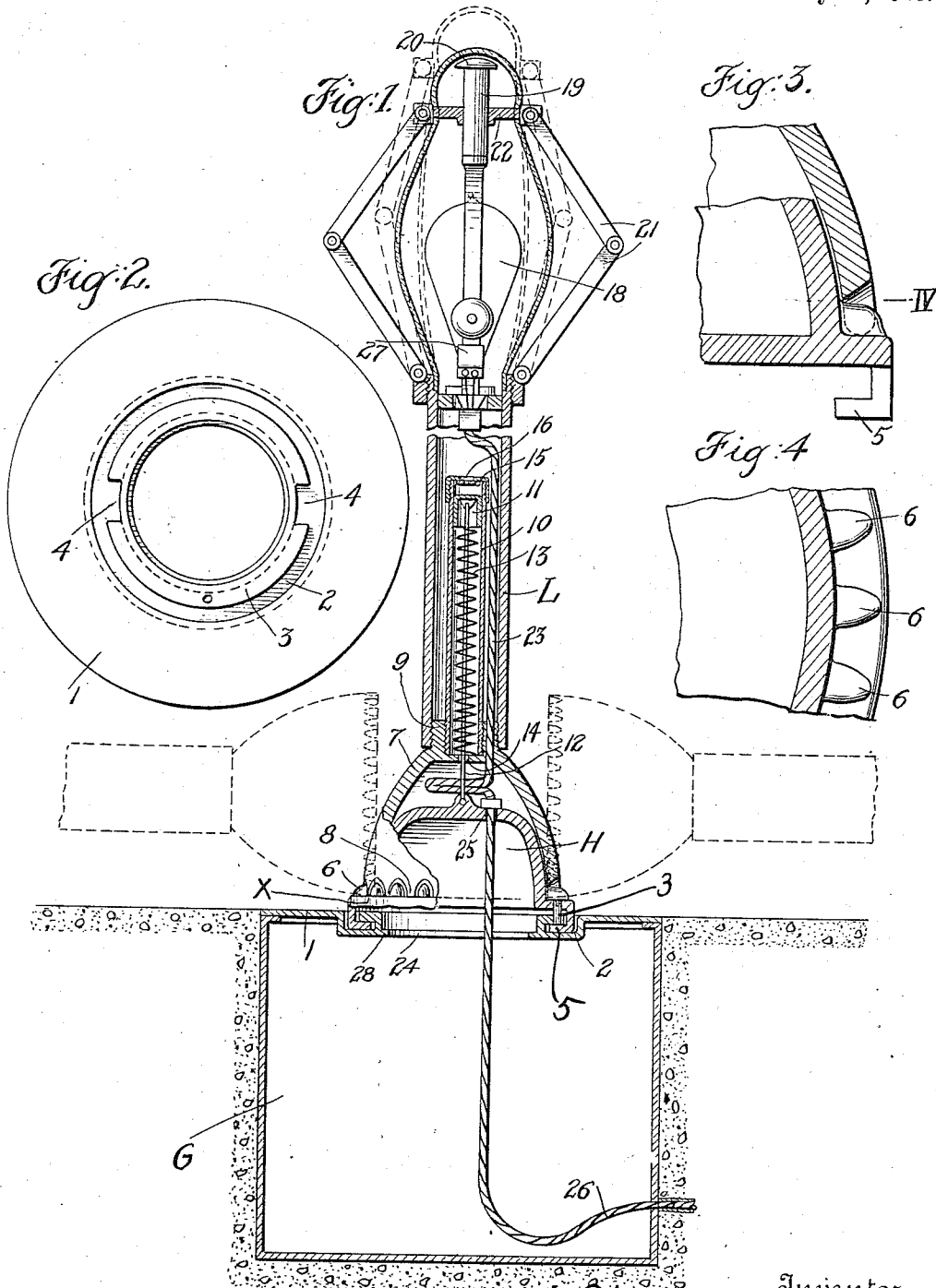


C. A. POOLE.
TILTABLE STREET POST.
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Inventor
Charles A. Poole
By his Attorney
Charles H. Wilson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. POOLE, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

TILTABLE STREET-POST.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. POOLE, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tilttable Street-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a tilttable street post and the object thereof is to provide a post which may be set up in a thoroughfare as a direction or like signal, and which comprises means whereby it will automatically right itself in case it should be accidentally struck over by a passing vehicle.

A further object is to provide improved means for maintaining the post against displacement from its intended position when struck, and to provide improved means for causing the post to right itself.

A further object is to provide a collapsible cage or lantern structure in connection with the post whereby the likelihood of injury to the lantern or to passing vehicles may be reduced to a minimum.

A further object is to provide an improved and efficient means for connecting the post structure to the bed of the thoroughfare, also improved means for providing electrical connection, etc., with the post structure.

Other objects and aims of the invention, more or less specific than those referred to above, will be in part obvious and in part pointed out in the course of the following description of the elements, combinations, arrangements of parts and applications of principles, constituting the invention; and the scope of protection contemplated will be indicated in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings which are to be taken as a part of this specification, and in which I have shown a merely preferred form of embodiment of the invention:

Figure 1 is a transverse vertical sectional view through a post structure made in accordance with the provisions of this invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the part of the device which is fixed permanently to the road-bed.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary detail sectional view; and

Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view taken upon the plane of line IV—IV of Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings for a detailed

description of the structure which is illustrated therein, the reference character L indicates the body of the post, the reference character G indicates a box which is fixed permanently in the road-bed, and the reference character H indicates an attaching member which is adapted to be detachably fixed to the cover 1 of the box G and about which the body L is free to swing.

Any suitable means may be employed for detachably connecting the attaching member to the cover 1 but preferably a bayonet-slot arrangement is provided. As illustrated, the cover, which will be hereinafter referred to as the ground plate, is provided with an annular groove 2 therein having an overhanging flange 3, said flange being cut away at opposite points, as at 4, to permit the introduction of a pair of hook-shaped legs depending from the attaching member H. By inserting the legs 5 within the openings 4 and thereafter rotating the attaching member the hook-shaped portions of said legs will engage beneath the under surface of the flange 3 and will prevent accidental disconnection of the attaching member, as will be readily understood. If desired, the under surface of the flange 3 may be beveled for more firmly gripping the ends of the legs 5 as the attaching member is rotated.

The upper surface of the attaching member is frusto-conical in shape and a series of teeth 6 is provided about the base thereof.

The lower end of the body L is connected to an egg-shaped shell 7 which normally fits down over the frusto-conical portion of the attaching member, the lower annular edge of said shell being provided with teeth 8 for intermeshing with the teeth 6 to prevent any unintentional rotation of the shell relatively to the attaching member.

In case, for any reason, the post should be thrown down, as into any one of the dotted positions shown in Fig. 1, the teeth 6 and 8 will maintain their engagement at least at one point and will insure the proper relative position between the body and the attaching member.

The body L preferably comprises a tubular member having its lower end threaded upon an extension 9 at the upper end of the shell 7.

Within the body L a tube 10 is provided and within said tube a piston head 11. A connecting cable or rod 12 extends from the piston rod 11 downwardly through the tube

10 into connection with the upper end of the attaching member H. A spring 13 is arranged within the tube 10 for pressing the piston head upwardly, the lower end of the spring resting upon a shoulder 14 formed upon the shell 7.

The upper end of the tube 10 is closed by a cap 15 having a valve 16 therein, said valve being arranged to open when the piston 11 moves downwardly, but to close when the piston moves upwardly. The valve is provided with a small vent therein for permitting a gradual upward movement of the piston.

By this means when the post is thrown over to one side, say to the position shown by the dotted lines at the left of Fig. 1, the cable 12 will draw down the piston 11 against the tension of the spring, the valve 16 opening to permit free downward movement of the piston. As soon as the post is released the spring will move the piston upwardly, and the post, pivoting at the point X, will swing upwardly again into its original position, the valve 16 meanwhile closing to brake the upward swinging so as to prevent any undue back and forth movement, or so as to prevent likelihood of injury either to the post or to any person or property that may be in a position to be struck by the post during the rising movement.

The same operation, of course, will occur when the post is thrown to any radial position.

Any suitable cage or lantern structure may be provided at the upper end of the body but preferably a collapsible one is employed.

In the structure illustrated a globe 17 is fixed to the upper end of the body L and a lamp 18 is arranged therein. It is intended that the globe 17 be made of a flexible transparent material, such as celluloid, mica, or the like, and it is held in normal position, as shown by the full lines in Fig. 1, by a standard 19 extending upwardly within the same, the lower end of the standard being fixed to the upper end of the body L. A head 20 is provided upon the standard for engaging against the inner upper end surface of the globe to retain it in normal position. A series of toggle links 21 are arranged exteriorly of the globe so as to form a cage to protect the globe, said toggle links being pivotally connected at their lower ends to the upper end of the body L, at their upper ends to a slide plate 22 slidably engaging the standard 19.

When pressure is brought to bear upon the sides of the cage which is formed by the toggle links, said links are straightened out more or less, as illustrated by the dotted lines. This is accomplished without undue shock to the lamp, or to the globe, and ample protection is thereby afforded.

The fact that the cage is collapsible is also of material advantage and value for protecting the passing vehicles. For instance, in case a vehicle should knock the post down and run over the same, the cage will be readily collapsed by contact with the under mechanism of the vehicle and injury to the under mechanism of the vehicle will be thus avoided.

The lamp 18 may be supplied from a tank of gas, or from any other suitable source contained within the box G, if desired, in which instance a tube or cable or the like, as 23, will extend upwardly through an opening 24 in the top of the box, thence through an opening 25 in the attaching member H, thence along the inner surface of the shell 7 and upwardly through the body L to the lamp.

Usually, however, the supply for the lamp is drawn from an outside source through a cable 26, as illustrated.

It is also a part of this invention to provide a signal device, as 27, in connection with the post adapted to be sounded, or to give a signal by some other means, when for instance fire engines or the like are approaching the vicinity of the post. For this purpose the cables 26 and 23 may contain wires connected to the fire alarm box, or to some other source, said wires leading to the signal 27 whereby said signal may be caused to operate upon the approach of the fire engines, or the like, so that the attendant policeman or guard may be apprised of the necessity for clearing the thoroughfare preparatory to the passage of the fire engines.

Since it is intended that the attaching member H be removed when desired, it becomes necessary to provide means for closing the opening 24 in the ground plate, or top 1. For this purpose the ground plate is provided with an annular ledge 28 thereon adapted to receive and support a suitable closure member.

As many changes could be made in this construction without departing from the scope of the following claims, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative only and not in a limiting sense.

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

1. In a street post, a ground plate, an attaching member detachably connected to said ground plate, a post movably connected to said attaching member, and resilient means for maintaining said post in a normal position.

2. In a street post, a ground plate, an attaching member detachably connected to said ground plate, a post movably connected

to said attaching member, and resilient means extending between said attaching member and said post for maintaining said post in a normal position.

3. In a street post, a ground plate, an attaching member detachably connected to said ground plate, a post connected to said attaching member movable into and out of a normal position, means for urging the post into said normal position, and means for braking the movement of the post into said normal position.

4. A device of the class described, a post, means for resiliently connecting the post to a road-bed or the like, comprising a piston arranged within the post having connection with a part fixed to the road-bed, a spring engaging the piston to force the piston upwardly away from the road-bed adapted to be compressed when the piston moves in one direction and adapted thereby to urge the piston in an opposite direction for maintaining the post in a vertical position, and means cooperating with the piston to brake movement thereof in one of said directions for the purpose set forth.

5. A device of the class described, comprising a post, a lamp at the upper end of said post, a box beneath said post, means for resiliently connecting said post to said box, supply conducting means for said lamp within said box, and extensible means for connecting said conducting means with said lamp.

6. A street post likely to be knocked down by a passing vehicle or the like, means carried thereby likely to be injured by the falling of the post, and a collapsible protecting cage for said last mentioned means.

7. A street post likely to be knocked down by a passing vehicle or the like, means car-

ried thereby likely to be injured by the falling of the post, and a flexible globe for said last mentioned means.

8. A street post likely to be knocked down by a passing vehicle or the like, means carried thereby likely to be injured by the falling of the post, a flexible globe for said last mentioned means, and a protecting casing for said globe.

9. A street post likely to be knocked down by a passing vehicle or the like, means carried thereby likely to be injured by the falling of the post, a flexible globe for said last mentioned means, and a collapsible cage for said globe.

10. A street post likely to be knocked down by a passing vehicle or the like, means carried thereby likely to be injured by the falling of the post, a flexible globe for said last mentioned means, a casing for said globe, and means whereby said casing is adapted to flex said globe when pressure is brought to bear laterally upon said casing.

11. A street post likely to be knocked down by a passing vehicle or the like, a signal carried thereby likely to injure the passing vehicle, and means whereby said signal is collapsible to avoid injury to the vehicle.

12. A street post likely to be knocked down by a passing vehicle or the like, a lamp at the upper end thereof, a cage for said lamp likely to injure the passing vehicle, and means whereby said cage is collapsible to avoid injury to the passing vehicle.

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

CHARLES A. POOLE.

Witnesses:

L. GESSFORD HANDY,
EMMA WEINBERG.