

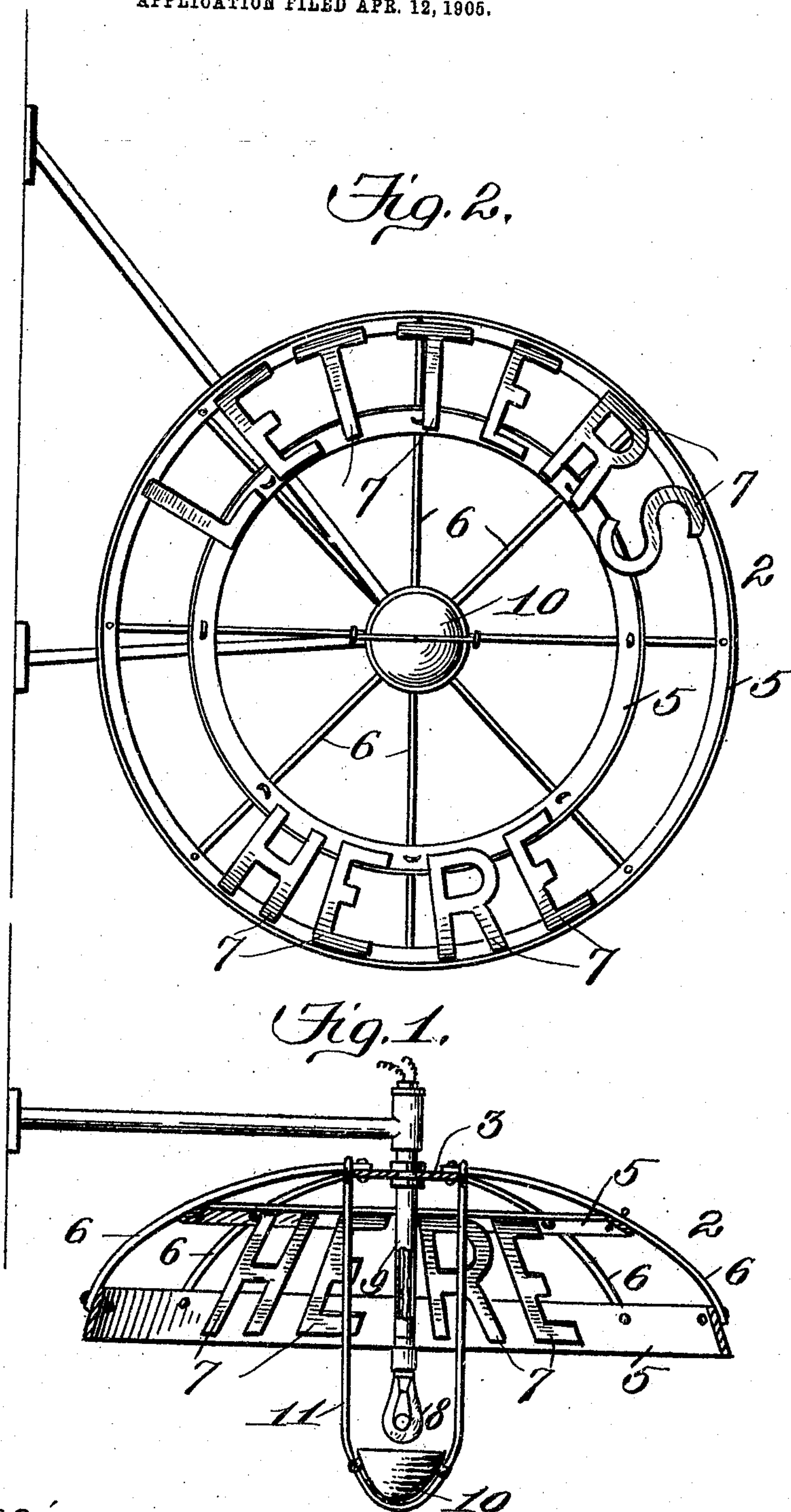
No. 805,945.

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E. L. CREHEN & J. N. EUWER.

SIGN.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE L. CREHEN AND JOHN N. EUWER, OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.

SIGN.

No. 805,945.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EUGENE L. CREHEN and JOHN N. EUWER, citizens of the United States, residing at Youngstown, in the county of Mahoning and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Signs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to signs, the object being to provide an article of this character which can be inexpensively and readily made and the characters of which can be distinctly perceived at long distances in the darkness or at night with a minimum amount of light, which light may be either that developed by an incandescent lamp or other illuminant. The sign may be used for advertising purposes of various kinds and can be located on the top of or in front of buildings or in other places.

In the drawings we illustrate a form of embodiment including our invention, which we will set forth in detail in the following description, while the novelty of said invention will be embraced in the claim succeeding said description.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view, and Fig. 2 a front view, of a sign involving the invention.

Like characters refer to like parts throughout the different views.

In describing the figures of the drawings we have set forth that Fig. 1 is a vertical section simply on the assumption that the sign may be vertically placed. This, from what we have hereinbefore stated, is not necessary, for the mounting of the sign will vary in accordance with the use to which it is put.

The sign has in its make-up a body which we will denote in a general way by 2. The body 2 is represented as being of skeleton or basket like form, whereby lightness, without sacrificing strength, as will hereinafter appear, and simplicity are assured. The skeleton or basket like body is represented as concavo-convex, the characters which make the sign appearing upon the concaved side thereof, which when the sign is mounted in position appears outward, so that the characters will be visible to observers.

The body 2 is shown as composed of a central disk 3, inner and outer rings 5, and strips or bars, as 6. The outer ring is of course of greater diameter than the inner one. The

strips 6 are of arcuate or bowed form, their inner flattened ends being fixed in some suitable way—say by riveting—to the central disk 3. The strips are also fixedly united to the outer surfaces of the two rings. The body, as hereinbefore stated, in addition to being light is quite strong, in that while means are provided for carrying characters said means are thoroughly braced and strengthened.

The rings 4 and 5 are sufficiently flat to provide a proper bearing for the characters 7, which will vary considerably in their nature with the use to which the sign is put. In some instances they may be letters and in others numerals, and still in others they may be symbols of a different kind. We mention these facts, although no particular reliance is placed thereupon.

The exposed surfaces of the characters 7 are adapted to reflect light-rays, and this result may be secured in several ways—for example, by having the faces of aluminium, porcelain, or other suitable material. The bodies of the characters—that is, as distinguished from the exposed surfaces thereof—may be of any kind.

The body or basket 2, which carries the characters, is preferably made dark in order to contrast materially with the luminous faces of the characters. The said body may have its concaved surface painted black to secure the desired object. When a light is displayed upon the characters at night, they will stand out as though each one were lighted by an individual light. As the body of the sign is dark, it will not show at night, by virtue of which the letters will stand out with great vividness. We find that with a single electric bulb of small candle-power we can display characters as well as those signs which use a very much higher candle-power lamp.

In connection with the light and the opaque characters having luminous surfaces we employ a reflector which projects the rays properly upon the characters, the reflector itself being opaque and its outer or non-reflecting surface being dark—say black—so that the reflector and the light cannot be seen from the front, although the characters themselves can.

From what has been stated it will be un-

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derstood that the light the rays of which are projected upon the characters may be of any desirable kind, although we find an incandescent light quite satisfactory for the purpose, and we have shown such a light, it being denoted by 8 and being carried upon a support 9, which support may be of tubular form and may contain the feed-wires for the light. The light is in line with the axis of the basket-like body 2, the support 9 for the light extending axially of said body, as will be clearly seen. This brings the light centrally and in advance of the characters, so that its rays will be equally distributed upon them all. The reflector is designated by 10, and it is of substantially parabolic form, it being arranged slightly in advance of the light and being fixedly carried by the bowed portion of a yoke-like frame 11, the legs or side branches of said frame being united with

two diametrically opposite strips or braces 6 in any desirable manner.

Having thus described the invention, what we claim is—

A sign involving a concaved basket-like structure, a series of characters fastened to the concaved side of said structure, a lamp mounted in advance of the characters, a yoke-like frame extending forward from the said structure, and a reflector supported by said frame, the latter having a bowed portion within which the reflector fits.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EUGENE L. CREHEN.
JOHN N. EUWER.

Witnesses:

A. F. MORGAN,
G. B. SNYDER.