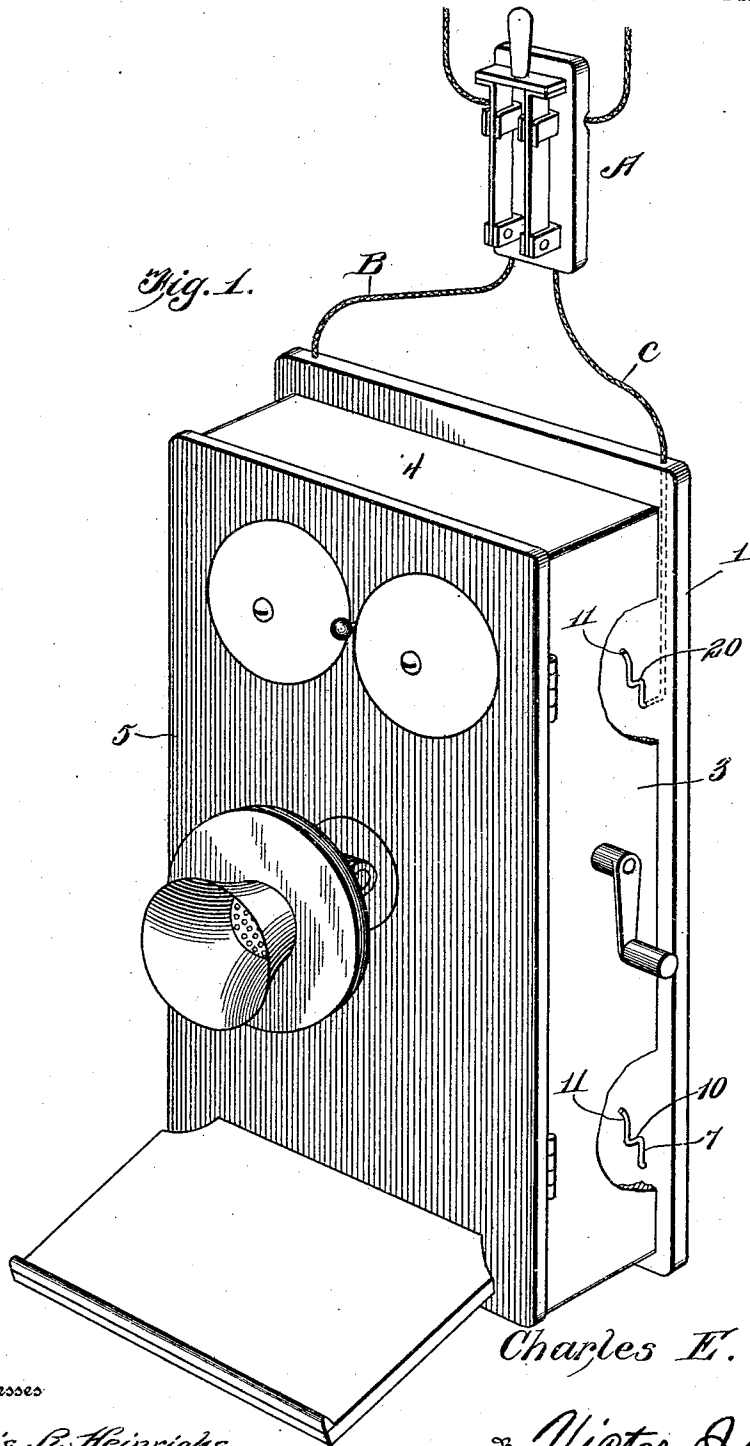


C. E. OXFORD.
TELEPHONE CABINET.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 29, 1909.

941,336.

Patented Nov. 23, 1909.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
Louis R. Heinrichs
James A. Welch

Inventor
Charles E. Oxford

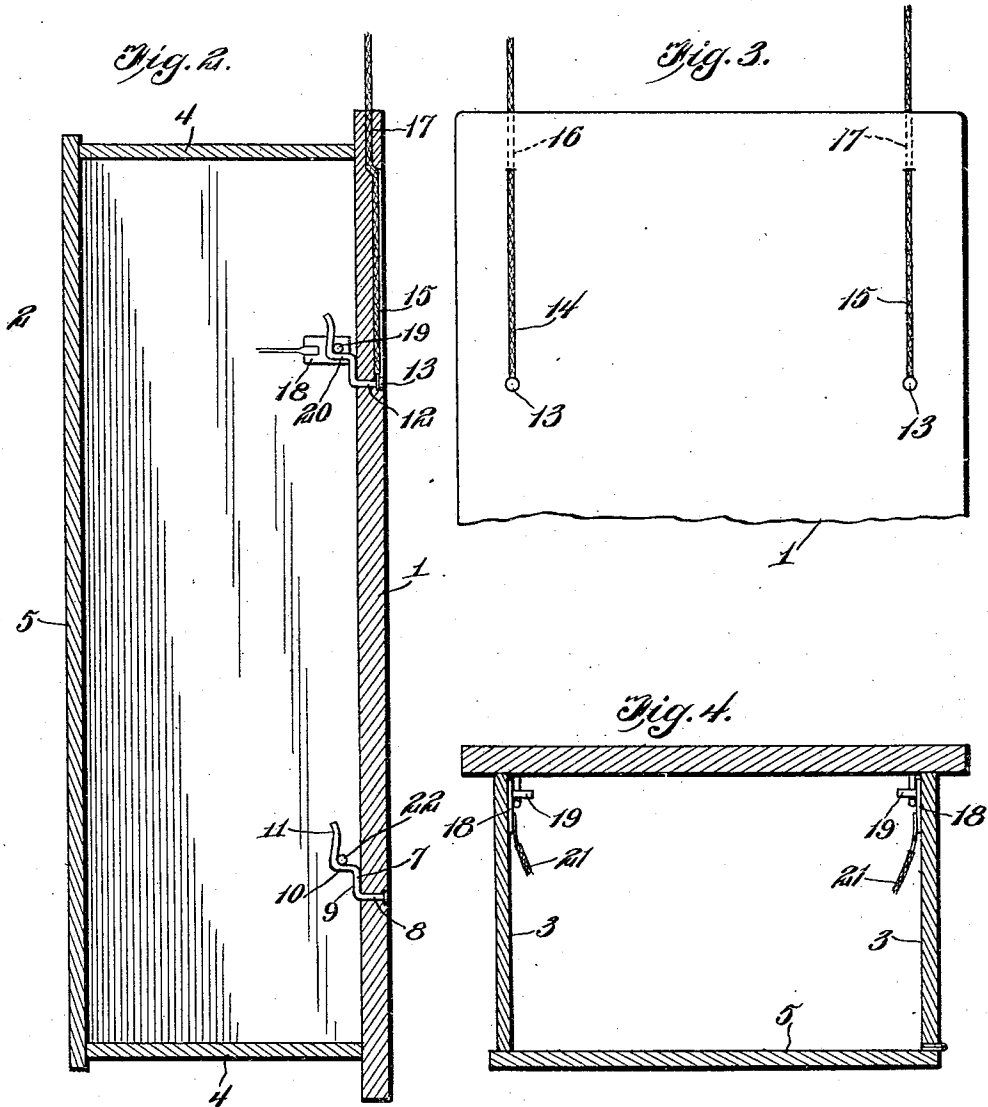
By Victor J. Evans
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. OXFORD, OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS.

TELEPHONE-CABINET.

941,336.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 23, 1909.

Application filed January 29, 1909. Serial No. 474,942.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. OXFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fayetteville, in the county of Washington and State of Arkansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Telephone-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to telephone cabinets.

Heretofore telephone cabinets have been constructed principally from a backboard having permanently connected therewith side, top and bottom walls which are generally connected by partitions or the like for supporting batteries or instruments forming a part of the telephone. The cabinet heretofore is generally provided with a hinged door in order that access can be gained to the interior should it be desired to inspect or repair the instrument or any parts thereof. It is often necessary in telephones to separate the backboard from the remaining structure forming the cabinet in order that access can be gained to the cabinet from the rear thereof.

In view of the above it is a special object of my invention to form a telephone cabinet embodying a backboard or other support to which is adapted to be detachably connected the remaining body structure of the cabinet which carries a hinged door or front member so that by means of the latter access can be gained to the interior of the cabinet from the front thereof and should it be desired to gain access to the cabinet from the rear thereof the construction described affords means so that the body structure of the cabinet can be conveniently detached from the backboard without the use of tools or instruments of any character.

It is a further object of my invention to provide a backboard provided with a plurality of clips, hangers or similar elements for receiving pins or the like carried by the body structure of the cabinet, a plurality of said pins carrying contact strips or pieces to be engaged frictionally with a plurality of said clips, hangers or the like, so that wires may be run from a switch-board or central station to two of the hangers, clips or the like, and to connect with the contact strips wires to be connected with the telephone instrument.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent as the nature of the invention is better set forth, and it will be understood that

changes within the scope of the claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings, forming a portion of this specification and in which like characters of reference indicate similar parts in the several views:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the telephone cabinet. Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken through the cabinet. Fig. 3 is a rear view of a portion of the cabinet. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section through the cabinet taken on the line of the contact pieces.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, there is shown a telephone cabinet embodying a backboard or support 1 and a body portion or housing 2 comprising spaced side walls 3 and connecting bottom and top walls 4. One of the side walls has hingedly connected thereto a door or front member 5. Adjacent to the lower end of the backboard is shown horizontally disposed spaced clips, hangers or similar elements 7 each comprising a single length of metal having a shank portion 8 anchored to the backboard preferably by passing the shank therethrough and by heading their outer extremities. From the shanks 8, the metal forming the clips, hangers or the like is bent upwardly as indicated at 9 and outwardly at 10 and then upwardly in arcuate form to provide a finger 11 spaced from the backboard as will be clearly appreciated upon reference to Fig. 2 of the drawings. The outwardly directed portions 10 of the clips, hangers or the like provide shoulders for a purpose to be hereinafter more fully described. Similar clips, hangers or the like are carried by the backboard adjacent to the upper end thereof and as shown, these clips are provided with shanks 12 which have headed portions 13 disposed at the lower ends of spaced vertical grooves 14 and 15 formed in the backboard upon the rear side thereof. The backboard is also provided with vertically disposed passages 16 and 17 which open at their upper ends onto the upper edge of the backboard and which have their lower ends communicating with the grooves 14 and 15. A switch is indicated at A in Fig. 1 of the drawings and the branch wires B and C of the switch are extended downwardly through the passages 16 and 17 and into the grooves 14 and 15, and as shown the terminal ends of the wires are connected to the shanks 12 of the clips, adjacent to the upper end of the

backboard. The switch A described by me is of course unnecessary but is used for the purpose of convenience. It will of course be understood that the wires B and C are connected with the central station of the telephone instrument.

Contact members 18 are secured to the side walls 3 of the body portion 2 of the cabinet and are provided with inwardly directed pins 19 adapted to rest upon the shoulders 20 of the clips adjacent to the upper end of the backboard. The contact pieces 18 are connected with wires 21 to be attached to the telephone instrument. The side walls 3 carry at their lower ends inwardly directed pins 22 adapted to rest upon the shoulders 10 of the clips, hangers or the like 7.

The construction as herein set forth and described by me is such that should it be desired to gain access to the telephone instrument by way of the rear, it will be seen that by raising or lifting the body portion of the cabinet upwardly bodily the pins 19 and 22 carried by the side walls 3 will be removed or disengaged from the clips. In view of the electrical connections hereinbefore described it will be seen that when the body portion of the cabinet is removed from the backboard connections will be broken between the shanks 12 and the contact pieces 18. Should it only be desired to repair a telephone instrument from the front the provision of the door 5 readily affords means for this purpose.

I do not desire to limit myself to the particular combination of a backboard and the elements, hangers or clips as it is obvious that the clips, hangers or the like can be connected with a wall or with any other support.

The advantages gained by me in the construction of a cabinet as herein set forth will

appeal to those generally employed by telephone companies, as, by its use of a cabinet of the character disclosed connections between a telephone instrument and the switch or central station can be conveniently broken.

I claim:—

1. A cabinet of the class described comprising a housing having a hinged closure at the front, said housing having an open back portion, hangers extending into the housing from said open back portion and located adjacent to the sides of the said housing, electrical connections for said hangers, and electrically connected contact pieces carried by the housing at the side thereof adapted to frictionally engage portions of the said hangers and provided with lateral pins adapted for locking engagement with said hangers.

2. A cabinet comprising a housing having a hinged closure at the front thereof, said housing having an open back portion, a backboard for closing the open back portion of the housing, electrically connected hangers extending from the backboard, said hangers each having a shank portion engaged with the backboard and provided with a horizontally disposed shoulder and an upwardly extending finger disposed in spaced relation to the backboard, and contact members secured to the sides of the said housing adapted to frictionally engage the said hangers and provided with horizontally disposed pins adapted to rest upon the shoulders of said hangers.

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

CHARLES E. OXFORD.

Witnesses:

W. H. MORTON,

O. L. McMILLAN.