Nov. 29, 1955 D. O. SCHUMAN 2,724,911

TACHISTOSCOPE

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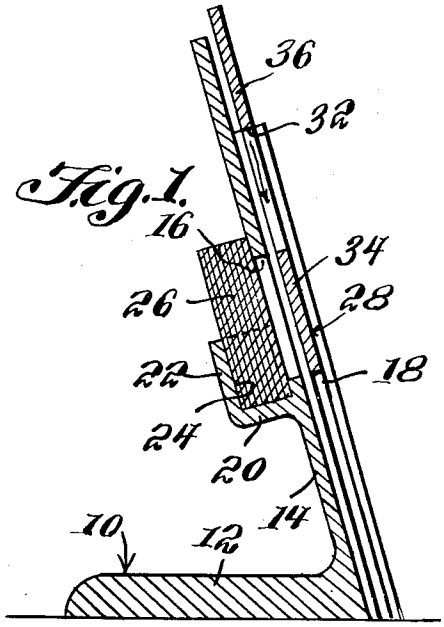


Fig. 1.

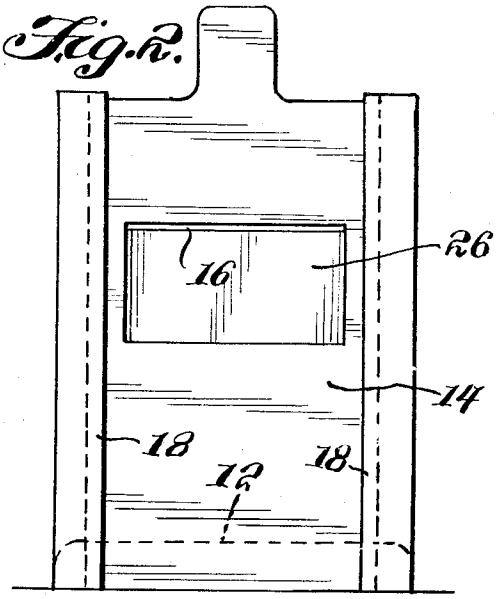


Fig. 2.

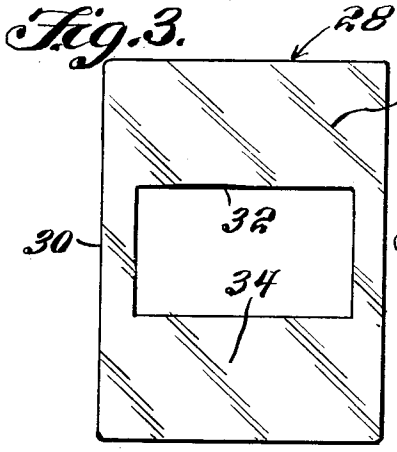


Fig. 3.

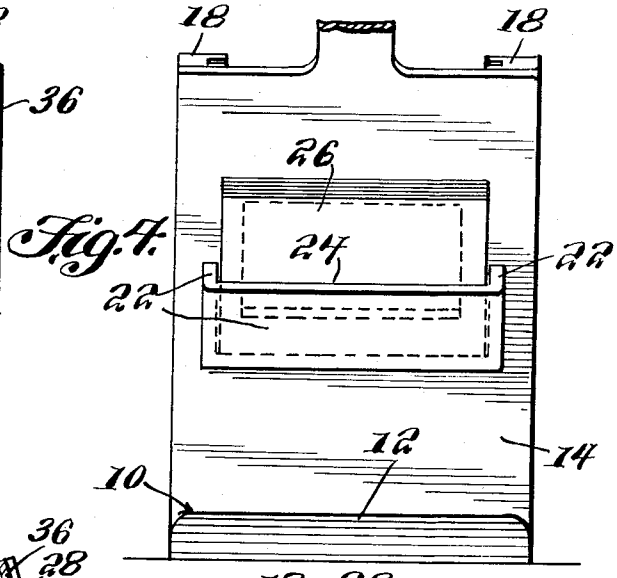


Fig. 4.

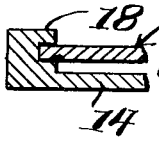


Fig. 5.

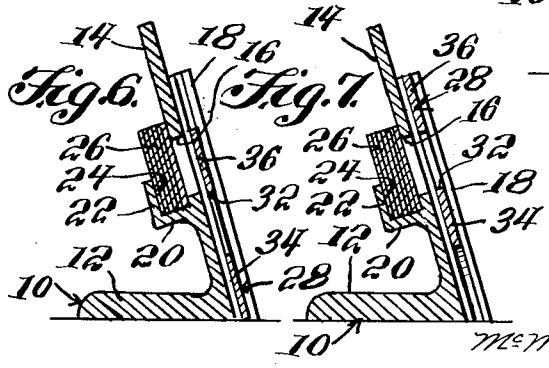


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

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TACHISTOSCOPE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 35—35)

This invention relates to a tachistoscope and has for its primary object to train the vision of a person to rapidly recognize symbols, indices and the like.

Another object is to expose symbols, indices and the like to vision for a limited time only so that a person may be trained to recognize various symbols, indices and the like in a minimum of time.

The above and other objects may be attained by employing this invention which embodies among its features an upwardly extending stand having a window opening therethrough intermediate its upper and lower ends, means carried by the stand and extending outwardly from one side thereof for supporting a card adjacent the window, indices carried by the card and visible through the window, a shutter carried by the stand for movement downwardly across the window, and said shutter having a window opening therethrough for registration with the window in the stand and momentary exposition of the indices on the card.

Other features include guide channels carried by the stand and extending upwardly along opposite side edges thereof, a shutter mounted in the guide channels to descend under the force of gravity from an elevated position in which the indices are obscured to a lowered position in which the indices are obscured, and said shutter having a window extending therethrough intermediate the ends thereof through which the indices are momentarily visible during the descent of the shutter.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view through a tachistoscope embodying the features of this invention;

Figure 2 is a front view of the tachistoscope with the shutter removed;

Figure 3 is a front view of the shutter;

Figure 4 is a rear view of the tachistoscope;

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view through the tachistoscope;

Figure 6 is a view showing the shutter in closed position; and

Figure 7 is a view similar to Figure 6, showing the shutter window in registration with the window in the stand.

Referring to the drawings in detail, a stand designated generally **10** comprises a base **12** carrying at one end an upwardly and rearwardly inclined plate **14** having a window **16** opening therethrough intermediate the ends thereof. Carried by the plate and extending outwardly from the one side thereof are opposed channels **18** which lie adjacent opposite side edges of the plate, as will be readily understood upon reference to Figure 2.

Carried by the plate and extending outwardly therefrom on the side thereof remote from the channels **18** is a shelf **20** carrying along its marginal edges upwardly extending walls **22** which define with the self **20** a pocket **24** for the reception of cards **26** which are supported on the shelf **20** in a position so that a face of one card in the stack of cards is visible through the window **16**.

Mounted for sliding movement under the influence of gravity in the channels **18** is a shutter designated generally **28** which comprises a body **30** of relatively stiff sheet material having a window **32** extending therethrough substantially midway between opposite ends thereof to define adjacent opposite ends a lower panel **34** and an upper panel **36**. The panels **34** and **36** are of substantially equal area and of sufficient area to obscure the window **16** in the plate **14**, while the window **32** in the shutter **28** is of an area substantially equal to the area of the window **16**. It will thus be seen that with the shutter supported, as illustrated in Figure 1, in the channels **18**, the index on the card **26** adjacent the plate **14** will be obscured from view by the panel **34**. Upon releasing the panel **34**, the shutter **28** will fall by gravity through the channels **18** so that the window **32** will momentarily register with the window **16** to render visible to an observer the index on the face of the card adjacent the plate **14**. And as the shutter **28** descends, the panel **36** will obscure the window **16** so that the observer will get but a momentary glimpse of the index or symbol on the card which is visible through the window **16**. By thus employing the cards **26** bearing different symbols on opposite faces, it is obvious that a multiplicity of symbols or indices may be employed for training the observer in the rapid recognition of the symbols or indices.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention, it is to be understood that minor changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A tachistoscopic device comprising a stand including a base having a flat underside lying in a horizontal plane for disposition of the base stationarily upon a supporting surface, a flat plate rigid with and extending upwardly from the base, said plate being formed with a window opening intermediate opposite ends thereof, a shelf rigid with and projecting outwardly from the plate adjacent the bottom edge of the window opening, said shelf lying in a plane normal to the plane of the plate, a wall rigid with the shelf and projecting upwardly therefrom in a plane parallel to and spaced from the plane of the plate, and a pair of guide ribs formed upon the opposite face of the plate and projecting outwardly therefrom, said ribs being disposed at opposite sides of the window opening and extending substantially the full length of the plate, the ribs being formed over their full lengths with longitudinal guide grooves facing toward one another; a shutter formed as a sheet of stiff material having intermediate its ends a sight opening substantially equal in area and outer configuration to said window opening, the portions of the shutter above and below the sight opening constituting upper and lower panels and being imperforate and of an area at least as great as the window opening so as to overlie the window opening in different selected positions of the shutter, the shutter being slidably engaged at opposite sides thereof in said grooves and being sufficiently loose in the grooves to permit free gravitation of the shutter from an upper position in which the lower panel overlies the window opening to a lower position in which the upper panel overlies the window opening, said shutter in the lower position thereof having its bottom edge flush with the underside of the base for halting the gravitational movement of the shutter by the supporting surface with the upper surface of the panel overlying the window opening; and a plurality of cards bearing indices visible through the window opening when, during the gravitational movement of the shutter, the sight opening thereof momentarily registers with the window opening, said cards being supported in planes parallel to the plane of the plate by engagement of the

cards between the first named face of the plate and said wall.

2. A tachistoscopic device comprising a stand including a base having a flat underside lying in a horizontal plane for disposition of the base stationarily upon a supporting surface, a flat plate rigid with and extending upwardly from the base, said plate being formed with a window opening intermediate opposite ends thereof, a shelf rigid with and projecting outwardly from the plate adjacent the bottom edge of the window opening, said shelf lying in a plane normal to the plane of the plate, a wall rigid with the shelf and projecting upwardly therefrom in a plane parallel to and spaced from the plane of the plate, and a pair of guide ribs formed upon the opposite face of the plate and projecting outwardly therefrom, said ribs being disposed at opposite sides of the window opening and extending substantially the full length of the plate, the ribs being formed over their full lengths with longitudinal guide grooves facing toward one another; a shutter formed as a sheet of stiff material having intermediate its ends a sight opening substantially equal in area and outer configuration to said window opening, the portions of the shutter above and below the sight opening constituting upper and lower panels and being imperforate and of an area at least as great as the window opening so as to overlie the window opening in different selected positions of the shutter, the shutter being slidably engaged at opposite sides thereof in said grooves and being sufficiently loose in the grooves to permit free gravitation of the shutter from an upper position in which the lower panel overlies the window opening to a lower position in which the upper panel overlies the window opening, said shutter in the lower position thereof having its bottom edge flush with the underside of the base for halting the gravitational movement of the shutter by the supporting surface with the upper surface of the panel overlying the window opening; and a plurality of cards bearing indices visible through the window opening when, during the gravitational movement of the shutter, the sight opening thereof momentarily registers with the window opening, said cards being supported in planes parallel to the plane of the plate by engagement of the cards between the first named face of the plate and said wall, said plate, ribs, wall and shutter being inclined from the vertical.

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