

Nov. 7, 1950

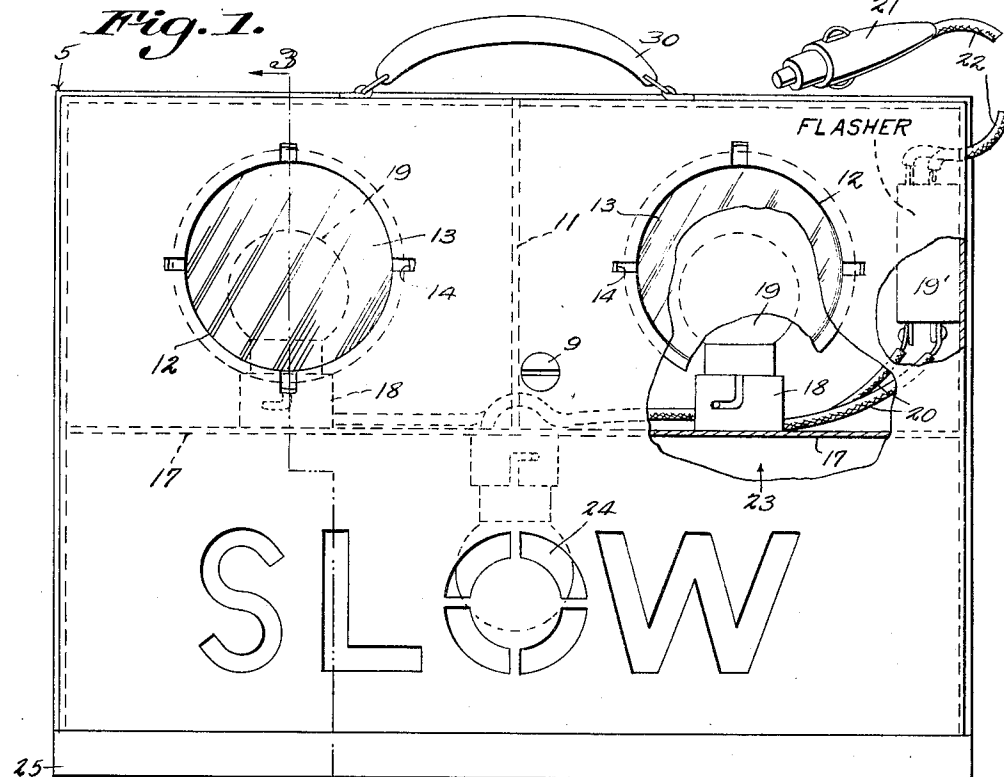
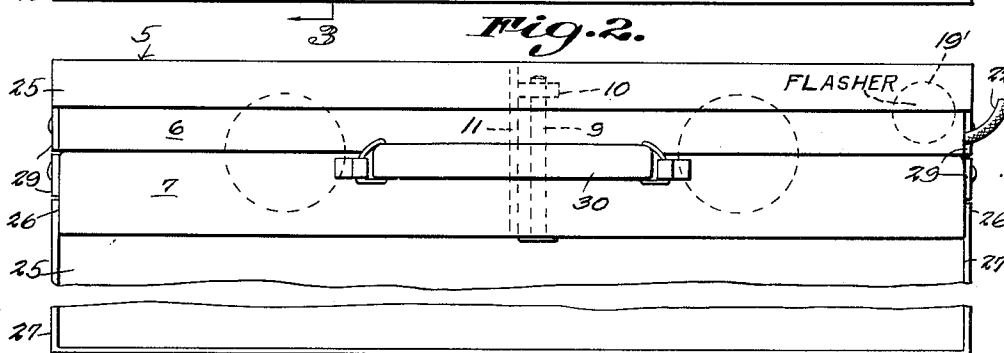
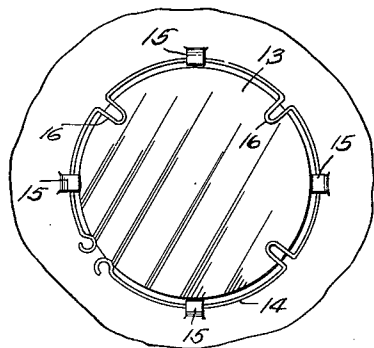
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2,528,490

FLASHER TYPE ELECTRIC FLARE

Filed March 28, 1949

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 3.

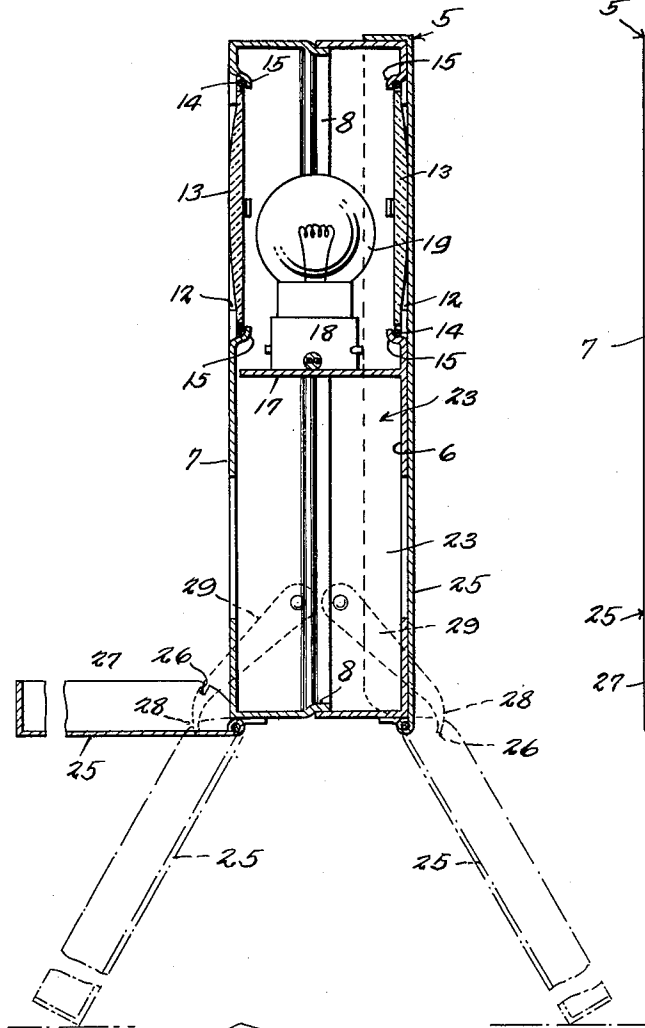


Fig. 4.

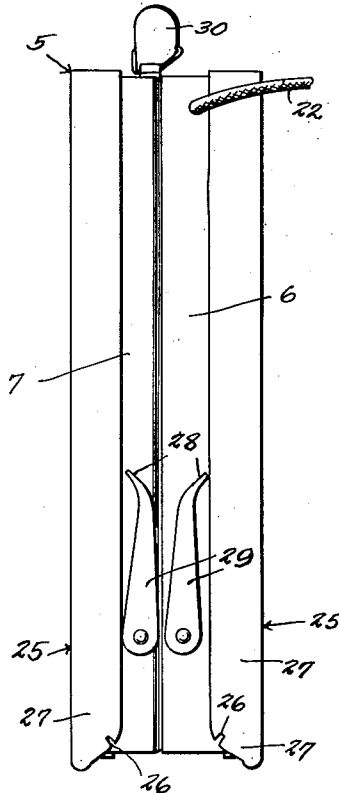
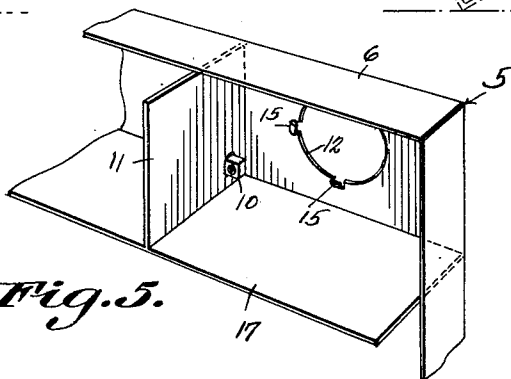


Fig. 5.



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FLASHER TYPE ELECTRIC FLARE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 177-329)

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This invention relates to portable flares or signals used primarily by operators of trucks or motor vehicles, for signaling to approaching vehicles, the danger of a stalled vehicle on the roadside.

An important object of the invention is to provide a flare which is electrically controlled to the end that the flare may be immediately set up for operation, eliminating the loss of time which frequently results in setting up the well known wick type of flare, wherein it is necessary to manually light the flare.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a flare of the flasher type which has the advantage of being much more conspicuous than the usual steady burning flare now in common use.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a flasher flare embodying a plurality of signal lights controlled by means for intermittently operating the lights.

A further object of the invention is to provide a flasher flare embodying a housing including hinged closures which when moved to their open positions, may be extended to provide supports for the housing.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is an elevational view of a flare constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on line 3-3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an end elevational view of the flare showing the closures in their closed positions.

Fig. 5 is a fragmental perspective view illustrating the horizontal and vertical partitions which divide the housing of the flare.

Fig. 6 is a fragmental elevational view illustrating the manner of securing the lenses in the flare openings.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the housing or casing of the flare is indicated generally by the reference character 5 and includes a pair of identical box-like sections 6 and 7. The section 7 is formed with a flange 8 over which the section 6 is positioned, the sections being

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held together by means of the bolt 9 which passes through an opening in the section 7, the threaded end of the bolt being positioned within the nut 10 that is secured to the vertical partition 11 that divides the upper portion of the housing or casing, into lateral light compartments.

The outer walls of the housing or casing, are provided with light openings 12, the openings being arranged in pairs at opposite sides of the partition 11 and disposed directly opposite to each other, so that light rays from a single lamp will pass through the openings at both sides of the casing, and at both sides of the partition 11. These openings are closed by means of the lenses 13 which are held in place by means of the split wire rings 14, the rings expanding into contact with the lugs 15 extending inwardly from the side walls of the casing, the split wire rings having fingers 16 that extend inwardly over the lenses, providing means whereby the lenses may be readily and easily removed or replaced.

Mounted within the housing or casing 5, midway the housing or casing, is the horizontal partition 17 on which the lamp sockets 18 are secured, the lamp sockets supporting the electric lamps 19 directly between each pair of lenses, to illuminate the lenses. The vertical partition 11 divides the space at the upper portion of the housing or casing directly above the horizontal partition 17, into lateral compartments so that when one lamp is lit, the light rays from the lit lamp will not be projected laterally into the adjacent compartment.

A flasher switch mechanism indicated at 19' is supported within the housing and is electrically connected with the sockets 18, by means of the wires 20, the flasher switch being connected with the plug 21 through the wire 22, the plug 21 being designed to fit within the usual lighter socket of the instrument board of the vehicle.

The partition 17 also divides the housing or casing horizontally to provide a lower compartment 23, the portions of the walls of the sections 6 and 7 opposite to the compartment 23, being cut out in such a way as to form letters spelling the word "Slow." A lamp indicated by the reference character 24 is suspended from the partition 17 and illuminates this lower compartment to cause the word "Slow" to be clearly visible. This lamp 24 is also in circuit with the flasher 19' so that the word "Slow" will be automatically flashed with the flashing of the signals of the flare.

Closures 25 are connected to the lower edges

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of the sections 6 and 7 of the housing or casing, and are so constructed that they fit over the outer surfaces of the sections 6 and 7, completely closing the outer surfaces of the housing or casing protecting the lenses and at the same time protecting the housing or casing against foreign matter entering the same to render it inoperative for immediate use.

These closures 25 are so constructed and arranged that they may swing downwardly into the dotted line positions shown by Fig. 3 of the drawings, where they provide inclined supporting legs. Notches 26 are provided in the flanges 27 of the closures 25, which notches accommodate the intumed ends 28 of the pivoted arms 29 which are secured to the ends of the casing sections 6 and 7, whereby the closures are held in their supporting positions.

When it is desired to set up the flare, it is only necessary to swing these closures 25 downwardly and set the arms 29.

The device may be conveniently carried by the handle 30.

While I have shown and described a flare which is provided with means whereby the mechanism thereof may be connected in the circuit of the motor vehicle through the cigarette lighting socket, it is to be understood that it is within the scope of the invention to mount a storage battery within the housing or casing and connect it with the circuits of the flare, to the end that the flare may be of the self-contained type.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A portable electric flare comprising a casing, lamp compartments within the casing, said lamp compartments having light openings, lamps supported between the light openings illuminating the light openings at opposite sides of the casing simultaneously, electric wires providing an elec-

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trical circuit between the lamps and a source of electricity supply, closures hingedly connected with the lower edge of the casing, said closures being movable downwardly away from the casing providing a support for the casing, and means for securing the closures in their casing supporting position.

2. A portable electric flare comprising a casing embodying a pair of identical box-like sections, cooperating flanges on the sections connecting the sections, a bolt extending into the sections, securing the sections together, said casing having oppositely disposed openings in the walls thereof, electric lamps arranged within the casing between oppositely disposed openings simultaneously illuminating the openings at opposite sides of the casing, wires providing a circuit between a source of electricity supply and said lamps, closures hingedly connected to the casing, said closures including flanges fitted around the marginal edge of the casing, said closures being movable downwardly to inclined positions with respect to the casing, providing supporting legs, notches formed on the closures, pivoted arms 25 mounted on the casing engageable within the notches normally holding the closures in their supporting positions.

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