Sept. 4, 1928. 1,683,121

L. F. N. BALDWIN

LINE MARKER FOR ROADBEDS

Filed May 1, 1926

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

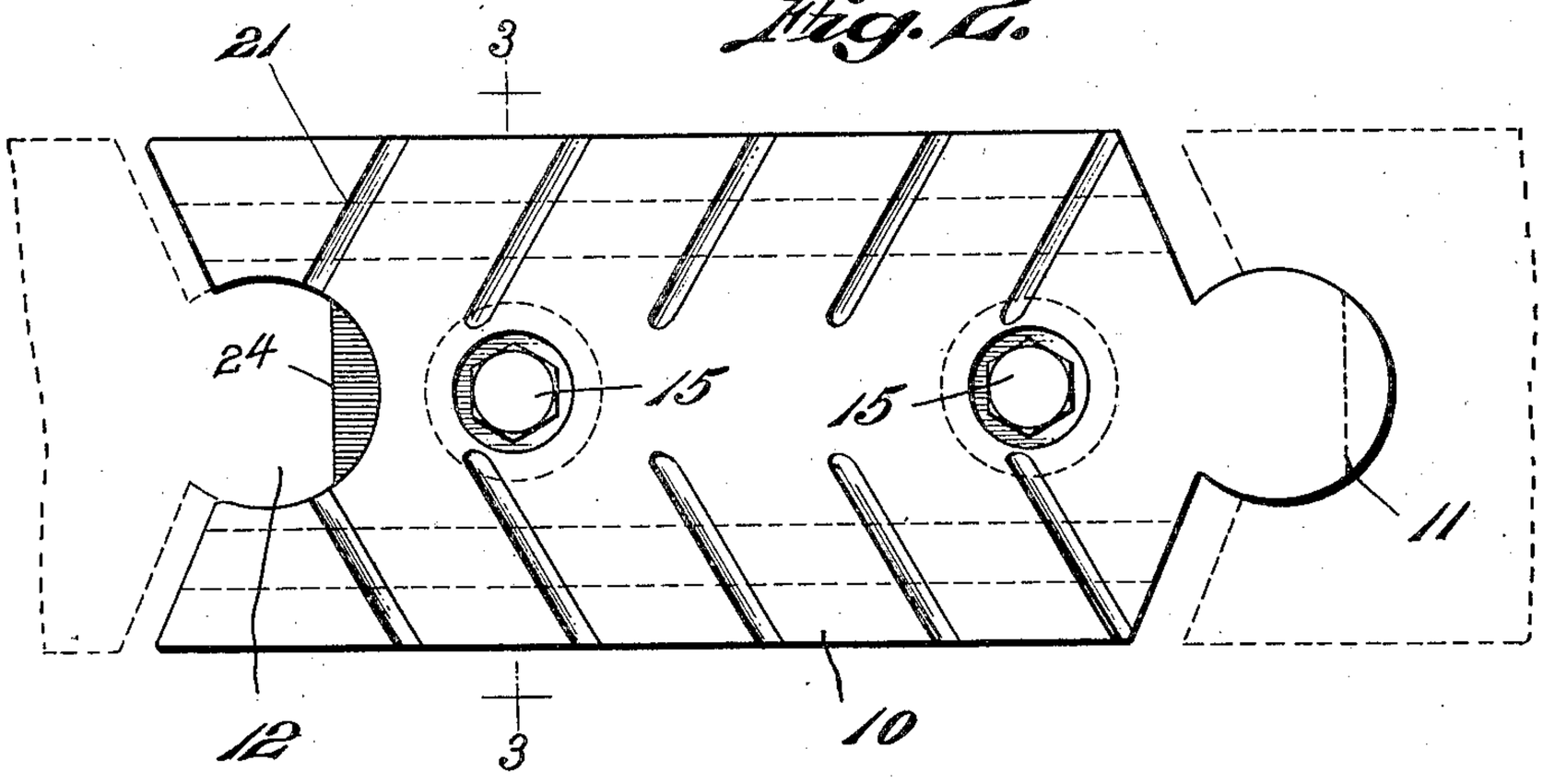


Fig. 3.

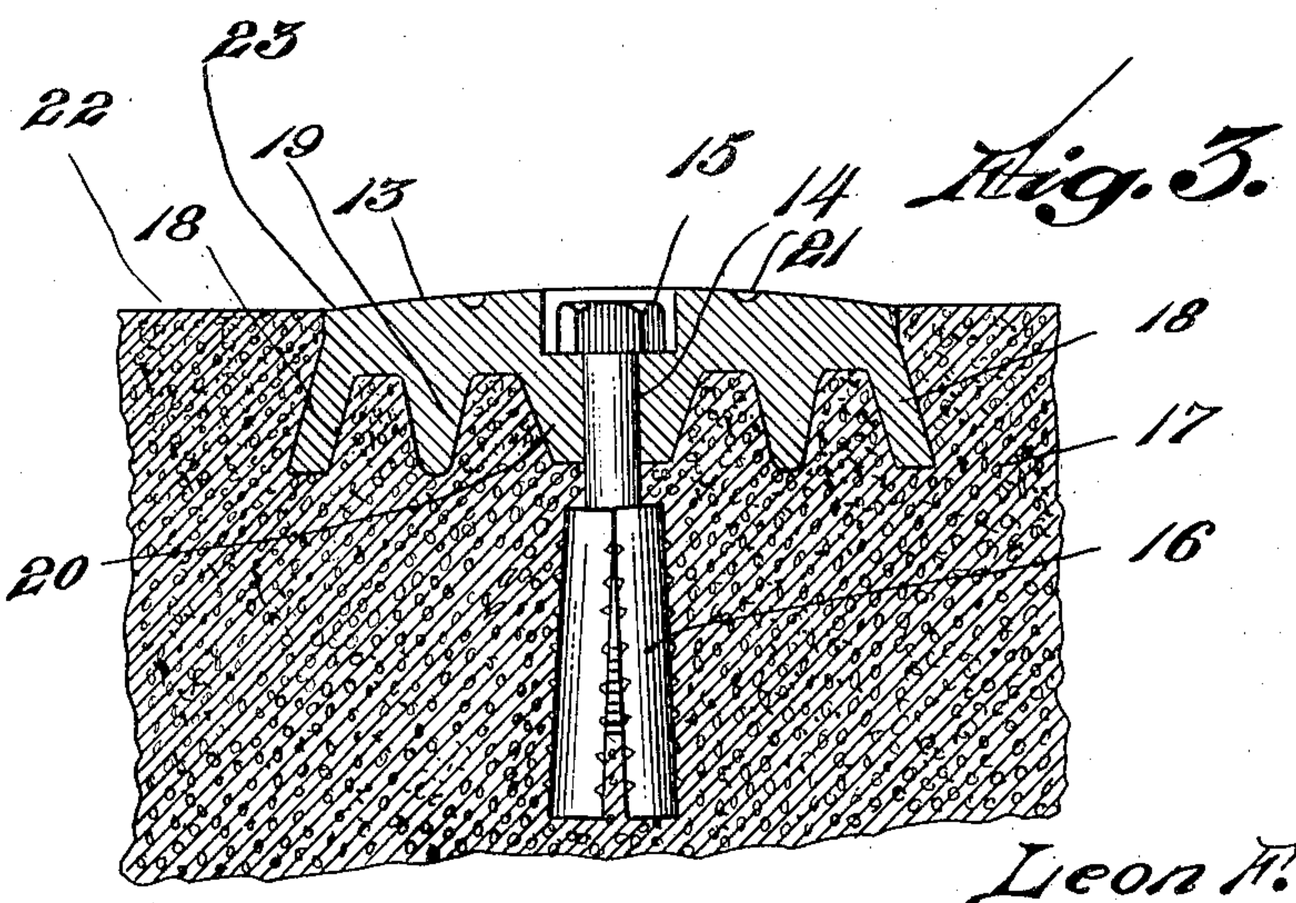
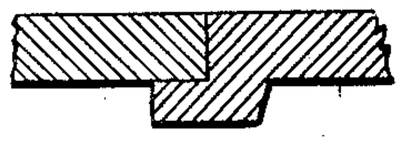


Fig. 4.



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Patented Sept. 4, 1928. 1,683,121

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LINE MARKER FOR ROADBEDS.

Application filed May 1, 1926. Serial No. 106,105.

This invention relates to an improved line marker for roadbeds, and has for its object to provide a marker of this character formed of a series of plates which may be set into roadbeds of different constructions such as asphalt, concrete, macadam, and the like for the purpose of marking safety zones and directing traffic thereover.

A further object of the invention is to provide this marker with a series of corrosion-resisting plates adapted to be readily connected together end to end and set into the roadbed.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of head and socket joint members on these plates whereby they may be readily connected end to end to form a bendable strip to be set in a straight line or bent in a curve in either direction.

The invention further consists in the provision of side flanges on the plates preferably set on an outwardly-inclined angle from the plane of the plate whereby when the plate is set into the roadbed it is dovetailed or locked therein.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a view illustrating a series of my improved plates connected together end to end and set to form a curve.

Figure 2 is an enlarged face view of one of the plates showing the rounded head at one end, and a socket on the opposite end of the plate.

Figure 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Figure 2, illustrating the flanges on the bottom of the plate also illustrating the fastening bolt and the nut as set into the roadbed for assisting in securing the marker plate in position therein.

It is found to be an essential element of safety in the building of roads to direct the flow of traffic by indicating lines and marks and to this end I have found it of advantage to insert into the roadbed markers to indicate safety zones and also that portion of the road on which the traffic is supposed to travel whether pedestrians crossing the street or vehicular travel over the road.

Heretofore most of the line markings of this character have been accomplished by painting a stripe or an arrow on the face of the roadbed, which painting or marking soon becomes obliterated and must be frequently renewed. The object of my present invention is to provide a permanent road marker which is formed of plates, the metal of which is preferably of a luminous character and of a corrosion resisting nature, whereby the same may be readily seen and followed in the daylight and also become prominent by night by reflecting the lights of a vehicle. Then again, by employing this metal the same is kept bright by abrasion due to tires traveling over the same; also it is found in practice of advantage to form such a marker of a series of plates and so construct these plates that they may be flexibly locked together end to end in such a way that they may be caused to to take a curve in either direction as well as to lie in a straight line; and the following is a detailed description of the present embodiment of my invention and showing one construction of line marker for roadbeds by which these advantageous results may be accomplished:—

With reference to the drawings, 10 designates one of the plates of a series of my improved line marker, the same being elongated and having a rounded head shaped extension 11 at one end and a correspondingly-shaped socket 12 at its opposite end to receive the head of the next adjacent plate, the end portions of the plates being cut away on an angle to permit the plates being set out of alignment with each other to follow a bend in the road when desired.

The face 13 of the plate is preferably slightly oval, as shown in Figure 3, the same being provided with holes 14 through which locking bolts 15 may extend preferably into an expanding nut 16 which may be set into the roadbed 17.

In some instances, I form side flanges or ribs 18 along the opposite side of this plate and preferably set these flanges on a downwardly and outwardly extending angle from the plane of the plate, whereby when set into the roadbed, they are dovetailed therein and serve to securely lock the plate in the roadbed.

In other instances, I provide intermediate longitudinal strengthening ribs 19 and again I provide bosses 20 through which the bolts 15 extend.

In order to prevent horses from slipping

on this plate, I preferably groove or roughen the surface of the same as at 21.

In setting these plates into the roadbed, it is only necessary to place the socketed end of one plate over the ball or rounded end of the adjacent plate by means of which these two plates are securely locked together end to end at the same time are permitted to bend around a curve; also when the plates are set in position in the roadbed the surface 22 of the bed is brought substantially flush with the edge 23 of the plates thus imbedding the angularly-disposed flanges 18 therein to securely lock the plate in position in the roadbed.

My improved line marker is very simple and practical in construction, inexpensive to produce and is very effective in its operation and may be readily set into a roadbed in either a straight line or to conform to any desired curve.

The foregoing description is directed solely towards the construction illustrated, but I desire it to be understood that I reserve the privilege of resorting to all the mechanical changes to which the device is susceptible, the invention being defined and limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A line marker for a roadbed comprising a series of plates connected together at their ends by a ball and socket joint whereby they may be set at an angle to each other, and means for securing the plates in the roadbed.

2. A line marker for a roadbed comprising a series of plates, each plate having a rounded head at one end and provided with a circular socket at its other end to receive and retain the head of the next adjacent plate by which said plates are flexibly connected end to end.

3. A line marker for a roadbed comprising a series of plates, each plate having a rounded head at one end and provided with a circular socket at its other end to receive and retain the head of the next adjacent plate by which said plates are flexibly connected end to end, and means for locking said plates to the roadbed comprising a rearwardly extending flange along the opposite edges of the plates set on an incline to the plane of the plate whereby it is dovetailed into the roadbed.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LEON F. N. BALDWIN.