J. H. LEHMAN.

TRAFFIC DIRECTION INDICATOR.

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1,284,376.

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Fig 2.

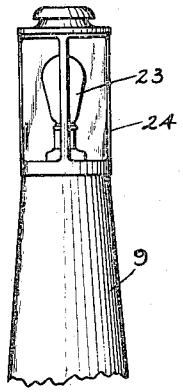


Fig 1.

Witness

Inventor
John H. Lehman
By Louis C. Vanderlip.
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. LEHMAN, OF ELKHART, INDIANA.

TRAFFIC DIRECTION-INDICATOR.

1,284,376. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 12, 1918.

Application filed January 25, 1918. Serial No. 213,732.

To all whom it may concern.

Be it known that I, JOHN H. LEHMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing in Elkhart, county of Elkhart, Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Traffic Direction-Indicators, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for controlling and directing traffic at street intersections, and especially to flexible devices of the class described.

It is usual to place devices of this character at the center of street intersections for directing vehicle drivers to the right of way, or in a given direction, the device usually consisting of a post of wood or metal rigidly mounted in the roadway or pavement. This type of direction indicator is very objectionable because a collision therewith generally results in serious damage to the vehicle, or destruction of the post, or both.

An object of my invention is the production of a flexible traffic direction indicator which cannot readily be broken or injured by, or cause injury to, a vehicle which accidentally, or otherwise, collides therewith. Another object of the invention is the production of a device of the character described which is simple, easily mounted in position for service, and one in which the parts and members are very accessible in the event of injury or breakage. Other objects of my invention are mentioned and described hereinafter.

The preferred embodiment of my invention is well illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which, Figure 1 is a view in elevation showing the essential members of the device in section; and Fig. 2 is a fragment of the post upon the top of which a lamp is mounted.

Similar numerals of reference indicate similar members and parts of members throughout the several views on the drawing.

On the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates the blocks of a street intersection pavement in which an excavation may be made for the introduction of a concrete foundation member 2 which is adapted to carry the post member hereinafter described and to sustain the stresses set up by the movements of said post when the latter is projected from a vertical position. The numeral 3 indicates a foundation cap member of semiglobular formation provided with the annular flanged portion 4 which is adapted to be fixed in the concrete base 2 when the latter is formed, said cap being centrally apertured at 5 and having an annular flange 6 depending therefrom around said aperture.

The numeral 7 indicates a tubular spring case embedded in the concrete base 2 and having its upper end arranged within the flange 6. The numeral 8 indicates a pin arranged transversely of and within the case 7, rigidly fixed in the walls thereof intermediate the extremities of said case, and adapted to anchor the coil spring hereinafter described. The numeral 9 indicates a post member of any suitable form and material the lower end whereof is provided with the semi-globular base member 10 rigidly fastened to the post 9 in any suitable manner, said base member being centrally apertured at 11 and in registration with the longitudinal spring chamber 12 formed in the post. Numeral 13 indicates a chamber formed in the post 9 intermediate its extremities and having a lateral opening 14 covered by the removable plate 15 and with which the spring chamber 12 is in communication.

Numeral 16 indicates a coil spring arranged within the tube 7 and projecting through the apertures 5 and 11 of said semi-globular members into the post chamber 12, being removably anchored to the tube pin 8 by the hook 17 and connected with the hook bolt 18 at its upper end, said hook bolt being mounted upon the block 19 removably arranged within the chamber 13.

The block 19 is preferably rectangular or square and the chamber 13 made to conform therewith to prevent rotation of said block, the latter being provided with a square or polygonal aperture 20. Numeral 21 indicates a square or polygonal portion of the hook bolt 18 which is slidably arranged in the block aperture 20, the upper end of said bolt extending through said block aperture and having an adjustment nut 22 screw threaded thereon for regulating the tension of the spring 16.

In Fig. 2 the numeral 23 indicates an electric lamp carried within a transparent casing 24 the lamp being adapted to be suitably connected with a source of electrical energy for night illumination.

It is evident that my invention constitutes a very flexible post, one that readily springs into a vertical position when deflected by any cause; that it is readily mounted or removed from its foundation; and that it

offers the minimum of obstruction to travel and traffic in the streets. It is also obvious that the rapidity with which the post returns to a vertical position after deflection is governed to some extent by the tension of the spring 16 which is adjustable within reasonable limits.

Obviously my invention may be used for numerous other purposes not herein specified, such, for instance, as an ordinary hitching post, and for use within safety zones adjacent public squares, car tracks, and the like.

I claim:

1. A traffic direction indicator comprising a foundation member; an oscillatory post member mounted on said foundation member, said post carrying a spring chamber; an adjustable spring anchor mounted in said chamber; a flexible spring anchored in said foundation member and connected with said anchor; and means for adjusting said spring anchor.

2. In a device of the class described, a foundation member; a post carried by the foundation member and adapted for oscillation thereon; a spring anchored to the foundation member; and a spring anchor carried by the post, said spring being connected therewith, said spring anchor having a polygonal portion arranged within a polygonal recess which is adapted to prevent rotation of said spring anchor.

3. In a device of the class described, a foundation member; an oscillatory post member mounted upon said foundation member; a longitudinally adjustable spring anchor mounted in said post; a spring anchored in said foundation and connected with said anchor; means for adjusting said anchor, and thereby said spring; and means for preventing rotation of said anchor when under adjustment.

4. In a device of the class described, a foundation member; a post carried by the foundation member and adapted for oscillation thereon, said post having a spring chamber and a branch opening for said chamber; a spring anchor adjustably mounted in said spring chamber and accessible through the branch opening for adjustment; and a spring anchored in said foundation and connected with said anchor.

5. A device of the class described comprising, a foundation member having a spring chamber therein; an oscillatory post member carried by said foundation member and provided with a spring chamber which is open at the post base, said post chamber having a branch opening; and a spring mounted in said foundation spring chamber and extending therefrom into said post chamber and detachably fastened therein, whereby said post is maintained in a yieldable upright position, and whereby the spring fastening is accessible through said branch opening to enable the separation of post and spring.

6. A device of the class described comprising, a foundation member provided with a hemi-spherical projection, said projection having a spring chamber therein; an oscillatory post member carried by said foundation projection and provided with a spring chamber open at the post base, said post having a branch opening which is in communication with said spring chamber; a spring mounted in said foundation chamber and extending therefrom into said post spring chamber and detachably secured therein, whereby said post is maintained in a yieldable upright position; and means mounted in said post and accessible through the branch opening thereof for adjusting the tension of said spring.

7. A device of the class described comprising a foundation member provided with a substantially hemi-spherical top; an oscillatory post member having a bottom which is substantially hemi-spherical in formation and adapted to rest upon and coöperate with said foundation top, said post having a spring chamber; a spring anchor mounted in said spring chamber and adapted for adjustment therein; and a flexible spring anchored in said foundation member and connected with said anchor, the tension of said spring being variable by adjustment of said spring anchor.

8. A device of the class described comprising a chambered foundation member; an oscillatory post member mounted on said foundation member and provided with an apertured separate piece base member, said base member aperture registering with said foundation chamber when the post is upright; an adjustable spring anchor mounted in said post; and a spring anchored in said foundation chamber, said spring being connected with said spring anchor through said post base aperture.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature this 17th day of January, 1918.

JOHN H. LEHMAN.