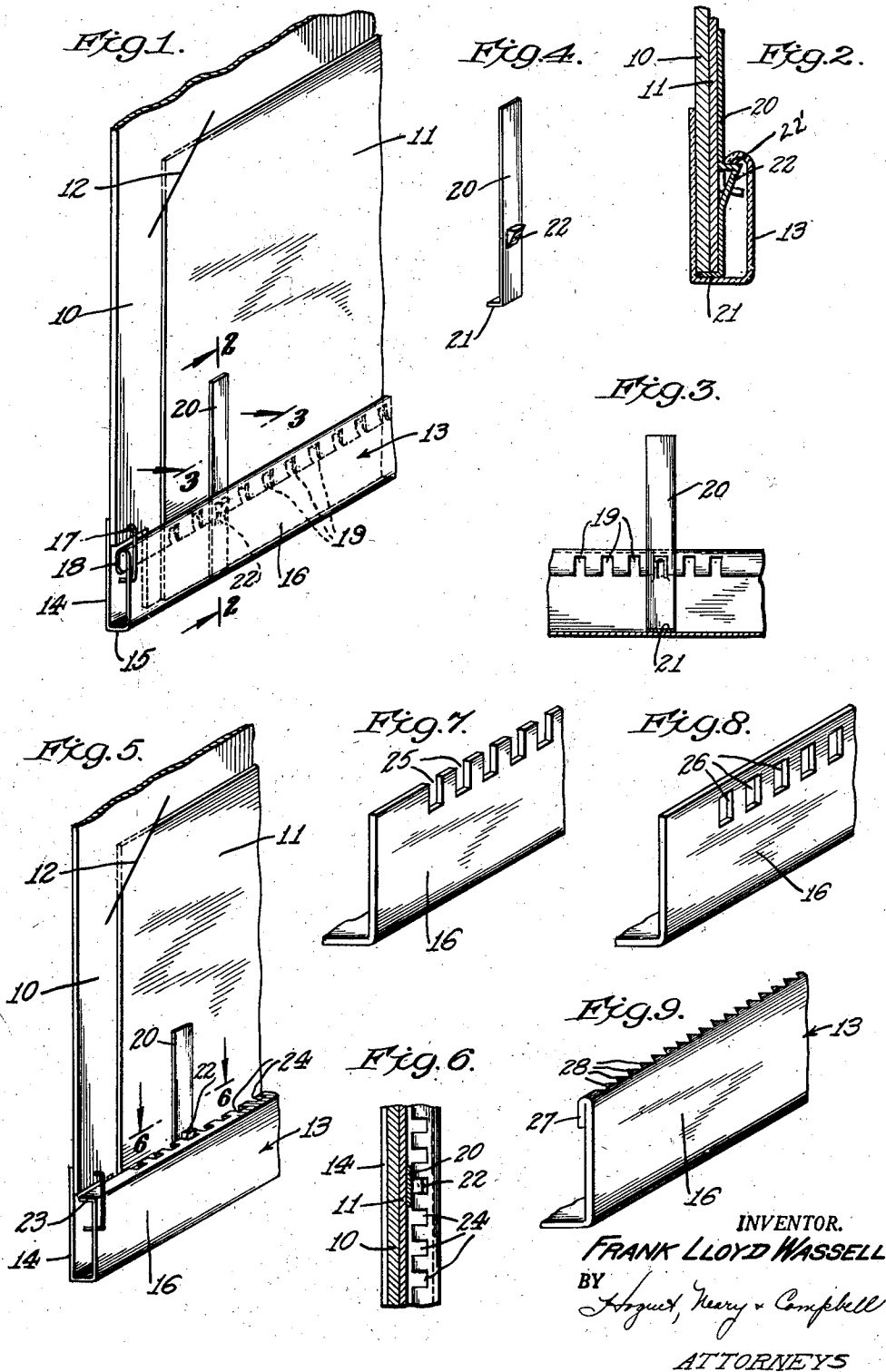


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VISIBLE INDEX SIGNAL LOCK

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VISIBLE INDEX SIGNAL LOCK

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The present invention relates to visible index mechanisms and embodies, more specifically, an improved form of visible index wherein adjustable signals are provided in conjunction with the index.

More particularly, the invention embodies an improved form of mechanism for holding adjustable signals in any of a plurality of adjusted positions and in such fashion that accidental displacement of the signal is prevented.

Another object of the invention is to provide mechanism by means of which an adjustable signal on a visible index may be effectively secured in a desired position and yet may also be easily moved into several adjusted positions.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide an adjustable signal lock of the above character wherein the signal is automatically locked or held in any position and from which it is moved without requiring positive mechanical operation of a locking element.

Other and further objects of the invention will be apparent as it is described in greater detail in connection with the drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a visible index member upon which a signal has been installed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is an enlarged view in section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an enlarged view in section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a detailed view showing a signal member formed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 1 showing a modified form of the invention;

Figure 6 is a view in section taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 5;

Figure 7 is an enlarged perspective view of a portion of the visible index member constructed in accordance with a further modification of the invention;

Figure 8 is a view similar to Figure 7 showing a further modification of the invention;

Figure 9 is a view similar to Figure 7 of yet another modification of the invention.

Referring to the above drawings, a visible index card supporting member is shown at 10, formed in any desired fashion and in accordance with standard practice now used in visible index systems. The support 10 is adapted to receive a visible index card 11 in any suitable fashion. For example, the support may be formed with slots 12 in which the corners of the cards may be inserted thus to hold the cards

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removably on the supports. The card supports 10 are preferably adapted to be hingedly mounted on a suitable supporting mechanism in order that parts of the cards may be held in visible position to facilitate use of the index. The particular manner of mounting the card supports forms no part of the present invention and need not be further described herein.

In the bottom of the card support 10 a longitudinal pocket member 13 is provided, the pocket preferably being formed of transparent material such as cellulosic material. The pocket forming member in the form of the invention shown in Figure 1 is provided with a back 14, a bottom 15 and a front 16. A staple 17 may be provided to secure the pocket to the bottom edge of the card support 10 and in accordance with the present invention, the upper portion of the front member 16 is turned back and against the front member to form a longitudinal bead 18. This bead is held against the front surface of the card support 10, thus to permit the lower edge of the card 11 to be inserted between the card support 10 and the bead 18 against a moderate amount of pressure produced by the bead. In practice, it is not necessary to hold the bead against the card support 10 under pressure or even against the card 11 in order to secure the advantages of the invention hereinafter mentioned.

Spaced along the bead 18 are a plurality of notches 19, the number and location of which may vary and may correspond with positions in which a signal is desired to be adjustably mounted. Upon the front face of the card 11 a signal 20 is adapted to be positioned, being formed with a foot 21 adapted to engage or lock under the lower edge of the card 11 or the card support 10, or both. In the front of the signal 20 an enlarged or pressed out portion or detent 22 is formed. This detent 22 is adapted to be received in the notches 19, thus preventing accidental displacement of the signal 20 and holding it effectively in a desired position. Being formed with a stepped face 22', the detent locks the signal not only against lateral displacement but also against vertical displacement. It will be apparent that the bead 18 may be formed with enlargements instead of notches 19, and the signal 20 may be formed with recesses instead of the detent 22, but such reversal of parts is contemplated as being within the present invention.

Referring to the structure shown in Figures 5 and 6, a modified form of the invention is shown in which the upper portion of the front face 16

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of the pocket 13 is turned back to form a flange 23 lying perpendicular to the front face 16. The flange 23 is formed with a plurality of notches or recesses 24, suitably spaced longitudinally along the pocket 13. The signal member 20, having the detent 22, as illustrated in Figure 4, is adapted to be used in the manner described in connection with Figures 1 to 4, being locked against accidental displacement by means of the detent 22 and notches 24.

In the modified structure shown in Figure 7, the front face 16 of the pocket member 13 is formed with a plurality of recesses 25 in the upper edge thereof. In this form of the invention, the front face 16 is positioned so that it lies next to the card 11 so that the recesses 25 are adapted to receive the detent 22. The proximity of the front face 16 to the card 11 and to the signal strip 20 insures the engagement of the detent 22 in the recesses 25, thus to prevent accidental lateral displacement of the signal.

A further modified form of the invention is illustrated in Figure 8, wherein the front face 16 of the pocket 13 is formed with a plurality of apertures 26 which are located in such fashion that they receive the detent 22 of the signal strip 20 as it is moved longitudinally along the pocket. In this fashion, the signal strip is locked in any position corresponding to the location of the apertures.

In the form of the invention shown in Figure 9, the front face 16 of the pocket 13 is formed with a reversely extending upper edge 27. Pressed out of this edge is a multiplicity of serrations 28. These serrations are adapted to receive the detent 22 of the signal strip to hold the latter in any position to which it has been moved longitudinally of the pocket.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that the present invention has provided a mechanism by means of which a longitudinally adjustable signal strip may be held effectively in any adjusted position so that it will not become accidentally displaced and yet the structure is such that the signal strip can be moved with facility to any desired adjusted position.

While the invention has been described with respect to the several modifications shown in the drawings, it is not to be limited save as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A visible index signal lock comprising a visible index card holder, a member secured to said

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holder and forming a pocket along one edge thereof to hold a visible index card between said holder and said member, a signal extending into, and displaceable to any desired position along the length of the pocket formed by said member, said signal having a foot portion extending under said index card to hold the signal against accidental vertical displacement from said pocket, and cooperating means on said signal and along the length of said member for holding the signal against said card and against accidental longitudinal displacement from a desired position, said cooperating means consisting of interlocking detent and recess elements.

2. A visible index signal lock comprising a visible index card holder, a member secured to said holder and forming a pocket along one edge thereof to hold a visible index card between said holder and said member, and a signal extending into, and displaceable to any desired position along the length of the pocket formed by said member, said pocket forming member having a series of recesses and said signal having a foot portion and a detent engageable with any one of said recesses, said detent and any one of said recesses interlocking, upon engagement with one another, to hold the signal against accidental longitudinal displacement from a desired position and said foot portion extending under said index card to hold the signal against accidental vertical displacement from said pocket.

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