

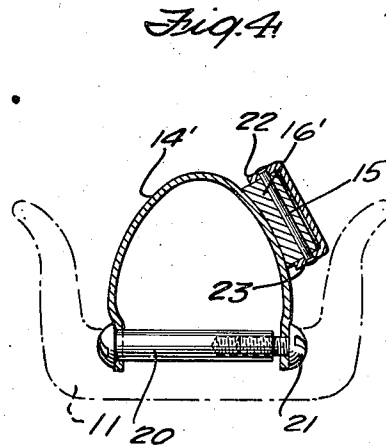
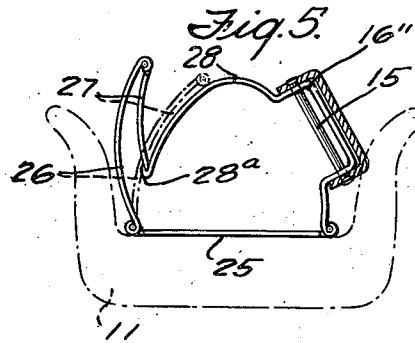
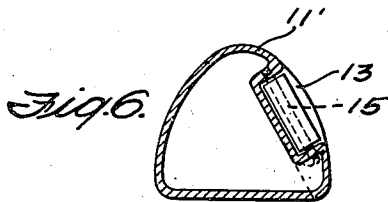
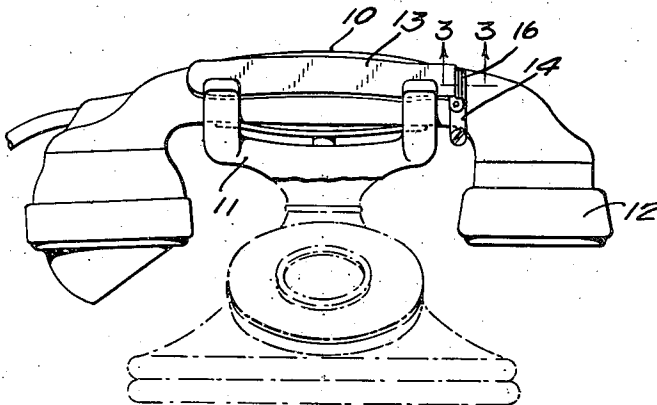
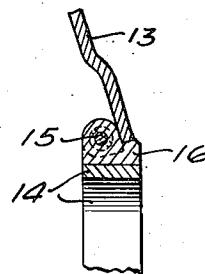
Sept. 8, 1942.

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2,294,989

TELEPHONE ATTACHMENT

Filed Oct. 20, 1939



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2,294,989

TELEPHONE ATTACHMENT

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Application October 20, 1939, Serial No. 300,317

6 Claims. (Cl. 179—157)

My present invention relates to an improved attachment for a telephone of the hand set type, and has for its principal object the provision of such an attachment which in inoperative position occupies a minimum of space, while in operative position permits the hand set to be supported by the shoulder and head of the user without the use of the hands.

Other objects and advantages thereof will be apparent as the description proceeds and the elements of novelty will be pointed out in the appended claims. For a complete understanding of my improved device, reference is made to the following detailed description taken with the annexed drawing, in which

Fig. 1 shows a hand set in use when equipped with my device;

Fig. 2 is a view showing the device in inoperative position;

Fig. 3 is a view in section taken along the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 with the blade in extended position;

Fig. 4 is a view on the scale somewhat larger than Fig. 2 of a modification, said view comprising a vertical section taken somewhat to the left of the hinge when the device assumes the position shown in Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a view corresponding to Fig. 4 but of a further modification; and

Fig. 6 is a view on a scale somewhat smaller than Figs. 4 and 5 of a still further modification in which the blade member occupies a recess in the grip portion of the hand set.

Referring to Fig. 2, a hand set of the type now employed having a grip portion 10 is shown in a cradle 11. Attached to said grip portion adjacent the receiver 12 is a blade member 13, the same being hinged to a strap 14 around said grip portion. As shown in Fig. 3, a pin 15 connects the registering hinged portions of the strap 14 and the blade 13, respectively. In Fig. 3 the swing of the blade 13 is limited by means of a shoulder 16 attached to or integral with the strap 14. The ends of strap 14 are brought together as by a bolt 20 and a screw 21 having a threaded engagement with an internal bore of said bolt 20, as shown in Fig. 4. The strap 14 is made of springy material so that when the bolt 20 is removed the strap can be snapped into place. In Fig. 4 the hinged end of the blade member 13 is formed of bent-in portions or ears 22 and 23 constituting with the built up portion 16' of the strap 14 a hinge which is provided with a pin 15.

In Fig. 5 the strap consists of hinged elements 25, 26 and 27 which cooperate with element 28

as by the end of element 27 engaging a slight hook 28a in member 28. When the strap has been placed into position over grip 10 it is merely necessary to move the elements 26 and 27 to the right as seen in Fig. 5 past the balance point, whereby the end of element 27 has engaged in the hook 28a, placing all the elements under compression with elements 26, 27 and 28 in superimposed position against grip 10. In this manner the strap is caused to tightly engage the grip portion 10 of the hand set. In Fig. 6 the blade 13 is hinged in a recess in the grip 11' of the hand set by means of pivot pin 15, whereby said blade when in inoperative position lies within the periphery of the grip portion 11'.

It will be noted that in use the blade 13 is swung out from its closed position, the movement of the blade being arrested by a stop 16, Fig. 3, or by the raised portion 16' of the strap 14', Fig. 4, or by the raised portion 16'' of Fig. 5. While the amount of this swing is susceptible to some variation, in practice a movement of a few degrees less than 90 degrees has been found satisfactory. It will be further noted that the grip 10 is of generally triangular cross section with the top sides of the triangle curved somewhat whereby the axis of the hinge is disposed at an angle which may be varied somewhat. In practice I have found an angle of about 45 degrees to the horizontal to be advantageous, although I do not limit myself to this. The blade 13 when fully opened occupies a position shown in Fig. 1, whereby the hand set is enabled to be held by the co-action of blade 13 and the set on the shoulder and the ear and chin of the user, thus enabling the hands to be free for other purposes. It will be further noted that the blade 13 is preferably curved to fit the surface of the grip 10 whereby it occupies a minimum of space in closed position and furthermore in no wise interferes with gripping the hand set when it is desired not to use blade 13 for holding the same in position. It further in no way affects the mechanical and electrical operation of the telephone. Where the blade 13 is built into a recess in the grip 10 an even smoother appearance is afforded. If it is desired to have attachment for use with the right ear, the blade is disposed upon the other side of the grip 10.

While I have illustrated and described in detail certain preferred forms of my invention, it is to be understood that changes may be made therein and the invention embodied in other structures. I do not, therefore, desire to limit myself to the specific construction illustrated, but intend

to cover my invention broadly in whatever form its principle may be utilized.

I claim:

1. An attachment for a telephone of the hand set type, said attachment comprising a blade member adapted to be hingedly attached to the grip portion of the hand set adjacent one end of said portion, and in inoperative position to extend substantially parallel to the same and in substantial contact therewith to form a part of the gripping surface of said portion, said member being capable of rotation on its hinge to a position such that when the telephone is in use said member will extend downwardly upon the shoulder of the user and serve to support the telephone so as not to require the use of the hands.

2. The combination according to claim 1, in which said grip portion has a recess therein to accommodate said blade member when the latter is in inoperative position.

3. An attachment for a telephone of the hand set type having a grip portion of substantially triangular cross section so as to provide two sides and a bottom which normally is in contact with the cradle, said attachment comprising a blade member adapted to be hingedly attached to the grip portion of the hand set adjacent one end

thereof and in inoperative position to extend substantially parallel to one of said sides of said grip portion and in substantial contact therewith to form a part of the gripping surface thereof, said member being capable of rotation on its hinge to a position such that when the telephone is in use said member will extend downwardly upon the shoulder of the user and serve to support the telephone so as not to require the use of the hands.

4. The attachment according to claim 1, in which the hinged member when extended assumes a position approximately 90° to the axis of the grip portion.

5. The attachment according to claim 3, in which the hinged member when extended assumes a position approximately 90° to the axis of the grip portion.

6. The attachment according to claim 1, in which the hinged member when extended assumes a position of approximately 90° to the axis of the gripping portion, whereas the axis of the hinge occupies a position approximately 45° to the horizontal when the hand set is horizontally cradled.

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