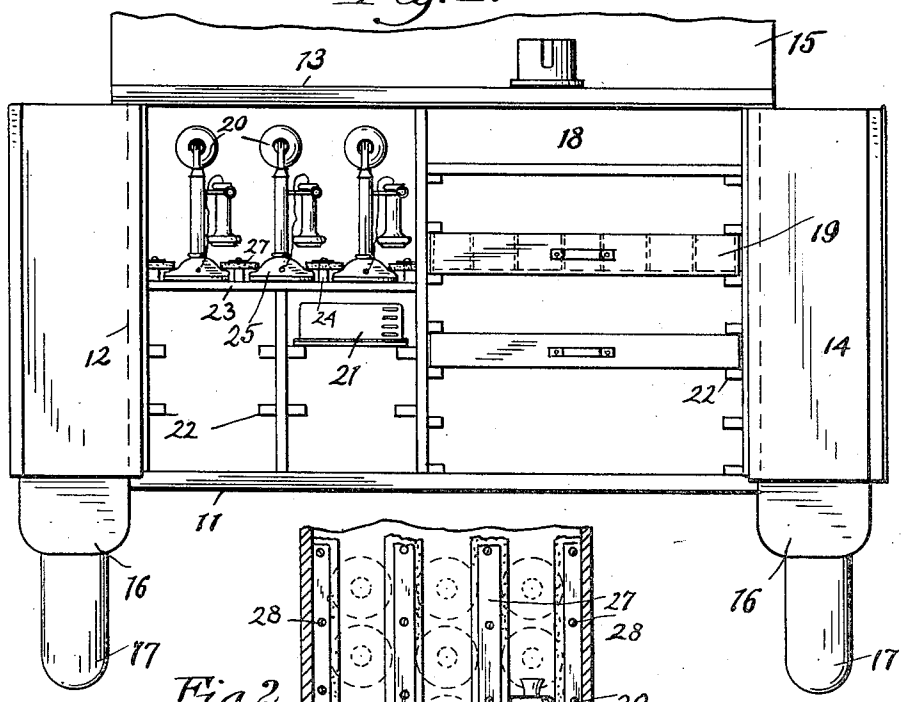
July 12, 1932. N. P. LARSEN 1,867,271

SUPPORTING DEVICE FOR TELEPHONES

Filed June 5, 1928

Fig. 1.



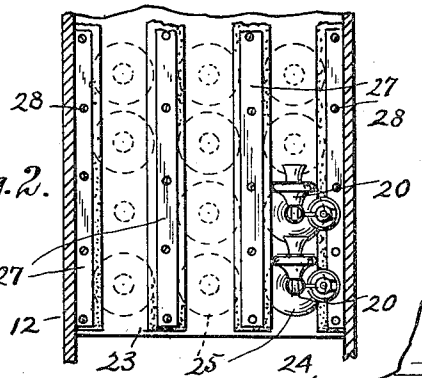


Fig. 2.

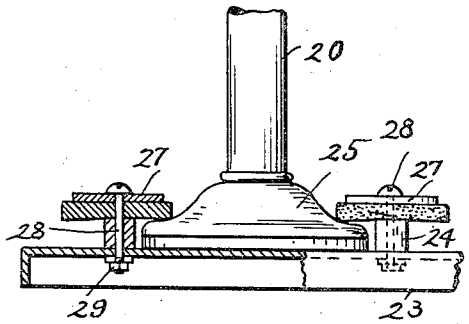
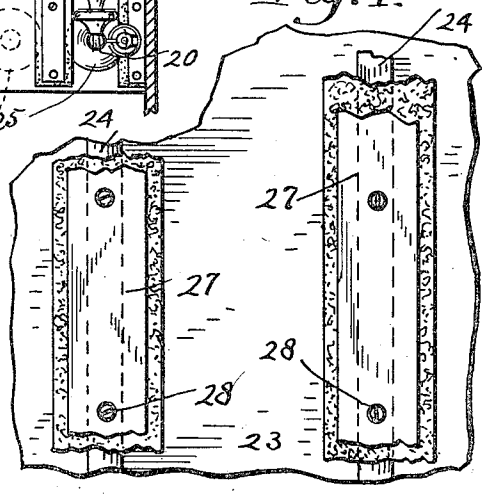


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SUPPORTING DEVICE FOR TELEPHONES

Application filed June 5, 1928. Serial No. 283,111.

This invention relates to a device adapted for use in connection with telephone repair trucks and the like, and has for its primary object the provision of means for preventing injury to telephones by preventing their independent movement due to jars or shocks imparted to the truck.

In the present type of telephone repair trucks it is customary to merely provide a support for the telephones which are to be installed and in some instances troughs are provided which are adapted to receive the telephones. During transportation from one locality to another, the truck is subjected to shocks and jars which are transmitted to the telephones within the repair truck, and as a result the telephones are bumped around in such a manner that the enameled surfaces thereof become marred and disfigured. It has been found that customers or telephone users will not permit the installation of these disfigured telephones in their residences and places of business and as a result it necessitates the refinishing or reenameling of the telephones before they may be installed. This incurs considerable expense to the telephone companies, as well as loss of time, and it is, therefore, an object of the present invention to overcome the objections above referred to.

Another object of the invention is to provide a support for the telephones with resilient means adapted to cooperate with the bases of the telephones to thereby prevent any appreciable relative movement between the telephones and their supporting bases.

With the objects above indicated, and other objects hereinafter explained in view, the invention consists in the construction and combination of elements hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a rear view looking into the compartment of a telephone repair truck, disclosing the application of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary top plan view of the telephone supporting device,

Figure 3 is an enlarged detailed view of the supporting device in elevation, and

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary top plan view of the telephone supporting device.

In the drawing, the repair truck includes a compartment 10 enclosed by a bottom 11, side panels 12 and top plate 13, all formed preferably of stamped sheet metal and securely joined together to provide a rigid construction, the details of which do not enter into the present invention.

The compartment 10 is provided at its rear with a pair of doors 14, pivotally connected to the sides 12 by suitable hinges, and adapted to close the interior of the compartment 10.

The enclosure for the compartment 10 is supported upon the chassis of the motor vehicle and suitably secured thereto, the parts of the motor vehicle illustrated in the present instance being the cab 15, rear fenders 16 and rear wheels 17, although it should be understood that the enclosure for the compartment 10 may be employed in connection with any suitable conveyance or repair kit.

The compartment 10 is divided longitudinally by a central partition 18, connected in any suitable manner to the bottom 11 and the top 13. The compartment to the right of the central partition 18, as illustrated in Fig. 1, is adapted to receive a plurality of slidable drawers 19, while the compartment to the left of the central partition 18 is adapted to receive the telephones 20 and the telephone boxes 21. The telephone boxes 21 may be supported upon a plurality of horizontally extending runners 22 bolted, or otherwise secured to the inner surfaces of the central portion 18 and one of the sides 12, extending the entire depth of the compartment so as to receive any desired number of telephone boxes 21.

The telephones 20 are supported upon a horizontally extending metal support 23 extending between the central partition 18 and the side 12, as shown in Fig. 1, and suitably secured by bolts or other means thereto. As previously stated, this metal support 23 is adapted to support the telephones 20, and in some instances channels are provided which are adapted to receive the telephones 20 so as to keep them in alignment. However, as

the repair truck passes over rough pavements the telephones 20 are subjected to knocks which cause them to be thrown into contact with each other, and as a result the enameled surfaces are marred or disfigured.

To overcome the disadvantage set forth there are provided a plurality of spaced longitudinally extending strips 24, as clearly illustrated in the drawing, and preferably of wood, spaced sufficiently apart to receive therebetween the base 25 of the telephone 20. Extending laterally upon opposite sides of the strip 24 are non-metallic members 26, preferably of felt or other suitable material, the outer edges of which are adapted to engage with the base 25 of the telephone 20. These members 26 being of non-metallic material will, therefore, not mar or disfigure the enameled surfaces of the telephone 20.

It is desirable to prevent relative movement of the telephones with respect to each other and with respect to the metal support 23, which is ordinarily caused by the jolts encountered in passing over rough streets or pavements and, in the present instance, there is provided longitudinally extending resilient or spring strips 27 disposed upon the upper surface of the non-metallic members 26 and extending laterally to near the outer edges of the non-metallic members 26. The resilient strips 27, the non-metallic members 26 and the strips 24 are securely clamped together and secured to the metal support 23 by bolts 28 which are suitably held in position upon the metal support 23 by nuts 29. The space between the upper surface of the metallic support 23 and the under surfaces of the non-metallic members 26 should be slightly less than the height of the base 25 of the telephone 20 at that point with which the base 25 engages with the non-metallic members 26, so that the base 25 in being inserted between the metal support 23 and the non-metallic members 26 should have a forced fit and the resiliency in the strip 27 should be sufficient to create sufficient force to maintain the base 25 in engagement with the metal support 23.

It will be noted that the metal support 23 is here illustrated as being adapted to receive three rows of telephones 20, but it should be understood that any number of rows may be employed depending upon the needs. It is also preferable that the strip 24, the non-metallic members 26 and the resilient strip 27 extend throughout the depth of the compartment 10, although this arrangement may also be modified to meet the requirements.

While the preferred embodiment of the invention has been herein illustrated and described it should be understood that I am not to be limited thereto inasmuch as the use of the invention is contemplated in connection with other than telephone repair trucks as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

In a telephone supporting device, a base adapted to support telephones in longitudinal alignment, means for dividing said base into longitudinal rows, non-metallic members extending along said rows and adapted to engage said telephones, and resilient means associated with said non-metallic members and adapted to normally press said non-metallic members into engagement with said telephones to thereby retain the latter upon said base.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

NEIL P. LARSEN.