

Oct. 8, 1946.

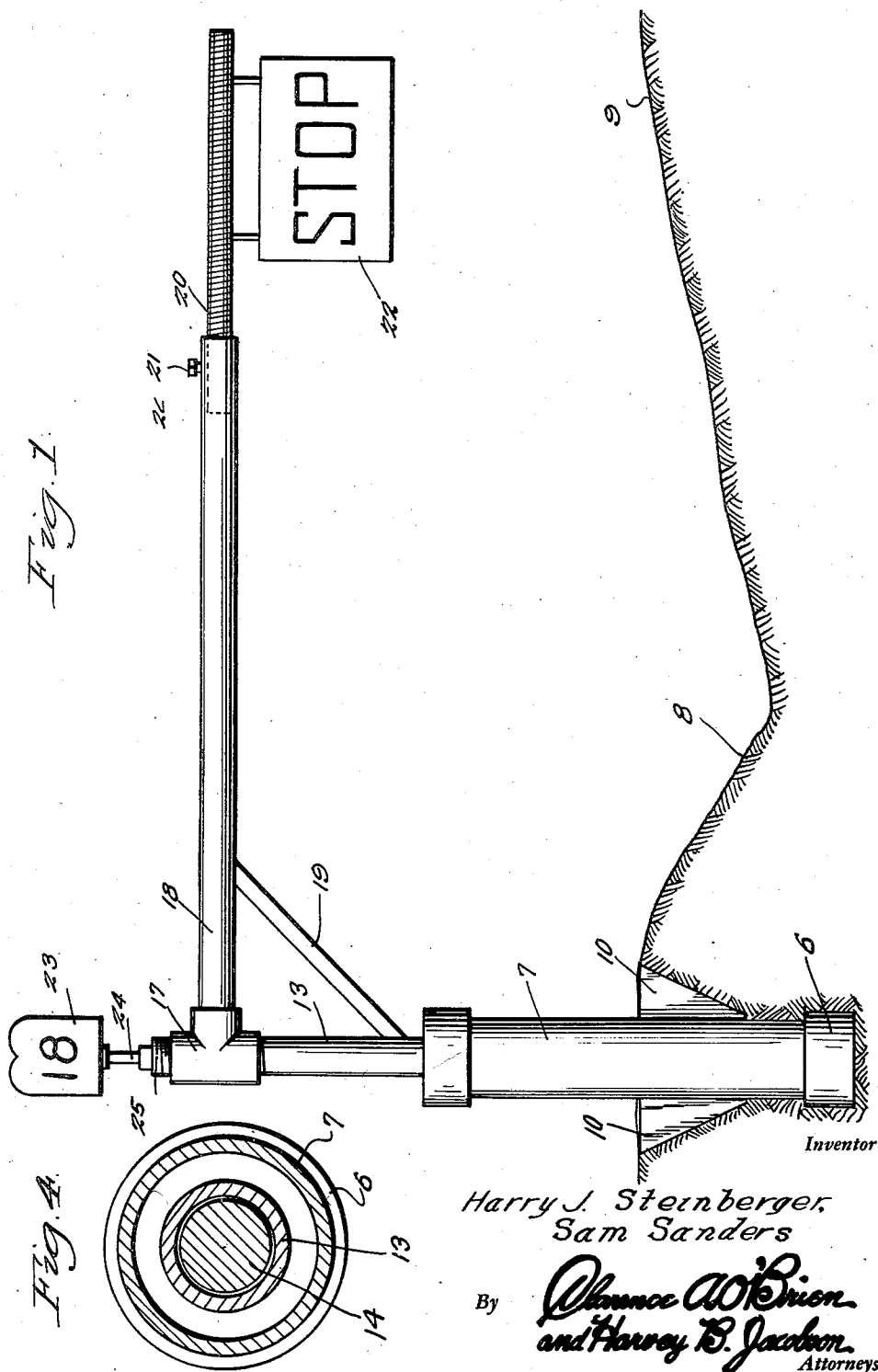
H. J. STEINBERGER ET AL

2,409,076

SWINGABLE ROAD SIGN

Filed Dec. 27, 1944

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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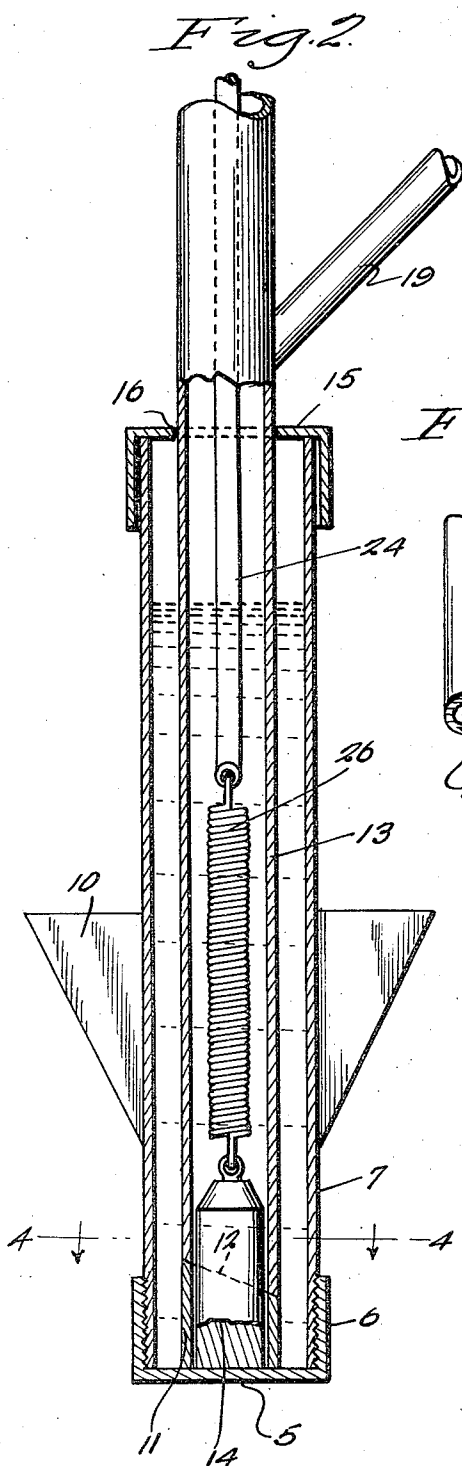
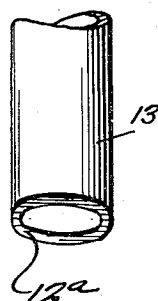
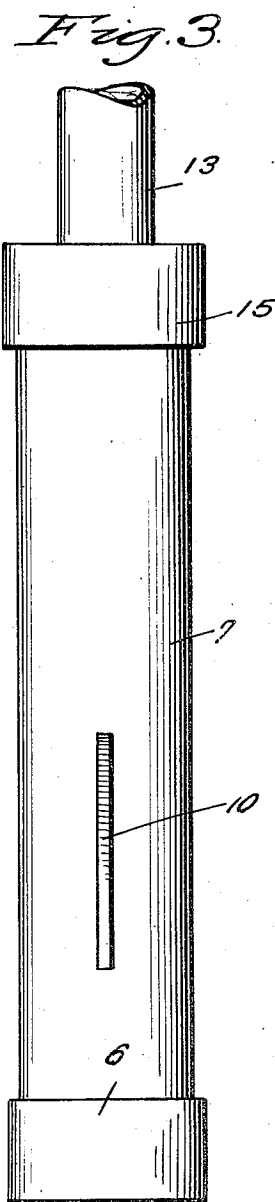


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SWINGABLE ROAD SIGN

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1 Claim. (Cl. 40—145)

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The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in road signs of a type including a horizontal arm projecting in a direction toward the road from an upstanding post, and the invention has for its primary object to provide a rotatable support for the post by means of which the arm may swing horizontally when struck by a vehicle traveling along the road.

The invention is designed primarily for use in conjunction with road-working machinery used for cleaning the ditches or shoulders at the edge of the road, the sign being adapted for swinging into an out-of-the-way position so as to prevent interference with the road-working machinery.

A further object of the invention is to provide a rotatable post for a horizontal sign-supporting arm and in which the post is constructed to automatically return to its original position should the arm be struck by a vehicle or otherwise swung into a position toward the side of the road.

A still further object is to provide a device of this character of simple and practical construction, which is efficient and reliable in operation, relatively inexpensive to manufacture, and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and advantages reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view.

Figure 2 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view through the supporting tube for the post.

Figure 3 is a side elevational view of the post-supporting tube.

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view taken substantially on a line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the lower end of the post.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, wherein for the purpose of illustration I have disclosed a preferred embodiment of the invention, the numeral 5 designates a base member having an internally threaded upstanding annular flange 6 with which an upstanding tube 7 is threadedly engaged, the base and lower portion of the tube 7 being adapted for embedding in the ground adjacent the edge of a ditch 8 of a road or highway 9. The sides of the tube 7 are formed with wings 10 projecting laterally therefrom to anchor the tube against rotating movement in the ground.

A pipe section 11 is supported in an upright

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position on the base 5 with the lower end of the pipe section welded or otherwise suitably secured to the base, the walls of the pipe section 11 being spaced from the walls of the tube 7, as will be apparent from an inspection of Figure 2 of the drawings. The upper edge of the pipe section 11 is inclined, as indicated at 12, and adapted for rotatably supporting the inclined lower edge of a pipe 13 thereon.

A cylindrical guide 14 is attached to the base 5 within the pipe section 11 and projects upwardly into the lower end of the pipe 13 to thus maintain the pipe 13 in position on the upper end of the pipe section 11.

A cap 15 is mounted on the upper end of the tube 7 and having a central opening 16 in which the pipe 13 is rotatably positioned.

The pipe 13 projects upwardly above the tube 7 to constitute a post and to the upper end of which is secured a T-fitting 17 having one end of a horizontal arm 18 connected thereto. A brace 19 extends from the inner end of the arm 18 to the pipe 13.

The arm 18 is preferably of hollow construction and has a flexible extension 20, preferably in the form of a coil spring secured in its outer end by a set screw 21. A sign 22 is suspended from the extension 20, the sign 22 having any suitable indicia displayed thereon.

A highway sign or marker 23 is also supported on the upper end of a rod 24 extending downwardly through the pipe 13 and secured in a plug 25 threaded in the upper end of the T-fitting 17. The lower end of the rod 24 is attached to the guide 14 by means of a coil spring 26, the tension of the coil spring serving to urge the rod 24 and pipe 13 downwardly with inclined edges of the pipes 11 and 13 in uniform abutting relation to thus maintain the arm 18 in an outwardly extended position with respect to the road 9.

The tube 7 may be supplied with oil to facilitate rotary movement of the lower end of the pipe 13 on the pipe section 11.

In the operation of the device, the arm 18 and sign 20 will occupy a position to project transversely above the ditch 8 of the roadway 9 and upon striking of the arm 18 by a vehicle or other object passing along the highway close to the ditch 8, the arm 18 will swing inwardly whereby to rotate the post 13 on its supporting upstanding pipe section 11. The rotation of the post 13 will cause a slight raising movement of the post to place a tension on the spring 26 and which through its connection with the upper end of the post 13 by the rod 24 and plug 25 will exert a

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downward force on the post 13 to thus return the post and the arm 18 to its original position.

It is believed that the details of construction and manner of use of the device will be readily understood from the foregoing without further detailed explanation.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

A road sign comprising a base, a tubular member fixed to the base and rising therefrom, a tubular housing rising from the base and adapted for embedding in the ground, a cylindrical guide positioned in the member and projecting

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upwardly therefrom, said member having an inclined upper edge, a tubular post having a correspondingly inclined lower edge rotatably supported on said member and receiving said guide, a horizontal arm attached to the upper end of the post and adapted to rotate the post upon an object engaging and moving the arm, and spring means exerting a downward pressure on the post to yieldably maintain the inclined edges in matching relation.

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