Feb. 11, 1936. F. C. HOWARD 2,030,255

BUMPER GUARD

Filed June 28, 1933

Fig. 1

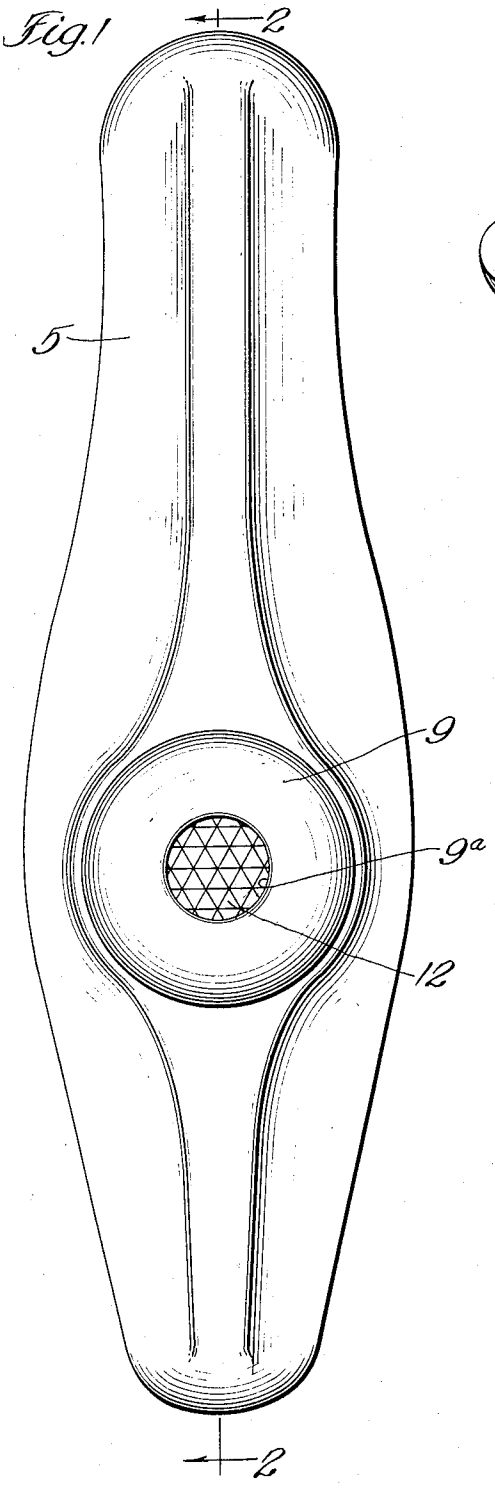


Fig. 3

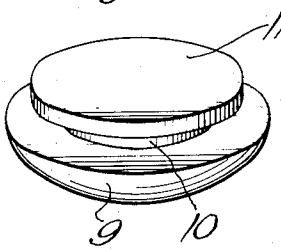
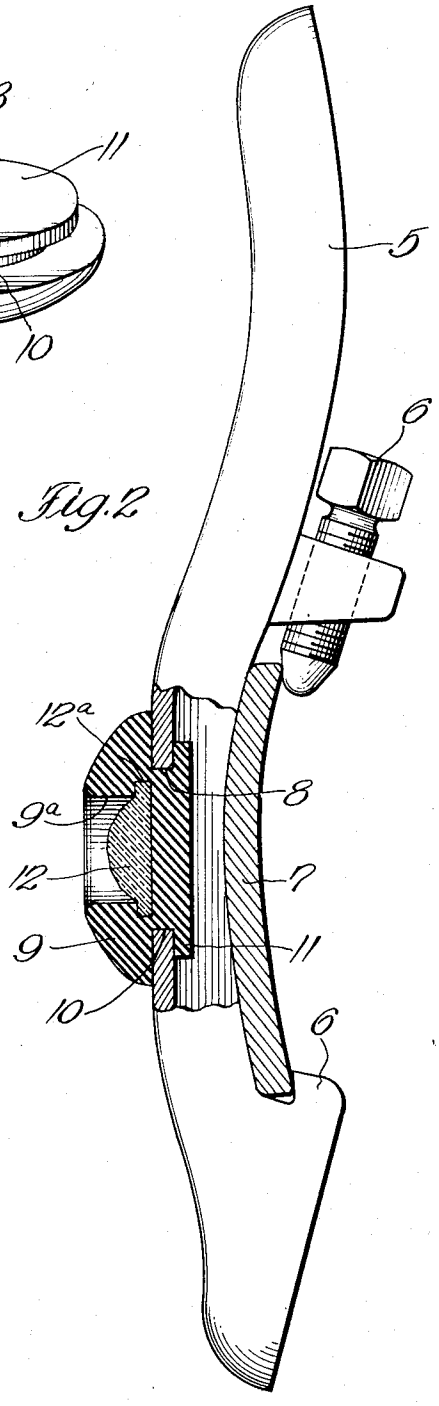


Fig. 2



INVENTOR:-
Frank C. Howard
BY Stevens & Batchelor
ATTORNEYS.

Patented Feb. 11, 1936 2,030,255

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,030,255

BUMPER GUARD

Frank C. Howard, Chicago, Ill., assignor to American Automatic Devices Co., Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Application June 28, 1933, Serial No. 678,094

5 Claims. (Cl. 293—55)

My invention relates to guards usually applied frontally of automobile bumpers at the points of most probable impact or collision, and my main object is to provide a guard of this kind with a novel cushioning element by means of which shocks of direct impact are absorbed.

A further object of the invention is to design the novel cushioning element as an attachment for easy application and removal.

Another object of the invention is to construct the novel cushioning element in the form of a button and with integral retaining means for attachment to the guard.

An additional object of the invention is to incorporate in the novel cushioning element a reflecting jewel for purposes of attraction.

With the above objects in view and any others that may suggest themselves from the specification and claims to follow, a better understanding of the invention may be had by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a typical bumper guard improved with my invention;

Fig. 2 is a side view partly in section, and

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the novel cushioning element.

Referring specifically to the drawing, 5 denotes a typical guard of the character mentioned, the same having suitable clamping means 6 on the rear side for securing it to a bar type of bumper 7. Incidentally, the type of clamping means or particular form of the guard is immaterial to the present invention, and I make no claim therefor.

Guards of the type under consideration are ordinarily of hollow or dished form, and for the purpose of my invention I make a perforation 8 in the front wall of the guard at the height of the bumper. The cushioning element is a single piece of soft rubber formed with a button head 9, a neck 10 and a disc 11 in succession as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

The neck 10 of the cushioning element is approximately of the same diameter as the perforation 8 in the guard so that the cushion may be applied to the latter by forcing the flange 11 through the perforation so as to overlie the latter on the inside of the guard as shown clearly in Fig. 2. The head 9 is, of course, larger than the flange and occupies the greater portion of the guard at the height of the bumper.

As mounted, the head 9 of the cushioning element presents a thick rubber cushion frontally of the guard and at a height to meet the bumpers of other cars, but instead of striking the same forcibly, the shock is absorbed and clashing or marring effects on other bumpers are avoided.

The center of the head 9 is preferably made with a recess 9a in which I lodge a reflector jewel 12 so as to be clearly seen frontally of the car. The marginal portion 12a of the jewel is firmly imbedded in the stock of the cushioning element so that no special securing means are necessary for the jewel.

It will be seen that the novel features present a neat and effective improvement in bumper guards, saving the same and other bumpers from injury and eliminating shocks and damage. The device is easily attachable and may be removed by simply pulling it out, in case where the head has become worn or deformed, and easily replaced. Finally, with the addition of the reflector jewel, the device also serves as an attraction and signal to other cars.

I claim:—

1. In a device of the type described, the combination of a metal bar having an opening therethrough, a cushioning member of yielding material secured on the front face of said bar and having a socket in its front face substantially opposite to said opening, and a reflector secured in said socket so arranged as to be capable of yielding backwardly through said opening upon heavy backward pressure on said cushioning member or on said reflector.

2. In a device of the type described, the combination of a metal bar having an opening therethrough, a cushioning member of yielding material secured on the front face of said bar and having a socket in its front face substantially opposite to said opening, and a reflector secured in said socket and spaced well back from the forward open end of the socket whereby the reflector is protected from a blow from the front and is protected with respect to backward pressure thereon by its ability to yield backwardly through said opening.

3. In a device of the type described, the combination of a transverse bumper bar, a second bar secured in crossed relationship to said first named bar and having an opening through a portion in front of said first named bar and in spaced relation thereto, a cushioning member of yielding material extending through said opening and held in position therein by outwardly extending flange portions at opposite faces of said second named bar and having a socket in its front face substantially opposite said opening, and a reflector secured in said socket and yield-

able backwardly through said opening upon backward pressure thereon.

4. In a device of the type described, the combination of a transverse bumper bar, a second bar secured in crossed relationship to said first named bar and having an opening through a portion in front of said first named bar and in spaced relation thereto, a cushioning member of yielding material extending through said opening and held in position therein by outwardly extending flange portions at opposite faces of said second named bar and having a socket in its front face substantially opposite said opening, and a reflector secured in said socket in substantially spaced relation backwardly with respect to the forward open end of the socket and of smaller diameter than said opening whereby said reflector is adapted to yield backwardly through said opening.

5. In a device of the type described, the combination of a metal bar having an opening therethrough, a cushioning member of yielding material having an outwardly open groove into which the metal of the bar about the opening extends for holding the cushioning member in position and having a socket in its front face provided with an inwardly open groove at its rear end, and a reflector secured in said inwardly open groove and held in position by said member.

FRANK C. HOWARD.