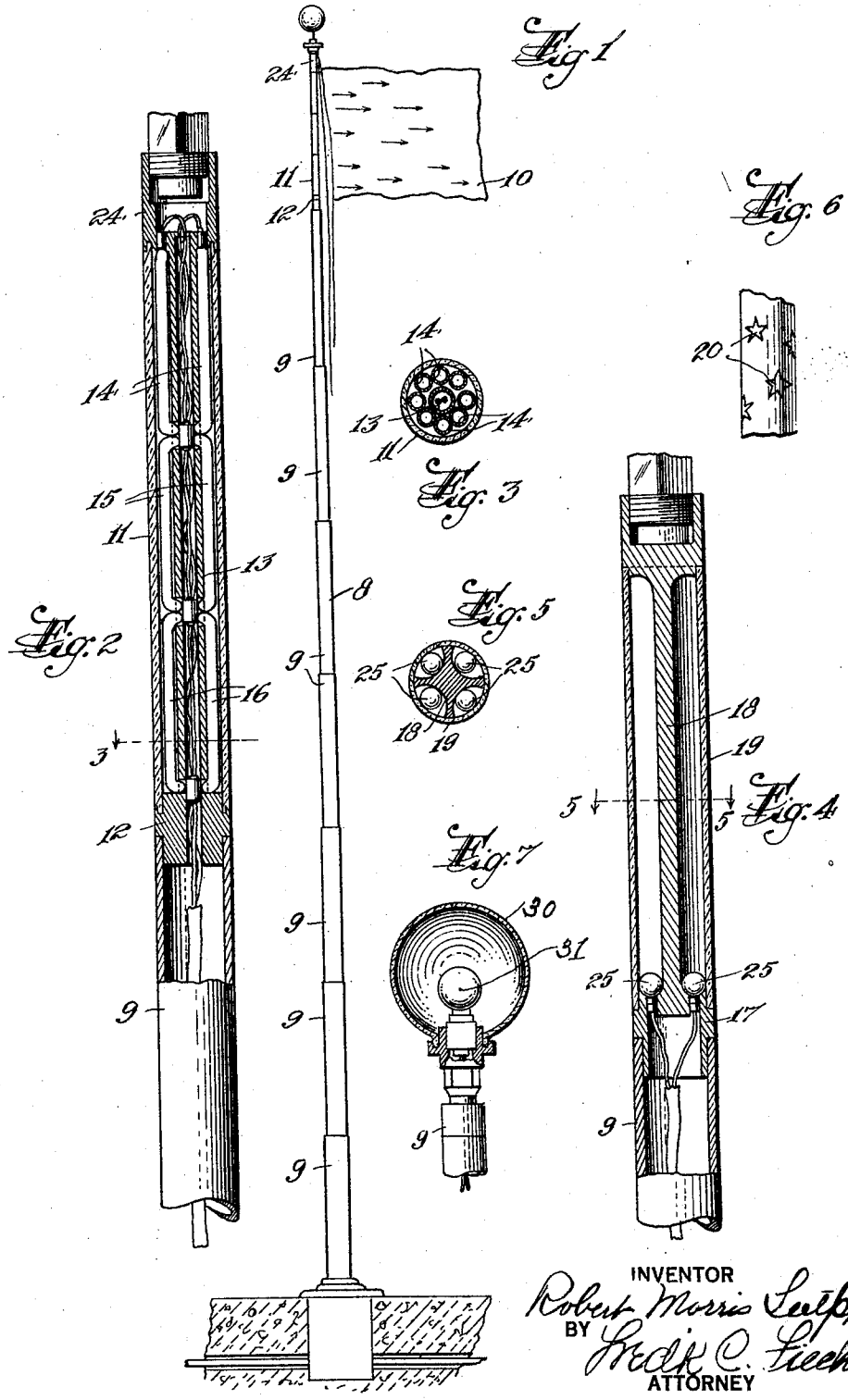
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ILLUMINATED FLAGPOLE

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ILLUMINATED FLAGPOLE

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This invention relates to flag poles and more particularly to means for illuminating flag poles and flags carried thereby.

Heretofore, flags have been illuminated by powerful lights positioned at the base or above the flag pole, or in some instances the source of illumination is mounted in a support positioned at one side of the pole. Such methods of flag illumination have been found inefficient and objectionable in that sources of illumination are stationary and consequently are not able to properly illuminate a flag in the various positions it assumes due to change in direction of the wind.

As a result, the flag may be brilliantly illuminated at one instant, and in the next instant the flag may not be seen at all. Also, it is not always possible to find a convenient and desirable place to mount the source of illumination.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide a flag pole having its upper end adjacent the flag made of a translucent material and carrying a source of illumination.

A further object is the provision of a flag pole carrying a source of illumination in its upper end adjacent the flag.

A further object is the provision of a flag pole carrying in its upper end adjacent the flag a plurality of light sources of different colors.

These and other advantageous objects, which will later appear, are accomplished by the simple and practical construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and exhibited in the accompanying drawing, forming part hereof, and in which:

Figure 1 represents an elevational view of a flag pole embodying the invention.

Figure 2 represents a partial sectional view of the upper end of a flag pole showing details of the invention.

Figure 3 represents a sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 represents a sectional view of a modified form of the device.

Figure 5 represents a sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 represents a fragmentary view of a section of translucent material having figures thereon.

Figure 7 represents a sectional view of an internally illuminated ball at the top of a flag pole.

Referring to the drawing, a flag pole 8 is shown to be formed from a plurality of tubular metal sections 9, a flag 10 being mounted in a well known manner at the upper end of the pole. Adjacent the flag, the section 11 of the pole is made from a translucent material such as glass or the like. The section 11 is supported at its lower end by a plug 12 which fits in the adjacent tubular section 9. Integral with the plug 12 is a tube 13 having its upper end connected to a collar 24 which assists in holding the translucent section 11 in position.

Positioned in the section 11 and mounted on the center tube 13 are a plurality of groups of light tubes 14, 15 and 16 which carry gases to produce lights of different colors. For example groups 14, 15 and 16 may, respectively, produce red, white and blue lights.

The electrical connections for the lights pass through the tube 13 and the tubular sections 9 to a source of electrical supply. The tube 13 is provided with spaced apertures though the connections may be made to the light tubes.

With the structure above described, it is seen that the upper end of the flag pole is completely illuminated (from the inside) on all sides so that regardless of the position of the flag, the latter will be effectively illuminated at all times. The lights may be all of the same color, or they may be of different colors.

When a plurality of colors are used, pleasing and unusual color combinations are obtained as the flag waves in the breeze. For example, the blue light will produce a violet hue on a red flag, and the same light would cause a yellow flag to appear green. As the flag moves into the range of the various lights of different colors, many color variations are obtained, the flag at the same time being constantly illuminated.

In Figure 4 is shown a modified form in which incandescent filament lamps 25 are used, the lamps being supported on plug 17,

which is integral with an upstanding web 18, the latter dividing the space enclosed by the section 19 of translucent material into a plurality of compartments. The walls of the web are highly polished or silvered, and a lamp is positioned in each compartment. If so desired, the lamps may be of different colors.

With the structure shown in Figures 4 and 5, the flag will be at any instant illuminated by a single colored light or by a combination of a colored light and the adjacent colored light, depending upon the angular position of the flag with reference to the pole.

In Figure 6 is shown a fragment of a translucent tubular section on which are painted, cut or otherwise delineated, a plurality of figures 20, such as stars, or the like. If the figures 20 are painted on the section, dark spots will appear; and if the figures are made of translucent material of a different kind from the material of the section, the figures will be in different colors depending upon the color of the light source.

In Figure 7 is shown a flag pole 9 having mounted on its top a ball 30 of translucent material, in which is positioned an incandescent lamp 31 or other light source. The ball may be made in various colors, or different colored lights may be used as may be desired. By providing an illuminated ball of this type at the top of the pole, it is obvious that the flag will be illuminated regardless of the position it may assume.

While the invention has been described in connection with a flag pole, it is obvious that it has wide application in spectacular displays of all kinds in which poles are used, whether the poles carry flags or not.

The foregoing disclosure is to be regarded as descriptive and illustrative only, and not as restrictive or limitative of the invention, of which obviously an embodiment may be constructed including many modifications without departing from the general scope herein indicated and denoted in the appended claims.

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

1. In a flag pole, a section formed of translucent material, the section being at least equal in length to the width of the flag to be flown from the flag-pole, means for dividing the section into a plurality of longitudinal compartments, and light sources of different colors mounted in the compartments, whereby, as the flag moves into the range of the various lights of different colors, many color variations may be obtained, the flag at the same time being constantly illuminated.

2. In a flag pole, a section of wholly translucent material, said section being provided with a plurality of longitudinal compartments, and light sources of different colors mounted in the compartments, whereby, as the flag moves into the range of the various lights of different colors, many color variations may be obtained, the flag at the same time being constantly illuminated.

This specification signed this twenty-seventh day of May, 1931.

ROBERT MORRIS SUTPHEN.