

H. MEREDITH-JONES.
MEGAPHONE.

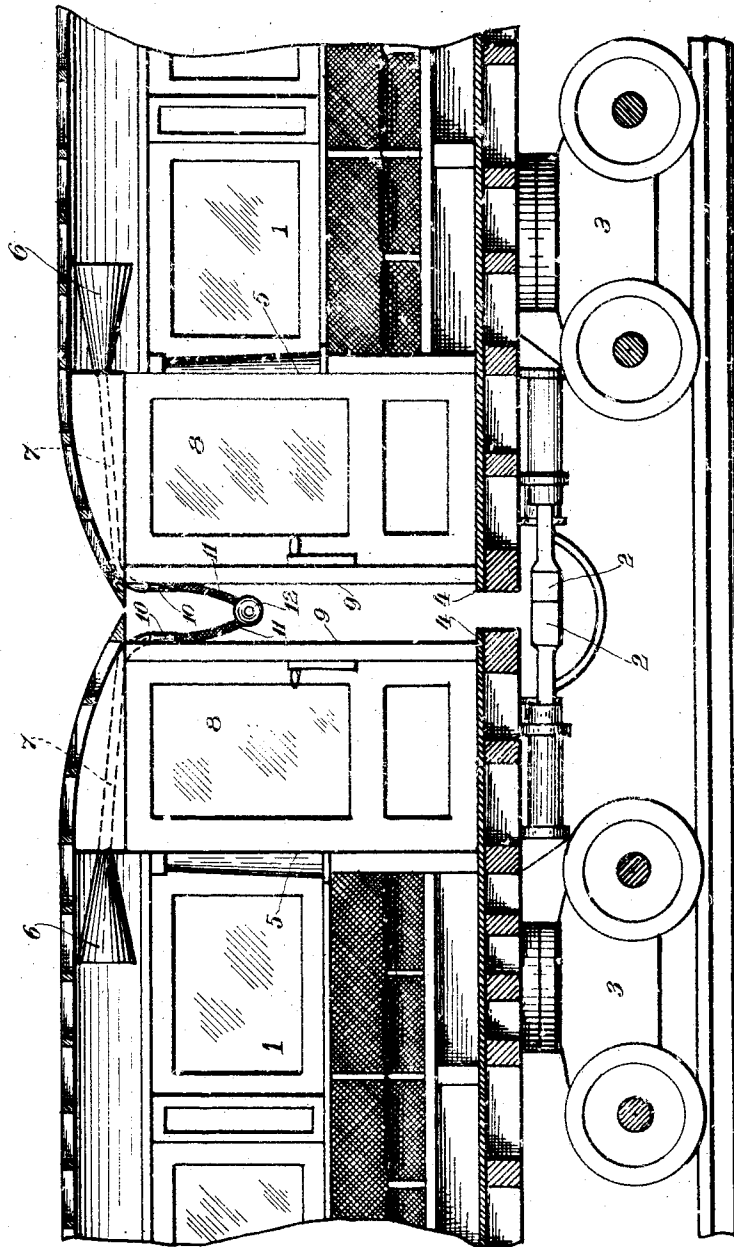
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 9, 1908.

943,252.

Patented Dec. 14, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig-1-



WITNESSES

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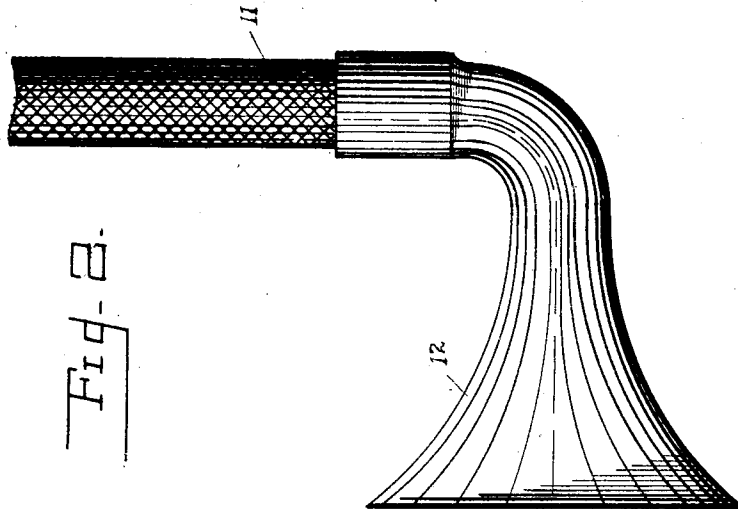
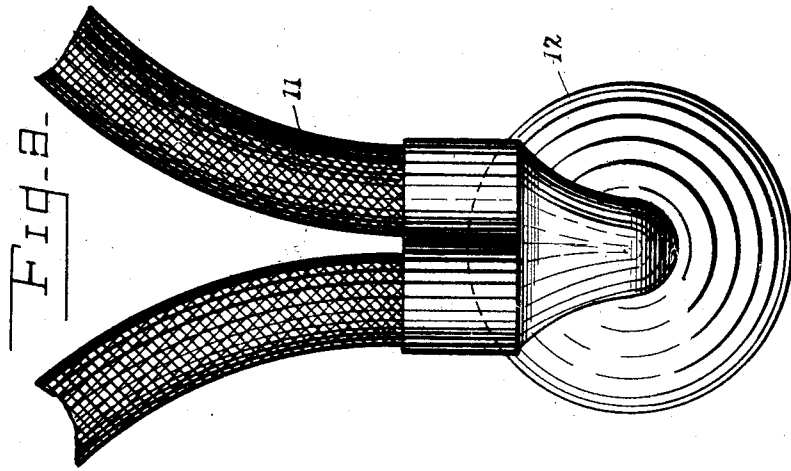
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HUBERT MEREDITH-JONES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CHARLES M. MAPES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

MEGAPHONE.

943,252.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 14, 1909.

Application filed October 9, 1908. Serial No. 456,905.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUBERT MEREDITH-JONES, of New York, in the county of New York, and in the State of New York, have
5 invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Megaphones, and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to an improvement
10 in megaphones and especially to megaphones that are used for announcing purposes in public vehicles.

More particularly, my invention relates to a megaphone that can be used to very great
15 advantage in making announcements in trains of cars where the guard is ordinarily stationed between the two adjacent platforms of two adjoining cars. It is usual in cars of this type which are used almost
20 entirely in city traffic, for the trains made up of such cars to carry very large crowds. It is also usual that in the operation of such cars, a very large volume of sound is produced. As a result, it is extremely difficult
25 to make announcements with the unaided voice which can be heard to the centers of the cars. A feature which creates an added difficulty under these circumstances, is the fact that the guard is usually separated from
30 the body of the car by the vestibule thereof, and in case he makes an announcement from the place at which he is ordinarily stationed, that is, between the two platforms of adjoining cars, any announcements which he
35 might make from this position would scarcely be heard at all within the body of the car.

The megaphone which constitutes an embodiment of my invention is designed to
40 obviate these difficulties, and in general, it comprises a horn located in the body of the car above the heads of the passengers and connected by means of a tube passing through the vestibule of the car to a flexible
45 hose having a transmitter located at its end. In order to avoid the repetition of announcements, I connect two such horns and tubes located at the adjoining ends of adjacent cars with a single transmitter.

50 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a pair of adjoining cars partly in section equipped with such a megaphone; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the transmitter; and Fig. 3 is an end view of the same.

55 In the drawings are shown two adjacent

cars, 1 connected in the ordinary manner by means of couplings 2 and carried upon trucks of the ordinary type 3. The guard is ordinarily stationed, especially in hours when the cars are crowded, upon the two
60 adjoining platforms of the cars 4. Projecting from each partition 5 which separates the vestibule of the car from the body thereof, and projected toward the interior of the car, I locate a large horn 6 in the shape of
65 an ordinary megaphone. Each of these horns is attached to a tube 7 which passes through the vestibule 8 and curves downwardly on the outside of the outer partition 9 of each car. The tubes at this point telescope with two short straight tubes 10, each
70 of which is attached to a flexible tube 11 attached to a single transmitter 12. The horns 6 may, if desired, be located farther toward the center of the car or may be located at the
75 side or the middle of one end thereof.

In the operation of my device, a guard standing upon the platforms 4 talks into the transmitter 12, and by making a single
80 announcement, conveys said announcement to the interior of each of the adjoining cars by means of the megaphones 6. When it is desired to uncouple the cars, the single transmitter 12 and its attached flexible tubes
85 11 can be detached from the tubes 7 at the telescoping points 10.

By using this device, it will be seen that it is not necessary for the guard to cross the vestibule of any one of the cars to make an
90 announcement, but it is sufficient for him to make a single announcement from his normal position between the platforms 4, at which place he ordinarily operates the levers to open the doors of the car, to convey
95 to the passengers in both cars the desired information. Furthermore, the announcement can thus be made very much more effectively than without the use of the device, for the reason that the horns 6 are located
100 over the heads of the passengers and, therefore, the passengers do not by their presence interfere with the passage of the sound to the center of the car.

A further advantage of the use of this device is, that, from the well-known characteristics of megaphones, the sound will be
105 very much magnified and will therefore be much more audible than in the case of announcements made by the unaided voice. Because of the presence of the two detach-
110

able connections, 10, it will be possible if so desired for each guard to be provided with his own transmitter, so as to produce a more sanitary arrangement than in the case where
 5 different guards are compelled to use the same transmitter, inasmuch as it is well-known that disease germs collect in transmitters of all types. Again, with this construction announcements can be made with
 10 the doors of the adjoining cars entirely closed, and as a result a very much larger volume of effective sound is conveyed to the cars than would be the case were the doors open to permit the rattle and other extraneous noises to enter. For the same reason,
 15 this construction prevents the frequent entry of cold drafts into the cars by repeated opening of the doors thereof. Finally, it will be possible by using the megaphone
 20 constituting an embodiment of my invention, to make announcements into the interior of the cars, even in the presence of large crowds, such as frequently occur in city traffic, extending from the rear end of
 25 the platforms of the cars to practically the center thereof. Under such conditions, it is at present impossible to make an effective announcement, for the reason that the guard cannot penetrate the crowd and reach the
 30 interior of the body of the car without great difficulty.

While I have described my invention

above in detail, I wish it to be understood that many changes might be made in the details thereof, and to apply it to vehicles
 35 of different types without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim:

1. In a device of the character described, the combination of two adjacent cars, a
 40 megaphone in each car and a single transmitter connected to said megaphones.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination of two adjacent cars, a
 45 megaphone in each car and a single transmitter connected to said megaphones and located on the outside of the cars.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination of two adjacent cars, a
 50 megaphone in each car and a single transmitter connected to said megaphones and located at the outer edge of one of the cars.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination of two adjacent cars, a
 55 megaphone in each car and a single transmitter connected to said megaphones and located between said cars.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand.

HUBERT MEREDITH JONES.

Witnesses:

M. MEIKLE,

GEO. ROEDER, Jr.