March 24, 1931. T. O. CARTER ET AL 1,797,221

TRAFFIC SIGNAL

Filed March 14, 1929

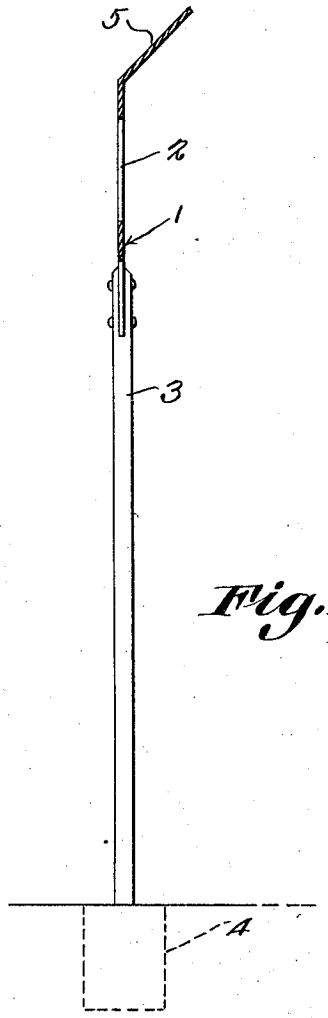


Fig. 1.

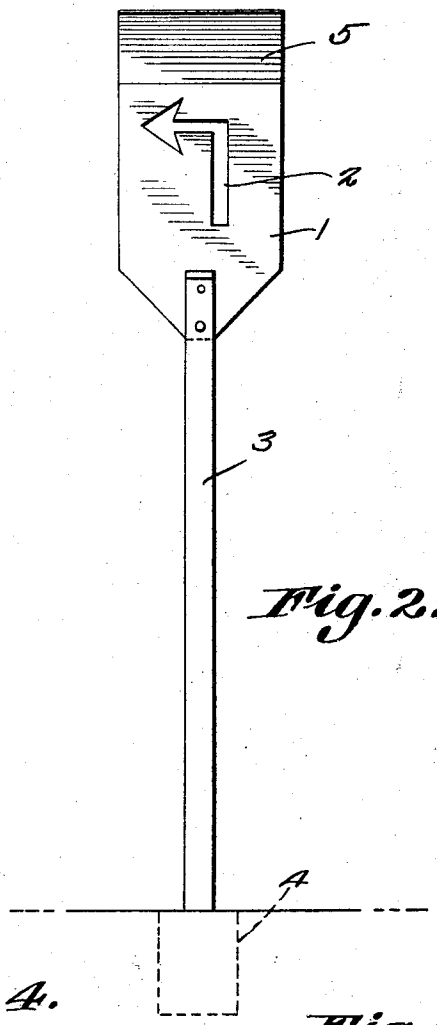


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

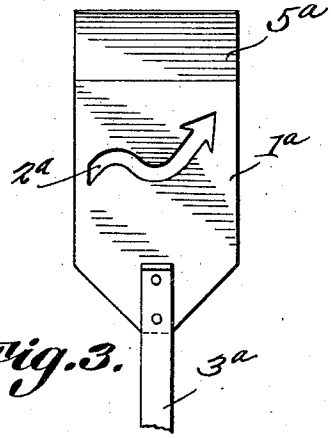
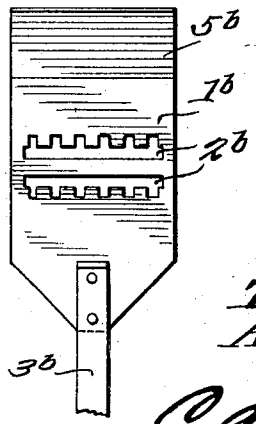


Fig. 3.



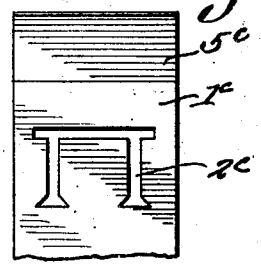


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

THEODORE OBERLIN CARTER AND ALFRED NATHAN CARTER, OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

TRAFFIC SIGNAL

Application filed March 14, 1929. Serial No. 347,015.

This invention aims to provide a simple traffic signal provided with a symbol formed by an opening, the construction being such that the symbol can be seen readily either in the daytime or after nightfall and be understood by the illiterate. Another object of the invention is to provide novel means whereby the symbol may be illuminated if desired.

Figure 1 is a vertical section in which parts are in elevation; Figure 2 is an elevation; Figures 3, 4, and 5 are elevations showing modifications.

The body of the signal is in the form of a flat plate, generally made of metal, there being an opening 2 in the body, the opening being in the shape of a symbol. The symbol 2 of Figure 2 designates a corner, the symbol 2*a* of Figure 3 designates a snake curve, the symbol 2*b* of Figure 4 designates a railroad, and the symbol 2*c* of Figure 5 designates a bridge. It will be understood, without further illustration, that the symbol may be of any desired form.

The operator can mount the body 1 as he desires. Some may prefer to secure it to the top of a post 3 mounted in an anchor 4, placed in the ground.

The symbol, such as symbol 2, can be seen readily either in the day time or at night, but if it is desired to afford additional illumination after nightfall, the upper end of the body 1 can be furnished with an inclined reflector 5 which will throw the light from the lamps of an approaching vehicle down on the body 1. The reflector 5 and the body 1 may be enameled or treated otherwise to make it white, if that color is desired.

What is claimed is:

An automobile traffic signal, embodying in a one-piece structure, a substantially vertical plate having an opening shaped to constitute a signal, the plate being bent along on a single transverse line, located above the opening, to transform the upper end of the plate into a single-layer flange the lower surface of which is provided with reflecting material and arranged at an obtuse angle to the forward, substantially vertical surface of the plate, thereby to directly light from an external source upon the said signal when the source of light is higher than the said line, the plate being open, exposed and unencumbered at its rear.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own, we have hereto affixed our signatures.

THEODORE OBERLIN CARTER.
ALFRED NATHAN CARTER.