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LOCKING DEVICE FOR TELEPHONES.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 5, 1906.
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TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCER.

Be it known that we, FRANCIS S. KEY SMITH and DAVID C. REINOHL, citizens of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locking Devices for Telephones; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to telephones, has especial reference to means for preventing unauthorized persons from using telephones which are left exposed in the absence of the proprietor or lessee of the telephone, and the invention consists in a locking device applied to the column or standard of what is commonly known as a "desk set", which supports the transmitter and the receiver.

The invention will be fully disclosed in the following specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification:—Figure 1 represents a front elevation of a desk-set, the upper part of the column being broken away. Fig. 2 a perspective view of one form of our locking device. Fig. 3 a plan view of a blank for a modified form of our locking device. Fig. 4 a front elevation, showing the locking device applied, and Fig. 5 a perspective view of the same detached.

Reference being had to the drawings, and the designating characters thereon, the numeral 1 indicates the column or standard of a telephone apparatus, 2 the transmitter, 3 the receiver, 4 the receiver-hook, 5 the vertical slot in the column, into which the inner end of the arm 6 of the hook extends; and is of less width than the length of the slot, leaving an open space 7 above the arm to accommodate the rise of the arm in making electrical connections for the telephone, and above the slot is an annular projecting shoulder 8. All of these several parts are of well known construction and form no part of our invention. It is our purpose to utilize part of these features of construction to form an effective locking device to prevent the use of the telephone by others than the lessee of the telephone, or by such persons who are properly and legitimately entitled to the use thereof by the lessee's consent, and to this end an annular flexible metallic band 9 is made to encircle the column above the receiver hook, and may be provided with an inwardly projecting lug 10 which enters and fills the space 7 in the slot 5 between the upper edge of the arm of the hook and the shoulder 8, and thus prevent the hook 4 being raised and the switch of the instrument being opened to establish speaking connection.

A modified construction of the band 9 embodies a widened portion 11 having a notch or opening 12 in the lower part which engages the arm 6, and the upper edge of the band engages the under-side of the shoulder 8 and secures the hook and its arm against being raised.

At the ends of the bands 9 are lugs 13, 13, having openings 14, 14, through which the hasp 15 of a padlock 16 is inserted and the band secured on the column.

The band 9 is made of sheet metal properly bent or stamped into shape and forms an inexpensive and practical locking device for the purpose described, which can be readily applied by springing the band apart to pass around the column, when it can be equally as readily drawn around the column and the padlock applied.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim is:

1. A telephone apparatus comprising a column provided with a slot, a receiver-hook in said slot, a flexible annular band engaging the column and the receiver-hook, and a lock engaging the band.

2. A telephone apparatus comprising a column provided with a vertical slot, a receiver-hook in said slot, a detachable metallic band surrounding the column and engaging said hook, and a lock engaging the ends of the band.

3. A telephone apparatus comprising a column provided with a vertical slot, a shoul-
der on the column, a receiver-hook in said slot, a detachable metallic band surrounding the column and provided with a member engaging the upper edge of the receiver-hook, and a lock engaging the ends of the band.

4. A telephone apparatus comprising a column provided with a vertical slot, a receiver-hook in said slot, a detachable flexible annular band surrounding the column and provided with a notch engaging the receiver-hook, lugs on the ends of the band, and a lock engaging said lugs.

In testimony whereof we affix our signature, in presence of two witnesses.

FRANCIS S. KEY SMITH.
DAVID C. REINOHL.

Witnesses:
W. PARKER REINOHL,
GEO. E. TERRY.