STANDARDIZATION OF COLORS FOR TRAFFIC SIGNALS

THE work involved in bringing about national uniformity in the use of colors for traffic signals by the American Engineering Standards Committee is nearing its completion, full agreement having been reached on the various technical details, and the code being about to be published.

The work has been carried out by a sectional committee on which all interested groups are represented, including more than thirty national organizations under the leadership of the American Association of State Highway Officials, the Bureau of Standards and the National Safety Council. The code covers the use of luminous and non-luminous signs and signals in connection with highway traffic, including moving and flashing signals; the use of lights, semaphores and other signaling devices on vehicles.

The three colors agreed upon for primary traffic control signals are: red—for stop; yellow—for caution, and green—to proceed.

The use of red is proper as an indication to stop and to then proceed if conditions are favorable, as for example, when "stop" and "proceed" regulations are in effect.

Yellow is appropriate when caution is to be exercised without stopping, as for partial street obstruction, so as to reserve red for a stop signal.

Green shall be used as an indication to proceed.

The code gives concise qualitative definitions of these three colors as well as of colored glasses and of the colors recommended for non-luminous signs. These recommendations are based on the findings of three subcommittees which collected exhaustive data on the present diversity of highway signals, made a thorough study of the questions relating to visibility of colors and also to sign boards and other non-luminous highway signals.

Careful experiments showed that the red signal lights were most easily distinguished from other colors at a distance and require the lowest light intensity for unmistakable recognition. On the average a red light of 75 candle-power could be identified at 600 feet, while a green light had to be of 250 candle-power, a yellow 750 and a blue light 1,000.

It is of paramount importance that the use or significance of all these signals become so familiar that they will produce an unconscious but correct and effective reaction, as it is doubt in the correctness of signal interpretation that leads to uncertainty in motions and to accidents.

GIFTS TO HARVARD UNIVERSITY

In addition to the completion of the \$10,000,000 campaign for new buildings for chemistry, business administration and the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University, the following gifts made during the past year have been announced by President Lowell:

	* 100 000 00
Anonymous	\$ 100,000.00
Anonymous, for salaries in the Museum of	F 0 000 00
Comparative Zoology	50,000.00
Anonymous, for the construction of Lionel	100 000 00
Hall, alongside Holden Chapel	100,000.00
Anonymous, toward the construction of	
Mower Hall, to complete the gift	30,000.00
Estate of Mrs. William Dorr Boardman for	
a professorship of Fine Arts	100,000.00
Class of 1904, toward its Twenty-fifth Anni-	
versary Fund	29,000.00
Estate of Joseph R. DeLamar, for the Med-	
ical School, additional	350,000.00
Estate of Mrs. r'. Gordon Dexter, half to the	
Medical School and half for books for the	
Library	167,800.00
Estate of Henry Clay Frick	929,776.33
Dr. Henry Isaiah Dorr, for a chair of anes-	
thetics, additional	30,000.00
Estate of George E. Henry, for the Infantile	
Paralysis Commission	50,000.00
Estate of David P. Kimball	50,000.00
Mr. and Mrs. George A. McKinlock, an addi-	
tional payment toward the erection of the	
fourth Freshman Dormitory, towards	
which they have already given a large	
amount, and which is incomplete	58,387.19
Estate of Mrs. William F. Milton, to in-	
crease the salaries of professors	715,891 19
Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Foun-	,
dation for International Research; that is	
part payment on an agreement to give	
annually a sum for five years	37,500.00
General Education Board, for a laboratory	.,
at the Massachusetts General Hospital, in	
connection with the Medical School	100,000.00
For salariés, etc.	20,500.00
Herbert N., Jesse Isidor and Percy S.	20,000.00
Strauss, a first payment toward the Isidor	
Strauss, a first payment toward the Isldor Strauss Dormitory	75,000.00
Estate of Mrs. William J. Wright, for the	75,000.00
Medical School	280,860.19
Sundry other gifts (mostly less than	200,000.10
\$25,000, but including a gift from Mrs. Charles Chauncy Stillman for the Charles	
Eliot Norton professorship of poetry)	
amounting to	1,179,143.16
Alumni gift to establish a fund to be known	1,1,0,110,10
as the LeBaron Russell Briggs Fund	50,000.00
as the heraton mussell briggs rullu	00,000.00
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\$4,517,348.06