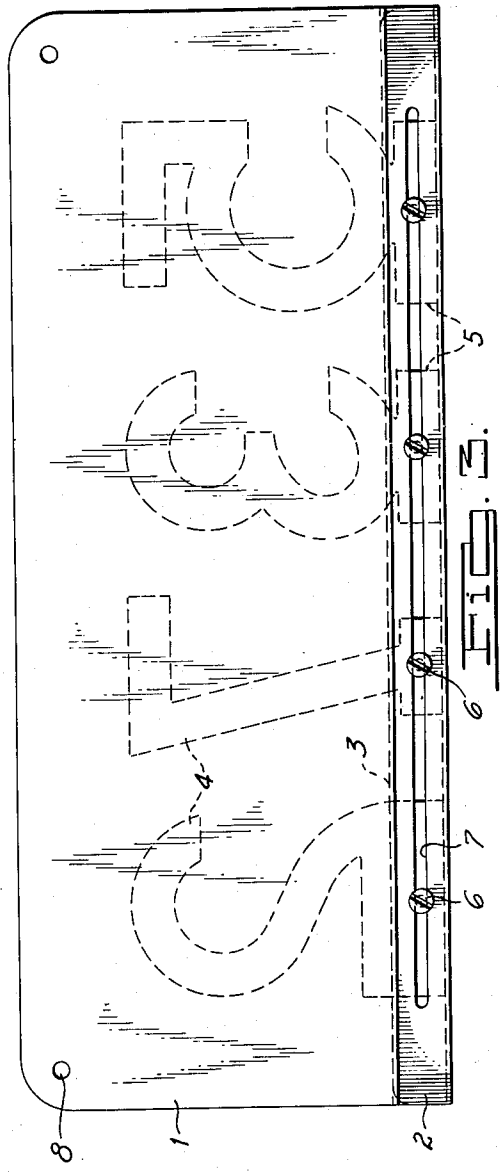


Fig. 2.

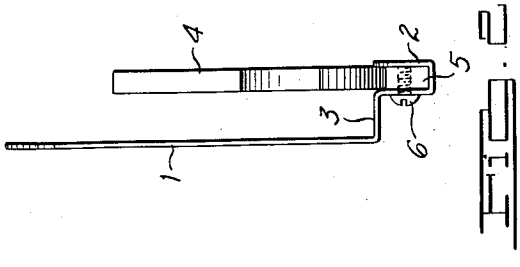


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR.
Ferris E. Newman
BY John C Alexander
ATTORNEY

Aug. 29, 1950 F. E. NEWMAN 2,520,648

CHANGEABLE SIGN

Filed May 18, 1946 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

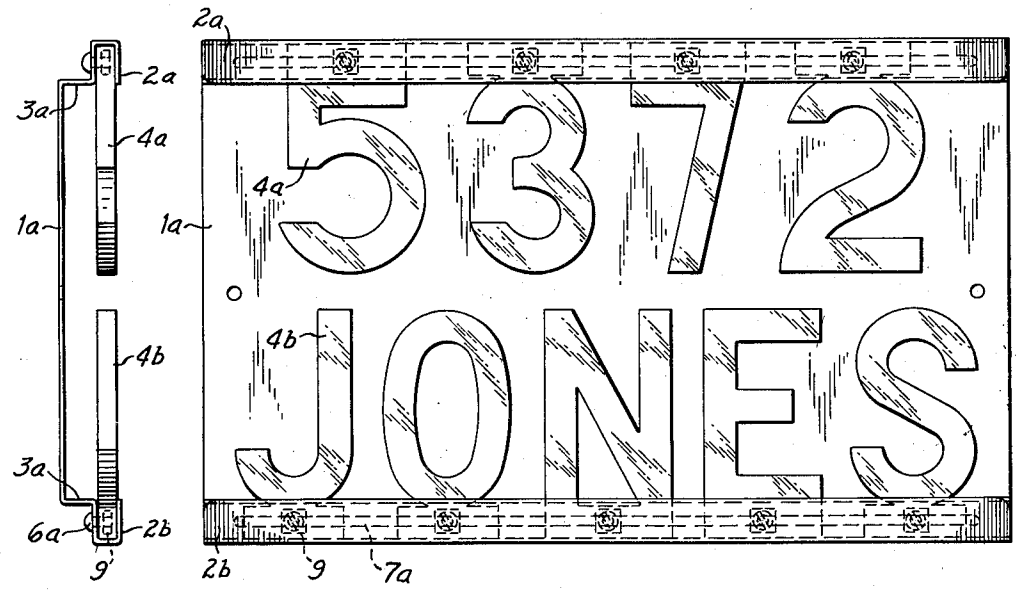


FIG. 5. FIG. 4.

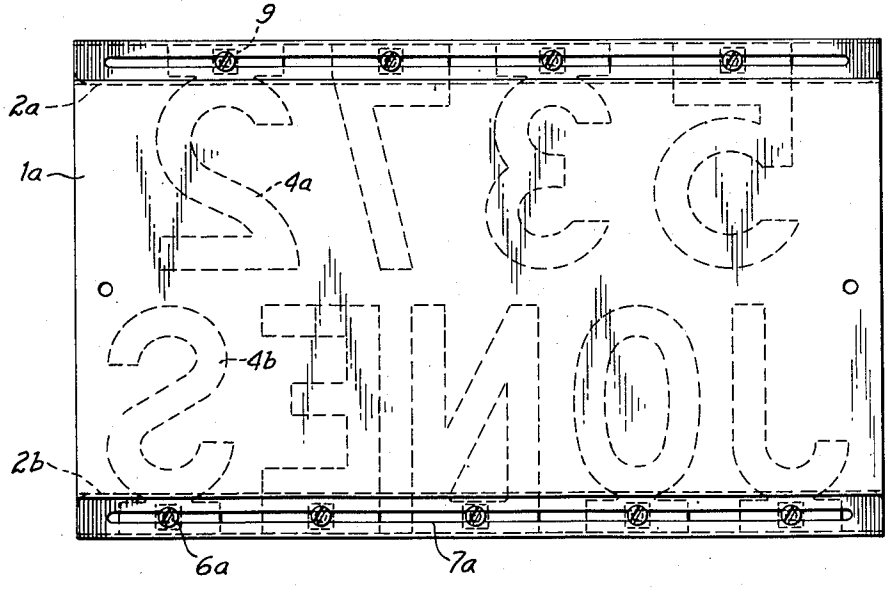


FIG. 6.

INVENTOR.
Ferris E. Newman
BY
ATTORNEY

Patented Aug. 29, 1950 2,520,648

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,520,648

CHANGEABLE SIGN

Ferris E. Newman, St. Clair Shores, Mich.

Application May 18, 1946, Serial No. 670,798

1 Claim. (Cl. 40—140)

1

This invention relates to signs and particularly signs employing characters removable and replaceable to establish selective combinations thereof.

An object of the invention is to mount a plurality of sign characters in forwardly spaced relation to a mounting plate to thus increase the visibility of such characters by reflected light, and to adapt a marginal portion of such plate to hold the characters assembled in the form of numbers or other indicia.

Another object is to marginally form said mounting plate with a forwardly offset channel receiving said characters, and to provide concealed means for securing the characters in such channel.

Another object is to slot the rear wall of said channel to receive fasteners for clamping the sign characters against such wall.

These and various other objects are attained by the construction hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a front view of my improved sign.

Fig. 2 is an end view of the same.

Fig. 3 is rear view of the sign.

Fig. 4 is a front view of my improved sign, in a modified form.

Fig. 5 is an end view of the modification.

Fig. 6 is a rear view of the same.

In these views, the reference character 1 designates a substantially rectangular plate formed of sheet metal or other suitable sheet material. The lower margin of such plate forms an upwardly opening channel 2, and the plate is offset as indicated at 3 just above said channel, so as to forwardly space the channel from the main area of the plate. The channel serves as a holder for a plurality of individually formed characters 4, these being illustrated as digital numbers. Each character is formed, preferably integrally with a base 5, slidably fitting in the channel and elongated lengthwise thereof. Each character 4 is clamped against the rear wall of the channel 2 by a screw 6 headed against said wall, and preferably said wall is longitudinally slotted as indicated at 7 to accommodate the several screws 6. Any suitable provision may be made for securing the plate 1 to a wall or other support as by apertures 8 formed in the upper corner portions of the plate to receive screws or the like (not shown).

Spacing of the sign characters forwardly from the plate 1 gives sharper definition to the characters, and adds materially to the appearance of the sign, particularly when the characters are formed of translucent material as a suitable plastic, through which light is reflected from the plate. Preferably the exposed face of the plate is white enameled and the characters are formed of quite dark translucent material. To facilitate reading of the sign in absence of illumination, either the characters or a coating applied to the plate may be of a phosphorescent nature.

2

The described sign is particularly suited to display house numbers, and is also well adapted for display of names or any other desired matter comprising numbers, letters, or a combination thereof.

In the modifications shown by Figs. 4, 5 and 6, a mounting plate 1*a* is formed with channels 2*a* and 2*b* respectively at its top and bottom edges, such channels opening toward each and being similarly offset, as indicated at 3*a*, forwardly from the plate. Sign characters 4*a* and 4*b* are secured respectively in the upper and lower channels, projecting toward each other in forwardly spaced relation to the plate 1*a*, the upper characters being shown as forming a house number and the lower characters forming a name. Embedded in each character is a nut 9, and each nut is engaged by a bolt 6*a* fitted in a slot 7*a* formed in the rear wall of the corresponding channel, the heads of said bolts bearing against the rear faces of the slotted walls. In this modified form, my improved sign conveniently provides for upper and lower combinations of numbers, names, or words.

What I claim is:

A sign comprising a mounting plate forming at its upper and lower margins U-shaped channels opening toward each other, such channels being similarly forwardly offset from the plate, a set of sign characters fitted in the lower channel and upwardly projecting from such channel in forwardly spaced relation to the plate, and second set of sign characters fitted in the upper channel and downwardly projecting from such channel in forwardly spaced relation to said plate, and fasteners releasably securing each set of sign characters to the corresponding channel and resisting sliding of the characters in the channels.

FERRIS E. NEWMAN.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,271,804	Thurnell	July 9, 1918
1,587,966	Le Fevre	June 8, 1926
1,668,805	Findlater	May 8, 1928
1,861,599	Gstalder	June 7, 1932
2,125,687	Peebles	Aug. 2, 1938
2,276,114	Sture	Mar. 10, 1942

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
118,656	Australia	May 26, 1943
716,445	France	May 2, 1931
189,277	Switzerland	May 18, 1937