April 27, 1954 B. VAN R. MARTINDALE 2,676,427

DIAL ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES

Filed Feb. 19, 1947 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 4.

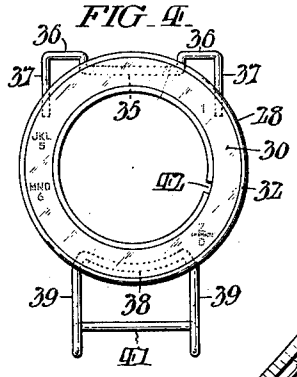


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

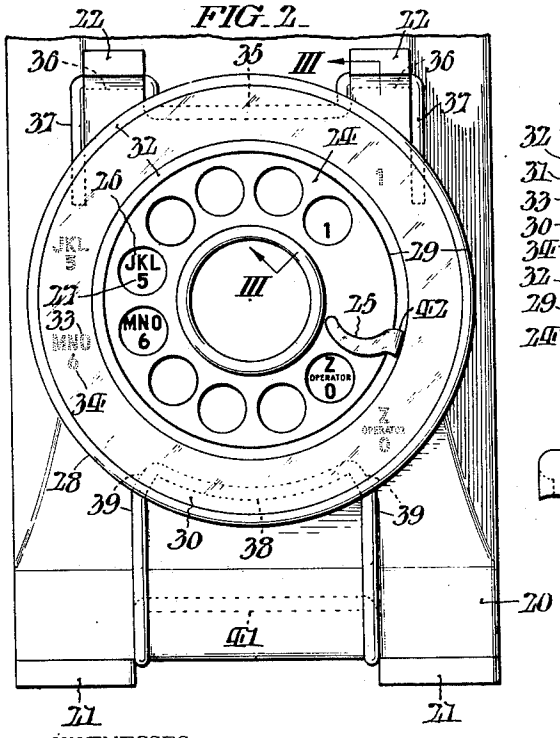


FIG. 3.

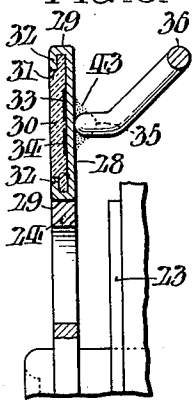
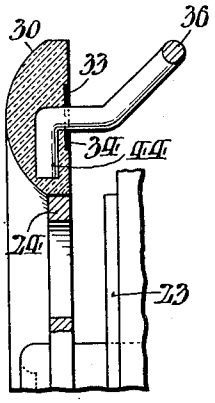


FIG. 5.



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DIAL ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES

Filed Feb. 19, 1947 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 6.

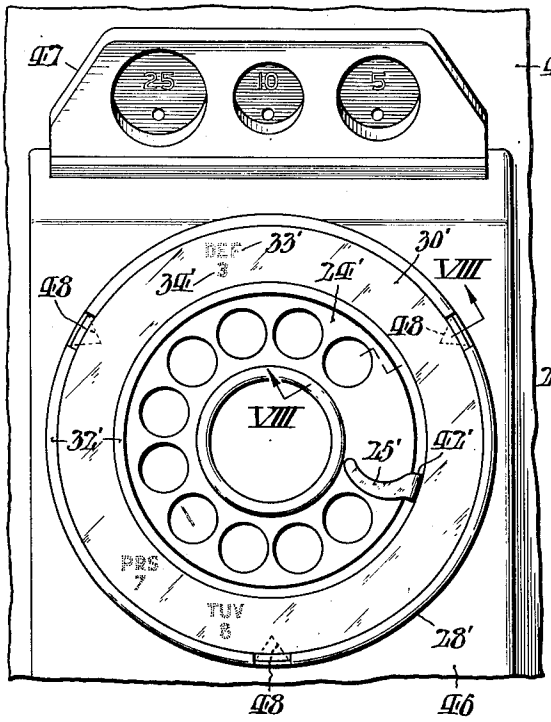


FIG. 7.

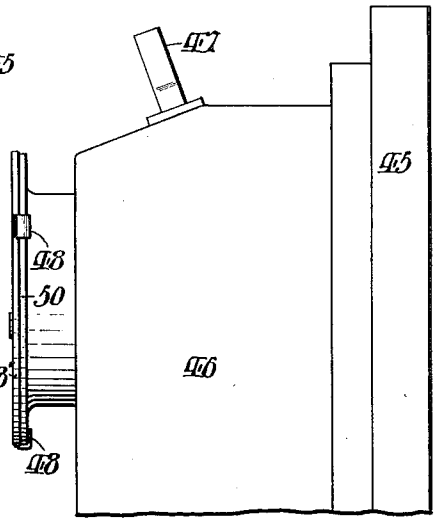


FIG. 8.

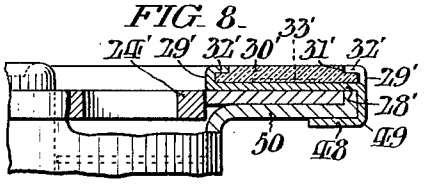


FIG. 9.

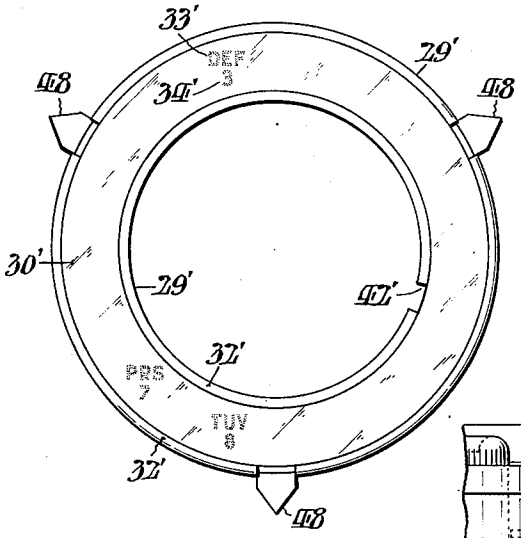


FIG. 10.

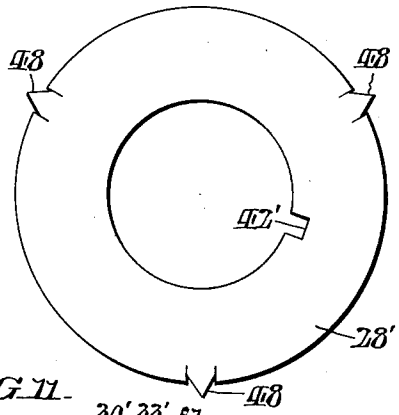
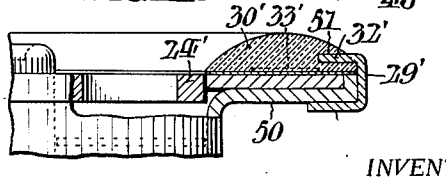


FIG. 11.



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DIAL ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES

Filed Feb. 19, 1947 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

FIG. 12.

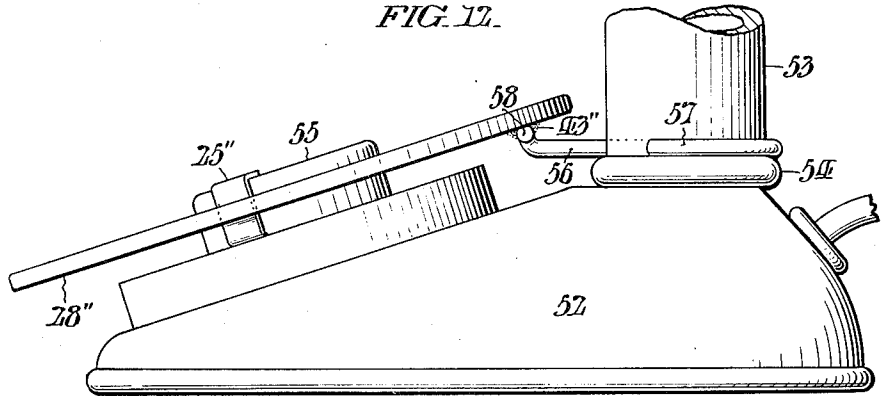


FIG. 13.

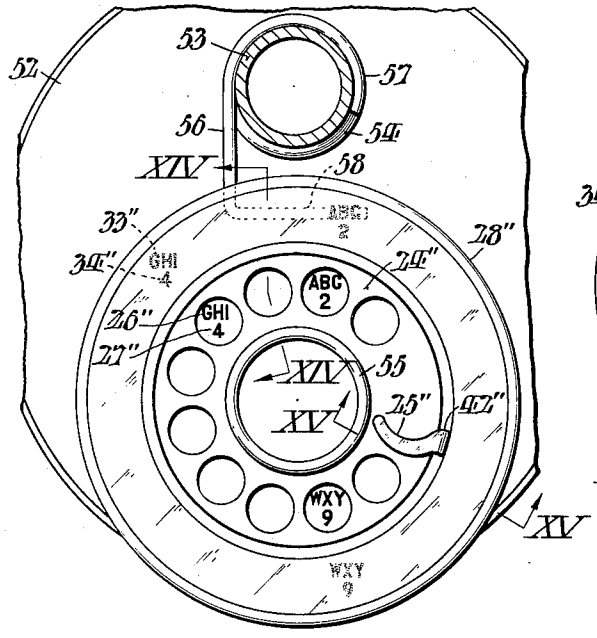


FIG. 16.

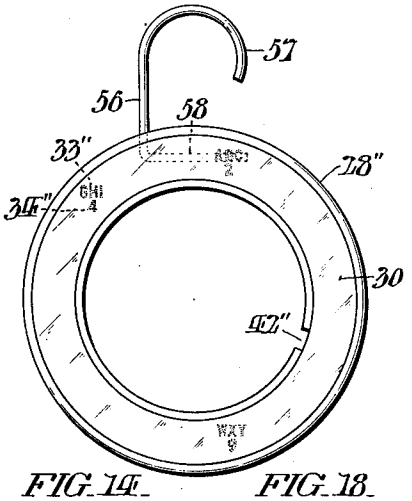


FIG. 14.

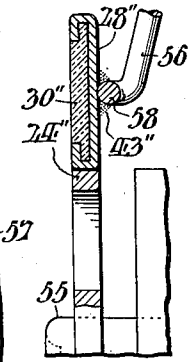


FIG. 18.

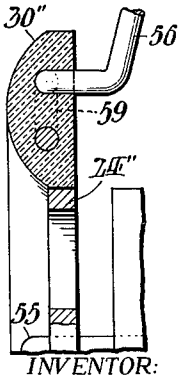


FIG. 15.

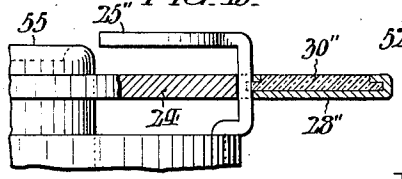
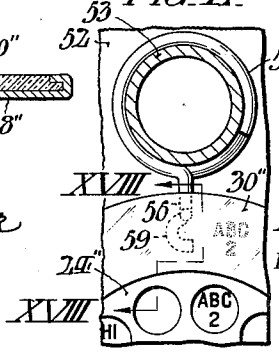


FIG. 17.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,676,427

DIAL ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES

Beatrice van R. Martindale, Philadelphia, Pa.

Application February 19, 1947, Serial No. 729,546

2 Claims. (Cl. 40—10.5)

1

My invention has general reference to dial telephones, that is to say desk and wall phones including a finger plate rotatable relative to a subjacent stationary plate bearing appropriate letters and numerals whereby the user may automatically obtain the desired party or call number.

More particularly this invention relates to the species or form of telephone dial adjunct or attachment enabling the phone to be used with equal facility at night, or in the dark, without the aid of artificial light.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a simple attachment of the type specified in the preceding paragraph which can be applied to standard forms of dial telephones with a minimum expenditure of effort and time by anyone, and without the use of tools or other manipulative means.

Another object of this invention is to provide a dial attachment for telephones which will not involve any change whatsoever in the form or design of conventional desk and wall dial telephones, while it is of a character equally well applicable to standard type phones, that may have become deformed or damaged.

A further object is to provide a telephone dial attachment that will not in any way conflict with the standard forms of indicia or markings used by telephone companies, and which serves solely in an adjunctive capacity to increase the serviceability thereof.

With the above stated objects and ancillary advantages in view my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangements of parts, as hereinafter fully disclosed, illustrated by the accompanying three sheets of drawings, and more tersely expressed in the concluding claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1, Sheet 1, is a side elevation of a "French" type desk, or the like, telephone stand with the receiver omitted, and including a typical form of the novel attachment in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a face view taken approximately as indicated by the angled arrows II—II to the left-hand of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary section taken approximately as indicated by the broken line and associated arrows III—III in Fig. 2, but drawn to a larger scale for clearer illustration of structural details.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the novel dial attachment of this invention as shown in Figs. 1–3.

2

Fig. 5 is a sectional view, similar to Fig. 3 but showing a slightly changed form of the attachment.

Fig. 6, Sheet 2, is a face view of the upper portion of a pay-station dial telephone showing a modified form of this invention.

Fig. 7 is a broken and somewhat reduced scale side elevation of the preceding figure as viewed looking from the right hand thereof.

Fig. 8 is a staggered section taken as indicated by the broken line and arrows VIII—VIII in Fig. 6, but drawn to a larger scale for a clearer showing of the structure.

Fig. 9 is an obverse view of the novel attachment shown in Figs. 6–8 with the fastening or clip means formed as an integral part thereof.

Fig. 10 is a smaller scale plan view of Fig. 9 as initially stamped out.

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary sectional view substantially similar to Fig. 8 showing how the clip means may be anchored in the attachment.

Fig. 12, Sheet 3, is a side view of the base portion of a standard telephone instrument of the dial species and showing my novel attachment as adapted thereto.

Fig. 13 is a plan view of same with flanking portions of the base at the sides and upper part broken away to compact the view.

Fig. 14 is a local section taken approximately as indicated by the broken line and arrows XIV—XIV in Fig. 13, but drawn to larger scale for clearer illustration of the details.

Fig. 15 is a similar section taken on the plane XV—XV of Fig. 13.

Fig. 16 is a face view of the novel attachment shown in Figs. 12–15.

Fig. 17 is a fragmentary sectional view showing how the clip means of Figs. 12–16 may be anchored in the novel attachment; and,

Fig. 18 is a relatively larger scale section taken as indicated by the staggered line and arrows XVIII—XVIII in Fig. 17.

In the following detailed description of the embodiments of this invention shown by the accompanying sheets of drawings, specific terms will be applied for the sake of clarity, but it is to be understood that such terms are used in a descriptive sense and not as limitative. Each such term is, however, intended to include all technical equivalents which function in a similar manner to accomplish an analogous purpose.

Referring more in detail to the drawings the reference character **20**, Figs. 1 and 2, designates the base of a "French" type telephone instrument or set, the same including feet **21** and posts **22**,

between which latter the receiver—not shown—normally seats; while 23 indicates the fixed "symbol" dial, 24 the usual finger-operative dialing-ring, and 25 the conventional stop-hook. The symbol dial 23 has on its outer face the usual indicia and numeral aids 26, 27 respectively for making the desired call, in accordance with customary procedure.

In carrying out the present invention I conveniently blank out an annular element 28 from appropriate thin sheet metal with inner and outer rims 29, for reception of a transparent flat ring 30 having its circumferential edge portion stepped at 31 for clamping reception thereto of the outer peripheral inturned edge 32 of the rim 29, while the ring 30 also has embedded in or suitably affixed thereto self-luminous indicia and digits 33, 34 corresponding to those 26, 27 on the dial plate 23.

In order to firmly secure the annular element co-planarly concentric with the symbol plate 23 and dialing ring 24, I conveniently make use of the means now to be described. This means comprises flexible hook or holder-devices one of which, as viewed in Figs. 1–4, the upper preferably consists of a length of flexible wire bent to provide an attaching or embedment section 35 and relatively stepped parts 36, 36 with terminal biased grips 37, 37. The stepped parts 36 and grips 37 are suitably bent to snugly coact with the posts 22 in maintaining the annular element 28 in proper position laterally; whereas the other or lower means consists of a similar wire of somewhat stirrup shape, appropriately fashioned to include an arcuate attaching or embedment section 38, outwardly tapering parts 39, spaced vertical portions 40, Fig. 1, and a horizontally directed rectangular clamp-section 41 adapted to engage below the bottom surface of the "French" type instrument base 20. The annular element 28 is notched out at 42, as indicated in Fig. 4 to accommodate the stop-hook 25 and thereby serve as a further aid in maintaining said element against displacement. Furthermore when the respective holder-device attaching section is secured to the sheet metal element 28, this may conveniently be done with solder as at 43, see Fig. 3, or otherwise; whereas when the annular element 30 of Fig. 5, is wholly formed of transparent material such as glass, Lucite or the like, the terminal parts 37 may be angularly turned at 44 and embedded in said element 30, while such element is preferably made of the segmental cross-section shown in said Fig. 5 to enhance visibility of the self-luminous indicia 33 and digits 34.

Turning now to Figs. 6–10 all parts having equivalents to these already described will be correspondingly designated by similar references with an added prime exponent, while those features distinguishing thereover will be distinctively characterized, in order to obviate unnecessary repetitive matter. As hereinbefore noted the form of my invention shown in Figs. 6–10 exemplifies its adaptation to wall and "pay-station" telephones, accordingly the reference 45 indicates a fragmentary portion of a wall while the characters 46, 47 respectively designate the instrument casing and the coin-inserting portion; whereas 24' and 25' are the dialing ring and stop-hook. From Fig. 10 it is to be seen that the annular element 28' is blanked out from thin pliable sheet metal to provide the stop-hook notch 42', as well as radially directed circumferentially-spaced taper-point tongues 48 in addition to the

inner and outer concentric rims 29', Figs. 8 and 9, both of which are bent over to hold the transparent flat ring 30' in place as before described. It is to be observed, however, that the tongues 48 are reversely angled as best seen at 49, in Fig. 8, and then inwardly clinched below the dial housing flange 50 so as to rigidly retain the annular element 28' against displacement. Thus it will be apparent that with this form of my invention the element 29' can be readily applied to the telephone instrument by simply registering the notch 42' with the stop-hook 25' and then bending the tongues 48 over to the rear of the annular element 28', in an obvious manner. It is to be noted that the transparent element 30' may have the surrounding and relatively outer inturned edge 32' of the annular element 28' embedded at 51 in said transparent element 30' during the casting or moulding of the latter.

In Figs. 12–18 there are shown other possible ways of applying my improved telephone dial attachment, of the species previously explained, as adapted for the conventional or standard style form of desk or table instrument including a circular base 52 with an eccentrically related standard 53 having a bead 54 at its lower part and an inclined dialing attachment 55. The attachment 55 is of the form illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 6 and 7, hence corresponding reference characters are applied to Figs. 12–18 with an added double-prime exponent to obviate further detailed explanation, while the distinguishing features only will be now clarified. In this connection it will be seen that the attachment and annular element 28'' or transparent ring 30'' are sustained in position solely by aid of the notch 42'' coacting with the stop hook 25'' and a single holder or retainer device 56, preferably in the form of a spring grip. More specifically this retainer device 56 consists of a length of spring wire bent to provide a more than semi-circular grip hook 57 adapted to be easily sprung around the standard 53 to seat on the associated bead 54 aforesaid as clearly shown in Figs. 12, 13, and 17. The device 55 is further provided with a planarly stepped anchorage section 58 arranged to be soldered or welded to the rear face of the annular element 28'' at 43'' or, alternatively, to be embedded in the transparent material ring 30'' of Figs. 14 and 18. When the device is embedded in the transparent ring 30'' of Figs. 17 and 18 it is to be noted that the anchorage section 58 is preferably formed with an undulation or terminal "kink" 59 whereby said section 58 is positively secured against becoming loose or detached.

In conclusion, while I have described my invention with some degree of particularity as to preferable forms thereof, it is to be understood that the structures shown are merely illustrative, and that such changes as may be found expedient in adapting said invention to other than conventional telephone instruments, may be resorted to without departing from the scope of the following claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. An attachment for a telephone instrument having a rectangular base with a sloping front, supporting feet at corners, and a smaller rectangular top with upstanding projections at corners, and a call dial mounted on the sloping front of the base, said attachment comprising a substantially flat annulus with self-illuminating indicia thereon corresponding to the indicia on the dial; and attached means for supporting the annulus

in position around the call dial including an upper bail-like securing member of wire with laterally-spaced rearwardly-extending loop portions for engaging downwardly over the frontal pair of upstanding lugs at the top of the base, and a lower securing member likewise of wire with laterally-spaced side portions adapted to extend downwardly of the lower part of the base front and having rearwardly-extending terminal portions for engaging beneath the base bottom in the interval between the frontal pair of feet of the base.

2. An attachment for telephones according to claim 1, wherein the annulus is of transparent non-metallic material, and wherein anchorage portions of the upper and lower securing members are embedded in said annulus.

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