E. R. NEWTON.

HAND SIGNAL DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 27, 1916.

1,197,652. Patented Sept. 12, 1916.

Fig. 1

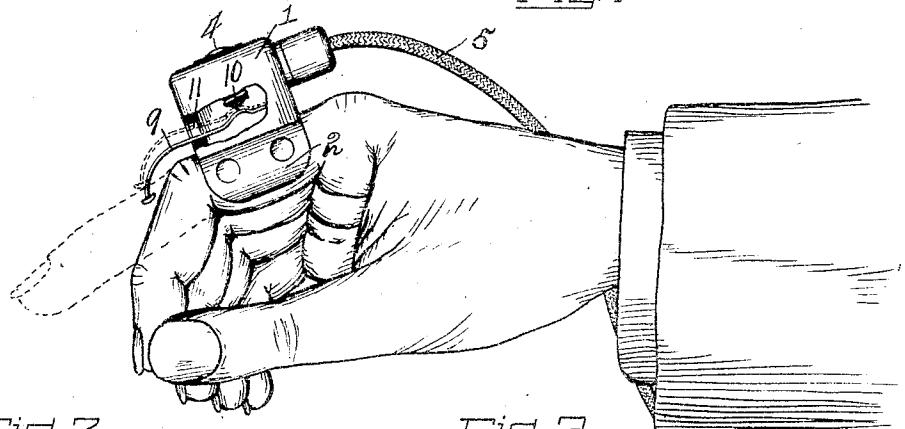


Fig. 2.

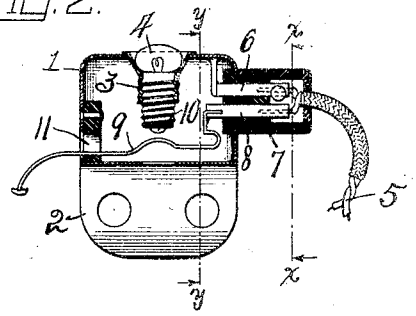


Fig. 3.

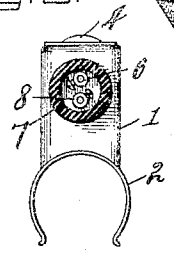


Fig. 4.

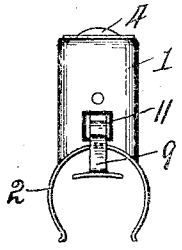
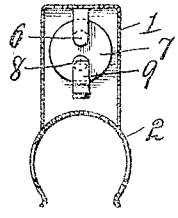


Fig. 5.



INVENTOR

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HAND SIGNAL DEVICE.

1,197,652. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 12, 1916.

Application filed March 27, 1916. Serial No. 86,988.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD R. NEWTON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Hand Signal Device; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to electric signal devices of the type particularly intended for use by the drivers of automobiles and other power driven vehicles to display a signal to following vehicles when it is desired to stop in or turn across the path thereof.

The object of my invention is the provision of an improved signal device of this character, which is simple, compact and efficient in its construction, and has its light circuit opened and closed by a respective closing and opening of the hand.

The invention is fully described in the following specification, and while, in its broader aspect, it is capable of embodiment in numerous forms, a preferred embodiment thereof is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a device embodying the invention applied to a hand as it appears in use and with a part thereof broken away. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the device. Fig. 3 is a section on the line *x*—*x* in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a front end elevation thereof, and Fig. 5 is a section on the line *y*—*y* in Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a hollow case of small dimension, which is mounted at its bottom portion on a finger engaging clip 2, which, in the present instance, is of split ring form to adapt it to be easily engaged with or removed from the finger of a hand. The top of the case 1 is provided with a socket 3, through which the plug portion of a small electric light bulb 4 may be threaded with its inner end exposed to the interior of the case.

5 designates the two circuit wires which lead from any suitable source of electric current supply, one being attached to a binding post 6, which extends into the case 1 through an insulating bushing 7 in a side thereof and has electrical connection with the side contact of the lamp bulb, in the present instance, through the case 1 and socket 3. The other circuit wire 5 is attached to a binding post 8, which extends into the case through the insulating bushing 7 and carries a spring contact finger 9 at its inner end, said finger extending across the case beneath the center contact 10 of the electric lamp in normal spaced relation thereto, as shown in Fig. 2. The free end of the contact finger 9 projects through an insulated opening 11 in the side of the case 1 opposed to that through which the conductor part 8 projects, and terminates in position to be engaged and moved to circuit closing position by the finger carrying the device when such finger is straightened out, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. The relation of the spring contact finger 9 to the finger carrying the device is such that the contact finger will remain out of circuit closing position when the fingers of the hand are carried in normal partially closed position. Upon a straightening of the fingers, however, which is invariably done unconsciously by the driver of the vehicle when throwing his hand out at the side of the car to warn a following vehicle, the contact finger 9 is moved to make contact with the center contact of the lamp bulb and to close the circuit in which the lamp is disposed, thereby giving a light signal to the driver of the following vehicle.

It is evident that I have provided a signal device which is light and small in its construction, adapted to be carried by the finger of a hand of a driver in a manner which will not interfere with the handling of the car, and is capable of being operated to display a signal upon the opening or straightening out of the fingers of the hand from the normal partially closed position thereof, thus admirably adapting the device for use not only by the drivers of vehicles but by trainmen and other persons using signal devices of an illuminating character.

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

A signal device comprising a case, means carried by the case for removably attaching it to the finger of a hand between two adjacent joints thereof, an incandescent lamp bulb mounted in said case, a pair of conductor posts projecting into said case from without the same, one post having electrical connection with one contact of said lamp

and the other post having a spring conductor finger projecting therefrom through the case and without the opposite side thereof, said spring finger being in normally spaced relation to the other contact of said lamp and having its free end terminating in position without the case to cause it to be moved into circuit closing contact with the lamp by the straightening out of a finger carrying the device.

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

EDWARD R. NEWTON.