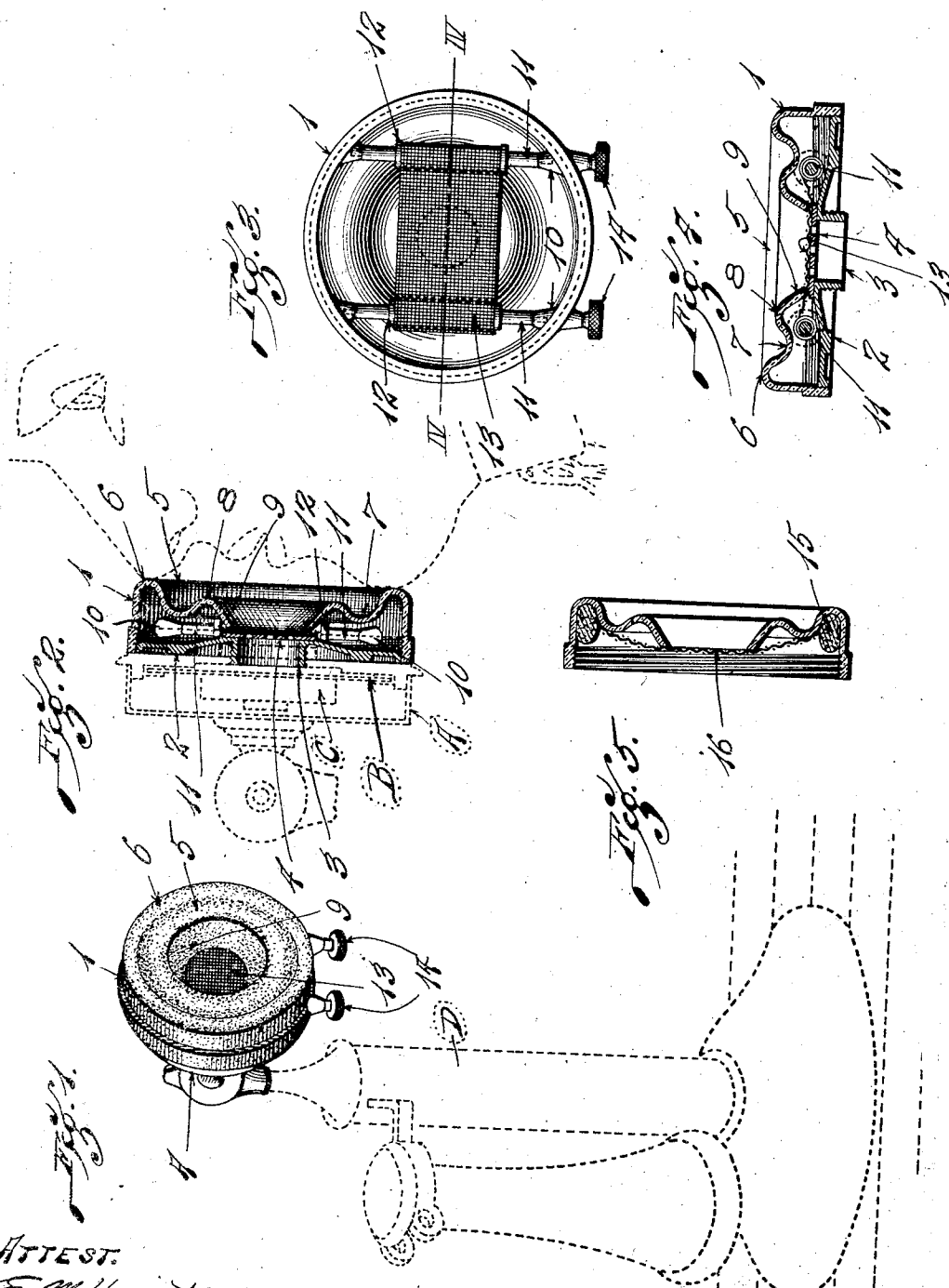


F. C. TABLER.
 ANTISEPTIC MOUTHPIECE FOR TELEPHONES.
 APPLICATION FILED JULY 10, 1911.

1,026,414.

Patented May 14, 1912.



ATTEST.
 F. M. Harrington.
 W. Smith

INVENTOR.
 FRANK C. TABLER.
 BY F. R. Brunwal. ATTOR.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK C. TABLER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF FIFTY-ONE ONE-HUNDREDTHS TO GUS V. R. MECHIN, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

ANTISEPTIC MOUTHPIECE FOR TELEPHONES.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK C. TABLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Antiseptic Mouthpieces for Telephones; of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved antiseptic mouth piece in position on an ordinary telephone transmitter. Fig. 2 is an enlarged vertical section taken through the center of my improved mouth piece. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the antiseptic mouth piece with the box plate thereof removed. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section taken on the line IV—IV of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a section similar to Fig. 2 and showing a modified form of my improved mouth piece.

This invention relates to an antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, and is an improvement on the antiseptic attachment for telephones of the type shown and described in Patent No. 900,447 issued to me and to G. V. R. Mechin, October 6, 1908.

The principal objects of my present invention are to generally improve the constructions disclosed in the above mentioned patent, to provide a simple and inexpensive mouth piece which can be readily applied to the types of transmitters now in general use, to equip said mouth pieces with a piece of fabric or absorbent material which is saturated with a suitable antiseptic solution for the purpose of thoroughly antisepticizing the entire mouth piece, thereby preventing the transmission of disease germs from one user of the telephone to another, and to construct the outer face plate of the mouth piece of the telephone so that as ordinarily used it will be practically impossible for the lips of the telephone user to come in contact with the bell-shaped portion of the mouth piece which leads to the diaphragm of the transmitter.

To the above purposes my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring by numerals to the accompany-

ing drawings A designates the transmitter housing which carries the usual disk B provided with the carbon button C, and which transmitter housing in the present instance is shown mounted on the upper end of a standard D of the type ordinarily used in connection with a desk set telephone. It will be readily understood, however, that my improved antiseptic mouth piece can be used in connection with the transmitters of ordinary box telephones which are usually positioned on a wall or the like.

The main body portion of my improved mouth piece is preferably formed of glass or vitrified earthen material, and comprises a ring or shell 1, the rear portion of which is internally threaded in order to receive the threaded edge of the rear wall of the mouth piece, which latter is in the form of a disk 2, provided at its center with a rearwardly projecting tubular extension 3, which is externally threaded in order that it may be detachably mounted, in the threaded opening formed in the center of the face plate of the transmitter housing A. Fixed in any suitable manner to the disk 2 in front of the tubular extension 3 is a perforated disk 4.

The face plate 5 of my improved mouth piece is formed integral with the ring or shell 1 and extends from the forward edge thereof inwardly to the edge of the perforated disk 4. An annular rib or bead 6 is formed in the face plate at the point where the same unites with the ring or shell 1, and from this bead or rib said face plate extends inwardly to form an annular groove 7.

An annular bead or rib 8 is formed in the face plate inside and concentric with the bead or rib 6 and the groove 7 and this bead or rib 6 lies a substantial distance below or inside the plane occupied by the bead or rib 6. The central portion of the face plate immediately adjacent the bead or rib 8 extends inwardly as designated by 9, and terminates immediately adjacent the outer edge of the perforated plate 4 thereby forming a sound conducting chamber or passageway which gradually tapers inwardly from the bead or rib 8 to the perforated disk 4, and which latter is positioned immediately in front of the passageway through the tubular extension 3 leading into the transmitter.

Formed on the interior of the ring or shell

1, and at points equidistant from the center thereof are perforated lugs 10 arranged in pairs, and which form bearings for the ends of the spindles 11. Carried by the central portions of these spindles 11 are spools 12, and arranged to wind from one spool onto the other when the spindles are rotated is a section 13 of fabric, which carries a suitable antiseptic solution or compound. The spindles 11 at one end extend through the ring or shell 1, and are provided with buttons 14, which are adapted to be engaged by the thumb and finger for the purpose of rotating said spindles thereby reeling or winding the fabric 13 from one spool to the other.

The fabric 13 carrying the antiseptic solution or compound occupies a position between the inner end of the bell-shaped portion 9 of the face plate, and the perforated plate 4, and therefore, the surface of the portion 9 of the face plate and the perforated disk 4 are thoroughly antisepticized.

The annular rib or bead 8 forming the outer edge of the bell-shaped central portion of the mouth piece leading into the transmitter, and in fact the entire central portion of the face plate 5 inside the marginal bead or rib 6 occupies a position wholly below or inside the plane occupied by said bead or rib 6, and therefore, it is practically impossible for the lips of the user of the telephone, equipped with my improved mouth piece, to come in contact with the central portion of the face plate, for the reason that in using the telephone so equipped the nose or chin of the user will come in contact with the bead or rib 6, thus warning the user of the close proximity of the mouth piece to the lips.

In the modified form of the device illustrated in Fig. 5 a body 15 of absorbent material is positioned in the groove formed on the inside of the bead or rib 6, and extending from one side of this rib of absorbent material to the other, and directly across the opening through the center of the face plate is a section of fabric 16. The body 15 is saturated with a suitable antiseptic medium, and the same is transmitted to the section of fabric 16 by capillary attraction.

When the sections of antiseptic carrying fabric have become dried they can be readily saturated with fresh solution or compound by unscrewing the ring or shell 1 from the disk 2, thus exposing the sections of absorbent material.

A mouth piece of my improved construction is comparatively simple, can be cheaply manufactured, is adapted for use in connection with the standard forms of transmitters and provides simple means whereby the transmission of disease between the users of the telephone transmitter is effectually prevented.

The annular bead or rib formed on the

margin of the face plate performs a two-fold function, and in addition to forming a guard to prevent the lips of the user of the telephone coming in contact with the central portion of the face plates, said bead or flange forms a deflecting wall to cause sound waves to be thrown or deflected toward the center of the face plate, and into the orifice of the center thereof.

The main portion of the housing of my improved mouth piece is preferably constructed of glass, and therefore, can be easily cleaned and when in proper position on a telephone transmitter presents a neat and finished appearance. The transmission of disease germs between the users of a telephone transmitter, is very often caused by reason of the lips of one user coming in contact with the bell or mouth piece, thereby leaving disease germs, which are transmitted to a subsequent user, whose lips come in contact with a mouth piece. By my peculiar construction of the face plate of the transmitter the aforesaid action in transmitting disease germs is entirely overcome, for the reason that it is practically impossible for the lips of the user of my improved transmitter to come in contact with that portion of the mouth piece leading into the sound conveying chamber or passage way.

It will be readily understood that minor changes in the construction and combination of the various parts of my device may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described, without departing from the spirit of my invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a centrally disposed opening, a roll of absorbent material the web of which extends across said opening, means for moving said web across the opening and a marginal bead or rib on the front side of said mouth piece, which bead or rib extends beyond the central portion of the face plate of said mouth piece.

2. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a centrally disposed opening, a section of absorbent material extending across said opening, means for moving said absorbent material across said opening, a marginal bead or rib on the front side of said mouth piece, which bead or rib extends beyond the central portion of the face plate of said mouth piece, and means within the housing for supplying the absorbent material, with an antiseptic medium.

3. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having front and rear walls, which walls are provided with centrally disposed openings, an outwardly projecting annular bead formed on

the front wall immediately adjacent the opening therein, and a marginal bead on said front wall, which margin bead extends beyond the bead on the central portion of said front wall.

4. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having front and rear walls, which walls are provided with centrally disposed openings, an outwardly projecting annular bead formed on the front wall immediately adjacent the opening therein, a marginal bead on said front wall, which margin bead extends beyond the bead on the central portion of said front wall, and an antiseptic carrying member within said housing.

5. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a face plate in which is formed an opening, an outwardly projecting annular bead formed on the front face of said face plate immediately adjacent the opening therein, a marginal bead on said face plate, which bead extends beyond the central portion of the face plate, and a removable back plate for said housing.

6. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a face plate in which is formed an opening, an outwardly projecting annular bead formed on the front face of said face plate immediately adjacent the opening therein, a marginal bead on said face plate, which bead extends beyond the central portion of the face plate, a removable back plate for said housing, in which back plate is formed a centrally disposed opening.

7. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a face plate in which is formed an opening, an outwardly projecting annular bead formed on the front face of said face plate immediately adjacent the opening therein, a marginal bead on said face plate, which bead extends beyond the central portion of the face plate, a removable back plate for said housing, and an antiseptic medium carrying member located within said housing.

8. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a face plate in which is formed an opening, an outwardly projecting annular bead formed on the front face of said face plate immediately adjacent the opening therein, a marginal bead on said face plate, which bead extends beyond the central portion of the face plate, a removable back plate for said housing, in which back plate is formed a centrally disposed opening, and an antiseptic medium carrying member located within said housing.

9. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a centrally disposed opening, a section of flexi-

ble material within said housing, which flexible material carries an antiseptic medium, and means for moving said section of material across the opening through the housing.

10. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a centrally disposed opening, a section of flexible material within said housing, which flexible material carries an antiseptic medium, means for moving said section of material across the opening through the housing, and a marginal bead on the face plate of said housing, which bead extends beyond the central portion of the face plate of said mouth piece.

11. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a rear wall and a face plate, which rear wall and face plate are provided with aligned openings, a pair of forwardly projecting annular ribs formed on the front of the face plate, one rib located immediately adjacent to the opening in said face plate, and the other rib located immediately adjacent to the marginal edge of said face plate.

12. An antiseptic mouth piece for telephones, comprising a housing having a rear wall and a face plate, which rear wall and face plate are provided with aligned openings, a forwardly projecting annular rib on the front of the face plate around the opening therein, a forwardly projecting annular rib on said face plate around the marginal edge thereof which last mentioned rib extends beyond the plane occupied by the inner rib and an antiseptic medium carrying member located within the housing.

13. In a device of the class described a mouth piece comprising a ring, a face plate integral therewith in the center of which face plate is formed an opening, a forwardly projecting annular rib on the front side of the face plate around the opening therein and a forwardly projecting concentric annular rib formed on the front side of face plate around the marginal edge thereof, which last mentioned rib occupies a vertical plane in front of the plane occupied by the inner annular rib.

14. In a device of the class described a mouth piece comprising a ring, a face plate integral therewith in the center of which face plate is formed an opening, a forwardly projecting annular rib on the front side of the face plate around the opening therein, a forwardly projecting concentric annular rib formed on the front side of face plate around the marginal edge thereof, which last mentioned rib occupies a vertical plane in front of the plane occupied by the inner annular rib and an antiseptic medium carrying member arranged against the rear side of said face plate and extending across the opening therein.

15. The combination with a telephone mouth piece having an opening of a flexible antiseptic medium carrying member positioned in the rear of the mouth piece and
5 which flexible member is adapted to be moved so as to bring a fresh section thereof into position immediately behind the opening in the face plate.
16. An antiseptic mouth piece for tele-
10 phones, comprising a housing having a face plate, the central portion of which extends inward, and is provided with a centrally disposed opening, an antiseptic medium carrying member arranged within said housing and extending across the opening therein, 15 and means whereby said antiseptic medium carrying member is shifted within said housing.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses, 20 this 6th day of July, 1911.

FRANK C. TABLER.

Witnesses:

M. P. SMITH,
B. S. REID.