

No. 646,113.

Patented Mar. 27, 1900.

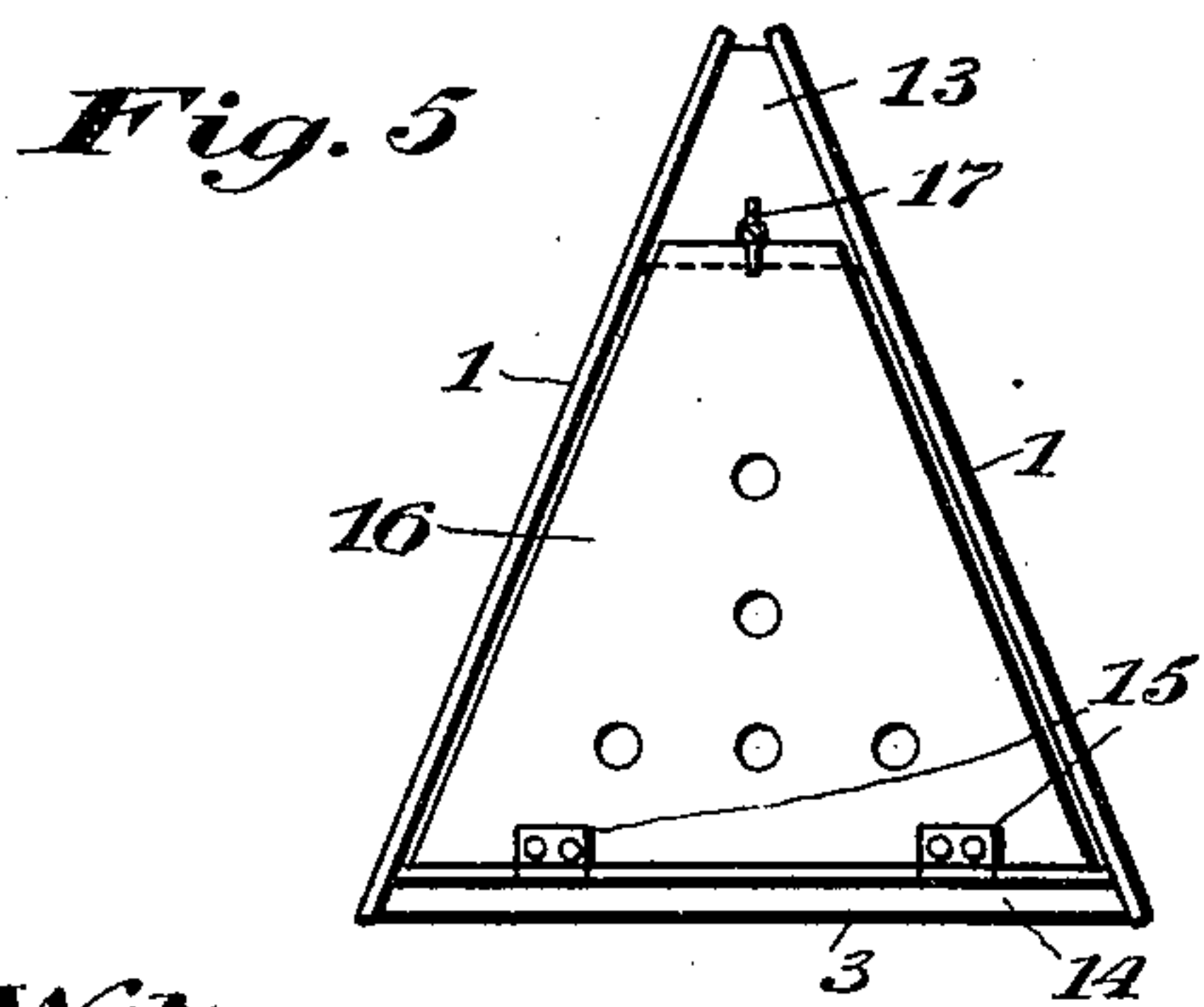
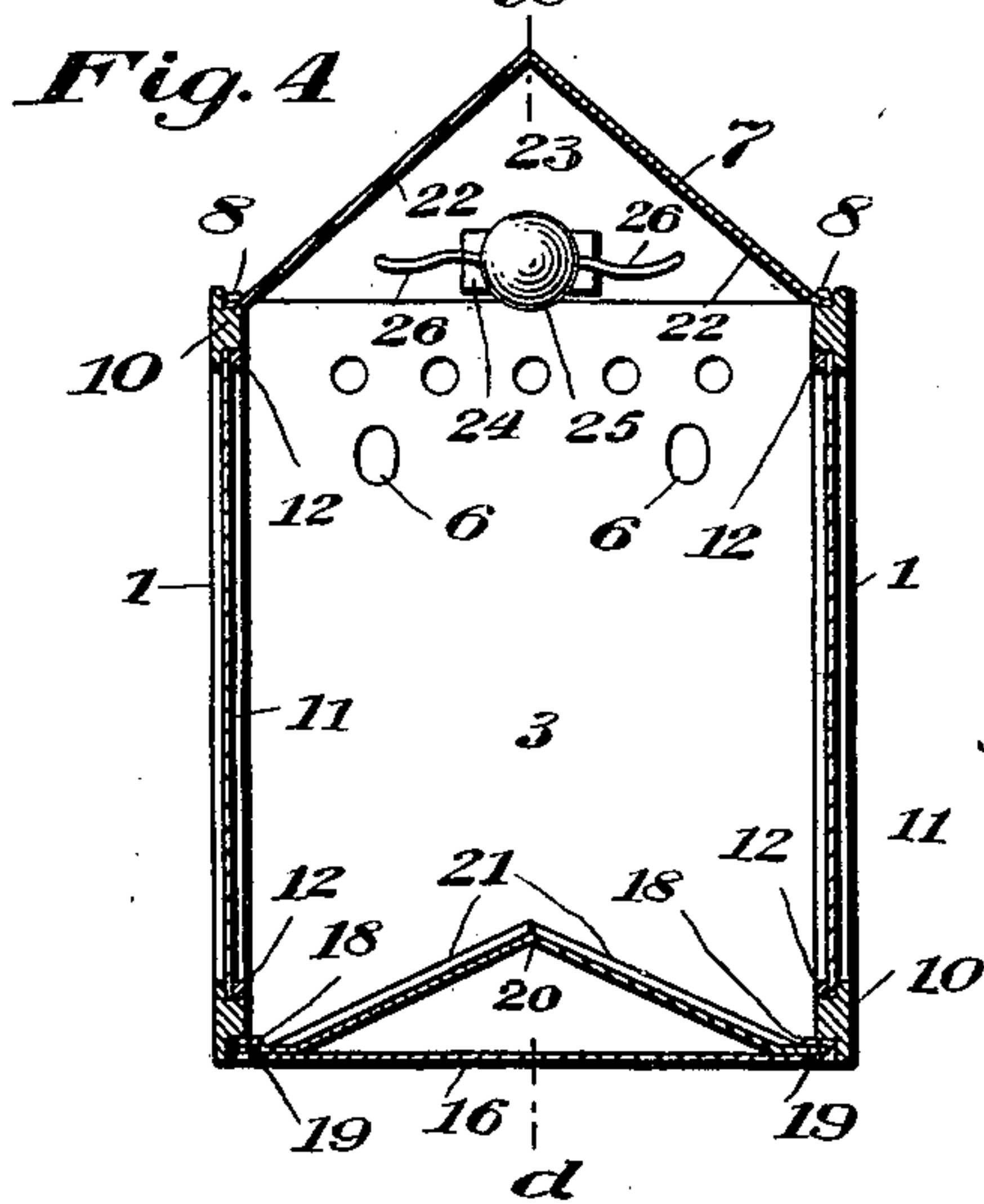
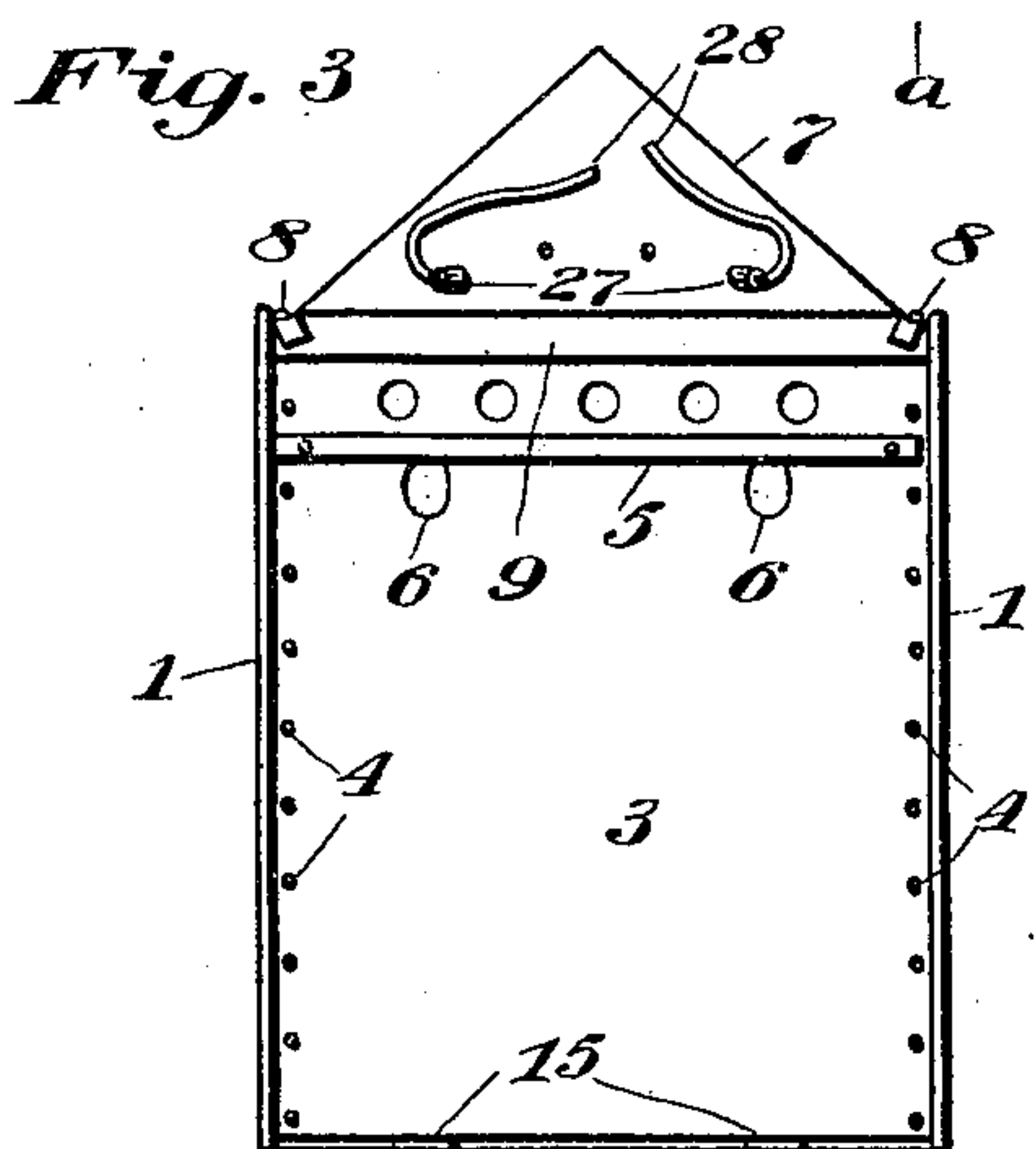
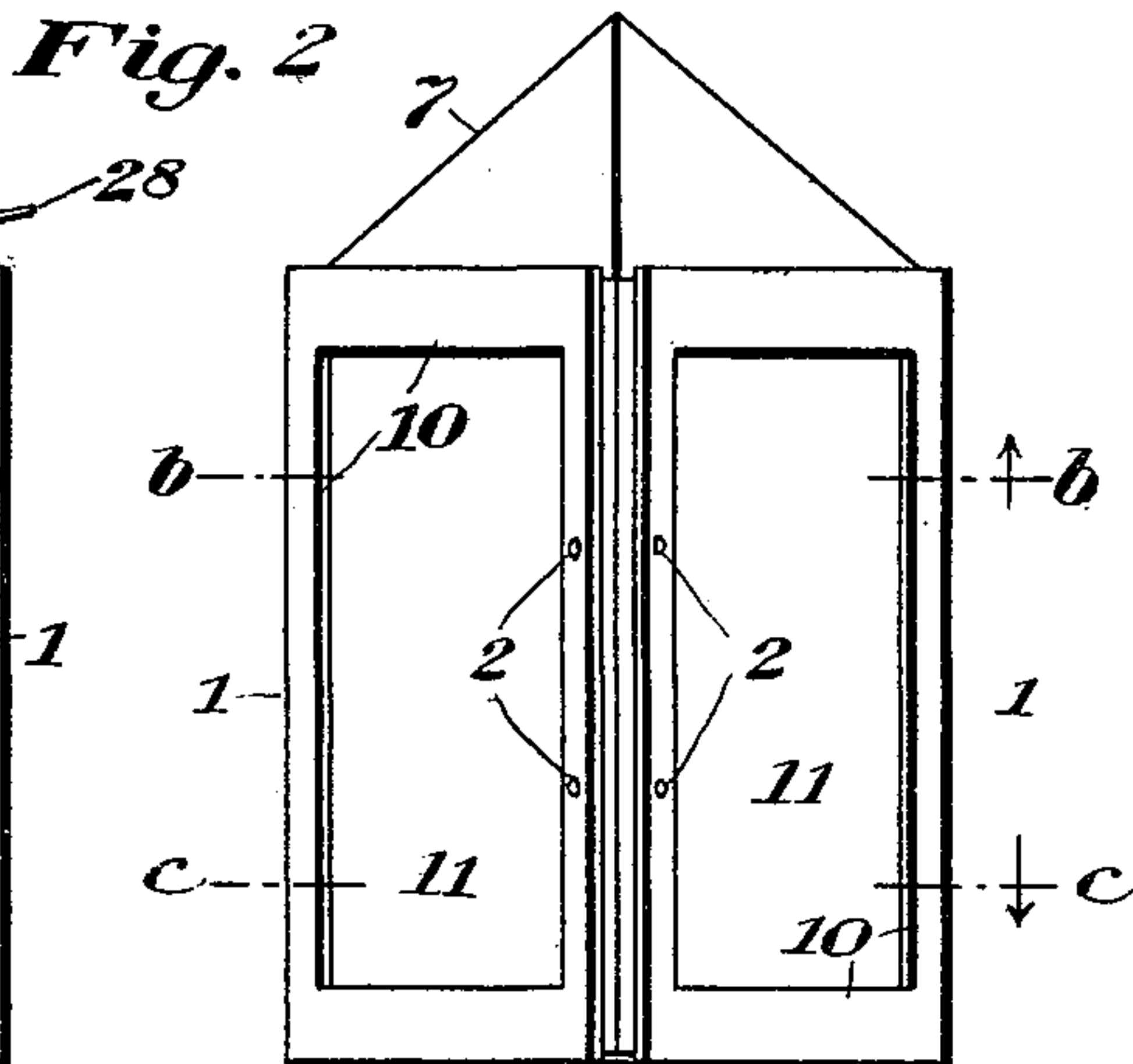
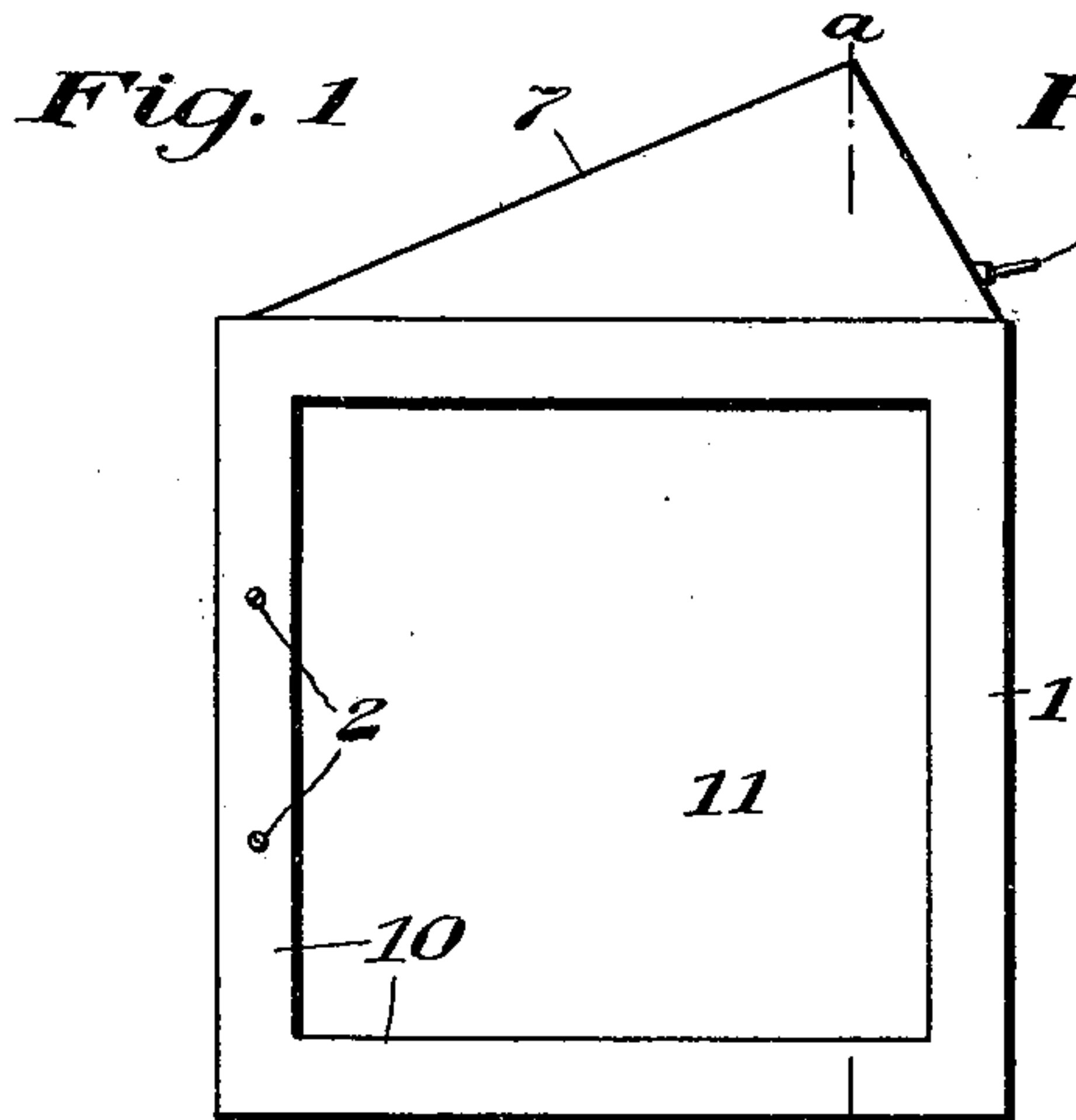
F. TUCHFARBER.

SIGN.

(Application filed Dec. 7, 1899.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses

J. D. Thorne

J. W. Sammers

Inventor

Frank Tuchfarber,  
by John Elias Jones,  
his attorney.

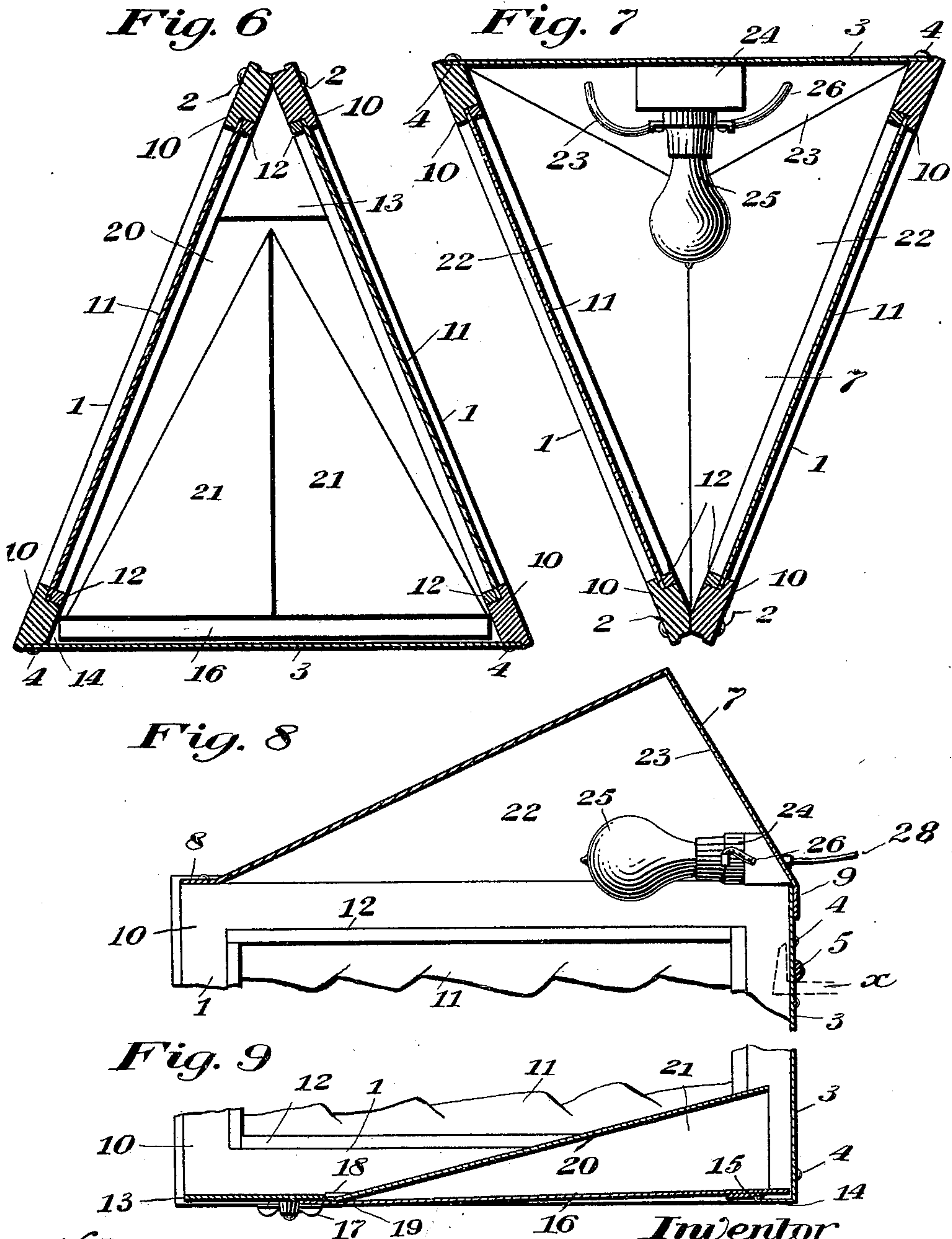
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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



Witnesses  
J. D. Thorne  
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Inventor  
Frank Tuchfarber,  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK TUCHFARBER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

## SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 646,113, dated March 27, 1900.

Application filed December 7, 1899. Serial No. 739,486. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK TUCHFARBER, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Signs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in signs, and especially in luminous signs, wherein a lighting device may be employed for illuminating the transparent or translucent surfaces of the sign, so as to make the sign visible after dark; and the object of the invention is to provide a sign of this general character which shall be of a simple and inexpensive construction and shall be capable of being read by persons approaching either from opposite sides or from the front of the sign.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of the several parts of the improved sign, whereby certain important advantages are attained and the sign is made simpler, cheaper, and otherwise better adapted for use, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

The novel features of the invention will be carefully defined in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which serve to illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved sign, and Fig. 2 is a front view thereof. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the improved sign. Fig. 4 is a section taken vertically through the sign in the plane indicated by the line *a a* in Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is an underside view of the improved sign. Fig. 6 is an enlarged transverse section showing the lower part of the sign, the plane of the section being indicated by line *c c* in Fig. 2. Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 6, but showing the upper part of the sign, the plane of the section being indicated by the line *b b* in Fig. 2. Fig. 8 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken vertically through the upper part of the sign in the plane indicated by the line *d d* in Fig. 4. Fig. 9 is an enlarged fragmentary section taken through the lower part of the sign and also in the plane indicated by the line *d d* in Fig. 4.

As shown in the drawings, the body of the sign is formed of two side portions or frames

1 1, arranged at angles to each other and converging toward their front edges, where they are in contact and are secured together by screws 2 or the like, and being spaced apart at their rear edges, so as to give to the sign-body a general triangular form in cross-section, as clearly shown in Figs. 5, 6, and 7. The inner surfaces of the side portions or frames 1 at the front edges thereof are beveled off, as shown clearly in Figs. 6 and 7, to enable the frames to be fitted flush on each other. The sign-body is closed at its back by a metal plate 3, secured at its edges by screws 4 or the like to the rear edges of the side frames 1, and having at its upper part a transverse cleat or strip 5, secured at its ends by screws. Openings 6 6 are formed in the back wall 3, just beneath the cleat 5, to receive hooks, as shown at *x* in dotted lines in Fig. 8, whereby the sign may be secured to the wall of a building or other support, the cleat 5 serving to strengthen the back wall, so as to permit a secure mounting of the sign upon the hooks.

The top of the sign-body is covered by a raised hood 7, made in a pyramidal form and having around its two side edges lateral flanges 8, which are secured by screws or otherwise to the top edges of the side frames 1, the rear edge of said hood having a depending flange 9 to take outside of the back wall 3, as shown in Figs. 3 and 9. Each side portion 1 of the body is formed of a rectangular open frame 10, preferably of wood, having recessed inner edges to receive the transparent or translucent sign-surfaces 11, which may be formed of any suitable material—as, for example, glass or perforated metal—said sign-surfaces 11 being held in place in the side frames by means of strips 12, as shown in Figs. 4, 6, and 9.

The bottom of the sign-body is closed at its front part by means of a metal plate 13, and at the rear part of the bottom the lower edge of the back wall 3 is bent or carried forward to form a flange 14, between which and the plate 13 is an opening closed by a door or cover 16, hinged, as shown at 15, to the flange 14 and adapted to fit at its front part under the plate 13, which is provided with a turn-button 17 for holding the door or cover closed, as seen in Figs. 5 and 9.

The lateral edges of the door or cover 16



are made to fit between the side frames 1 of the body when closed, as seen in Fig. 4, and each of said lateral edges has a channel 18 produced in it by bending over inward the material of which the door or cover is formed. The channels 18 are adapted to receive the edges 19 of a plate 20 when slid lengthwise on the door or cover from rear to front thereof, so as to hold said plate in place, and the plate 20 is bent up at its central part, so as to produce two plane reflecting-surfaces 21 21, each of which is inclined from its rear edge down toward the front and toward the adjacent side frame 1 of the sign-body. Other plane reflecting-surfaces are also produced in the hood 7, the lateral triangular walls of which are formed on the inside of the sign with plane reflecting-surfaces 22 22, each inclined from the apex of the hood, which is located near the rear part thereof down toward the front and also toward the adjacent side frame 1 of the sign-body. The rear triangular wall of the hood 7 is also formed on the inside with a plane reflecting-surface 23, inclined toward the rear wall 3 from the apex of the hood. The inside surface of the rear wall 3 and also the inner surfaces of the side walls 1 of the sign-body are coated with suitable material, as shellac, metal leaf, or the like, to form reflecting-surfaces wherever it is possible without interfering with the transparent or translucent sign-surfaces.

A lamp-socket piece 24 is secured to the back wall 23 of the hood 7 in position to receive a lamp 25, which is housed in said hood, so as to be out of direct line with the illuminated surfaces of the sign.

26 indicates the circuit-wires, which extend from the socket 24 through the back wall of the hood, as shown at 27, and have their outer ends 28 adapted for connection in a lamp-circuit. By this construction it will be seen that the greatest possible intensity and evenness of illumination of the sign-surfaces is attained, and a considerable saving is effected, since it is made possible to illuminate the entire sign by a single lamp, owing to the arrangement of the reflecting-surfaces of the body and hood, which serve to concentrate the light upon the sign-surfaces of the side frames 1 by throwing the light forward and at angles thereupon upwardly and downwardly. Furthermore, the construction of the improved sign is extremely strong and simple and permits of being readily repaired, cleaned, and put up for use, and also the arrangement of the sign-surfaces at angles to each other permits the sign to be read not only from either side thereof, but also by persons approaching the front of the sign. It will also be obvious from the above description that the improved sign is capable of some change without material departure from the principles and spirit of the invention, and for this reason I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise form and ar-

range ment of the several parts herein set forth.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a sign, the combination of a body formed of side frames and a back wall, a lighting device, a cover to close the bottom of the body and having a fastening device, the edges of said cover being formed with channels, and a reflector held on said cover and having its edges engaged in said channels, substantially as set forth.

2. In a sign, the combination of a body formed of side frames at angles to each other and converging toward the front of the sign, a back wall, a lighting device, a cover to close the bottom of the body, and a reflecting-plate carried by said cover and having its side portions formed into plane reflecting-surfaces inclined down forwardly and laterally, substantially as set forth.

3. In a sign, the combination of a body having opposite sides each formed with a sign-surface, a hood over the body, a lighting device in the hood, and two inclined reflecting-surfaces in the hood on opposite sides of the lighting device, the lighting device being not lower than the lower edges of said reflecting-surfaces and each of said reflecting-surfaces being arranged to throw the light from the lighting device upon the sign-surface at the opposite side of the body, substantially as set forth.

4. In a sign, the combination of a body having sides at an angle to each other and converging toward the front part of the sign and each formed with a sign-surface, a hood over the body, a lighting device in the hood, a plane reflecting-surface on the back wall of the body and arranged to throw light from the lighting device upon said sign-surfaces, an inclined reflecting-surface in the lower part of the body adjacent to each sign-surface and arranged to throw light from the lighting device through the same, and two inclined reflecting-surfaces in the hood on opposite sides of the lighting device, each of the last-named reflecting-surfaces being arranged to throw the light from the lighting device upon the sign-surface at the opposite side of the body, substantially as set forth.

5. In a sign, the combination of a body having opposite sides each formed with a sign, a hood over the body, a lighting device in the hood, and two inclined, plane reflecting-surfaces in the hood on opposite sides of the lighting device, each of said reflecting-surfaces having its lower edge adjacent to and parallel with the upper edge of one of the signs of the body and being arranged to throw the light from the lighting device upon the sign at the opposite side of the body, substantially as set forth.

6. In a sign, the combination of a body having sides at an angle to each other and converging toward the front part of the sign and



each formed with a sign-surface, a hood over the body, a lighting device in the hood and two plane reflecting-surfaces in the hood each with its lower edge adjacent to and parallel  
5 with the upper edge of one of the sign-surfaces of the body, said reflecting-surfaces being at an angle to each other and having their adjacent upper edges inclined upwardly from the front to the back of the hood, substantially as set forth.  
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7. In a sign, the combination of a body having sides at an angle to each other and converging toward the front part of the body and each formed with a sign-surface, a hood over the body, a lighting device in the hood, a  
15 plane reflecting-surface on the back wall of the body and arranged to throw the light

from the lighting device upon said sign-surfaces, and two inclined reflecting-surfaces in the hood on opposite sides of the lighting device, each of said reflecting-surfaces in the hood being arranged over one of the sign-surfaces of the body and being adapted to throw a part of the light from the lighting device upon the sign-surface at the opposite side of  
20 the body and a part of said light upon the reflecting-surface on the back wall of the body, substantially as set forth.  
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Signed by me at Cincinnati, Ohio, this 2d day of December, 1899.

FRANK TUCHFARBER.

Witnesses:

JOHN ELIAS JONES,  
J. D. THORNE.