A. F. KLINK.

PORTABLE BANNER.

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1,263,072.

Patented Apr. 16, 1918.

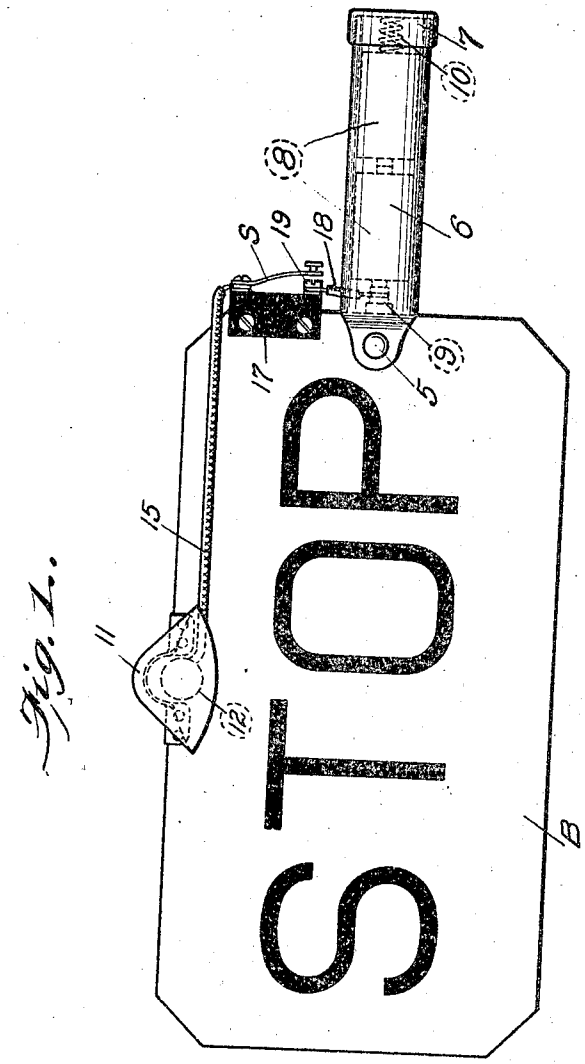


Fig. 1.

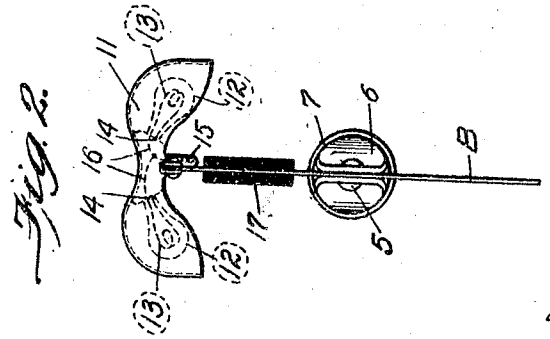


Fig. 2.

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PORTABLE BANNER.

1,263,072. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 16, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER F. KLINK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Portable Banner, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to banners or signs, and more particularly to portable banners which can be used by watchmen at highway crossings and for similar purposes.

One of the principal objects of this invention is to devise a novel, simple and cheap portable banner which can be used in the night as well as in the daytime and which will have a clear and arrestive appearance regardless of the force and direction of any wind that may be blowing.

Other objects and advantages will appear hereinafter as the description of the invention progresses, and the novel features of the invention will be pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawing, in which is illustrated the preferred physical embodiment of the invention, and in which like reference characters refer to like parts in the several views,

Figure 1 is a front view of a portable banner embodying the invention; and

Fig. 2 is a view looking toward the left-hand end of the banner as it is viewed in Fig. 1.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, the body portion or banner proper is designated B and comprises a piece of light sheet metal of a general rectangular shape upon both faces of which is painted the word "Stop" or other word or words of similar import, or other suitable arrestive figure or sign, the arrangement which I preferably employ being white letters on a red background. Secured to one end of the banner B in any suitable manner, as by rivets 5, is a hollow or tubular handle 6, which is provided with a cap 7 screwed over its end. The handle 6 forms a container for a number of dry cells, such as are commonly used in electric torches and the like, two of these cells designated 8 being shown. At one end of the handle 6 is secured an insulated contact button 9, with which one terminal of one of the cells 8 engages; and the two cells 8 are pressed together and toward the button 9 by a spring 10 secured to the inside face of the cap 7.

The cells 8 supply current for lighting suitable low voltage lamps which serve to illuminate the faces of the banner at night; and in the arrangement shown, a double reflecting hood 11 is secured to the top edge of the banner B near the middle and forms a support for two lamps 12, one for each side of the banner. To avoid complication in illustration, the sockets or other means used for supporting the lamps are not shown; but the support and connections are such that one terminal of each filament 13 of each lamp 12 is electrically connected or grounded to the banner B, as indicated by the dots 14, while the other terminals of said filaments are connected together and to an insulated wire 15, as indicated by the dotted lines 16 in Fig. 2. The conductor 15 is insulated from the banner B and extends to the rear edge thereof, where it is connected to the blade of a spring switch or key S, or other suitable circuit controller, mounted on a block 17 of insulating material secured to the rear edge of the banner B in convenient reach of a person holding the handle 6. A short insulated conductor 18 connects the stud 19 of the switch S with the button 9 in the handle 6.

When the switch S is closed, current may flow from one terminal of the cells 8 to the button 9, along conductor 18 to the stud 19 of the switch S, through the switch, along conductor 15 to the filaments of the lamps 12, thence to the banner, and through the handle 6, cap 7, and spring 10 back to the other terminal of the cells 8.

From the foregoing description it can be seen that there is provided by my invention a banner or sign which can be clearly seen and understood both in the night and in the daytime, and one which will not be tangled up by the wind, as is quite likely to happen with the ordinary flags or banners commonly used. The whole structure is light and can be easily handled by the watchman at a highway crossing and serves to give an indication which cannot be misunderstood, it being possible for the watchman to attract attention in special cases by waving the banner. Other features and advantages of the construction embodying the invention will be apparent without further explanation.

Obviously, various changes may be made in the particular construction shown and hereinbefore described without departing from the invention, and I do not wish to be restricted to the details of the construction as shown and described.

What I claim is:

An illuminated portable banner comprising a body portion of sheet metal, a hollow handle for carrying the banner secured to said body portion, a double reflecting hood secured to the upper edge of said body portion and adapted to reflect light over both faces of the body portion, electric lamps supported in said hood, dry cells contained in said handle, electrical conductors connecting said dry cells and said lamps, and a manually operable circuit controller included in said conductors.

ALEXANDER F. KLINK.