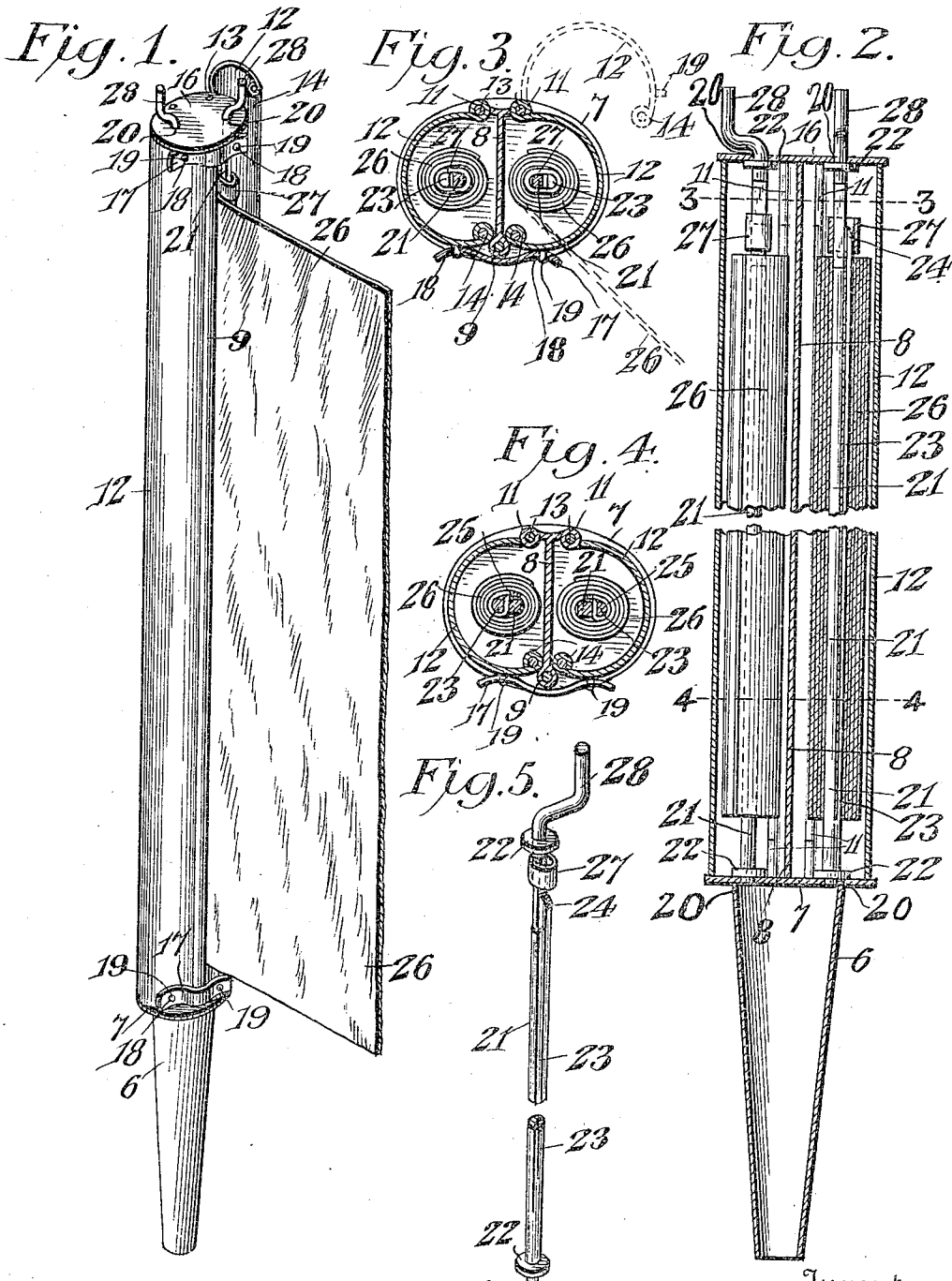


G. H. MORGAN.
 SIGNALING DEVICE.
 APPLICATION FILED NOV. 10, 1909.

960,669.

Patented June 7, 1910.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. MORGAN, OF BELLEVILLE, KANSAS.

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960,669.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 7, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. MORGAN, citizen of the United States, residing at Belleville, in the county of Republic and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Signaling Device, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in signaling devices which are especially adapted for use in connection with railroad cars.

A signal flag, as is generally employed, consists of a piece of colored bunting which is secured to an ordinary wooden staff. The flag, due to rough handling, soon becomes worn, and also, soon assumes a much faded appearance, due to the unnecessary exposure to all kinds of weather. Thus the flags have to be replaced in a very little while.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a device which will keep the bunting clean, and also preserve it in a smooth condition.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of the class described consisting of a holder for a plurality of flags, the holder being adapted to be readily engaged with or disengaged from a socket which is carried by railroad cars, and the flags being adapted to be readily furled or rolled up within the holder, as desired.

A further object of the invention is to provide a holder having separate flag compartments, each compartment being provided with doors which, when shut, will positively exclude dust, rain, snow, or the like therefrom.

A still further object is to provide a flag shaft or support, of a novel construction which will readily permit of the flags being readily interchanged as desired.

Another object of the invention is to provide a holder, which is extremely simple in construction, cheap to manufacture, and easy of manipulation.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims here-to appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacri-

ficing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention, showing one door opened, and a flag partly unfurled. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the device. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view of the device, taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view of the device, taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the flag supports.

Like reference numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing. Where the parts constituting this invention appear in duplicate, a description of one will be given and it may refer to both.

Referring to the drawing, the invention comprises a preferably downwardly tapered tubular staff 6 which is closed at the upper end by a substantially elliptical plate 7, the marginal edge thereof preferably extending beyond the said staff. This plate constitutes a base or support for a vertically arranged division plate 8 which is centrally located thereon and extends diametrically across the said plate 7. One of the edges of the division plate is provided with a longitudinal bead 9 in which is preferably arranged a reinforcing wire. The plate, at the other edge, is provided with integral and oppositely-extending longitudinal ears 11, to which doors 12 are connected by hinge members 13 of any suitable type. These doors are substantially semi-circular in shape, and are provided at their free edges with longitudinal eyes or beads 14, in which are preferably arranged reinforcing wires. A substantially elliptical top plate 16 of substantially the same size as the lower plate 7, is carried by the division plate 8. The free ends of the doors are bent inwardly so that when the doors are shut, the longitudinal beads 14 thereof will engage the plate 8 behind the bead 9, and thereby form a tight joint. It will thus be noted that the division plate forms a common engaging means for both of the doors, and also forms a division for two vertically parallel compartments.

Spring metal clips 17 are carried by the bead 9 of the division plate 8, project in opposite directions therefrom, and are each provided near their free ends with openings

18. The doors 12 are provided with out-
standing pins 19 which are adapted, when
the doors are closed, to engage the openings
18 of the spring clip, and thereby hold the
door or doors, as the case may be, against
outward movement.

Respectively formed in both the bottom
plate 7 and the top plate 16, are openings
20. These openings are centrally arranged
with respect to the compartments and
are adapted to form bearings for flag
shafts or supports 21. The opposite ends
of the shaft are provided with bearing col-
lars 22 adapted to bear against the said
plates. The shaft 21 is provided with a
longitudinally arranged spring arm 23
which is preferably formed integral with
the said shaft. The end 24 of the spring
arm terminates some distance below the col-
lar 22 which is directly below the top plate
16. The hem 25 of the flag 26 is slipped
over the spring arm 23 and the said arm is
clamped to the shaft 21 by means of a col-
lar 27 which is slidably mounted to engage
both the spring arms and the shaft. The
said shaft extends through the top casing
16 and terminates in a crank arm 28.

From the foregoing, it will be readily ap-
parent that should a flag of a certain color
be desired to be displayed, it is only neces-
sary to open the door and unfurl the flag.
Should it be desired to display a flag of some
other color, the first-mentioned flag can be
quickly rolled up within this compartment
by means of the crank arm 28 and the other
flag quickly unfurled. It will also be noted
that many combinations can be used in this
device, such as red and white, red and green,
white and red, white and green, etc. By
providing the compartments with hinged
doors, it makes it possible to readily inter-
change flags of different colors, and also
keeps the said flags in a smooth and clean
condition, owing to the fact that the doors
when locked, render the compartment
weather-proof.

Cars of all kinds, including engines, ca-
booses, passenger, and freight cars, are ge-
nerally equipped with sockets adapted to re-
ceive the flag now in general use. The pres-
ent invention can be readily applied to any
of the above described cars, the staff 6 being
adapted to be readily inserted in any of the
sockets of said cars.

What I claim is:—

1. A signaling device comprising a casing
having a plurality of compartments, doors
respectively hinged to and forming part of
the casing for closing the said compart-
ments, and flag holding shafts respectively
mounted for rotation in each compartment.

2. A signaling device comprising a casing
having a division plate centrally arranged
therein to form parallel compartments,
doors for the compartments respectively

hinged to one edge of the plate, the other
edge of the plate forming a common engag-
ing means for the free edges of the doors,
and flag holding shafts respectively mounted
for rotation in each compartment.

3. A signaling device comprising a casing
having a plurality of compartments, doors
respectively hinged to and forming part of
the casing for closing the said compart-
ments, common means for locking the said
doors against movement, flag holding shafts
respectively mounted for rotation in each
compartment, and a supporting staff de-
pending from said casing.

4. A signaling device comprising a casing
having top and bottom plates, a division
plate centrally mounted between the said
plates to form compartments, substantially
semi-circular doors respectively hinged to
one edge of the division plate for closing the
compartments, the free ends of the doors
coacting with the free edge of the division
plate, locking means for the doors carried
by the division plate, and flag holding shafts
respectively mounted for rotation in each
compartment.

5. A signaling device comprising top and
bottom plates, a division plate centrally
mounted between the said plates to form
compartments, said top and bottom plates
being respectively provided with alined
openings which are arranged centrally with
respect to each compartment, doors respec-
tively hinged to one edge of the division
plate for closing the compartments, and flag
holding shafts respectively arranged in each
compartment and journaled in the said
alined openings.

6. A signaling device comprising top and
bottom plates, a division plate centrally
mounted between the said plates to form
compartments, said top and bottom plates
being respectively provided with alined
openings which are arranged centrally with
respect to each compartment, doors respec-
tively hinged to one edge of the division
plate for closing the compartments, flag
holding shafts respectively arranged in each
compartment and journaled in the said
alined openings and terminating beyond the
casing in a crank arm, said shaft having a
flag-engaging spring arm integrally con-
nected thereto and extending longitudinally
thereof but terminating short of the top
plate, and a means for clamping the flag
between the shaft and the spring arm.

7. A signaling device comprising a casing
having substantially elliptical-shaped top
and bottom plates, a division plate centrally
mounted on said plates to form compart-
ments, said division plate having a longitu-
dinal reinforcing bead formed on one edge,
substantially semi-circular doors respec-
tively hinged to the other edge of the di-
vision plate for closing the compartments,

the free ends of the doors being inwardly curved and provided with reinforcing beads and adapted to coact with the edge of the division plate to form a tight engagement, 5 a plurality of spring catches carried by the division plate for locking the doors in a closed position, and a flag holding shaft rotatably mounted within each compartment.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE H. MORGAN.

Witnesses:

WM. G. SCHAEFER,
MONTE L. HILL.