Dec. 19, 1922. 1,439,101.

O. M. HATCHER.
TRAFFIC DIRECTOR.
FILED MAY 31, 1921.

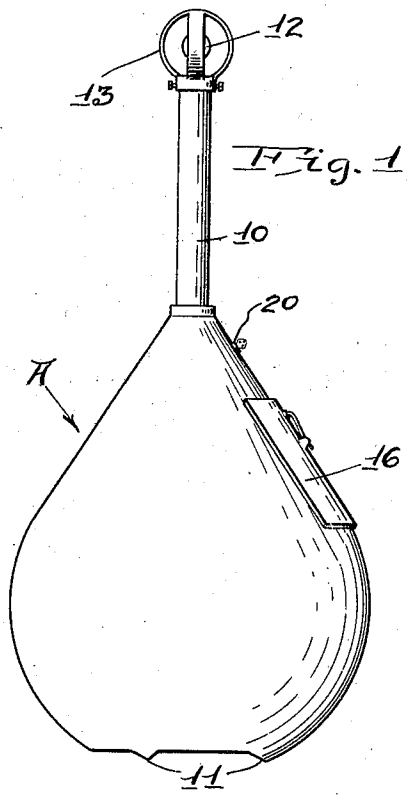


Fig. 1

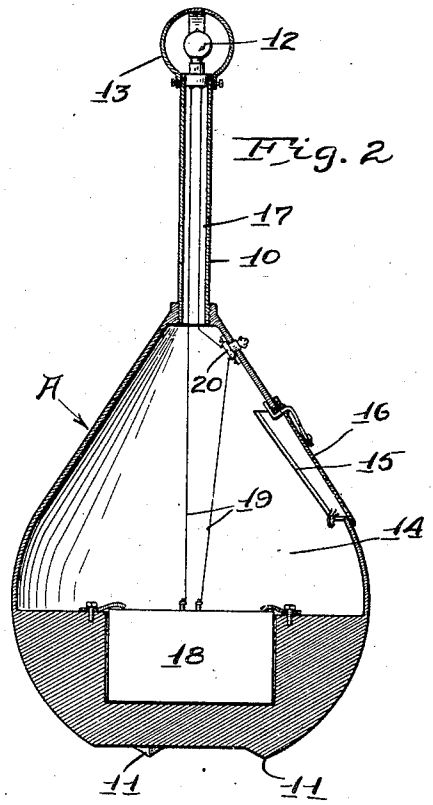


Fig. 2

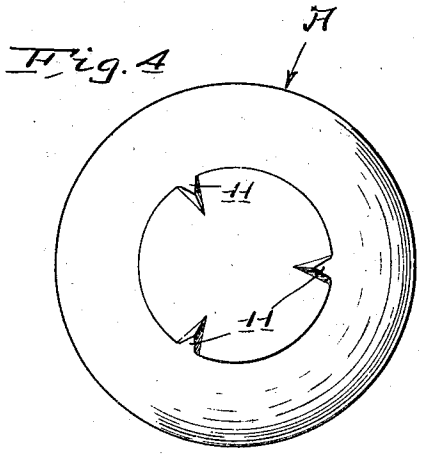


Fig. 4

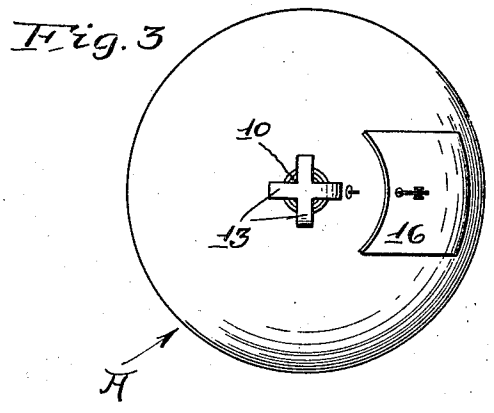


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR MILTON HATCHER, OF MANKATO, MINNESOTA.

TRAFFIC DIRECTOR.

Application filed May 31, 1921. Serial No. 473,994.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR MILTON HATCHER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Mankato, county of Blue Earth, and State of Minnesota, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Traffic Directors, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in traffic directors.

Its object is to provide a simple and durable device adapted particularly, though not exclusively, for use at street intersections to direct vehicles to one side of the centers of intersection.

A further object is to improve upon the ordinary stationary directors, or "silent policemen" as they are sometimes called, the improved device embodying a self erecting structure capable of displacement under impacts from moving vehicles, whereby injury to the device and to colliding vehicles is minimized and the labor in repair and replacement of the device materially reduced.

Another object is to supply a device of this kind including a warning lamp, said lamp being lighted from a source preferably, though not necessarily, contained within the device.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, which will appear in the following description, the invention resides in the novel combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a device embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal, central, sectional view thereof; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the device and Fig. 4 is a bottom view thereof.

Referring to the drawings, it will be observed that my improvement includes a base A and an upright post 10 carried by said base. The base may be of any suitable form permitting of self erecting movements. I prefer that it be pear-shaped, as shown, and of suitable material or materials, as the case may be, arranged to locate the center of gravity in respect to the contour of the base so that said base will erect itself from positions inclined from the vertical. Spaced legs or lugs 11 on the bottom of the base seek firm footing for the structure upon irregular supporting surfaces and tend to arrest spinning of the structure when displaced by glancing blows.

I have made provision whereby the device is readily visible at night. A lamp 12, protected by a guard 13 and fitted to the upper end of the post 10, is lighted from any suitable source of supply. I prefer to embody such source of supply within the device and to that end provide a receiving compartment 14 within the base A. Access to this compartment is afforded through a door-way 15 in said base, said door-way being normally covered by a door 16. Said compartment communicates with a bore 17 in the post 10, said bore being designed to receive transmitting means such as wires, pipes or the like leading from batteries or fuel containers within the base. While I have shown an electric lamp and lighting system therefor, it will be understood that any of the various lighting systems may be employed. In carrying out my electrical system, I employ the ordinary electric globe 12, a battery 18, wires 19 connecting the two and a switch 20, key type or otherwise, for breaking and completing the electrical circuit. Advantage is taken of the weight of the battery 18 by locating the same in position wherein the weight thereof cooperates with the weighted sections of the base A in acquiring the self erecting action of said base.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the class described, comprising a unitary, unanchored, self-erecting body capable of being dislodged from selected signaling positions by impacts from moving vehicles and spaced lugs on the body to supply a footing therefor upon the surface of a roadway and to arrest the spinning of the structure occasioned by glancing blows.

2. A device of the class described, comprising a pear-shaped body, lugs on the base

of the body supplying a combined three-point support and anti-spinning means therefor, the center of gravity of said body being so located that the body will erect itself, and a post reaching upward from the apex of said body.

3. A structure of the class described, including a base, the lower part thereof bulging outwardly and upwardly from the bottom, said bulging portion being substantially circular in cross section and formed to locate the center of gravity in such position as to render the structure self-erecting, and means for supporting the body upon uneven surfaces, said means serving also to arrest spinning movements of the structure occasioned by glancing blows.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

OSCAR MILTON HATCHER.