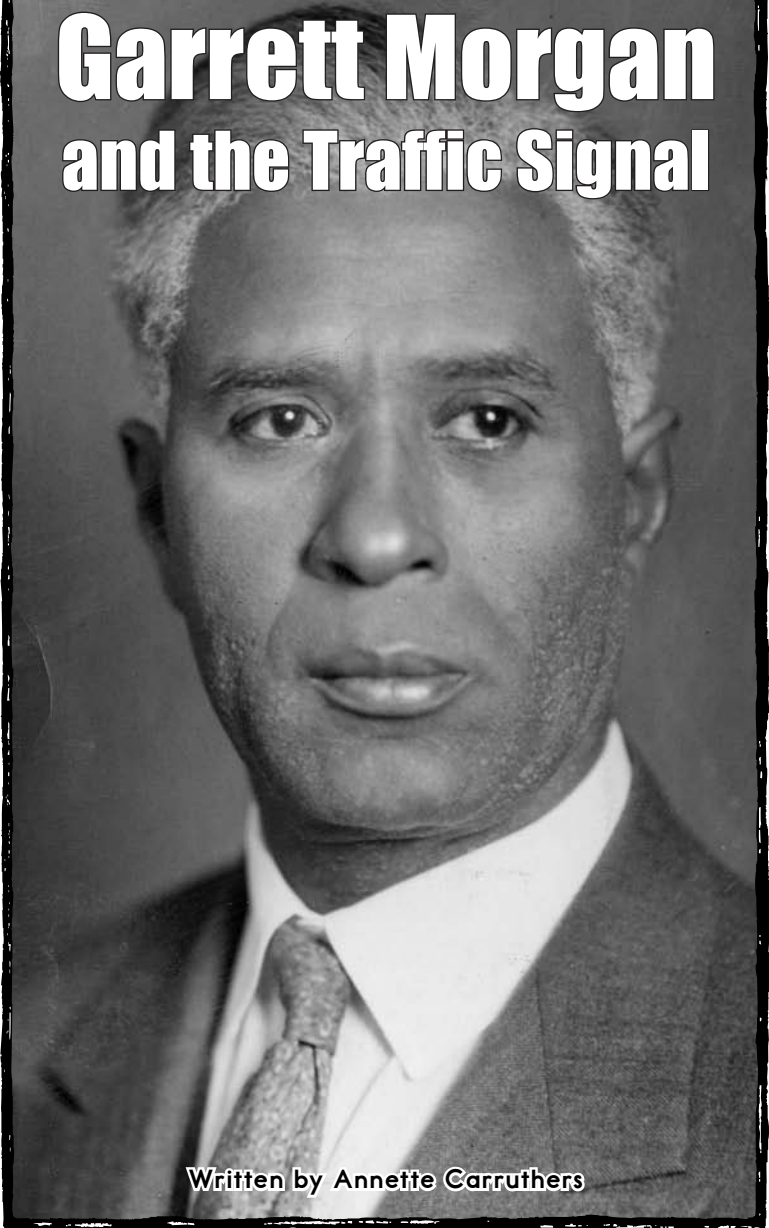


LEVELED BOOK • J

Garrett Morgan and the Traffic Signal



Written by Annette Carruthers

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Cars and buggies shared streets in many cities.

Traffic Problems

In the 1920s, the streets were getting very **busy**.

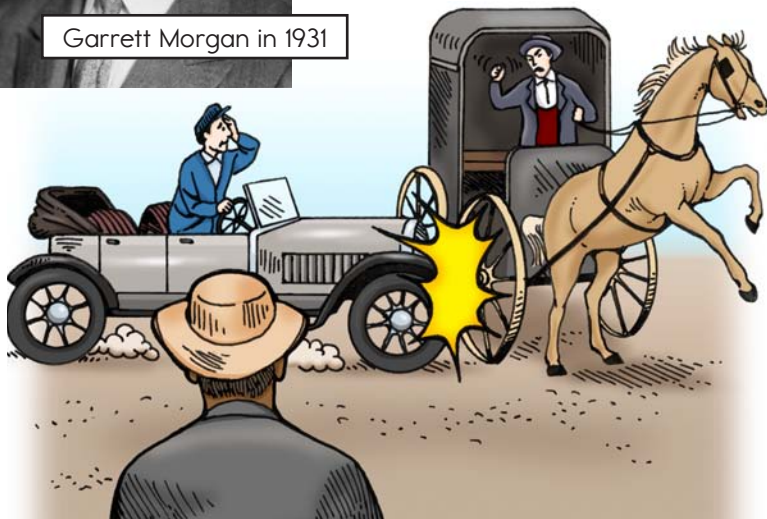
Many things shared the streets.



Cars were on the streets.
Horses and **buggies** were
on the streets.
People and bikes were
on the streets, too.



Garrett Morgan in 1931



A man named Garrett Morgan lived in Cleveland, Ohio.

He saw a car on the street hit a horse and buggy.

He saw that the streets were not safe.



A police officer tries to keep traffic moving.

Making a Plan

Each day more **traffic** was on the streets.

Mr. Morgan knew there would be more traffic **problems**.

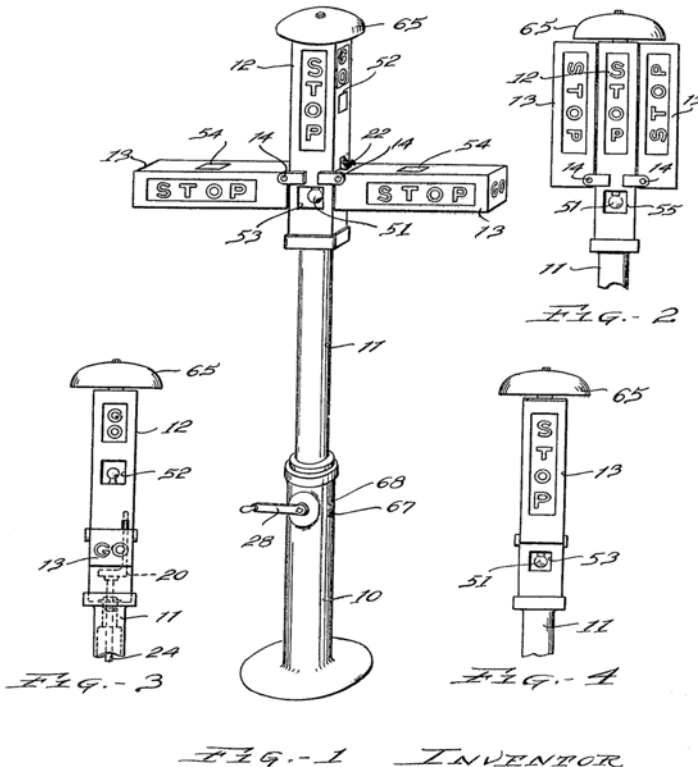
He thought about how to solve these problems.

Nov. 20, 1923.

G. A. MORGAN
TRAFFIC SIGNAL
Filed Feb. 27, 1922

1,475,024

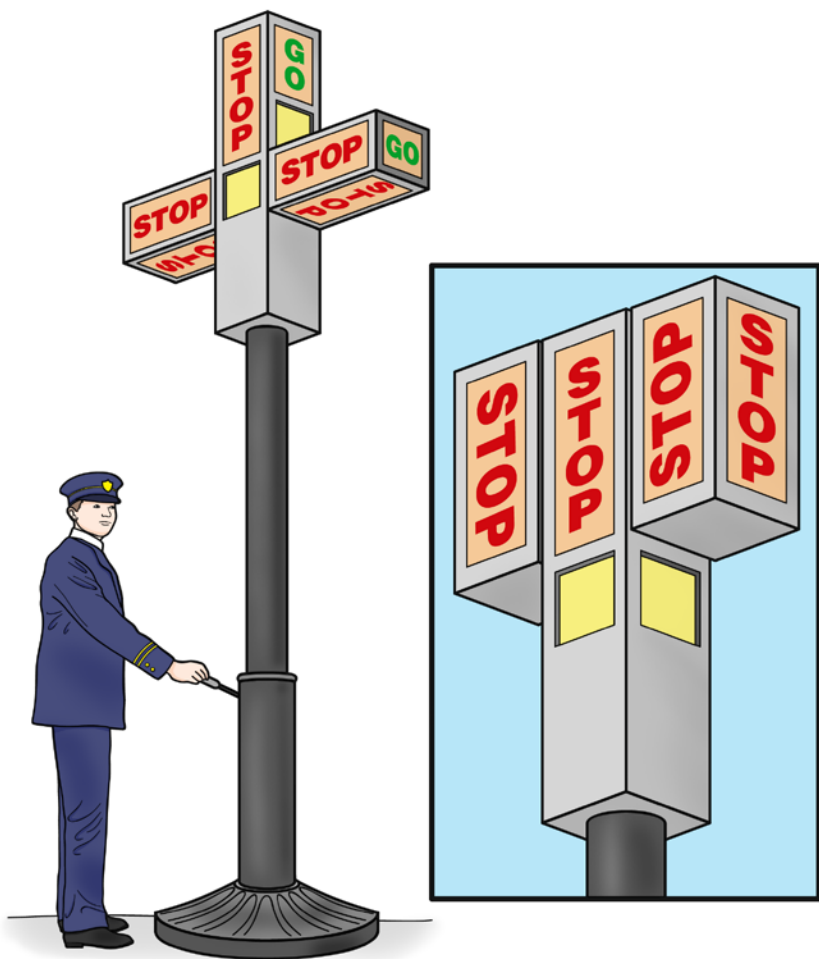
2 Sheets-Sheet 1



The patent, or plan,
for a traffic signal

INVENTOR
Garrett A. Morgan,
By Baker Macklin,
ATTORNEYS

Mr. Morgan knew Cleveland
needed a way to help the traffic.
He thought about how to do this.
He made a **plan** for a traffic **signal**.



This drawing shows how the traffic signal worked.

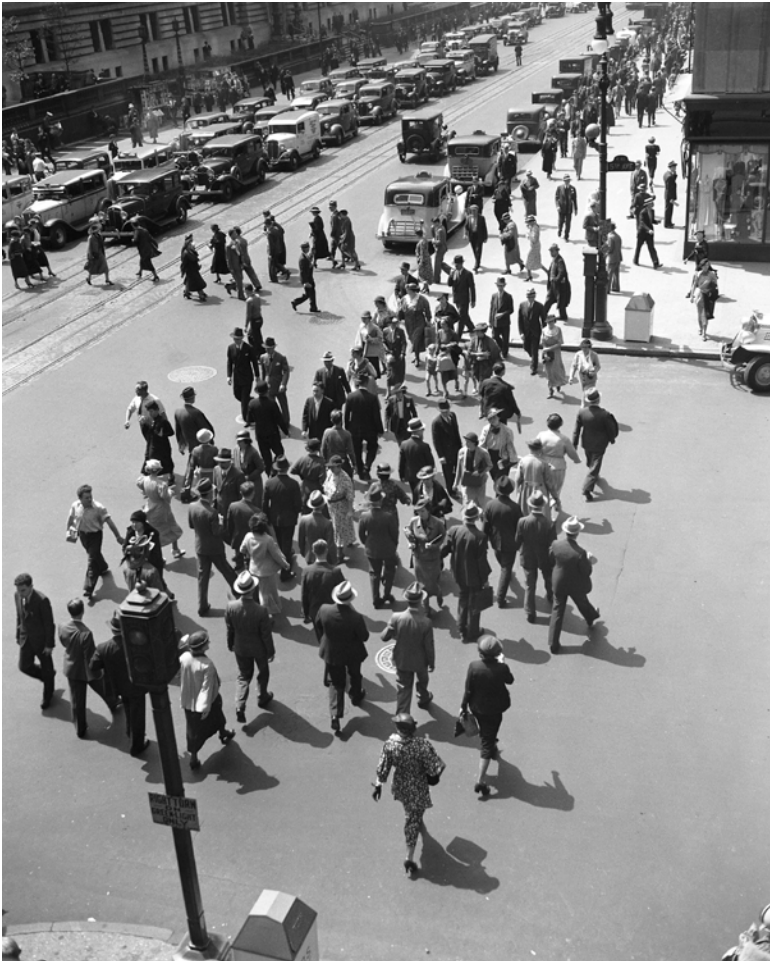
The Traffic Signal

The traffic signal had arms.

The arms went up and down.



Later, traffic signals used lights.
The lights told traffic when to stop
and when to go.



People walk across the street when traffic is stopped by a signal.

Mr. Morgan's traffic signal could
also stop all traffic.
Then it was safe for people
to cross the street.



New York's busy 34th Street

The traffic signal was put
on street **corners**.

It was easy to make traffic stop
and go at corners.

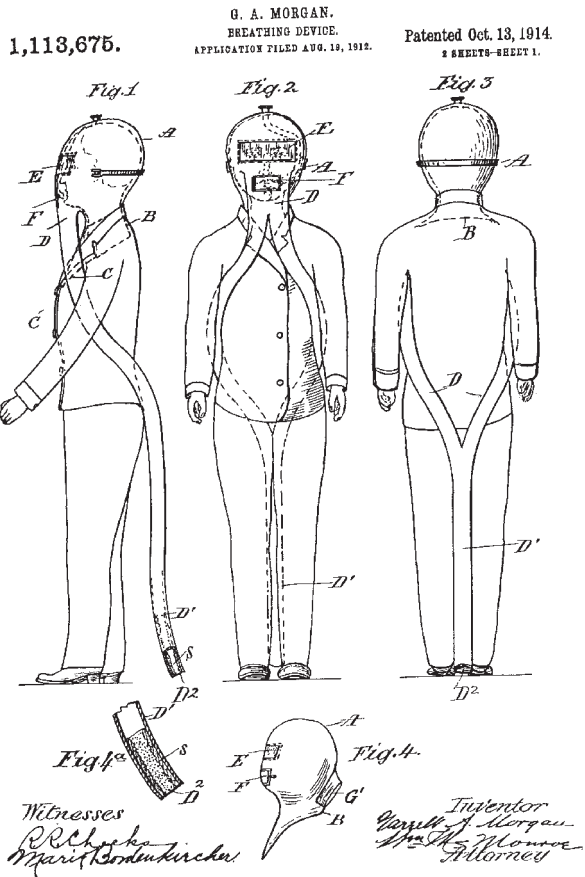
Mr. Morgan's plan worked!



Garrett Morgan in 1945

The Man with the Plan

Garrett Morgan made the streets safe for people, cars, and horses and buggies.

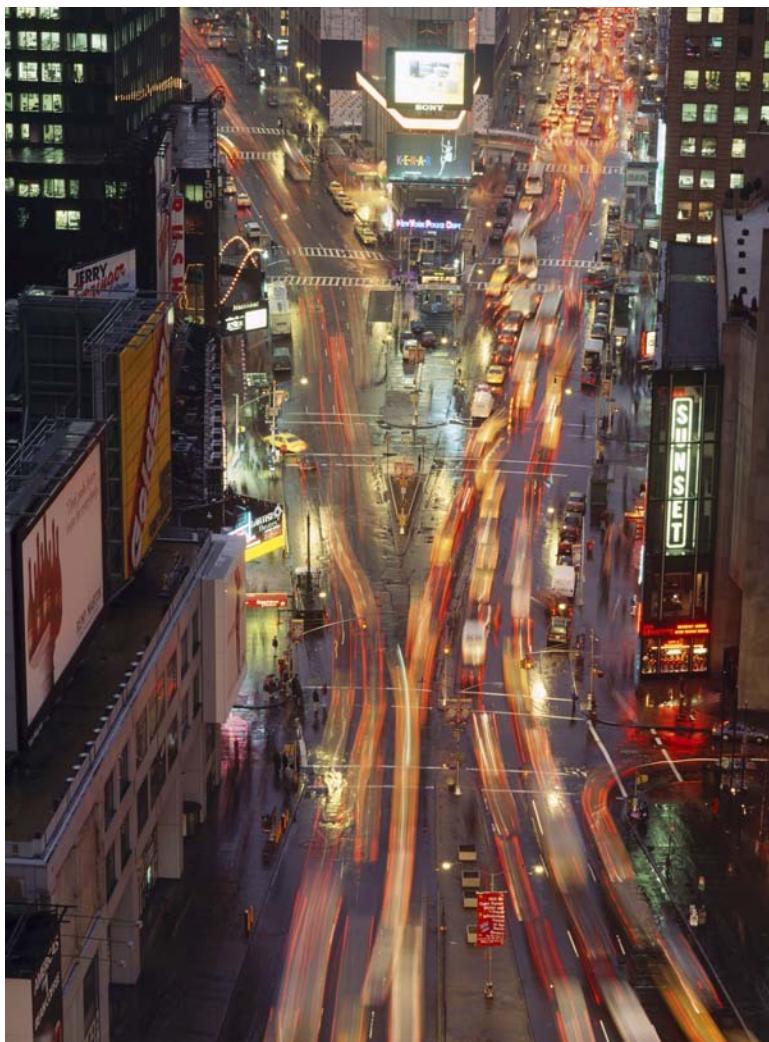


Garrett Morgan's patent, or plan, for a firefighter's mask

Mr. Morgan also made other things.

He made a mask to help keep
firefighters safe.

He also started a newspaper
in Cleveland.



Today, city streets are busier than ever.

Mr. Morgan was a problem solver.
He saw a problem.
He looked for a way to solve it.

Glossary

buggies	carts with wheels, pulled by one horse, that can carry a person (p. 5)
busy	full of activity (p. 4)
corners	the places where two streets meet (p. 12)
plan	a way of making or doing something (p. 8)
problems	things that are hard to work out or solve (p. 7)
signal	an action, sound, or object used to send a message (p. 8)
traffic	the movement of people or things along a street (p. 7)

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Title page: A crowd looks at new traffic signals in New York City in 1929.

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Illustrated by Cende Hill

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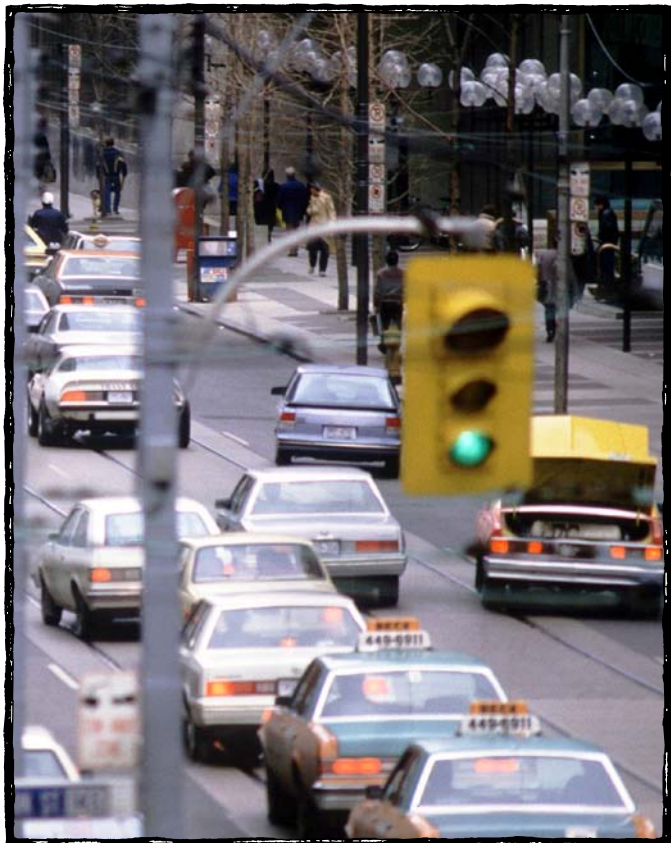
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