Jan. 8, 1935. S. G. BREGGER 1,987,047

MEDICATED INSERT FOR TELEPHONES

Filed July 24, 1933

Fig. 1.

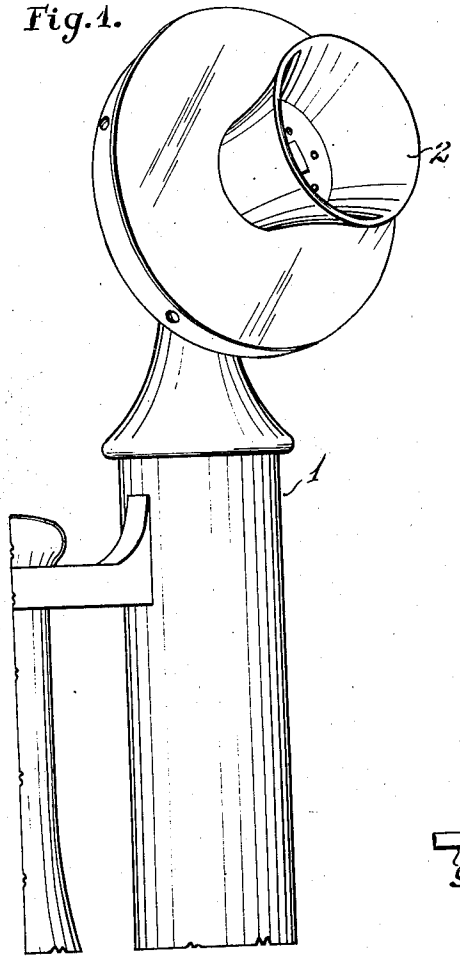


Fig. 2.

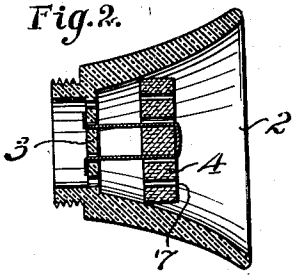


Fig. 3.

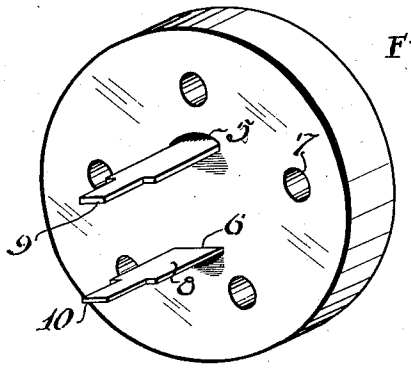
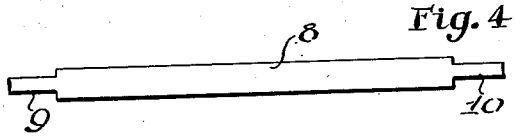


Fig. 4.



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MEDICATED INSERT FOR TELEPHONES

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Application July 24, 1933, Serial No. 681,913

2 Claims. (Cl. 179—185)

The present invention relates to an antiseptic insert for a telephone mouthpiece.

In using a telephone, the user's breath is usually directed into the mouthpiece and moisture from the breath of the user is apt to collect on the mouthpiece and in time develop an unsanitary condition therein, which may at times result in the transmission of communicable diseases to subsequent users and in any event creates an impression of uncleanliness, which is objectionable to a great many users of telephones.

An object of the present invention is to make an improved and simplified antiseptic insert for a telephone mouthpiece.

In order to attain this object there is provided, in accordance with one feature of the invention a tablet adapted to be mounted within a telephone mouthpiece to be fixedly retained therein, but being adapted to be readily removed therefrom when it is necessary to replace the tablet with a fresh one.

The tablet is apertured to provide air passages therethrough so as not to interfere with the passage of sound waves through the mouthpiece. The tablet is prepared of material which will diffuse an antiseptic substance into the air so as to maintain the mouthpiece in a state of antiseptic cleanliness.

These and other features of the invention will be more fully brought out in the following description and the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary view in perspective of a portion of a telephone set having a tablet embodying the present invention installed in the mouthpiece thereof.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the mouthpiece shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a view in perspective showing the rear or inner side of the tablet having a retaining strip mounted therein; and

Figure 4 is a plan view of a metal retaining strip used to mount the tablet in position in the mouthpiece of a telephone.

Referring to the drawing in detail, a telephone instrument 1 is of a conventional type, having a conventional mouthpiece 2 threadedly inserted in the upper end thereof. The mouthpiece is provided with the customary perforated transverse partition 3. A medicated tablet 4 is of a size to fit within the mouthpiece as illustrated in Figure 2 and as shown in Figures 1 and 2 is of a size to engage the side walls of the mouthpiece 2 above the transverse partition 3 so as to facilitate circulation of air through perforations 7 in the tablet 4. A pair of larger perforations 5 and 6 are provided in the tablet spaced inwardly from the perforations 7, and through the perforations 5 and 6 a metal retaining member 8 is passed. The ends of the metal retaining member 8 are of reduced width, as at 9, and 10, so as to pass through perforations in the partition 3. The ends 9 and 10 of the member 8 are bent outwardly, as shown in Figure 2, to retain the disk in position in the mouthpiece.

A satisfactory formula for making the tablet is as follows: blue vitriol, fifteen parts; formalin, two parts; oil of lavender, two parts; binder, such as starch or sugar, eighty parts. The exact formula is not essential to the invention, since any substance having the required degree of hardness and porosity, in combination with any volatile oils having antiseptic characteristics would be suitable for the purpose, and numberless such compounds could be prepared by one skilled in the art.

In using the device the mouthpiece 2 is removed by unscrewing it from the instrument 1 and the retaining member 8 is bent to substantially U shape, as indicated in Figure 2, and inserted through the openings 5 and 6. The ends 9 and 10 of the member 8 are then inserted in openings in the partition wall 3 so that the end portions of the member 8 project beyond the partition 3. The projecting end portions are then bent outwardly, as shown in Figure 2, to retain the member 8, and with it the tablet 4, in position in the mouthpiece. The mouthpiece is then screwed back onto the instrument 1 and no further attention is required until the antiseptic properties of the tablet have been dissipated, which may be detected by the absence of odor, whereupon the tablet may be readily removed and a fresh tablet inserted in its place.

I claim:

1. An antiseptic device for a telephone mouthpiece having a perforated element, comprising a tablet having diffusible antiseptic material embodied therein, a pair of support members positioned to support said tablet wider than the perforations in said mouthpiece, each of said support members having a narrower end portion adapted to enter a perforation in said mouthpiece to support said tablet at a distance from said partition equal to the length of the wider portions of said support members projecting beyond said tablet.

2. An antiseptic device for a telephone mouthpiece, having a perforated element; comprising a tablet embodying a diffusing antiseptic substance, support means having a portion thereof adapted to enter a perforation in said perforated element, and stop means carried by said support means to limit the distance said support means enter said perforations to wholly support said tablet at a distance from said perforated element determined by the position of said stop means.

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