T. M. SMITH.

SIGNAL DEVICE FOR AUTOMOBILE DRIVERS.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 1, 1916.

1,209,059. Patented Dec. 19, 1916.

Fig. 1.

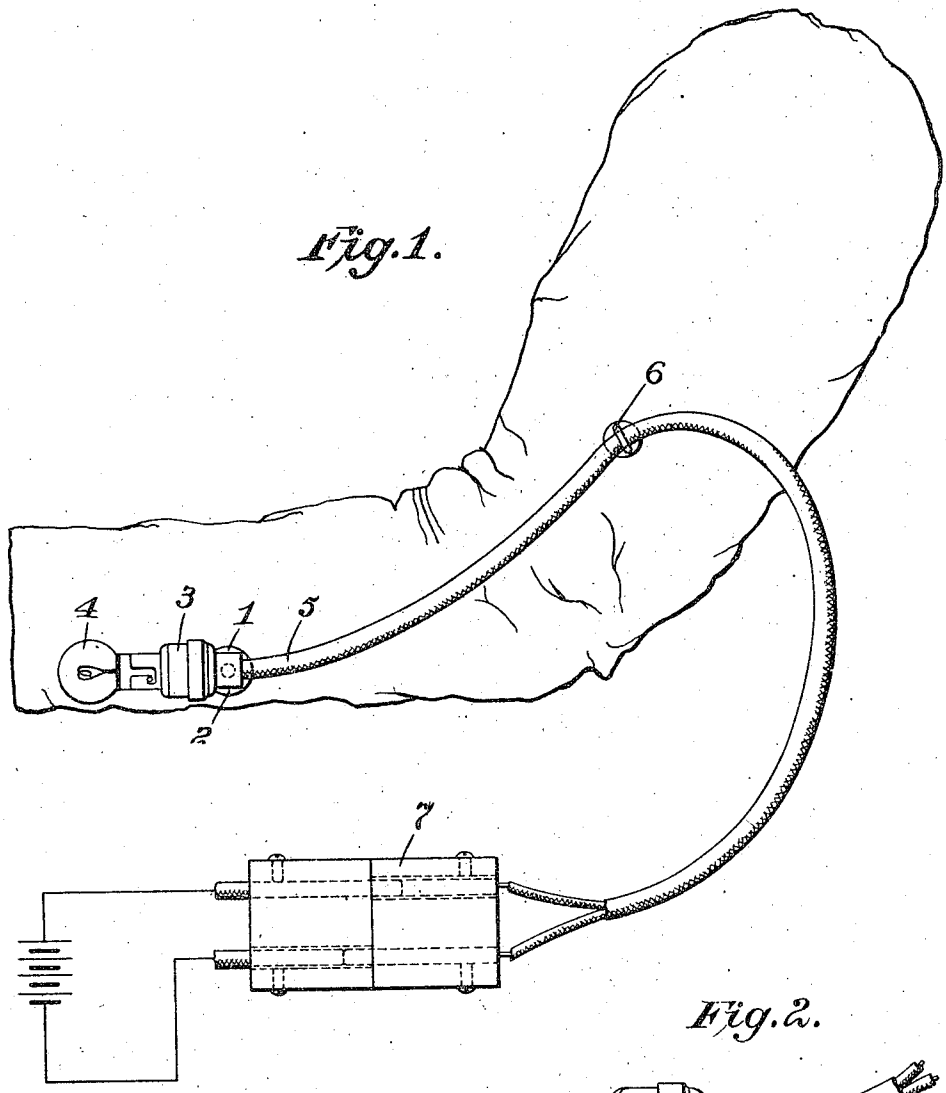


Fig. 2.

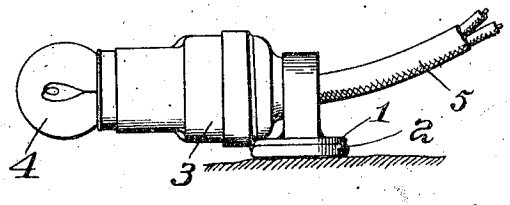
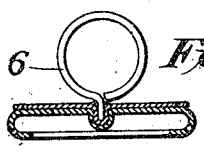


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS MARSHALL SMITH, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

SIGNAL DEVICE FOR AUTOMOBILE-DRIVERS.

1,209,059. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 19, 1916.

Application filed February 1, 1916. Serial No. 75,520.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS MARSHALL SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Signal Devices for Automobile-Drivers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to means whereby the driver of an automobile may give signals at night by waving his arm in the manner similar to the signals which are given in this manner during the day time, and in carrying out the invention an electric lamp is carried by the arm of the driver in convenient position, so that a driver in a following automobile may readily see the signal.

The invention consists in the features and combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings; Figure 1 illustrates a diagram of the invention as applied to the sleeve of the driver's coat. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the lamp detached. Fig. 3 is a detail view.

I have shown the invention as applied to the sleeve of the coat of the automobile driver, but it will be understood that it may be applied to his glove or the gauntlet of his glove.

In carrying out the invention I attach one member 1 of a snap fastener to the coat sleeve and the other member of this snap fastener 2 is carried by the lamp frame or socket 3, this socket carrying an ordinary incandescent lighting bulb 4 to which current is supplied through suitable circuit wires indicated at 5 and carried by the lamp socket to be removed therewith from the point of attachment with the sleeve when the snap fastener member 2 is detached from the member 1. The snap fastener together with the lamp is placed preferably toward the outside of the arm or under the arm of the driver adjacent the wrist so that the light from the lamp will not shine in the eyes of the driver. The circuit wires are preferably led through the guiding eyelet 6, which is attached removably to the coat sleeve above the elbow by means of a snap fastener arrangement, the eyelet or guide being on one member of the fastener, while the other member is permanently attached to the sleeve. From this eyelet the circuit wires lead to any suitable source of current, such as a battery or a generator and a suitable detachable plug arrangement of ordinary form may be used at 7, so that the electric connection may be broken by detaching these plugs at 7 and this will also serve to detach the physical connection between the arm of the driver and the automobile.

It is intended that the electric lamp shall be in service constantly during the driving of the car at night, so that all that the driver has to do in order to make proper signal is to throw out his arm or wave or position it as the regulations of the town or community may require.

It will be observed that the driver's hands and arms are free at all times for their ordinary use and if anything happens to the car at night the lamp may be used to detect the trouble and the hands of the driver, as stated, will be free for use in making the repairs, or if desired the lamp may be quickly detached from the sleeve of the driver, together with the circuit wires and the lamp may be then held in any desired position within the works of the car for inspection thereof or for adjustment or repair of any of its parts.

The driver may free himself quickly from connection with the lamp and its circuit wires by simply exerting sufficient pressure to overcome the holding quality of the snap fasteners.

In using the device the operator does not have to go through any particular manipulation of his hand or arm in order to turn on the current, it being understood, as stated above, that the light is on at all times and the operator has free use of his hands and of his arm just as though the appliance was not employed in connection therewith.

In case of accident necessitating the driver jumping from the car the snap fasteners will allow the detaching of the device from the operator's arm simply by the pull exerted through the circuit wires.

A switch may be employed to turn off the light when this is not needed for a considerable period. This switch however, is not to be manipulated each time that a signal is to be made, for as before stated, during the entire period that the signal may be needed the light will be continuously burning and no movement of the fingers, hands or arms of the driver will be necessary in

order to turn on the light at the moment of signaling. The driver thus has free use of his hands and arms and the light will be maintained for other uses than as well as that of signaling.

What I claim is:—

1. In combination with an electric lamp, a member to be attached to the person of the automobile driver and a fastening member detachably engaging the member first mentioned and carrying said lamp, and circuit connections to maintain said lamp lighted for all positions of the hand and arm, and leaving the operator free use of his hands and arms, said circuit connections extending to a source of current supply on the automobile.

2. In combination with an electric lamp, means to detachably mount the same on the arm of the driver of the automobile, a guide also detachably mounted on the arm of the driver, and circuit wires leading through said detachable guide to the lamp, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of a witness.

THOMAS MARSHALL SMITH.

Witness:
BENNETT S. JONES.