No. 854,971. PATENTED MAY 28, 1907.

E. B. THOMAS.

TELEPHONE ATTACHMENT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 29, 1906.

Fig. 1.

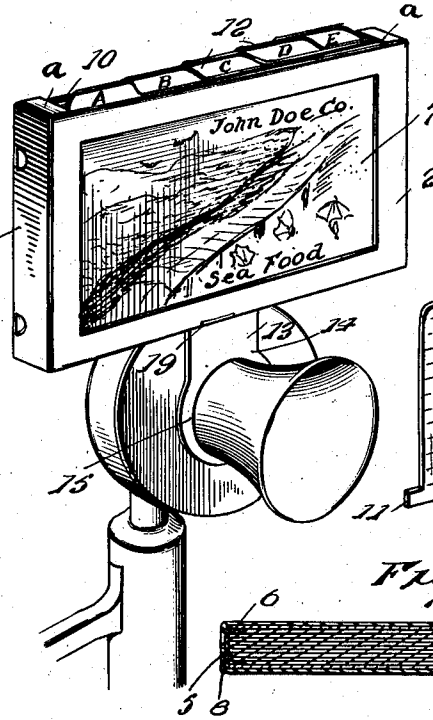


Fig. 6.

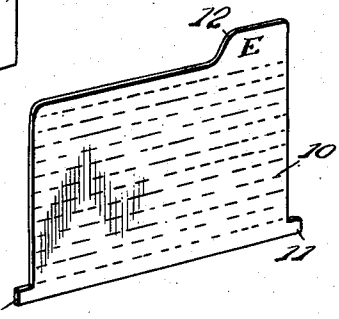


Fig. 5.

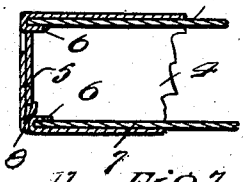


Fig. 7.

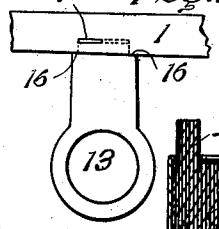


Fig. 3.

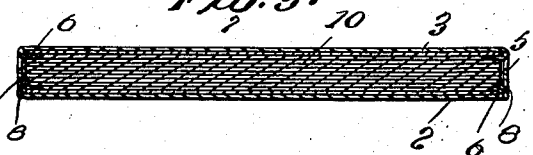


Fig. 2.

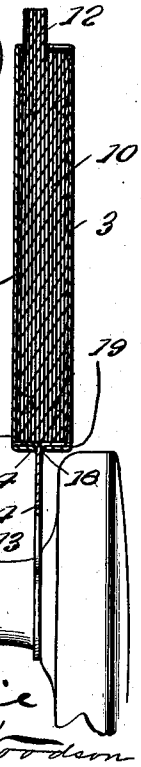
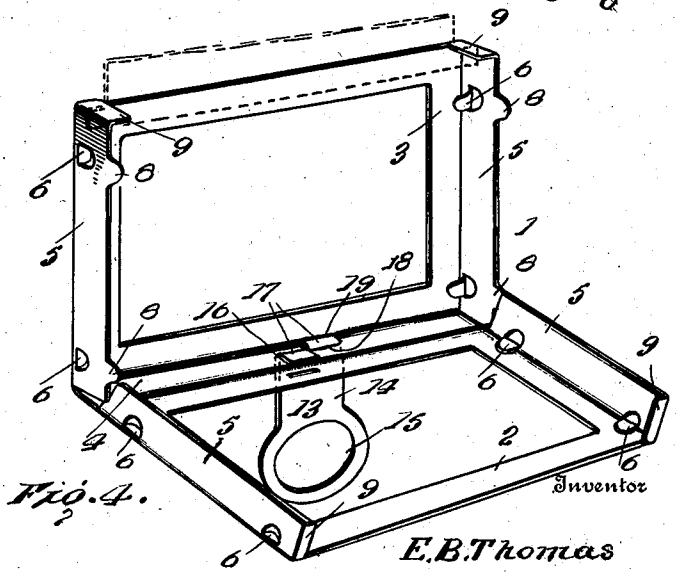


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

Inventor

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD B. THOMAS, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

TELEPHONE ATTACHMENT.

No. 854,971. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 28, 1907.

Application filed June 29, 1906. Serial No. 324,073.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD B. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone Attachments, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention is in the nature of an index attachment for telephones and consists essentially of a peculiarly constructed case containing a number of systematically arranged cards upon which any desired data may be placed, and provided with a bracket by means of which it can be readily attached to the mouth-piece of a telephone transmitter.

The object of the invention is to provide an attachment of this character which while very compact in its structure is adapted to receive a large amount of data and hold it in a classified condition so as to be instantly accessible.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the attachment applied to a telephone transmitter; Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view through the same; Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view through the case; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the device with the cards removed and the sides of the case swung apart; Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view through one end of the case; Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of one of the index cards. Fig. 7 is a detail fragmentary view illustrating that end of the supporting bracket that is connected to the case.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The case 1 of the attachment is shown as formed of a single piece of sheet material and comprises essentially a front 2 and back 3 which are both, preferably, in the form of rectangular frames and connected along their lower edges by the base piece 4. The opposite ends of the front and back are formed with the extensions 5 which are bent at approximately right angles to the planes of the front and back and overlap each other to form the ends of the case. A pair of ears 6 is shown as stamped from each of the extensions 5 and bent inwardly against either the front or back, according to which of the members the extension 5 is made integral with. These ears 6 form means for holding the cards 7 in position which fit over the openings in the front and back of the case, and which may be used for advertising or any other desired purpose. In order to hold the members of the case securely together, tongues 8 are formed along the edges of the outer extensions 5 and these tongues are adapted to enter and engage with the openings produced by cutting the ears 6 in the opposite extension. Flanges 9 project inwardly at the mouth of the case from opposite ends thereof and in the practical construction of the case, these flanges are, preferably, made integral with the extensions 5. A series of index cards 10 fit loosely within the case 1 and are formed at their lower portions with the end extensions 11 which engage with the before mentioned inwardly extending flanges 9 to prevent the cards from being entirely withdrawn from the case so as to become lost or disarranged. Tabs 12 project upwardly from the upper edges of the index cards 10 and may be lettered alphabetically or designated in any suitable manner to indicate the matter upon the card. With this construction, it will be apparent that when it is desired to inspect any one of the cards, this can be readily accomplished by grasping the tab 12 upon the desired card and withdrawing the said card until the end extensions 11 engage with the inwardly extending flanges 9.

The bracket 13 by which the case 1 is held in position may be formed of the same material as that employed in the construction of the case and comprises a body portion 14 provided at one end with means for attachment to the case, while the opposite end is enlarged and formed with the opening 15 adapted to receive the threaded portion of the mouth-piece of an ordinary telephone transmitter. The end of the bracket 13 connected to the case 1 is reduced in width to form the oppositely disposed shoulders 16 (see Fig. 7) and split longitudinally to form the tongues 17. These two tongues 17 are passed through the slot 18 in the back 3 so that the shoulders 16 abut against the latter, and the said tongues are then bent in opposite directions at approximately right angles to the plane of the bracket and pass through openings 19 in the front and back, respectively,

of the case. In this manner a rigid connection is formed between the two members which prevents any front and back or side tilting of the case.

In applying the attachment to a telephone, the threaded portion of the mouth-piece is passed through the opening 15 and the enlarged portion of the bracket clamped between the front of the transmitter and the shoulder around the threaded portion of the mouth-piece, so as to hold the case in an upright and readily accessible position. The formation of the index cards 10 with the end extensions 11 adapted to engage with the inwardly extending flanges 9 has the great advantage of preventing the cards from spilling out of the case, should the telephone be accidentally knocked over or should the mouth-piece become loosened so as to allow the case to swing downwardly and assume an inverted position.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. In a device of the character described, the combination of a case formed of a single piece of sheet material and comprising a front and a back connected along one of their edges by a base and provided at their ends with extensions which are bent inwardly and overlap each other to form the ends of the case, a series of cards fitting loosely within the case, and a bracket connected to the case and provided with means whereby it can be attached to a telephone transmitter.

2. In a telephone attachment, the combination of a case comprising a front and back which are in the nature of frames and have one of their corresponding edges connected by a base, the said front and back being formed with end extensions which are bent inwardly to form the ends of the case and have ears stamped therefrom which are bent inwardly to hold cards over the openings in the back and front, a series of index cards fitting loosely within the case, and a bracket secured to the case and provided with means whereby is can be readily attached to a telephone transmitter.

3. In a telephone attachment, the combination of a case comprising a front and back connected by ends and a base, a series of index cards fitting loosely within the case, a bracket, one end of which is passed through the base and formed with tongues which engage with the front and back of the case, while the opposite end of the bracket is provided with means whereby it can be readily attached to a telephone transmitter.

4. In a telephone attachment, the combination of a case comprising a front and back connected by ends and a base, a series of index cards fitting loosely within the case, and a bracket formed with shoulders toward one end thereof, the said end of the bracket being passed through the base of the case until the shoulders engage therewith and then bent to form a rigid connection between the two members, the said bracket being also provided with means whereby it can be readily attached to a telephone transmitter.

5. In an attachment for telephones, the combination of a case comprising a front and back connected by ends and a base, a series of index cards fitting loosely within the case, and a standard having one end thereof reduced to form shoulders, the said end being split to form tongues and passed through an opening in the base of the case until the shoulders engage therewith, the tongues being then bent in opposite directions so as to pass through openings in the front and back of the case, respectively, the said bracket being also provided with means whereby it can be readily attached to a telephone transmitter.

6. A case, comprising a front and back, and a base, and angularly disposed extensions overlapping each other and constituting ends, the extensions being provided with stamped out ears extending inwardly therefrom, and adapted to maintain a card in place in the case, said opposite or overlapping extensions being provided with tongues adapted to enter the openings formed by the stamped out ears, whereby to secure the respective extensions together.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD B. THOMAS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
WM. R. ROSE,
E. T. FARLEY.