

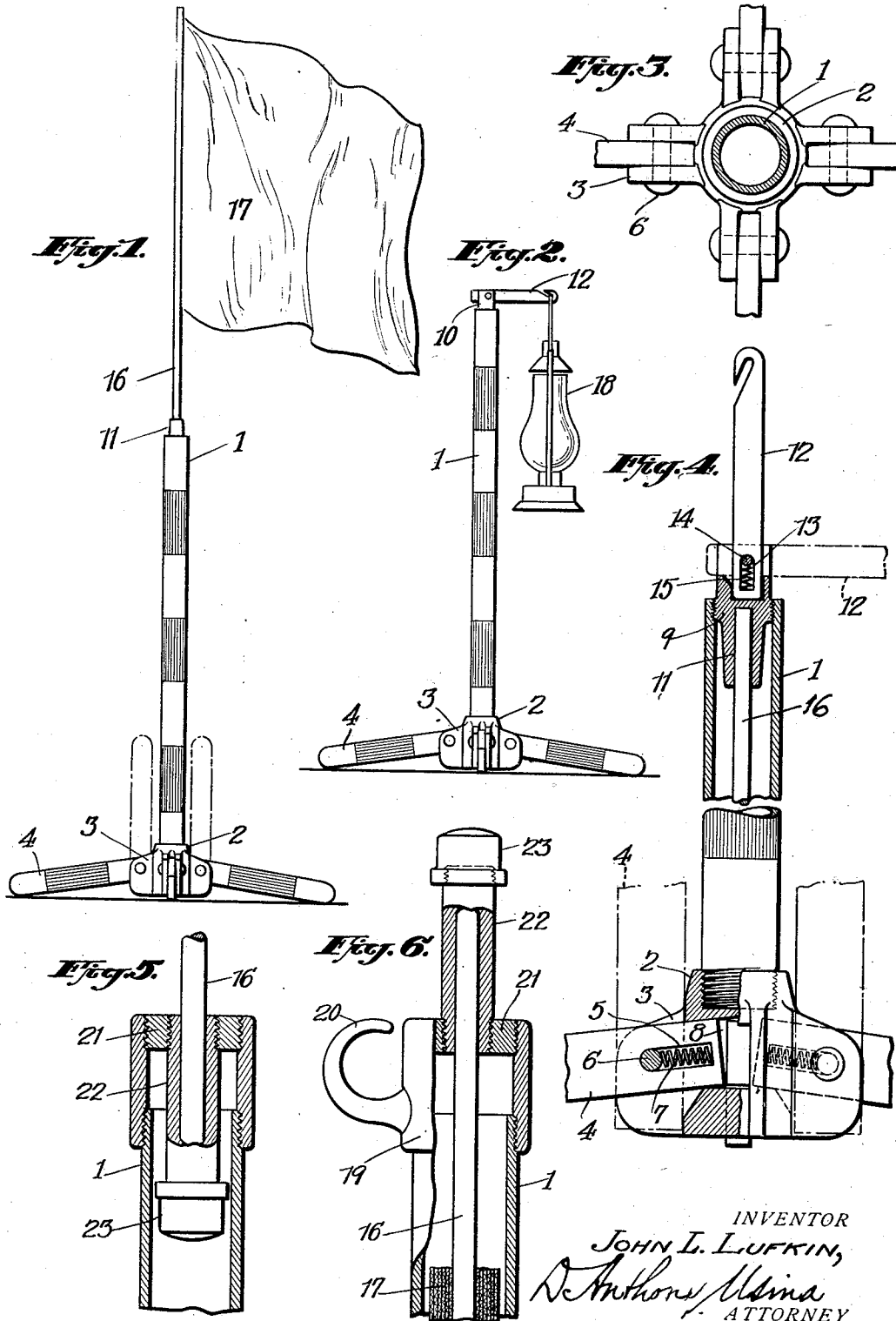
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PORTABLE STAND

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PORTABLE STAND

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Alongside of excavations and obstructions on highways and other places accessible to the public it is generally necessary for safety, and sometimes required by law, to place warning signals or markers. Common signals are a red flag or a peculiarly painted post or both, with a red light at night. The present invention is directed to portable stands for this and similar uses.

The accompanying drawing illustrates an embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 1 is an elevation, showing the flag carried in the stand.

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing a lantern in use, with the flag housed.

Fig. 3 is a plan of the same partly in section.

Fig. 4 is an elevation, partly in section, with the stand ready to be moved.

Figs. 5 and 6 are vertical sectional views of an alternative construction.

A column or mast 1 is made of a length of pipe threaded at both ends and having its lower end screwed into a casing comprising a hub 2 with ears 3 extending outward therefrom. In each pair of ears there is carried an extension foot 4 the inner end of which has a slot 5 embracing a pivot 6 carried by the ears. A spring 7 within the slot bears against the pin and tends to push each foot inward toward the center of the hub 2. The latter is formed with slots 8 into which the ends of the feet 4 fit. The slots extend upward towards the center so that the foot when carried therein will assume the slightly angular position shown in Fig. 1 and provide an extended base supporting the column.

When the stand is to be shifted to another point the feet are arranged to fold up close to the column as shown in the dotted lines. Each foot will be pulled out of its socket 8 against the resistance of the spring 7 to a sufficient distance permitting it to swing about the pivot to the upright position shown. In this position the spring will press the foot

downward so that its edge will be placed against the side of the hub 2 and it will be locked against accidentally swinging downward.

The upper end of the column is internally threaded to receive a cap 9 which is in the form of a nipple with a bifurcated extension 10 at one end for carrying a lantern hook and a socket 11 at the other end for carrying the flag pole. In extension 10 the lantern hook 12 is mounted having a slot 13 embracing the pivot pin 14 and a spring 15. The action of this spring is similar to that of the springs which lock the feet of the stand. The flat iron bar which constitutes the hook may be set in an upright position with the spring pressing its lower end down into a socket in the extension 10 so as to hold it in position. Or it may be pulled up out of the socket and swung to the horizontal position for supporting the lantern, the spring holding its lower edge across the top of the socket so as to lock it in this position.

Fig. 1 shows the flag pole 16 carrying the flag 17 at its upper end and having its lower end fixed in the socket 11, the cap being inverted from the position of Fig. 4 and the hook 12 being concealed within the hollow column. Fig. 2 shows the cap in the same position as in Fig. 4 with a lantern 18 suspended from the hook. In this position the flag will be wrapped tightly about the pole and with the pole will be concealed in the hollow column. The pole is of small diameter so that after the flag is wrapped around it it can be easily introduced into the column.

According to Figs. 5 and 6 the column 1 is externally threaded at the upper end and fitted with a coupling 19 on which is cast a hook 20 for supporting the lantern. In the upper end of the coupling there is a threaded disk 21 which is fastened on the end of a small pipe 22 designed to constitute a handle and also a socket for the flag pole 16 and having a cap 23 screwed on its upper end.

The disk 21 will be screwed into the upper end of the coupling 19 either with the flag pole upright as in Fig. 5 or with the flag 17 and pole 16 housed as in Fig. 6 to protect them against the weather.

6 The design and material used make it possible to manufacture the improved stand cheaply. It is entirely of metal with a low center of gravity so as to give it great stability against the wind and accidental blows, and has a wide base when in use. When the feet are folded and the flag housed it makes a small package, convenient for transportation and storage.

15 Various modifications may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the invention as defined in the following claims.

What I claim is:

20 1. A portable stand of the character described comprising a hollow column threaded externally at its lower end, a hub having threads for engagement with the threaded end of said column and having a plurality of radially extending sockets, ears disposed on opposite sides of said sockets and carrying pivots, feet carried between said ears having their inner ends slidably engaging said sockets, the feet having longitudinal slots through which said pivots pass and a spring engaging each foot and its pivot and tending when the foot is swung down to push it into the socket and when the foot is swung up to push its lower extremity across the length of the socket so as to lock it in the collapsed position.

40 2. A portable stand of the character described comprising a tubular column having external threads at its lower end and internal threads at its upper end, a hub in screw threaded engagement with the lower end of the column, said hub having radial sockets and outward ears carrying pivots, feet carried between the ears and having longitudinal slots through which the pivots pass, a spring engaging each foot and its pivot and tending when the foot is swung down to push it into the socket and when the foot is swung up to push its lower portion across the length of the socket so as to lock it in position, the upper internal threaded extremity of said column being adapted to coact with threads on a fitting for supporting a signal.

50 3. A portable signal stand of the character described having a column and a hub at the lower end thereof having sockets and outward ears carrying pivots, feet carried between the ears and adapted to be swung up close to the column for transportation and to be swung down to provide an extended base, each foot having a slot therein through which the respective pivots pass, each slot terminating in a vertical surface between said ears, the lower portion of each slot being beveled downwardly and outwardly, each

separate pivot pin being spaced from each respective surface a distance substantially equal to half the depth of said feet so that when the latter are swung up to collapsed position they will be seated against such surface so as to prevent free movement of the feet about said pivot pins.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name.

JOHN L. LUFKIN.