J. CONNOR.

BADGE.

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1,082,679.

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Fig. 1.

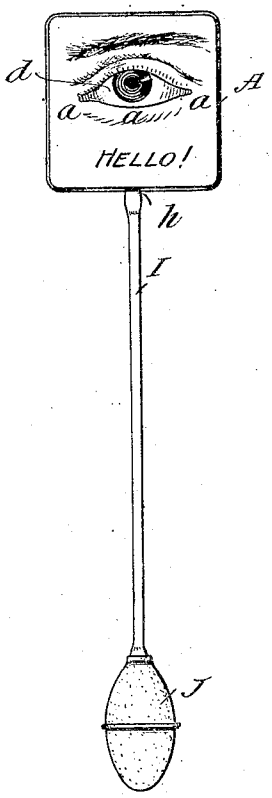


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

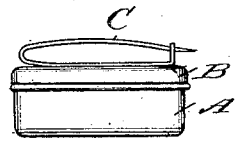


Fig. 1a.

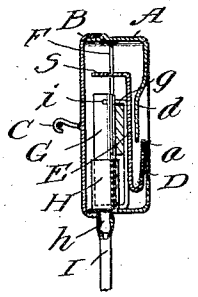


Fig. 2a.

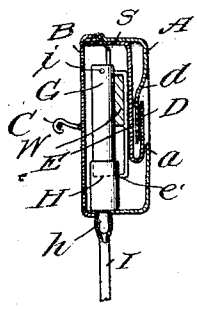


Fig. 1b.

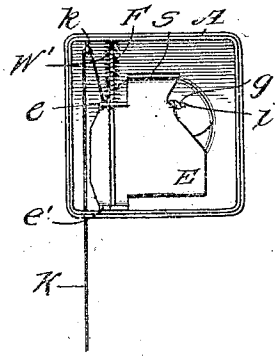
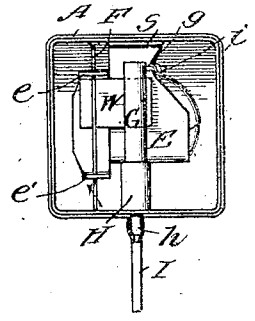


Fig. 2b.



WITNESSES

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BADGE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES CONNOR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenville, in the county of Hunt and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Badges, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a form of badge to be pinned or worn upon the coat, or other garment, for purposes of salutation, advertising, campaigning, witticisms, &c., in which the leading idea is a representation of some such design as the human eye constructed so as to be capable of being winked at the will of the wearer or otherwise moved.

It is an improvement on that form of badge, by which the parts are more simply and cheaply constructed and are made to lie more flatly against the garment of the wearer, as will be hereinafter more fully described with reference to the drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a front view of the device with the eye open. Fig. 2 is a front view of the device with the eye closed. Figs. 1^a and 2^a are vertical sections, showing the two different positions of parts. Fig. 2^b is a rear view of Figs. 2 and 2^a with the rear cover plate removed. Fig. 1^b is a similar rear view, showing a slight modification, and Fig. 3 is a top edge view, showing the safety pin for securing the device to the garment.

In the drawing the body of the badge consists of a hollow flat box consisting of two detachable parts. The front part A bears the representation of the eye and the legend and the back part B bears the attaching pin C. Each of these two parts is stamped up of thin sheet metal in one piece with flanges at right angles to the body part and are fastened detachably together by the telescopic connection of the flanges, as shown in Figs. 1^a and 2^a. The face of the front part A is a flat surface and in stamping up the front part A the metal is cut through the middle entirely along the curved line *a*, *a*, *a*, representing the lower margin of the eye, and the metal above this cut-through line is slightly dished inwardly, as seen at *d*, Figs. 1 and 1^a. The lower portion of the front part of the case is separated along line *a a a* far enough from the plane of the upper part to allow the blank wall D, representing the movable eyelid, to rise between the said lower part and the dished-in part, so as to obscure the representation of the ball of the eye which is painted, printed, photographed or otherwise portrayed on the face of the dished-in part *d*. When the wall D is so raised, as in Figs. 2 and 2^a, the eye appears closed, as the part D represents the lower lid which passes over the normal axis of the eye and covers the eyeball. These parts are all parallel to each other.

For imparting the desired movement at will to the movable member of the eye the blank lid D is connected at the bottom to a flat parallel plate E arranged vertically in the front part of the case as near as practicable to its front wall and this plate E has at both top and bottom flanges *e* and *e'*, which are perforated and through the holes in which flanges is arranged a small vertical rod F which is soldered or otherwise firmly fixed to the top and bottom flanges of the front part A of the case. This rod forms a guide upon which the plate E with blank lid D may freely rise and fall. This rectilinear movement permits the casing to be made very thin and flat, the views on the drawing being somewhat exaggerated as to thickness for clearer illustration. A stop flange *s* at the top of plate E limits its upward movement and the flange *e'* at the bottom limits the downward movement, so as to determine the extent of the rise and fall of the blank lid D.

For enabling the wearer to impart at will the movement to the blank lid I have shown two different means, either, or both, of which may be employed. One of these consists of a soft rubber bulb J and small soft rubber tube I connected to a nipple *h* which communicates with a fixed cylinder H in the case and within which cylinder is another, G, closed at the top and open at the bottom and sliding telescopically and sensitively within the lower cylinder, forming a pneumatic piston. A small laterally projecting pin *i* is fixed to the side of cylinder G and engages an inwardly projecting arm *g* of the plate E, so that when bulb J is squeezed the increased air pressure within cylinders G, H, causes G to rise like a piston, as seen in Figs. 2^a and 2^b, and this, lifting plate E, raises the eyelid D and appears to close the eye, as seen at Fig. 2. A quick succession of impulses from the bulb produces any desired number of winks and there is no joggling or apparent movement of the body of the badge. When the bulb expands, after being compressed, it quickly sucks down the pneu-

matic piston, giving the quick action of a wink. As a substitute for this pneumatic means, a small cord K, see Fig. 1ᵇ enters the lower part of the case and extends up to and around a hook *k* at the top of the case and is then carried down and connected to the plate E. This is a very much simpler and cheaper arrangement and also permits the eye to be held closed for any desired time. Either of these means may be employed individually, or the device may be equipped with them both, if desired. To cause the plate E to descend more quickly for rapid winking, a weight W may be attached to the back of plate E, but this may be dispensed with by simply making the plate E heavier or a spring *w'*, as in Fig. 1ᵇ, may be used for this purpose, or even a soft rubber band.

The device as thus described constitutes a striking and attractive advertising badge. For purposes of salutation there will be printed on the face of the badge such legends as, "Hello!" "Good morning!" "Fine day!"; or for business purposes such words as "Buy ———!", "Show me!"; or for campaign purposes "Vote for ———!", "Hurrah for ———!"; or witticisms, such as "Smile!", "Forget it!", "Show me!", "Why," &c., or any other exclamation or epigram, the winking of the eye calling attention to the same and adding emphasis thereto.

The badge is designed to be made in the proportions of a button about the size of a silver half dollar, but it may be made in any sizes and of any desired material.

As such devices are required to be made and sold very cheaply, the great merit of my invention is to be found in the flat and thin form of the device in which the front flat face is stamped out of a single piece of material with the upper part deflected inwardly from the lower part, but in parallel planes, together with the rectilinear movement of the actuating mechanism and the separable form of the case, which permits the parts to be inspected and repaired, or readjusted by the user.

I am aware that a mechanical winking eye is not broadly new, as it has been employed for many years in sleeping dolls and in advertising devices, and I am also aware that the mechanically actuating means which I employ are not new, and I do not claim them alone, nor do I limit myself to their specific employment.

I claim:

1. A badge comprising a thin hollow casing with a substantially flat front face made in one piece and severed across the middle, with one severed edge deflected inwardly into a different plane from the other edge but in parallel relation thereto, a rectilinearly movable flat plate playing between these two edges in parallel relation to the front face, and means for actuating the same.

2. A badge comprising a closed hollow casing of flat form made in two parts, each formed in a single piece with right angular flanges adapted to fit together with a telescopic joint, the rear one of said parts having means for attaching it to the garment and the front portion thereof being formed with a substantially flat face severed across the middle with one severed edge deflected inwardly into a different plane from the other edge but in parallel relation thereto, a rectilinearly movable flat plate playing between these two edges in parallel relation to the front face, and means for actuating the same.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES CONNOR.

Witnesses:
F. E. Howse,
W. R. Munn.