Oct. 29, 1929. G. F. GIDDIS 1,733,121

TELEPHONE OR OTHER BOOTH

Filed June 19, 1928

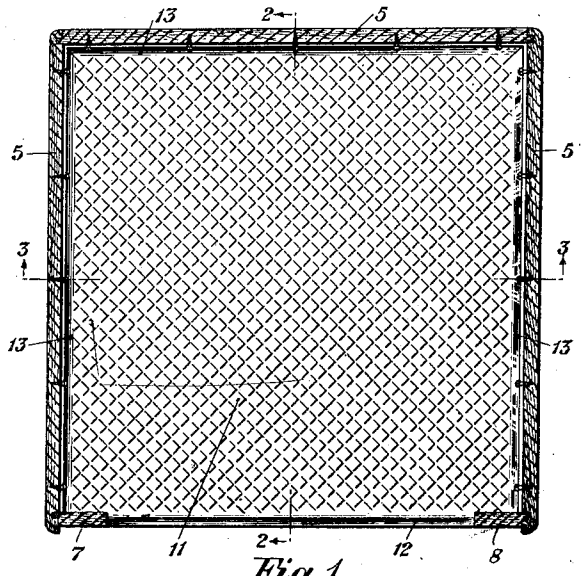

Fig. 1

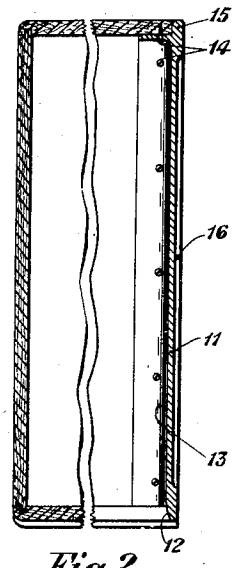

Fig. 2

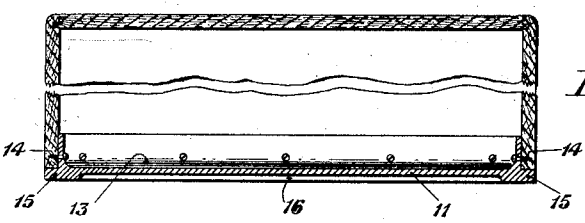

Fig. 3

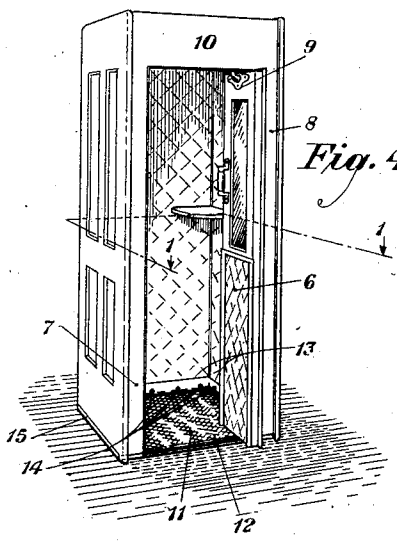

Fig. 4

INVENTOR
G. E. Giddis

BY

ATTORNEY

Patented Oct. 29, 1929 1,733,121

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

GEORGE F. GIDDIS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

TELEPHONE OR OTHER BOOTH

Application filed June 19, 1928. Serial No. 286,589.

This invention relates to booths or cabinets, such as telephone booths, and has special reference to the bases or floors thereof.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a booth which will permit free and unimpeded entrance thereto without the necessity of a person stepping up to enter the booth.

Another object is to provide a base for such booths which will reduce the maintenance thereof and improve its appearance.

A further object is to provide a booth which is simple and comparatively inexpensive.

These and further objects will be apparent from the following description, when considered in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which one embodiment of the invention is illustrated.

Referring to the drawing, Figure 1 is a transverse section of the improved booth taken on the line 1—1 of Fig. 4; Fig. 2 is a broken-away section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a broken-away section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the improved booth.

In the type of cabinet which has been formerly used as a telephone booth, it was the custom to provide a base which was raised from the floor. This base had a flooring which was covered with linoleum or the like, and had vertical walls fastened to such base. Metal sheathing or lining was provided for the vertical walls and this extended to the floor. This former type of booth required patrons to step up to enter it. This step-up feature made it necessary for the patrons to exercise some caution in entering and leaving the booth. There was also a likelihood of patrons accidentally kicking the front panel of the raised base of the booth upon entering, and causing damage thereto by roughening its surface and rendering it unsightly. A further difficulty was experienced in the use of this booth by the comparatively large maintenance cost required by replacement of the linoleum on the floor of the booth as well as replacement of the bottom portion of the metal lining on the walls because of the rusting of such portion by the use of cleaning solutions on the floor. Furthermore, the raised portion of the base required the booth to be of an increased overall height, which restricted its use in cases when sufficient headroom was not available.

In the present invention there are provided vertical side walls 5 which may be of the usual character and which form an enclosure about three sides of the booth. The front side is provided with a door 6 which may be of any suitable type, for instance, of the character shown in Fig. 4 of the drawing. This door may be provided with the usual glass or panel portions and operating handle for opening and closing the door. The door is positioned between two side frames 7 and 8, and is hinged along its vertical edge to the latter frame to swing just clear of the floor to be presently described. At the upper portion of said door a pin or stud 9 may be provided, and designed to travel in accordance with the movement thereof in a track on the inner top surface of the booth. This booth is also provided with the usual top portion 10 which, with the vertical walls and door, forms a complete enclosed cabinet.

The improved base for the booth comprises a flat surface 11 which extends within the confines of the booth. The material used for the base is preferably of some commercial alloy of aluminum, with an abrasive material, such as carborundum, cast in the surface of the material. The floor surface 11 of the base thus provided is preferably of a somewhat cross-hatched nature, and will not get slippery. The surface will remain in a permanently rough state throughout its existence. A beveled edge surface 12 is provided at the entrance of the booth which extends outwardly from the flat surface 7 to the flooring on which the booth is positioned. This beveled edge extends between the side frames 7 and 8 of the door and eliminates any chance or likelihood of tripping or other interference to persons entering or leaving the booth. A flange 13 extending vertically from the flat surface 11 of the base is provided about the three sides of the booth and lies closely against the metal lining or sheathing on the vertical walls 5. The flange 13 ex-

tends upwardly a sufficient distance to protect the sheathing from any moisture, such as solutions that may be used in washing the floor. The metal lining or sheathing is thus prevented from becoming rusted by the use of such cleaning solutions or other moisture which may be applied to the floor. The flanges 13 are connected to the flat surface 11 by an arcuate surface, and the ends of such flanges terminate respectively at the vertical surfaces of the door frames 7 and 8 in such close fitting relation therewith. The one-piece metal floor and base board is connected to the vertical side walls 5 by means of screws 14 which extend through the flanges 13 and enter the vertical walls at suitably spaced intervals about the three sides of the booth. The base portion thus secured to the walls of the booth forms therewith a unitary structure which may be moved bodily. An extended edge 15 is provided about three sides of the base and lies beneath the bottom ends of the vertical walls 5 of the booth with the flange 13 lying intermediate the flat surface 11 and the extended edge. The edge 15 is of such width that it conforms to the thickness of the vertical walls 5 of the cabinet, so that the outer surfaces of the extended edge and vertical walls lie flush with each other. It will be understood that, while the cabinet or booth here illustrated is of a substantially rectangular shape, other forms of booth and base may be used. For instance, one or more of the square corners of the booth may be eliminated, so that the booth will be of a somewhat polygonal form. In such case the base will assume a corresponding form. The lower surface of the base may have a recessed portion 16 formed therein.

From the foregoing, it is thought that the construction, operation and many advantages of the herein described and delineated invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention, as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A booth having an enclosure formed by vertical walls and a door, a base having a flat rough surface interiorly of the booth and extended edges positioned beneath the ends of the vertical walls, a flange for said base engaging the inner sides of said walls and connected with the flat surface by an arcuate surface, and a beveled portion extending outwardly from said flat surface beneath said door to approximately the level of the supporting surface for said base.

2. A base for a telephone booth comprising a metal plate provided with flanges upwardly extending to be attached to the three inner walls of the booth, and further provided with flanges outwardly extending at right angles to said first named flanges to engage under and support said walls.

3. In the construction set forth in claim 2 providing the entrance edge of said plate shall be bevelled.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification this 18th day of June, 1928.

GEORGE F. GIDDIS.