

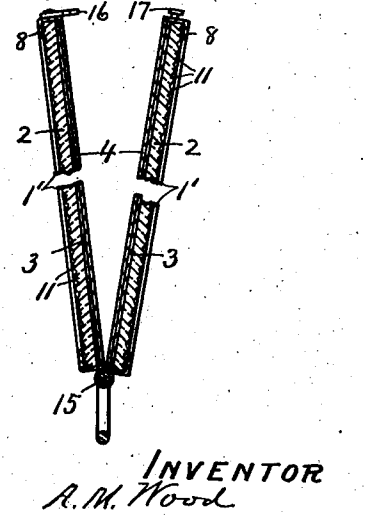
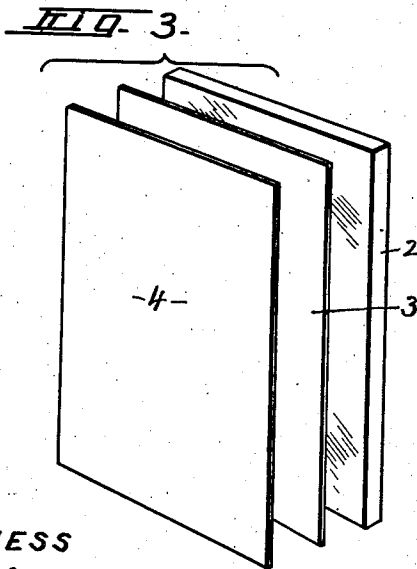
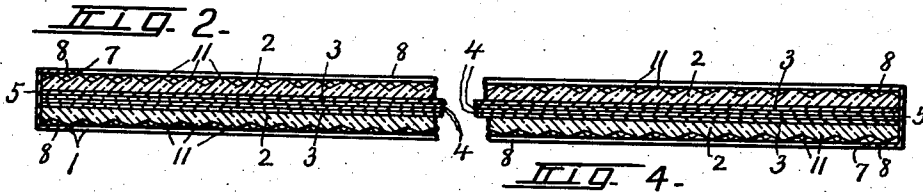
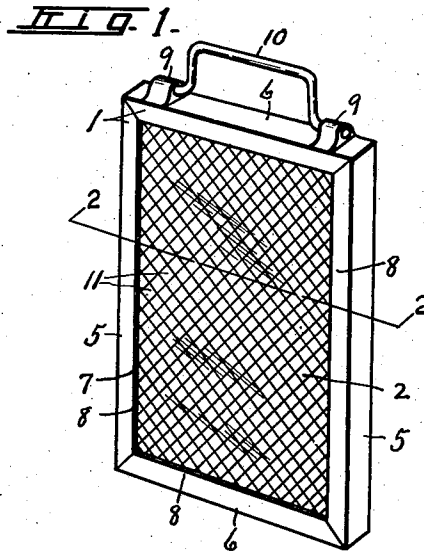
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PEDESTRIAN'S SIGNAL

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PEDESTRIAN'S SIGNAL

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2 Claims. (Cl. 88—80)

This invention relates to a pedestrian's traffic signal adapted to be carried in the hand of the pedestrian in such manner that it may receive and reflect rays of light from the headlights of motor vehicles moving in opposite directions to warn the drivers of approaching vehicles of the presence of the pedestrian in the path of movement of the vehicle, and thereby to reduce the liability of accidents to the pedestrian and driver of the vehicle.

The main object is to provide a light, compact and easily portable device of this character with opposed light-reflecting units facing in opposite directions and capable of being conveniently carried in the hand of the pedestrian and manipulated in such manner than when crossing or traveling along a highway the light rays from the lamps of vehicles approaching the pedestrian from either direction will be reflected back to the driver of such vehicles and thereby to warn such driver of the presence of the pedestrian in the path of movement of the vehicle in time to avoid accident.

One of the specific objects is to make the reflectors of glass or equivalent material and to provide them with a multiplicity of relatively small light reflecting prisms arranged to diffuse the reflected and refracted rays of light over a comparatively large field area so that the pedestrian and driver may be duly warned of the dangerous proximity of one to the other and thereby to further reduce the liability of accident.

Another object is to provide simple and comparatively inexpensive means for changing the color of the reflected or refracted light without in any way altering the reflecting or refracting mediums.

A further object is to provide the device with a pivoted handle or bail by which it may be conveniently carried and swung to different angles to further attract the attention of the drivers of approaching vehicles.

Other objects and uses relating to specific parts and uses of the device will be brought out in the following description.

In the drawing:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a preferred form of my invention ready for use.

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view, partly broken away, taken on line 2—2, Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one of the transparent glass plates and its associated reflective and color producing sheets detached one from the other but showing the order in which they are arranged.

Figure 4 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view, partly broken away, of a modified construction of signal in which the frame is composed of opposite half sections hinged to each other and each adapted to receive and support one of the glass plates and its associated reflector and color plates.

As illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, the signal comprises a frame 1 adapted to receive and support a pair of transparent glass plates 2, a pair of translucent color plates or sheets 3 and a pair of opaque reflector plates or sheets 4, said plates 2, 3 and 4 being mounted upon and within the marginal edges of the frame 1 to form a pair of opposed light reflecting and light refracting units in which the plates 2 of both units are outermost and face in opposite directions while the plates 3 and 4 of both units are interposed between the plates 2 in a manner hereinafter described.

The frame 1 may be of any suitable size, form or material but is preferably rectangular and composed of opposite parallel side bars 5 and opposite parallel end bars 6, said bars being preferably made of thin sheet aluminum or equivalent non-corrosive material and are firmly united at the corners to form a rigid structure having openings 7 through which the major portions of the outer faces of the plates 2 are exposed.

These bars 5 and 6 are preferably channeled along their inner sides to form opposite relatively narrow marginal flanges 8 around the openings 7 for receiving and retaining the marginal edges of the plates 2, 3 and 4 which fit more or less closely within the channels of said bars.

One of the end bars 6 is provided with pivotal bearings 9 arranged in laterally spaced relation near the side bars 5 and in which the opposite ends of a handle or bail 10 are pivoted to permit the frame 1 with the plates 2, 3 and 4 therein to be oscillated relatively to the handle if desired.

The plates 2, 3 and 4 are preferably assembled in proper relation within the frame before all of the corners thereof are united or while the bars of the frame are opened at one or more corners sufficiently to allow said plates to be placed in operative position therein after which the open corners may be soldered or otherwise secured together to hold the plates against accidental displacement therefrom.

The plates 2 are rectangular in form to correspond to the interior form and area of the frame 1 but of greater area than that of the openings 7 so that when assembled in the frame the major portions thereof will extend across and will be exposed through the adjacent openings 7.

while the marginal edges thereof will be seated in the channels of the bars 5 and 6, as shown more clearly in Figure 2.

These plates 2 are preferably made of transparent glass of suitable thickness for strength and durability, each plate having one of its faces, preferably its inner face, flat and smooth and its outer face provided with a multiplicity of similar relatively small conical bosses or prisms 11 for refracting the direct rays of light and also for transmitting the reflected rays of light and thereby causing said rays to be diffused over a distant field of relatively large area.

The color plates 3 are preferably made of relatively thin sheets of translucent celluloid or equivalent material of about the same rectangular form and area as the plates 2 and are arranged flatwise against or in close proximity to the inner flat faces of their respective transparent plates 2 so as to visually transmit its color through the transparent plates, said color plates being pre-colored red, green or any other conventional tint commonly used for signaling purposes.

The reflector plates 4 are preferably made of thin sheets of tough paper or any other suitable material of about the same rectangular form and area as the transparent plates 2 and are arranged flatwise in contact with each other and with the inner faces of the adjacent color plates 3, the outer faces of said reflector plates adjacent the color plates being silvered or otherwise coated to cause the rays of light passing through the plates 2 and 3 from an external source, such as the headlights of a motor vehicle, to be reflected to the driver of said vehicle and (or) diffused over a distant field of relatively large area through the medium of the prismatic bosses 11.

This safety signal is adapted to be carried in the hand of the pedestrian by means of the handle 10 when crossing or traveling along a highway and is preferably held in such manner that the outer faces of the plates 2 will face in opposite directions and thereby to cause the rays of light from the lamps of vehicles traveling in either direction to be reflected and diffused over the field of approach of such vehicle or vehicles to signal the driver of the presence of the pedestrian and also to enable the pedestrian to avoid contact with the vehicle, thus providing a simple and comparatively inexpensive means for reducing the liability of traffic accidents.

The modification shown in Figure 4 is quite similar to that shown in Figures 1 to 3 inclusive except that the frame as 1 is divided midway between its outer faces to form similar but opposite half sections 1' having corresponding ends hinged to each other by a pivotal pin 15 to enable the sections to be opened and closed for convenience of removing and replacing the plates 2, 3 and 4, and also to receive identification cards and other matter if desired, the other ends of

the sections being provided respectively with a latch 16 and a keeper 17 by which the sections may be locked in their closed positions or opened at will.

One of the advantages of the modified construction shown in Figure 4 is that the frame sections 1' may be opened at will to permit any one or all of the plates 2, 3 and/or 4 to be removed and replaced by similar or different plates having corresponding characteristics as may be desired by the user, this being particularly true of the color plates 3 which may be tinted red, green or any other suitable color best adapted to carry out the objects of the invention.

When either of the devices shown are in use, the rays of light from an external source entering either of the transparent plates 2 and corresponding color plate 3 will impinge against the silvered surface of the adjacent opaque reflector plate 4 and will thereby be reflected back through said plates 3 and 2 in the nature of colored rays according to the color of the plate 3 to be diffused over the distant field of approach of a vehicle from either direction and thus signal the driver of such vehicle of the presence of the pedestrian and at the same time enable the pedestrian to avoid contact with the vehicle.

This device is particularly simple, practical and efficient but obviously may be altered as in form and detail construction without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A pedestrian's safety signal comprising a pair of substantially flat glass plates having prismatic surfaces arranged in opposed relation to face in opposite directions; flat, transparent color plates adjacent the inner faces of the prismatic plates; a flat, opaque reflector plate between the inner faces of the color plates; a marginal channel frame composed of relatively thin material for maintaining the plates in parallel, juxtaposed relation to each other; and handle means hingedly connected with the frame to extend therefrom for movement in substantially parallel relation with the outer faces of the prismatic plates to permit relative swinging movement of the frame with the plates therein.

2. A pedestrian's safety signal comprising a pair of glass plates having one surface flat and the other surface prismatic, said glass plates being arranged back to back with their prismatic surfaces outward, a flat opaque reflector plate between the flat surfaces of said glass plates, a marginal channel frame composed of relatively thin material for maintaining said plates in parallel, juxtaposed relation to each other, and a handle hingedly connected with the frame to extend therefrom for movement in substantially parallel relation with the outer prismatic faces of the said glass plates to permit relative swinging movement of the frame with the plates therein.

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