

F. S. RIGGS.
 SIGNAL APPARATUS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES.
 APPLICATION FILED JAN. 23, 1917.

Patented Sept. 17, 1918.
 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

1,279,159.

Fig. 1.

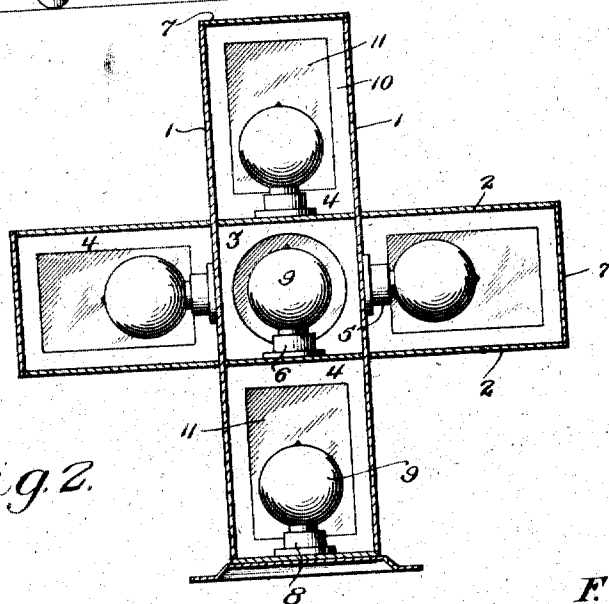
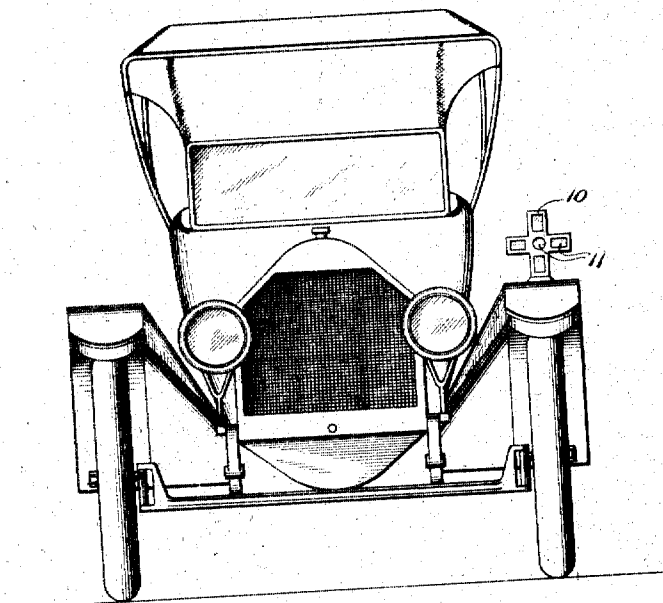


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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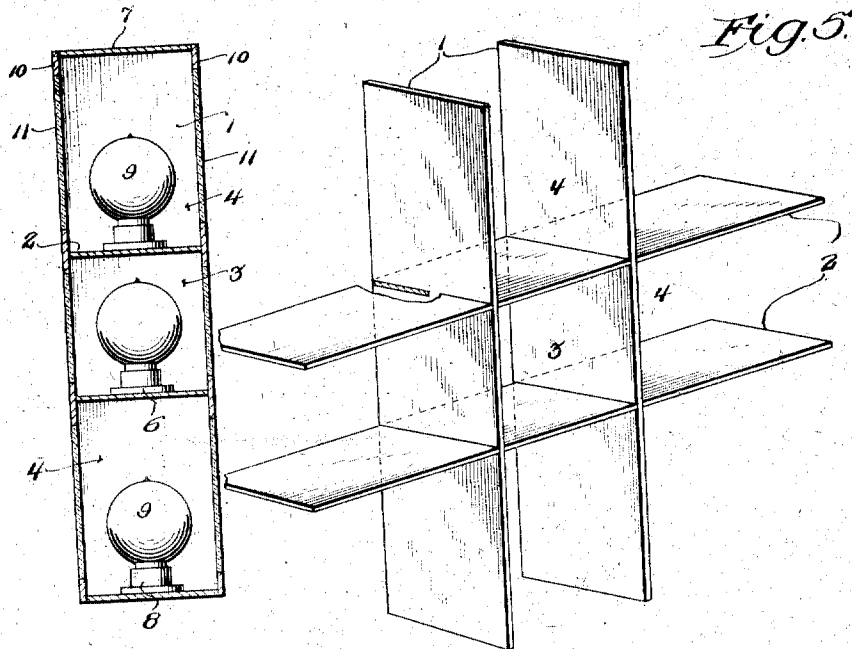


Fig. 4.

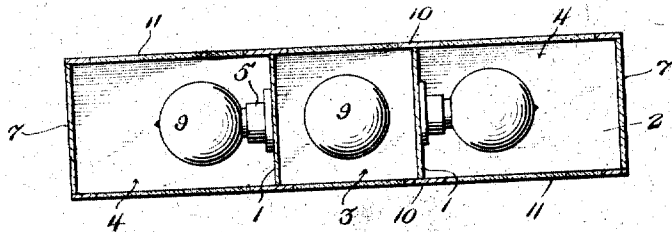


Fig. 3.

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SIGNAL APPARATUS FOR MOTOR-VEHICLES.

1,279,159.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 17, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FLETCHER S. RIGGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Dallas and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Signal Apparatus for Motor-Vehicles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in signal apparatus for motor vehicles, and has particular application to apparatus whereby the driver of the signal equipped vehicle may indicate to the drivers of other vehicles when he is about to turn in one direction or the other, to stop, slow down, or "back up."

In carrying out the present invention, I employ a signal apparatus of the class described embodying a casing formed of two vertical strips spaced apart in parallelism and two horizontal strips similarly spaced apart and intersecting the vertical strips at the center thereof to form a central pocket and four end pockets arranged above, the central pocket and spaced apart equal distances. In each pocket is a lamp, and these lamps are adapted to be energized in different combinations so as to convey the desired signal to the drivers of other vehicles in the vicinity of the signal equipped vehicle.

The invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter set forth and falling within the scope of the claim.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view in elevation of signal apparatus constructed in accordance with the present invention, the same being shown applied to one of the fenders of the motor vehicle.

Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view through the apparatus.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal cross sectional view through the same.

Fig. 4 is a vertical cross sectional view therethrough.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the intersecting plates that form the pockets.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, 1—1 designate vertical plates spaced apart in parallelism, while 2—2 indicate horizontal plates similarly spaced apart and intersecting the plates 1—1 at the center thereof.

These plates form a center pocket 3 and radial pockets 4 spaced apart equal distances around the center pocket.

Fastened to the inner walls of the lateral pockets 4 and the top pockets 4 are electric lamp receptacles 5, respectively, while secured to the bottom wall of the center pocket is an electric lamp receptacle 6. The outer ends of the pocket 4 are closed by means of plates 7, and secured to the plates 7 closing the lower end of the bottom pocket 4 is an electric lamp receptacle 8, and secured in the receptacles 5, 6 and 8 are electric lamps 9, respectively. The front and rear sides of the casing formed by the plates 1 and 2 are closed by means of cover plates 10, each of a shape corresponding to that of the casing. Each plate 10 is formed with openings in line with the respective pockets and secured in these openings are transparent plates 11, preferably, though not necessarily, colored red so that when the lamps are illuminated red lights will be displayed.

In practice, the casing is preferably secured to one of the fenders of the motor vehicle, so that the signal apparatus will be visible from the front as well as from the rear of the vehicle, and the electric lamp receptacles are connected to a suitable source of electrical energy and under the control of switches whereby the lamps may be connected with the source of energy either singly or in sets. The transparent plates in line with the pockets 4 are preferably rectangular in outline, while the plates in line with the pocket 3 are preferably circular in outline. The circular red light showing in the center of the casing will act as a line light showing the direction of travel of the vehicle, and when the lamp below the center light is illuminated such light in combination with the center light will act to advise the drivers of other vehicles that the signal equipped car is about to slow down. When the lamp in the pocket above the pocket 3 is energized, this combination of lights will indicate that the car is about to stop. When either one of the lamps at the sides of the center light is energized a signal will be given indicative of the direction in which the vehicle is about to turn. By energizing the lamps both above and below the center

pocket the caution signal will be displayed, thereby notifying the drivers of other vehicles to slow down, while by displaying the lights at both sides of the center light, a signal will be given that the signal equipped car is about to "back up." When all of the lamps are energized, they will indicate that the signal equipped vehicle is about to turn around.

- 10 The above code of signals is merely an illustration, and it will be understood that the code may be changed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

While I have herein shown and described the preferred form of my invention by way of illustration, I wish it to be understood that I do not limit or confine myself to the precise details of construction herein described and delineated, as modification and
20 variation may be made within the scope of

the claim and without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:—

The herein described signal apparatus comprising a casing having a pair of vertical spaced opaque walls, and a pair of horizontal spaced opaque walls intersecting the vertical walls at points spaced from the ends of the latter and thereby forming a central compartment and four radially arranged compartments, said casing also having front and rear walls, said front and rear walls having openings coincident with the compartments, and transparent panes in said openings; and electric lamps arranged one in each compartment, said lamps being adapted to be energized singly or in combination.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FLETCHER S. RIGGS.