July 18, 1933. E. SMITH 1,918,876

ILLUMINATING ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES

Filed Dec. 14, 1931

Fig. 1.

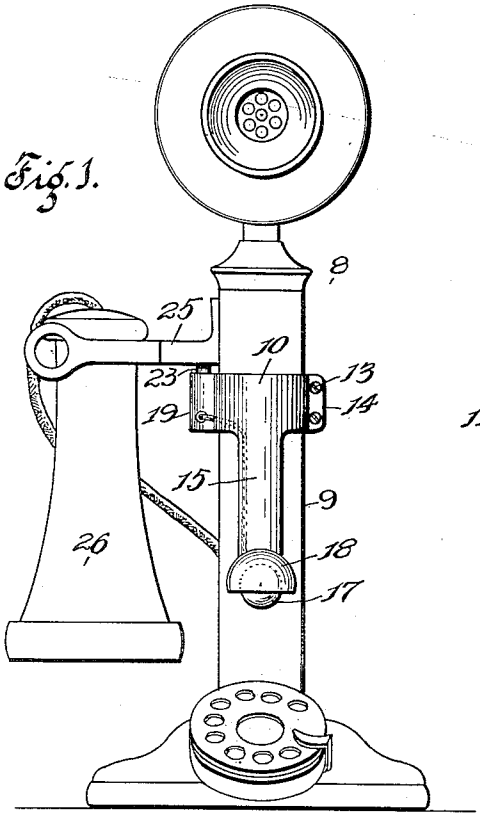


Fig. 5.

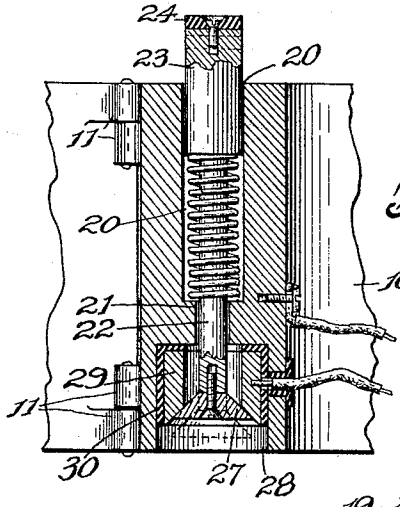


Fig. 4.

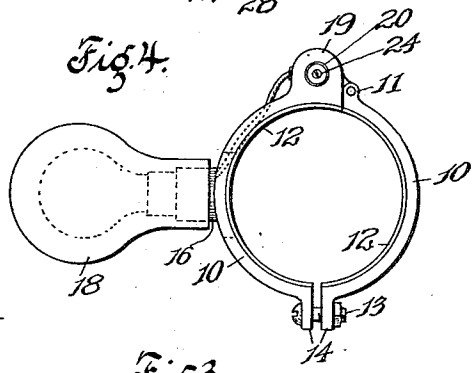


Fig. 2.

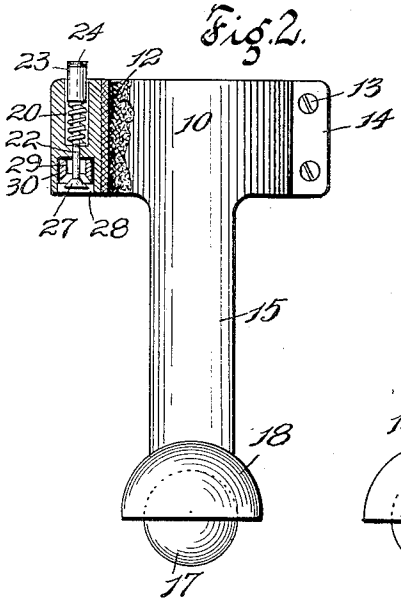


Fig. 3

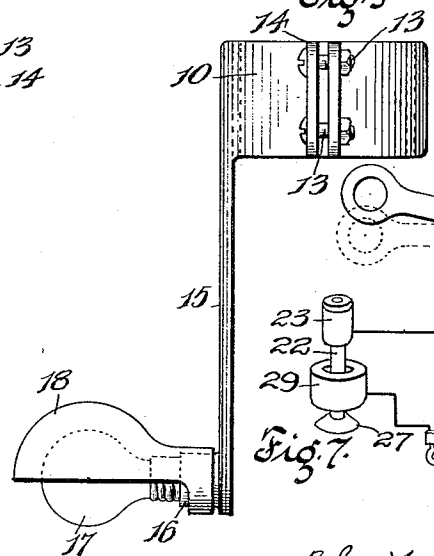
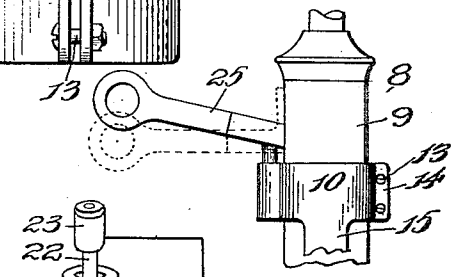


Fig. 6.



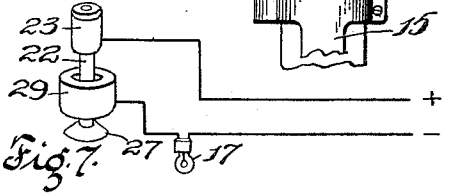


Fig. 7.

Inventor

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ILLUMINATING ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES

Application filed December 14, 1931. Serial No. 580,744.

This invention relates to improvements in an illuminating attachment for telephones, and has for its object a suitable electric bulb positioned conveniently above the dial so that the dial may be clearly seen, the bulb being automatically illuminated when the receiver is removed from the hook.

A further object of my invention is to construct an illuminating attachment which can be readily attached to the post of the telephone instrument without in any manner marring the instrument, nor interfering with the functioning of same, nor interfering with the transmitting current.

The electricity for illuminating the bulb is furnished by a suitable connection with the household socket.

The primary object is to construct a device, carried by the phone and lighted by the removing of the receiver from the hook, and extinguished when placing the receiver back on the hook.

My improvement consists in the novel arrangement, construction and combination of parts as will be more fully hereinafter described, definitely pointed out in the claims, and illustrated by the accompanying drawing, in which similar reference characters or numerals indicate similar parts in each of the several views.

Figure 1 is a view of a telephone instrument showing my illuminating attachment applied thereto;

Figure 2 is a front view of the attachment with a part in section showing the contact mechanism;

Figure 3 is a side view of the same;

Figure 4 is a top plan view;

Figure 5 is an enlarged sectional view of the make and break contact mechanism embodied in my invention;

Figure 6 is a detail view of a portion of the telephone instrument showing the contact mechanism relative with the receiver hook; and

Figure 7 is a diagrammatic view showing the electric circuit in connection with the appliance.

Referring to the drawing in detail, 8 represents an ordinary desk telephone instrument, and 9 the post of the same. On this post I apply my improved illuminating device which consists of a band 10 constructed preferably of two parts and hinged together by the hinges 11, this arrangement making it convenient for attaching the band to the post as shown.

On the interior of the band is placed a strip of felt or other fabric 12 which provides a suitable binder to prevent slipping out of set position as well as to prevent marring the surface of the instrument. This band is firmly clamped around the post by bolts 13 passed through the ears 14 formed on both halves of the band.

The band is also provided with an elongated depending arm 15 to which is attached a socket 16 in which is supported an electric bulb 17, and on the socket or otherwise conveniently located is a shade 18 for deflecting the rays of light directly upon the dial positioned on the base of the stand.

On on side of the band is formed an extension 19 in which is located the contact mechanism and in describing the same, it is well to refer to Figure 5. In the extension is formed a bore 20 extending a reasonable distance into the body of the extension and it terminates into a smaller bore 21. In this bore is seated a stem 22, its upper end having a head or plunger 23 of a size to snugly fit the bore 20, and in the bore between the head and base of the bore is placed a spring, the tendency of which is to elevate the head when pressure is removed from the top thereof, and when pressure is applied the spring is compressed.

On the upper end of the head, I place a disk 24 of insulating material as it is designed to contact with the under side of the metallic hook 25 by which the receiver 26 is supported, and immediately when the receiver is removed, the hook elevates creating the telephone connection and at the same time permitting the head 23 to elevate also closing an electric circuit, the manner of which will now be described.

On the bottom end of the stem 22 is attached a conical shaped head 27. It is connected thereto by a screw the purpose of

which is to permit the assembling of the stem in the interior of the extension. In the lower end of the extension is formed a cavity 28, in the same is inserted a metallic ring 29, insulated from the body prtion of the extension by fiber bushing 30, this ring acting as one of the contact points and it is provided at its under edge with a counter sunk formation acting as a seat for the conical shaped head 27 carried by the stem 22.

By this arrangement, when the hook is elevated the spring raises the head bringing the conical shaped head in contact with the ring 29 thereby closing the circuit and illuminating the bulb located above the dial.

When the receiver is placed on the hook, its weight lowers the same automatically compressing the head and breaking the contact which will extinguish the light, thus by the handling of the receiver the light is automatically placed in operation.

The electrical connection is by means of a cord provided with plug inserted into an ordinary socket of the household, and the wiring between the contact and bulb is done in any manner well known to the trade.

The appliance is so constructed as to make it positively safe from shocks, as all manner of contacts are safely protected from communication by the hands.

Where the device is used on box telephones, the bulb is positioned separately above the dial, and connected to the automatic contact by separate wiring instead of being arranged on the attachment as herein shown, but the method of making and breaking the circuit is the same.

Some changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of my invention above set forth without departing from the spirit and purposes thereof; and it is my intention to cover by the following claims any modified forms of structure or use of equivalents which may be reasonably included within their scope.

I claim:

1. An illuminating attachment for dial telephone instruments, comprising, a clamp attachable to the standard of the instrument, a switch on said clamp located so as to be positioned adjacent the receiver switch arm of the instrument and having an actuating element engageable with the arm when so positioned, one of the contact elements of said switch being completely housed within said clamp, a lamp mounted on said clamp in position to illuminate the instrument dial, and connections for detachably connecting said lamp and switch in a house circuit.

2. An illuminating attachment for dial telephone instruments, comprising, a carrier, clamping means adapted for mounting said carrier on the standard of the instrument, a lamp on said carrier positioned when so mounted to illuminate the dial, a switch on said carrier located when so mounted adjacent the receiver supporting means of the instrument and adapted for automatic actuation to close the switch when the receiver is lifted from its support, one of the contact elements of said switch being completely housed within said clamp, an extension conductor connected in circuit with said lamp and said switch, and an attachment plug on said conductor.

ELIZABETH SMITH.