June 24, 1930. A. L. PORTER 1,765,445

DIAL TELEPHONE DEVICE

Filed April 16, 1929

Fig. 1.

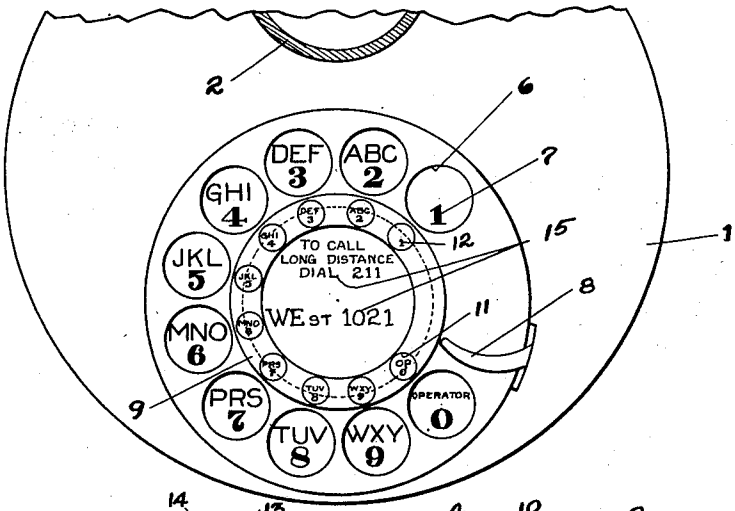


Fig. 2.

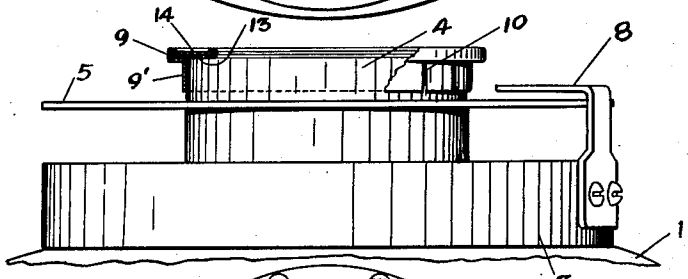


Fig. 3.

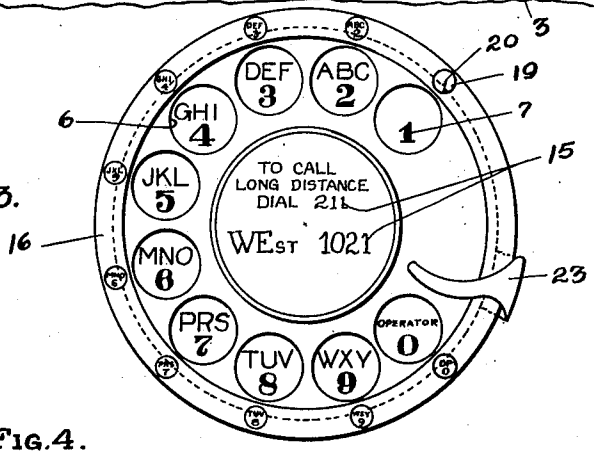
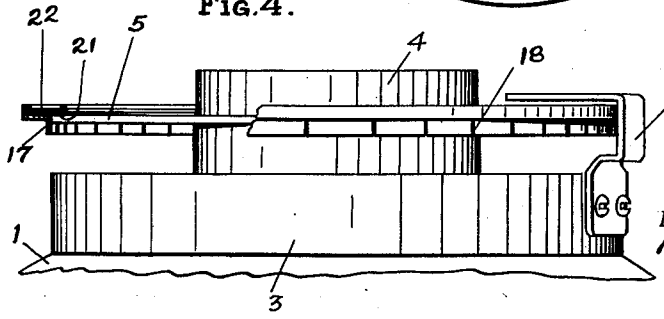


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DIAL-TELEPHONE DEVICE

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This invention relates to dial telephones wherein the desired party connections are secured by the user of the telephone instrument turning a finger-operated dial to various degrees of revolution from guiding indicia visible through finger apertures in the dial.

The objects of the invention are to provide means for such telephone instruments whereby the dial indicia corresponding to the various finger openings may be located at night or in a lighting too poor to render visible the indicia printed on the fixed portions of the instrument and spaced below the revolving dial.

Another object of the invention is to provide an attachment for a dial telephone which will function in accordance with the above, and still another object is a special construction of such an attachment whereby the attachment will be cheap to manufacture and may be applied almost instantly with no change to the standard dial construction of the telephone, yet which will permit of ready removal for repairs or change of indicia should same be required.

Another advantage is such a construction as will not interfere in any way with the standard indicia as placed on the instrument by the telephone company. Other advantages will appear in the following specification and accompanying drawing.

In the drawing Fig. 1 is a plan view of a dial telephone instrument with the upper portion omitted and a part of the base broken away, the showing being substantially full size.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged side elevation of the dial portion only of Fig. 1 and with part broken away showing the internal construction of my attachment placed on the central or non-revolving portion of the device.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the revolving dial shown full size and fitted with an optional form of my invention, wherein the device revolves with the dial.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged side elevation of the device of Fig. 3 with portion broken away showing the internal construction of my attachment.

Briefly described the invention comprises a narrow ring-like device preferably made of sheet metal and formed in such a manner so as to adapt it for springing tightly over an existing portion of the telephone instrument, either the fixed central hub of the dial, or the revolving dial itself. The attachment ring carries indicia matter of relatively small size corresponding to the indicia matter of the telephone dial, the indicia of the attachment ring being impressed in some luminous material either of the luminous paint or radium preparation as used in luminous dial figures.

In the drawings 1 is the base of the telephone instrument, 2 the standard broken away, 3 the base of the dial device, 4 the fixed hub, and 5 the revolving dial. The revolving dial is provided with finger openings 6 and through which may be observed the indicia 7 carried on the fixed base 3 of the dial device, while 8 is a finger stop adapted to arrest the motion of the dial in revolving same from any finger hole by means of a finger of the user.

In the construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2 my attachment takes the form of a sheet metal ring 9 having an inverted L-shaped cross section and a tubular flange 9′ vertically split as at 10 in a plurality of places so as to resiliently grip the outer portion of stationary hub 4. The upper wall 9 of the ring lies flat upon the top of the hub and is apertured with small openings 11 through which may be observed the self-luminous indicia 12 impressed on a card or other sheet of material 13 positioned beneath the upper flange or wall 9 of the ring and covered by a ring of transparent material such as celluloid, isinglass, or similar substance as indicated at 14.

By reason of the slot 10 the tubular flange 9′ secures a firm grip on the hub 4 and forces the indicia sheet 13 and transparent covering all to lie flat and tight against the upper flange 9 and effectively prevent same from shifting in any manner, yet permits of almost instant removal if desired.

To insert the indicia strip, and transparent strip covering, the strips may be cut at one

or more points and inserted from below, or worked in from above upon raising the device slightly.

The device as described above may be applied to any dial telephone without any change in the standard construction whatever, and since it is entirely open in the center as shown it does not interfere with the data provided on the central hub of the telephone by the telephone company as indicated at 15 in Fig. 1.

In the construction shown in Figs. 3 and 4 the device is substantially the same as previously described, but of a diameter to spring tightly over the revolving dial of the telephone instrument. In these figures of the drawing the device is also preferably made of sheet metal and likewise has the upper flat flange 16, and the lower tubular gripping flange vertically split at a plurality of points as at 18 so as to firmly grip the dial 5. The upper surface of flange 16 is apertured as at 19, and through which apertures may be seen the self-luminous indicia 20 impressed on a card or other thin sheet of material 21 preferably covered on top with a sheet of transparent material 22 as described for the showing of Fig. 1.

In the construction shown in Figs. 3 and 4 the attachment ring 16 grips the dial so firmly as to tightly hold the indicia rings in position, yet may be easily removed for any changes desired. The ring 16 being larger than the revolvable dial 5 makes it necessary to provide an offset finger stop as shown at 23 so as to get clearance for the dial 5 and firmly clamped ring 16 to revolve thereunder.

The construction of the attachment ring 16 it will be observed does not in any way interfere with the visibility of the regular indicia through the finger openings of the revolvable dial, nor with the indicia on the fixed hub of the instrument as normally provided.

In considering the invention as above described, it will be seen that it avoids any changing of the standard indicia of such dial telephones, and by supplying relatively small luminous guiding indicia to the main indicia greatly reduces the expense of preparation of such dials, and makes it practicable to secure the advantages of a luminous dial at minimum expense for the indicia ring, and provides for easy removal of the rings as their luminosity wanes with time, all in a practicable easily manufactured and applied attachment.

I claim:

1. In a dial telephone, a ring carrying spaced indicia similar to the dial indicia and formed in a manner to engage the dial telephone apparatus with the indicia of the ring in relation to the indicia of the telephone dial inwardly therefrom.

2. In a dial telephone, a ring carrying spaced indicia similar to the dial indicia and formed with a resilient collar adapted to engage the dial telephone apparatus with the indicia of the ring in relation to the indicia of the telephone dial.

3. In a construction as specified in claim 1, said ring provided with a central opening of a size to clear indicia normally provided on the telephone instrument.

4. In a construction as specified in claim 1, said ring comprising a sheet metal construction of substantially L-shaped cross section with one leg adapted for gripping the dial apparatus at a point above the revolvable dial thereof, and the other leg carrying the indicia.

5. In a dial telephone, a ring comprising a sheet metal construction of substantially L-shaped cross section with one leg adapted for gripping the dial apparatus, and the other leg apertured for the indicia, and a sheet of indicia carrying material beneath the apertures, said other leg and indicia carrying material arranged and adapted to overlie a portion of the upper surface of said dial apparatus.

6. In a dial telephone, a ring carrying spaced indicia similar to the dial indicia, said ring comprising a sheet metal construction of substantially L-shaped cross section with one leg split to form resilient members adapted for gripping the dial apparatus.

7. In a dial telephone, a ring carrying spaced indicia similar to the dial indicia and formed in a manner to engage the fixed hub of the dial telephone apparatus above the revolvable dial thereof with the indicia of the ring in relation to the indicia of the telephone dial.

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