G. W. GIBBERD & O. A. ELIAS.

TELEPHONE MOUTHPIECE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 28, 1909.

979,467. Patented Dec. 27, 1910.

Fig. 1.

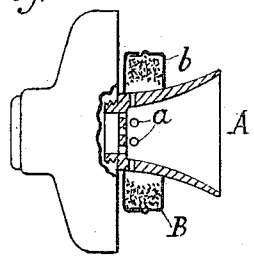


Fig. 2.

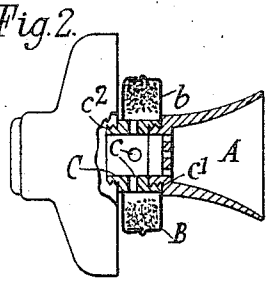


Fig. 3.

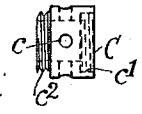


Fig. 4.

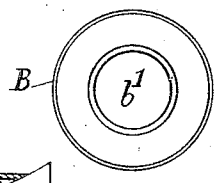


Fig. 5.

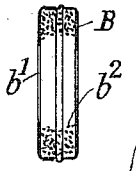


Fig. 6.

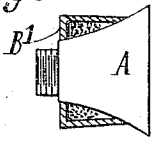
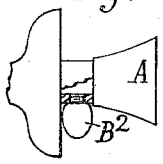


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TELEPHONE-MOUTHPIECE.

979,467. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 27, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE WILLIAM GIBBERD and OWEN AUBREY ELIAS, both subjects of the King of England, residing at London, in the Kingdom of England, have invented new and useful Improvements in Means for the Constant Disinfection of Telephone-Mouthpieces, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to an improved device for the constant disinfection of speaking tubes, telephone mouth-pieces or the like, and its object is to provide independent means at the rear of the mouth-piece which will contain an antiseptic substance and effect the disinfection from the rear toward the front of such mouth-piece.

According to our improved arrangement we drill one or more holes near the rear portion of the mouth-piece in a similar manner to previously known disinfecting devices, or we fit short perforated tubes between the mouth-piece and the diaphragm of an existing telephone transmitter and surround or fit the said hole or holes with a container, box, casing, cartridge, or pocket containing the antiseptic substance.

It may be stated that mouth-pieces formed with double walls and having perforations distributed over the rear and other part of the inner wall, and a disinfecting receptacle fixed in the outer wall thereof, supplying disinfectant vapor through the said perforations, have been heretofore proposed.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into effect, we will describe the same fully with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a sectional view and part elevation of an ordinary telephone transmitter suitably perforated and furnished with our disinfecting box. Fig. 2 is a similar view to Fig. 1 of a telephone transmitter fitted with an additional perforated tube surrounded with the disinfecting box. Fig. 3 is a separate view of the perforated tube, and Figs. 4 and 5 are face view and a cross section respectively of the disinfecting box. Fig. 6 shows a modification. Fig. 7 shows a further modification.

The mouth-piece of a speaking tube, or telephone transmitter A is perforated with a plurality of radial or other holes *a* and is then fitted with a removable box such as B containing an appropriate disinfectant *b* either of a solid or pasty nature or cotton wool or other porous material saturated with liquid antiseptic.

In some instances we prefer to apply between the ordinary mouth-piece and the diaphragm of a telephone transmitter an additional tube C having radial or other perforations *c*. One end of the said tube is formed with internal screw-threads c^1 which fit over the screw threads of the mouth-piece, while the other end of the tube has external screw-threads c^2 adapted to fit into the socket of the face plate.

The box B may advantageously be made of tin or similar metal, or other appropriate material, and if desired be in two parts fitted tight together and having a central hole b^1 b^2 in each face so as to allow of its being placed with a snug fit on the tube C, or on the rear portion of the mouth-piece A after being previously filled with the disinfectant.

Newly made mouth pieces can be made in one with the antiseptic box if desired, or a cup B^1 may be screwed or otherwise secured on the exterior of the mouth-piece, say in the manner shown at Fig. 6. Again, a small flask or similar container B^2 of antiseptic substance having a screw-threaded mouth or nozzle may be secured in a corresponding hole in or at the rear of the mouth piece, similarly to that shown at Fig. 7.

What we claim is:—

1. Means for disinfecting telephone mouth-pieces comprising a sleeve threaded at one end to fit into the telephone transmitter and threaded at the opposite end to receive the telephone mouthpiece, said sleeve having radial openings therethrough, and a disinfectant container surrounding said sleeve and supported entirely thereby.

2. In means for disinfecting telephone mouthpieces from the rear, the combination with the mouthpiece, of a screwed sleeve between the mouth-piece and the transmitter, radial perforations in said sleeve, and a refillable antiseptic container fitted on said sleeve, as set forth.

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