March 9, 1926. 1,576,235

M. M. CUNNINGHAM

SIGNAL LAMP

Filed Nov. 20, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

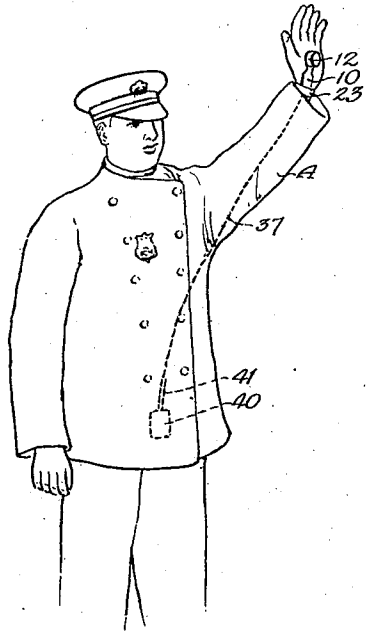


Fig. 2.

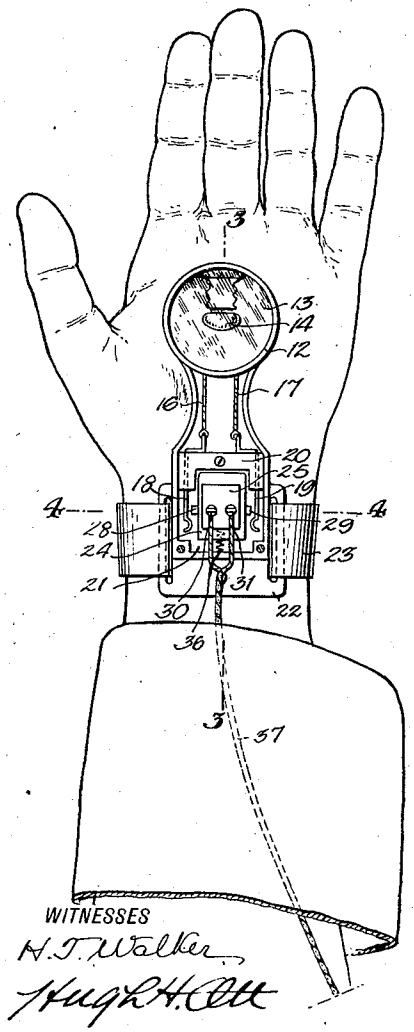
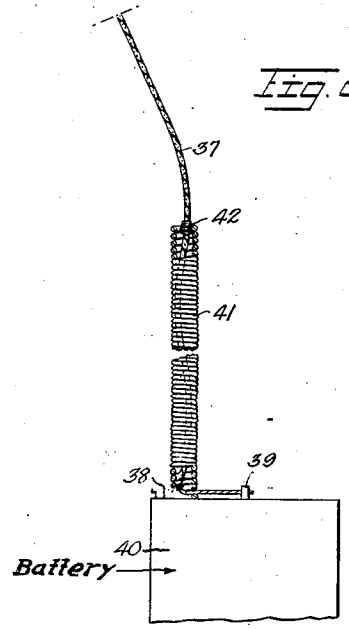


Fig. 2A.



WITNESSES

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Fig. 3.

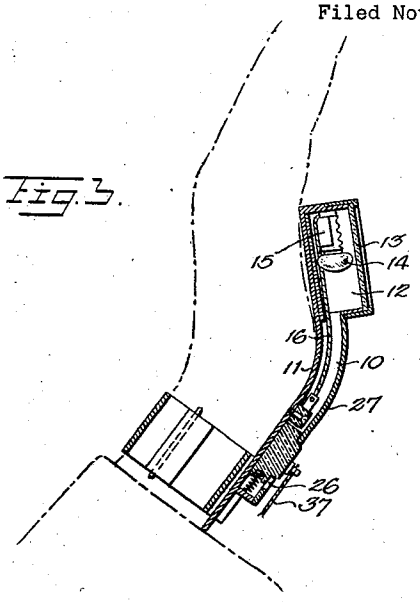


Fig. 4.

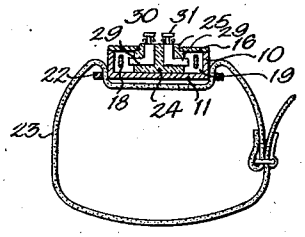


Fig. 5.

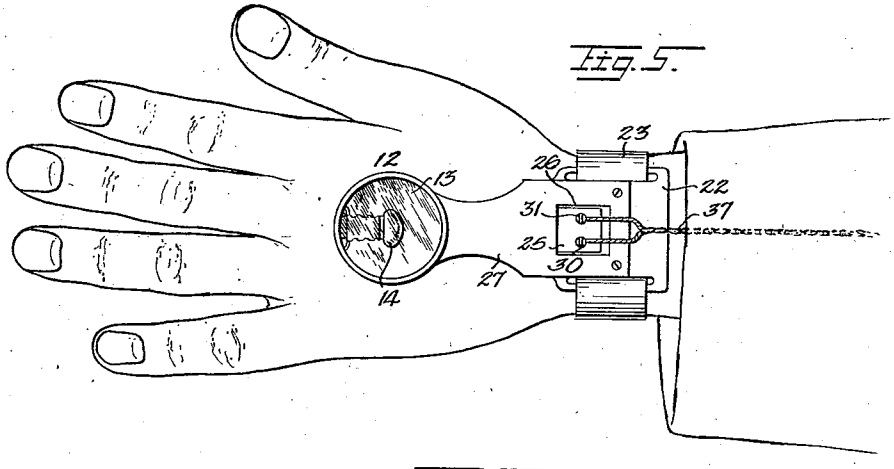
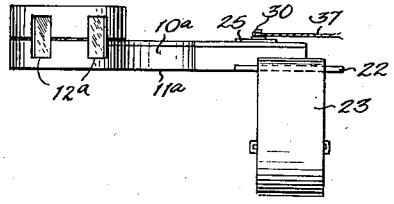


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN M. CUNNINGHAM, OF FAR ROCKAWAY, NEW YORK.

SIGNAL LAMP.

Application filed November 20, 1923. Serial No. 675,901.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN M. CUNNINGHAM, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Far Rockaway, borough of Queens, in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Signal Lamp, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention has relation to signal lamps and has particular reference to hand signaling lamps which are especially designed for use by traffic officers or drivers of vehicles.

The broad object of the present invention is to provide a hand signaling lamp which is adapted to be associated with the wrist and hand of the user whereby the same may be conveniently employed for the purpose of giving signals in traffic. More specifically the invention contemplates a hand signaling lamp provided with a switch for controlling the energizing of the lamp, which switch is automatically operable upon movement of the hand or arm to signaling position for closing the circuit to said lamp.

The invention furthermore contemplates a palm lamp, the casing of which is so constructed as to snugly fit the wrist and contour of the palm of the hand in order that the interference of the same with the use of the hand is reduced to an absolute minimum.

As a still further object the invention contemplates a hand signaling lamp of the character set forth which is comparatively simple in its construction, inexpensive to manufacture and produce and which is thoroughly reliable and highly efficient in its purpose.

With the above recited and other objects in view, the invention resides in the novel construction set forth in the following specification, particularly pointed out in the appended claim and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, it being understood that the right is reserved to embodiments other than those actually illustrated herein to the full extent indicated by the general meaning of the terms in which the claim is expressed.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 is a diagrammatic view illustrating the use of the palm lamp.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail front view of the same as applied with the cover plate removed from the casing to illustrate the switch.

Fig. 2ª is a side view with parts in section illustrating the connection between the conduit wires and the battery.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken approximately on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken approximately on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a face view of a modified form of signal lamp in applied position on the back of the hand.

Fig. 6 is a side view thereof.

Referring to the drawings by characters of reference and particularly to the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, the hand signaling palm lamp is illustrated which consists of a housing or casing 10 the external surface of the rear wall 11 of which is shaped to closely conform to and fit the wrist and palm of the hand. The upper terminal 12 of the casing is of cylindrical formation and is provided with a transparent panel 13 constituting the front wall to allow the rays from the lamp bulb 14 to be visualized therethrough. The lamp bulb is supported in a suitable socket 15 in the terminal 12 and is connected by circuit wires 16 and 17 to the spaced contacts 18 and 19 carried by an insulating strip 20 which is secured in the lower terminal 21 of the casing, which terminal is provided with a slotted flange 22 for reception of the wrist band 23 which secures the casing in position on the wrist and hand. A sliding circuit closing element 24 is mounted in the terminal 21 and is provided with a reduced boss 25 which protrudes through a guide slot 26 in the covering plate 27. The circuit closing element 24 is provided with contact members 28 and 29 which are connected with terminal posts 30 and 31 projecting upwardly through the boss 25. A spring 36 normally functions to move the circuit closing element 24 to a position to dispose the contact members 28 and 29 out of engagement with the contacts 18 and 19. The terminal posts 30 and 31 are connected to the terminals of the conduit wires 37 which are insulated and intertwisted and lead to the pole terminals 38 and 39 of a pocket battery 40. A coiled contractile spring 41 is secured to the pocket battery 40 at one terminal and secured at its free end at 42 to the intertwisted insulated circuit wires 37 whereby an appropriate amount of slack is normally maintained in the portion of the circuit wires 37 between its point of connection 42

and their connection with the pole terminals 38 and 39. Normally when the arm A of the user is in a non-signaling position a sufficient slack is produced in the length of the circuit wires 37 to allow the spring 36 to function to shift the circuit closing element 24 to a position in which the contact members 28 and 29 are out of contact with the contacts 18 and 19. When the arm A is moved to signaling position as illustrated in Fig. 1 a sufficient pull is exerted on the circuit wires 37 to move the circuit closing element 24 against the action of the spring 36 whereby the contact members 28 and 29 engage the contacts 18 and 19 for closing the circuit and energizing the lamp bulb 14. By shaping the rear wall 11 of the casing or housing 10 to conform to the wrist and palm of the hand, it will be noted that the device is comfortably mounted in a convenient position for signaling purposes and reduces the interference of the same with the use of the hand, to an absolute minimum.

In the modified adaptation of the invention illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 the construction is identical with that of the preferred embodiment with the exception that the casing 10^a and the rear wall 11^a thereof are on a straight line for fitting the same to the wrist and back of the hand whereby the device is especially adaptable for the use of drivers of vehicles. Further it will be noted that in the modification the upper terminal 12 of the casing is provided with a plurality of peripheral side transparent paneled openings 12^a which may also be provided in the terminal 12 of the first form and which panels are designed for the purpose of allowing for the passage of the light rays from the lamp when illuminated whereby the hand of the user will be flooded with light.

I claim:

A palm lamp for giving hand signals comprising an elongated housing, the said housing being shaped to fit the contour of the wrist and the palm of the hand, a switch in the housing, the said switch located in that end of the housing which fits the wrist, a windowed compartment in that end of the housing which fits the palm, a lamp in the said windowed compartment, and means for fastening the housing to the wrist.

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