Dec. 27, 1927. 1,654,337

E. LOWINGER

ILLUMINATED SIGN

Original Filed Oct. 15, 1924

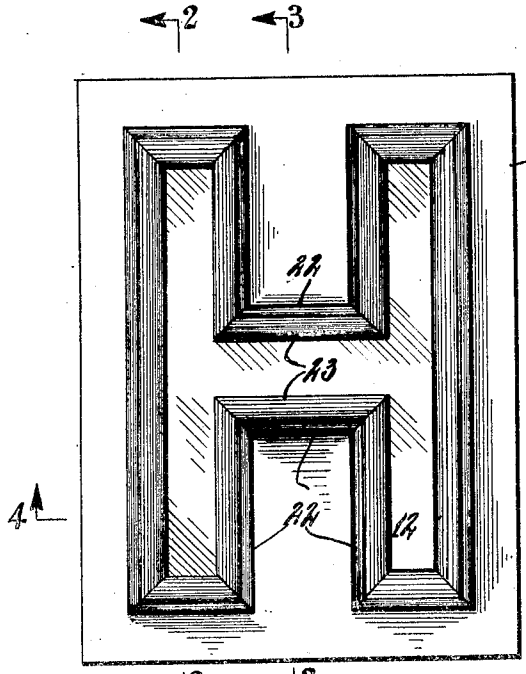


FIG. 1

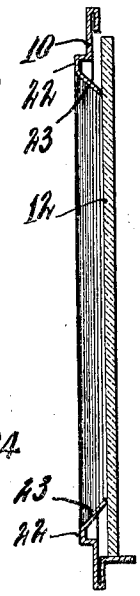


FIG. 2

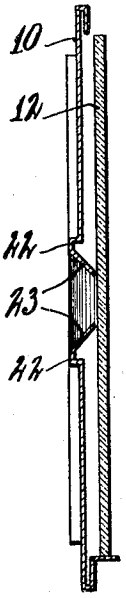


FIG. 3

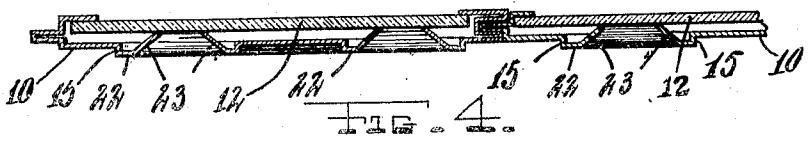


FIG. 4.

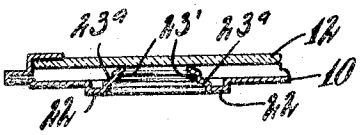


FIG. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE LOWINGER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ILLUMINATED SIGN.

Application filed October 15, 1924, Serial No. 743,652. Renewed November 17, 1927.

This invention relates to illuminated signs, being intended more particularly for embodiment in signs such as are used on theatres, moving picture houses, or the like, to announce the program or its main features.

It has been found, with the signs now in use, that those which are well adapted for daylight use do not have the maximum attention attracting properties when illuminated at night, while those designed more particularly for night illumination tend to have a flat and lifeless appearance when viewed in daylight.

The present invention has for an object to provide an improved sign of this type in which the above noted objections are obviated, the sign constructed according to my invention being well adapted for both day and night display.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

Fig. 1 of the drawings is a face view showing one of the units of my improved sign, which has the invention embodied therein.

Figs. 2 and 3 are transverse vertical sectional views taken on the lines 2—2 and 3—3 of Fig. 1 respectively.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a similar view to Fig. 4 but showing modified construction.

The sign unit here shown is in the form of one of the letters of the alphabet, the common practice in sign work of this kind being to mount these units removably in the face of a hollow frame element. The unit comprises a rectangular frame plate 10, in which is embossed, or formed the outline of the letter, or character desired, the inner base portion being cut out to permit of illumination of the letter from the rear thereof. Bevelled surfaces as shown at 23, and in a modified form at 23^a are provided to give prominence to the letter by reason of the light and shadow reflected thereon. A flat, marginal face 22 surrounds the letter at the outer portions thereof, thus providing an additional element for the reflection of the light and shadow which is essential for the sharply defined contrasts desired. At the outer edges of the said marginal face an inward disposed rim 15 serves to further define the outlines of the letter. A transparent pane 12 is secured in position behind the letter, or character in such a way that the marginal surface thereof is set back from the face portion of the frame plate leaving an intervening space; this is done so that the inner edges of the bevelled portions of the letter will set more securely against the said pane thus obviating the tendency to spring off which a marginal contact would set up. It will be seen that the pane acts as a closure for the open portions of the letter, while at the same time permitting the free passage of the light required for illumination.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States is as follows:—

1. A sign unit comprising a frame plate of suitable material, means for retaining therein a transparent pane with a space intervening between it and the inner surface of said plate, a character cut out of the frame plate, a bevel and a raised marginal portion at the edge of the cut-out character, the bevel being formed of the material at the edge of the cut-out character and extending from a plane on the inner side of the frame plate and spaced therefrom to a plane in advance of and on the outer side thereof, an offset formed in the frame plate spaced laterally from the bevel and parallel therewith and extending to the plane of the bevel on the outer side of the frame plate, the area between said offset and the bevel forming the raised marginal portion.

2. A sign unit comprising a frame plate of suitable material, a character impressed or formed therein, the said character having cut out base portions and step beveled members extending outwardly therefrom and with a flat marginal face surrounding the said beveled members at their outer extremities, and with rim members inturned from the said marginal face and terminating at the surface of the frame plate proper, a glass plate placed against the cut out base portions of the beveled members, and means for holding said plate in position.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

EUGENE LOWINGER.