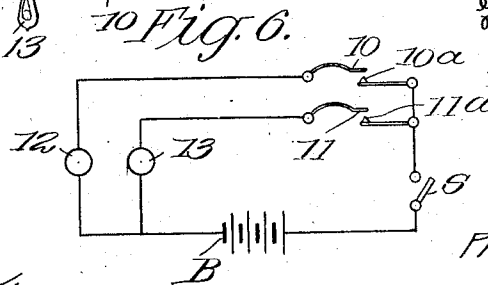
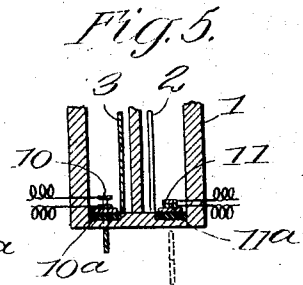
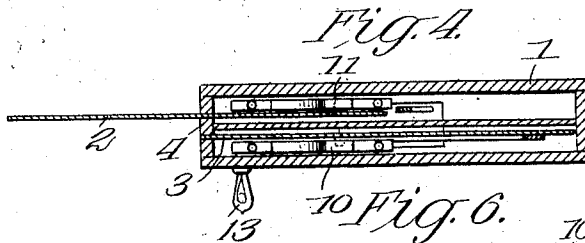
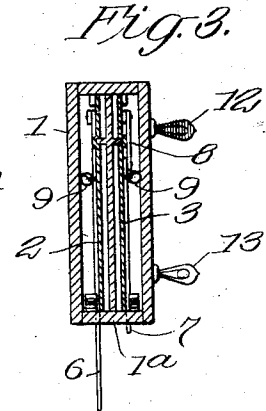
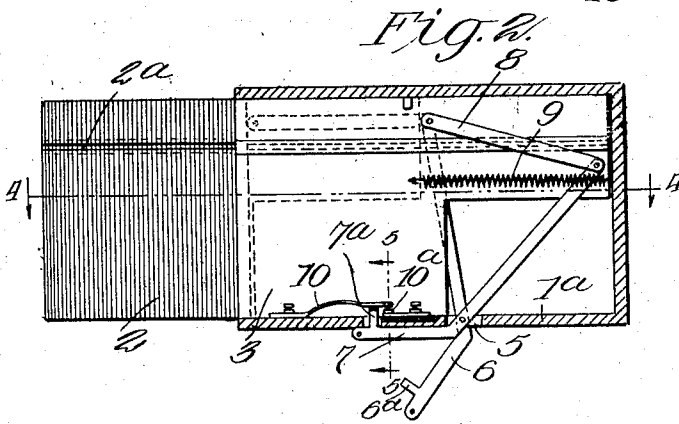
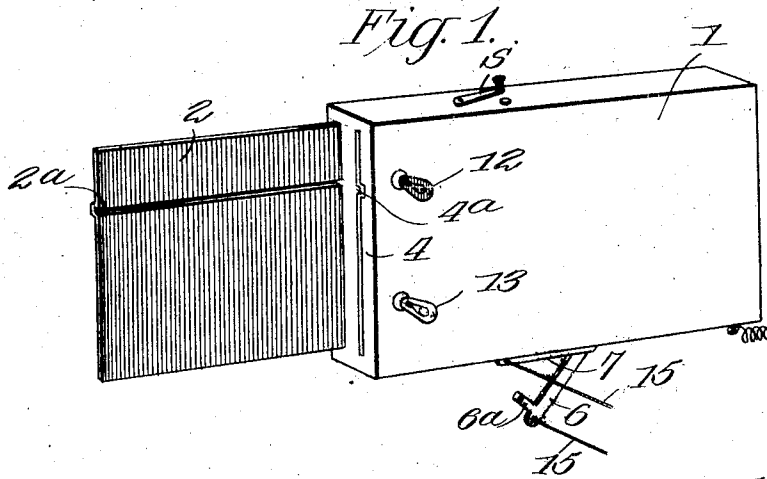


P. FICCIO.
SIGN AND INDICATOR.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 12, 1912.

1,049,833.

Patented Jan. 7, 1913.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SIGN AND INDICATOR.

1,049,833.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 7, 1913.

Application filed June 12, 1912. Serial No. 703,162.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PASQUALE FICCIO, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Tampa, in the county of Hillsboro, in the State of Florida, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Signs and Indicators, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in signs or indicators, especially those adapted to be carried at the rear of automobiles to indicate the direction in which the vehicle is about to turn.

An object of my invention is to provide a sign of light weight, which may be operated mechanically to project into view a slide bearing a legend or word showing the direction in which the vehicle is about to proceed.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of the character described consisting of comparatively few parts, and which is therefore not liable to easily get out of order.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification and the novel features of the invention will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming part of this application in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device, Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the device, Fig. 3 is a transverse section, Fig. 4 is a horizontal section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2, Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view along the line 5—5 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 6 is a diagrammatic view showing the arrangement of the circuits.

In carrying out my invention I provide a box or casing 1 of any suitable shape, but preferably a thin rectangular box such as that shown in the drawings. Within the casing are a pair of slidable plates such as those shown at 2 and 3 respectively. These plates are preferably provided with grooves such as that shown at 2^a, which are arranged to engage tongues 4^a in the slotted end 4 of the box or casing, so as to guide the plates in their movement. The bottom 1^a of the box is provided with an opening 5 in which are pivoted two bell-crank levers 6 and 7 respectively. The upper end of each of these bell-crank levers is connected by means of an arm or link 8 to one of the sliding plates.

In Fig. 2 the link 8 is shown as being connected to the sliding plate 3. Each plate is connected by means of a spiral spring 9 with the rear end of the box. The short arm of each bell-crank lever is provided with a laterally extending lug such as those shown at 6^a and 7^a, these lugs being arranged to extend through openings in the bottom of the box and to engage their respective spring contacts 10 and 11. The contact 10 is arranged to engage a contact 10^a when the lug 7^a is drawn downwardly, while the contact 11 is arranged to engage a lower contact 11^a.

At 12 and 13, I have shown a pair of electric lights, these lights being different colored and being in circuit with the battery B and with the contacts, as shown in Fig. 6.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device the operation thereof may be readily understood.

Normally the springs 9 hold both of the sliding plates 2 and 3 within the box or case. Suppose now that the automobile is going around a corner and the driver wishes to indicate whether he is going to turn to the right or left, so that any one coming up behind him may be warned thereby. He pulls downwardly on one of the levers 6 or 7 by means of a chain 15 or other suitable connection, thereby throwing the upper end of the bell-crank lever forwardly and forcing the respective plate out against the tension of the spring 9. In Fig. 2 I have indicated the slidable plate 2 as being thrown out. This may bear any appropriate legend as "Left", "Right", or other indicating marks. On the release of the chain the spring 9 will carry the plate back within the box. If it is dark the operator may close the switch S, thereby switching on the electric circuit so that when either of the levers are now manipulated, the withdrawal of the lug, as for instance 6^a, will permit the contact 11 to engage the contact 11^a. Current will therefore flow from the battery, through switch S, through the contacts 11, 11^a, and through the lamp 13, as shown in Fig. 6, thereby causing the latter to glow and indicating the direction in which the carriage is going. As soon as the plate is returned to its position by means of the spring 9 will again engage the contact 11 and lift it from the contact 11^a. The companion bell-crank lever 7 operates in the same manner to

throw out the other plate and to close the circuit of the lamp 12. In the daytime when the lamps are not necessary the switch S may be opened, cutting out the battery and therefore saving the current for a time when it is necessary.

It is obvious, of course, that any suitable means might be used for causing a downward movement of the bell-crank levers, and I do not confine myself to the chains shown.

I claim:—

1. In a sign or indicating device, a casing having a slotted end, a pair of plates disposed in said casing and arranged to slide in the slots, a bell-crank lever for each plate pivotally mounted on the casing and having one end projecting outside thereof, the outside end being provided with a lug arranged to extend within the casing, a pair of lower contacts within the casing, a pair of upper spring contacts, each of said upper spring contacts being kept normally out of engagement with the lower contacts by the lug on its individual lever and being arranged to be brought into contact when the lever is moved, a lamp in circuit with each upper contact, and a battery having a common con-

nection with each of said lower contacts on one side and each of said lamps on the other.

2. In a sign or indicating device, a casing having a slotted end, a pair of plates disposed within said casing and arranged to slide in the slots, a bell-crank lever for each plate pivotally mounted on the casing and having one end projecting outside thereof, the outside end being provided with a lug arranged to extend within the casing, a pair of lower contacts within the casing, a pair of upper spring contacts, each of said upper spring contacts being kept normally out of engagement with its respective lower contact by the lug on its individual lever and arranged to be brought into contact when the lever is moved, a lamp in circuit with each upper contact, a battery having common connections with each of said lower contacts on one side and each of said lamps on the other, and spring means for retaining the lugs of the bell-crank levers in engagement with their respective contact springs.

PASQUALE FICCIO.

Witnesses:

H. P. BAYA,
V. FICCIO.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."