Nov. 29, 1927. 1,650,659

A. G. SHARKEY

TRAVELING SIGN

Filed June 9, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig.1.

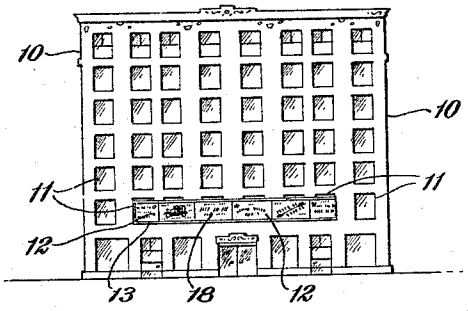


Fig.2.

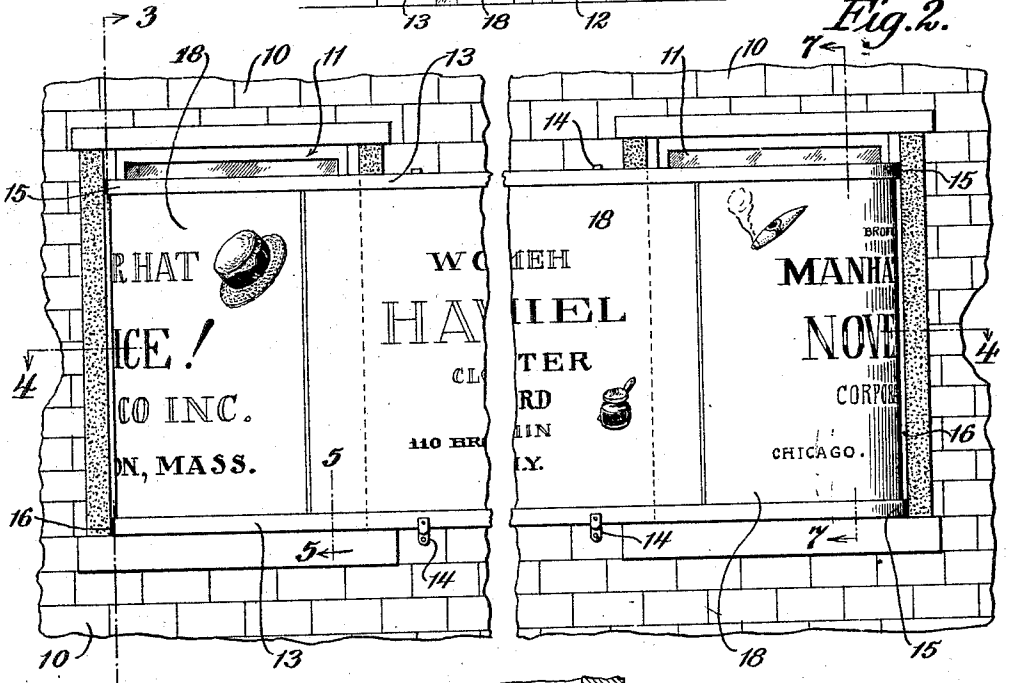


Fig.3.

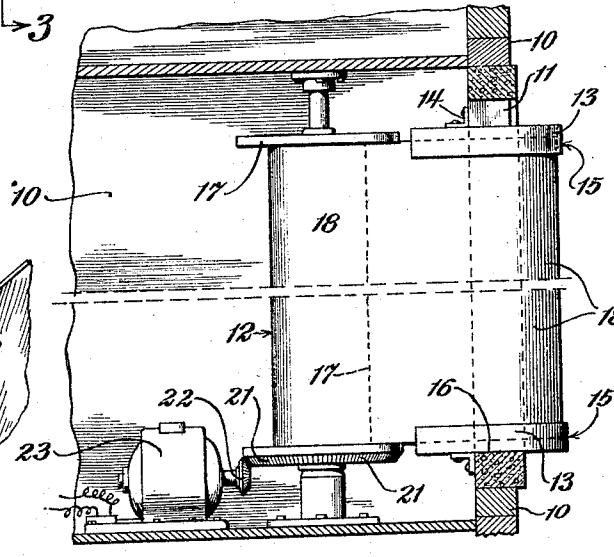
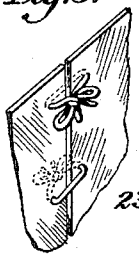


Fig.9.



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Filed June 9, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 4.

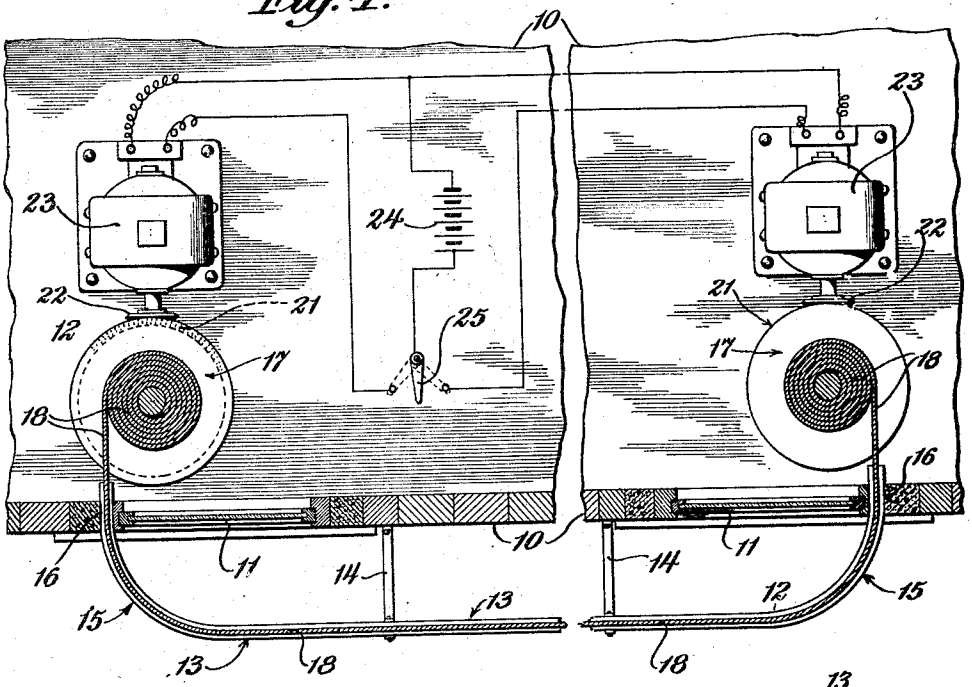


Fig. 5.

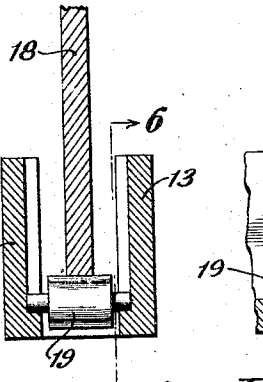


Fig. 6.

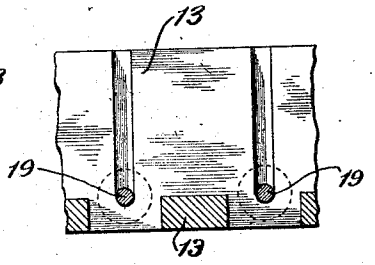


Fig. 7.

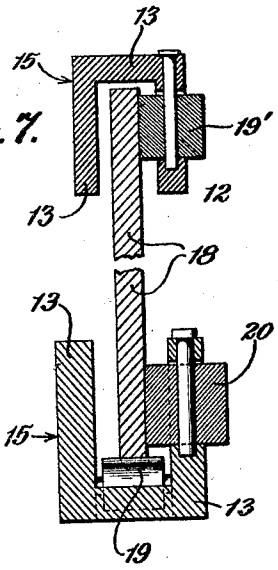


Fig. 8.



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Patented Nov. 29, 1927. 1,650,659

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT GEORGE SHARKEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TRAVELING SIGN.

Application filed June 9, 1924. Serial No. 719,000.

This invention relates to a traveling sign for buildings, and other structures, and has for its principal object the provision of utilizing outside wall space of buildings for advertising purposes and includes a traveling strip arranged so that a great many feet of advertising matter may be displayed over a small space of a building, thereby utilizing spaces on a building heretofore unused for such a purpose, thereby increasing the revenues for the owner of the building, and also saving the cost of heavy metal and wood signs now used for advertising purposes.

Another object of the invention is to provide a flexible sign of a comparatively great length which is continuously moving and which will attract attention when in operation.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel construction and combination and arrangement of parts, the essential features of which are hereinafter fully described, are particularly pointed out in the appended claims, and are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a building showing my invention applied thereto.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary front elevation of my invention shown on a large scale.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a detail sectional view on the line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is a vertical sectional view on the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a detail sectional view on the line 7—7 of Figure 2.

Figure 8 is a diagrammatic view showing a modified view of sign.

Figure 9 is a further modification showing a flexible sign made up of a plurality of sections.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the reference numeral 10 designates a building having a plurality of spaced windows 11 therein and on which my invention is shown applied. My invention is shown in its entirety as at 12 and comprises spaced U-shaped tracks 13 which are supported from the front of the building by brackets 14 and which tracks may extend the entire width or height of the building or any part thereof as may be found desirable. The ends of the tracks 13 are curved as at 15 and pass through an opening 16 in each of the windows. Rotatably mounted adjacent each of the windows through which the track passes is a spool or drum 17, upon which is wound the opposite ends of a flexible sign body 18, which body has painted or printed thereon suitable advertising indicia such as shown in Figure 2 of the drawing. The edges of the sign body travel in the tracks 13 and the bottom wall of the lower track is provided with rollers 19, and the track is further provided with rollers 20 whose axis is at right angle to the axis of the roller 19 at the curved portions 15. The upper track at the curved portion 15 is likewise provided with a set of rollers 19′. It will be noted that the rollers 19, 19′ and 20 serve to assist the sign when traveling over the track-way when the sign is winding upon one of the spools and is unwinding from the other of said spools.

In order to impart rotary movement to the spools, I provided each spool with a bevel gear 21 for mesh with a pinion 22 carried by the drive shaft of an electric motor 23. The motors 23 are connected up in a circuit with a source of energy such as a battery 24, and a switch 25 is provided for selectively operating the motors, whereby the operation of the spools may be reversed after the entire sign has been wound upon one of the spools. Although I have mentioned the driving means as consisting of a motor, it will be understood that any suitable power may be imparted to the spools to provide rotary movement therefor, and if desired a suitable means also may be employed for automatically controlling the operation of the motors when the sign has been completely wound upon one of the rollers.

In the preferred form of my invention, I have shown a sign consisting of a strip which has its ends connected to a pair of rollers, but it may be desirable to provide a continuous sign such as shown in Figure 8 of the drawing. In the form shown in Figure 8, I provide spaced tracks 30 and 30′ which are supported from the building by any suitable means and which tracks are identical in construction to those shown in the preferred form. Disposed adjacent the entrance of the tracks into the building,

there are provided rollers 31 over which passes the endless strip of material 32 which constitutes the sign. One lead of the sign or the endless strip 32 travels on the inner track 30′ and the other lead travels in the outer track 30. The rollers are each provided with sprockets 33, the teeth of which engage in the edges of the sign for feeding or moving the sign along the track-ways. In this form of the invention, it is only necessary to drive the sign in one direction, and for this purpose I employ a gear 34 attached to one of the rollers 31 and a motor 35 having a pinion 36 on the drive shaft thereof for mesh with the gear 34.

In Figure 9, I have shown a further modification of sign wherein the same is constructed of a plurality of separate panels or sections 37, the meeting ends of which are connected together in any suitable manner such as shown at 38, wherein a length of cord or wire is passed through the edges and knotted. This form of sign permits separate advertising indicia to be displayed on certain panels, which panels may be removed and new ones substituted therefor with different advertising indicia without necessitating the removal of the entire sign.

From the foregoing description, it will be manifest that I have shown and described a sign which may be installed upon a building in spaces not at present used for advertising purposes, and wherein the movement of the sign will tend to attract the attention of the public who may pass in view of the same.

While I have described what I deem to be the most desirable embodiment of my invention, it is obvious that many of the details may be varied without in any way departing from the spirit of my invention, and I therefore do not limit myself to the exact details of construction herein set forth nor to anything less than the whole of my invention limited only by the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. In combination with a building structure having spaced windows therein, of a flexible sign, tracks mounted exteriorly of the building and extending through said windows, and means for causing said sign to travel along said tracks from one window to the other.

2. In combination with a building structure having spaced windows, of a spool arranged adjacent each window interiorly thereof, and a track extending exteriorly of the building between the windows, a flexible strip having its opposite ends respectively connected to the spools, and means for alternately rotating each of the spools to cause the flexible strip to travel over said track.

3. In combination with a building structure having spaced windows, of a spool arranged adjacent each window interiorly thereof, and a track extending exteriorly of the building between the windows, roller bearings mounted in said track, a flexible strip having its opposite ends respectively connected to the spools, and means for alternately rotating each of the spools to cause the flexible strip to travel over said track.

4. In combination with a structure having openings at opposite points in a wall thereof, of a sign; tracks mounted exteriorly of the wall and extending through said openings and means for causing said sign to travel along the tracks from one opening to the other.

5. In combination with a structure, having an opening at opposite points in a wall thereof, of a spool arranged adjacent to each opening interiorly thereof and a track extending exteriorly of the wall between the openings; a flexible strip having its opposite ends respectively connected to the spools and means for alternately rotating each of the spools to cause the strip to travel over said tracks.

6. In combination with a structure having openings at opposite points in a wall thereof, of a spool adjacent to each opening interiorly thereof and a track extending exteriorly of the wall between the openings; roller bearings mounted in said track; a flexible strip having its opposite ends respectively connected to the spools and means for alternately rotating the spools to cause the flexible strip to travel over the track.

In testimony whereof, I have affixed my signature.

ALBERT GEORGE SHARKEY.