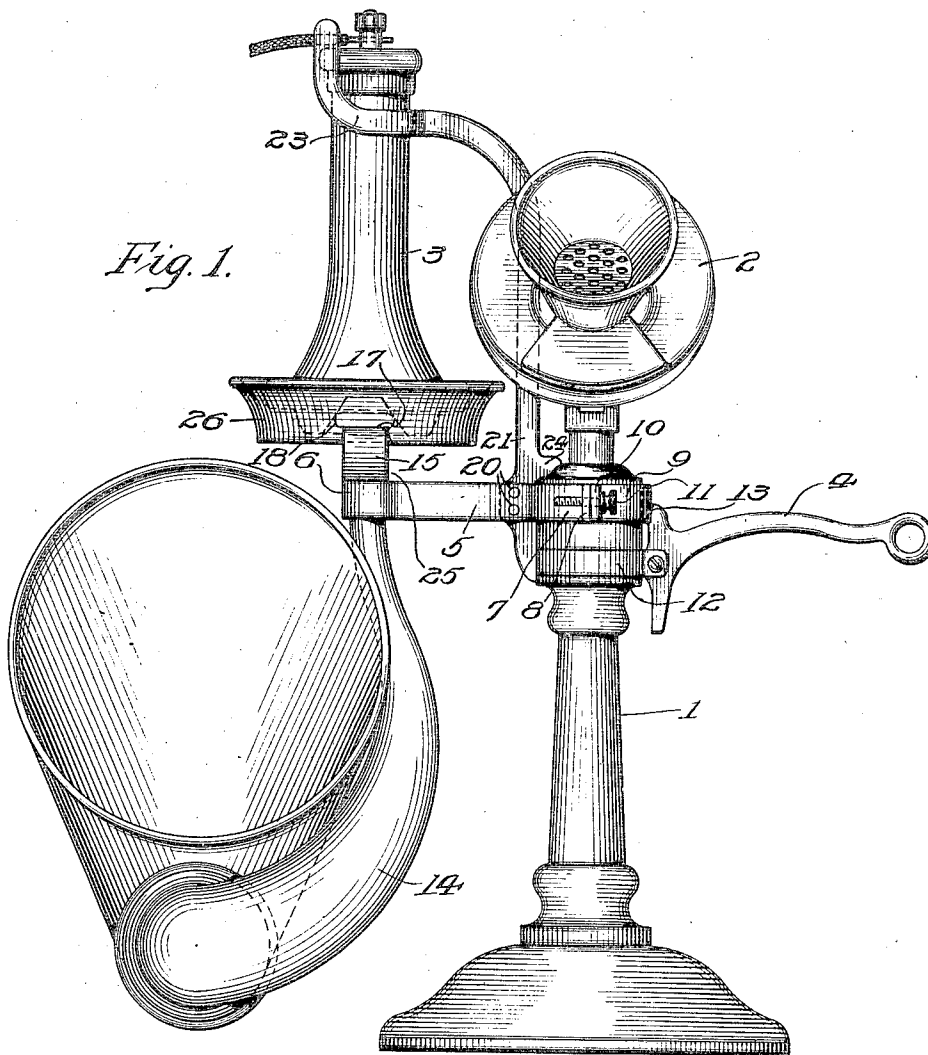


J. W. ATLEE.  
 TELEPHONE.  
 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 4, 1908.

971,237.

Patented Sept. 27, 1910.

4 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

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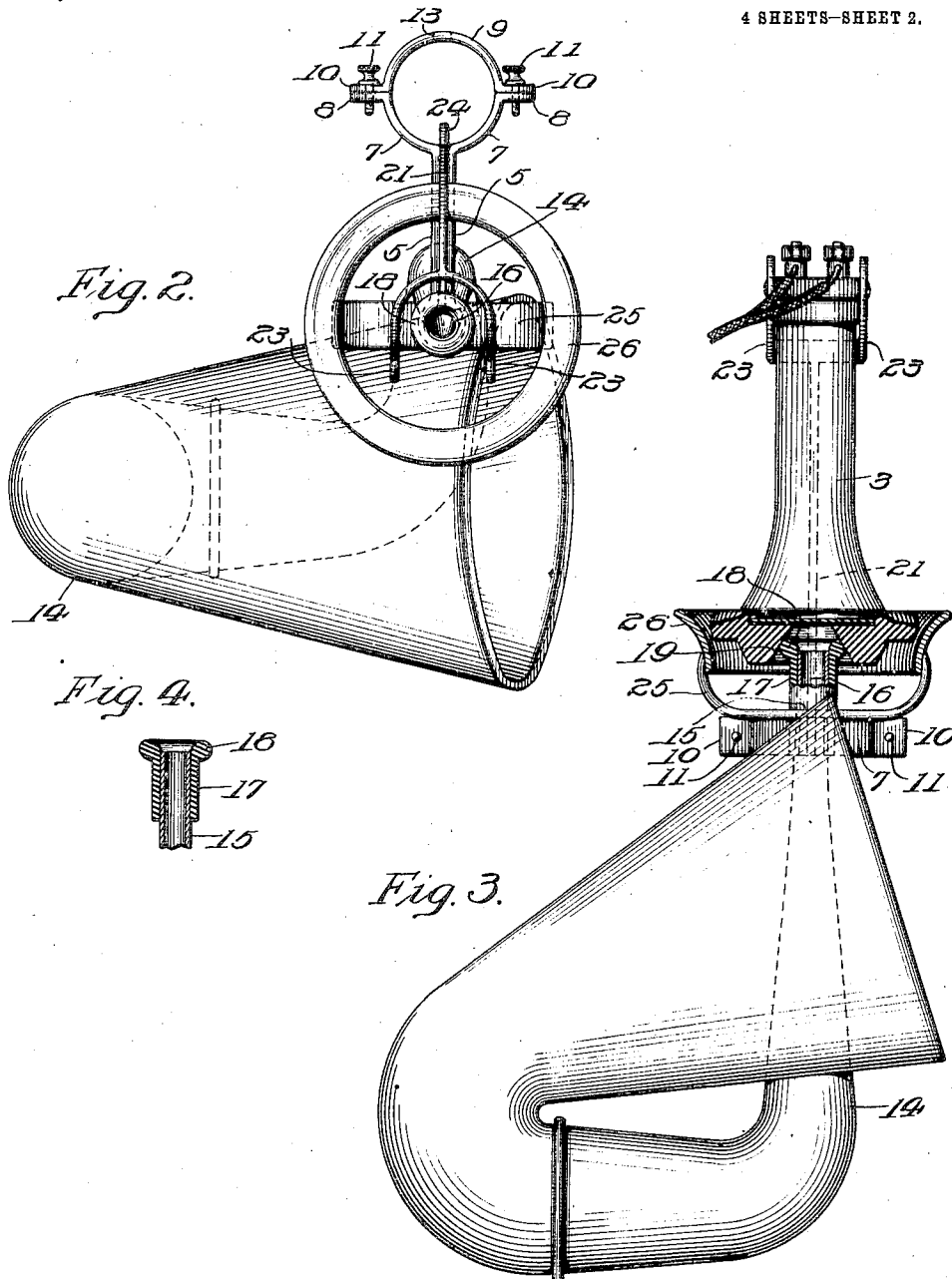
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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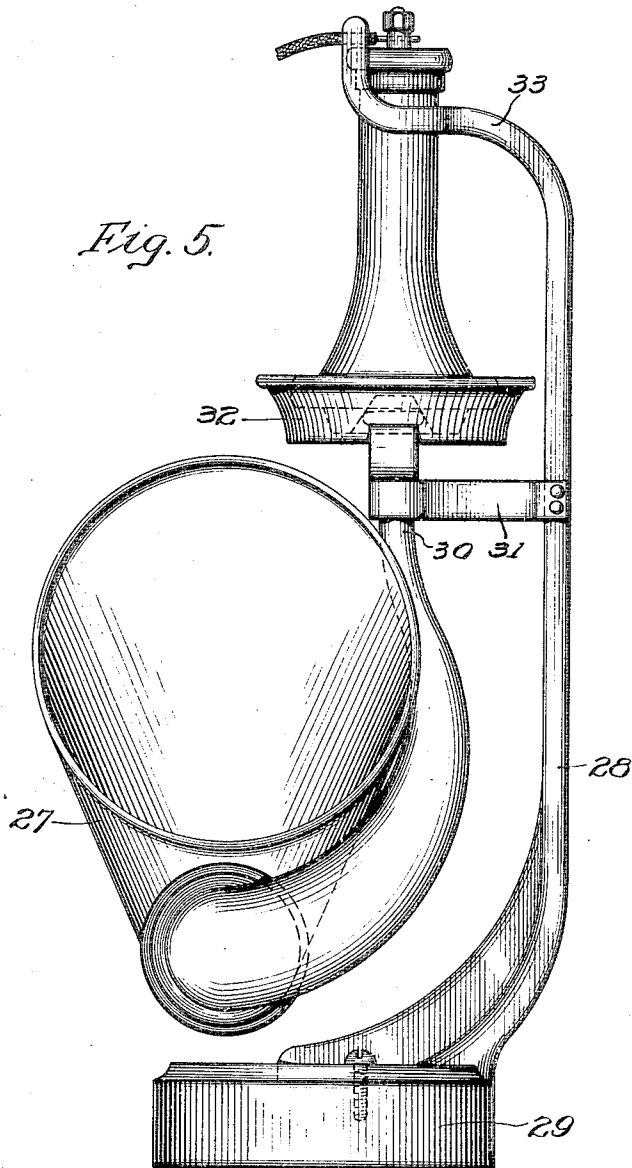
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



WITNESSES

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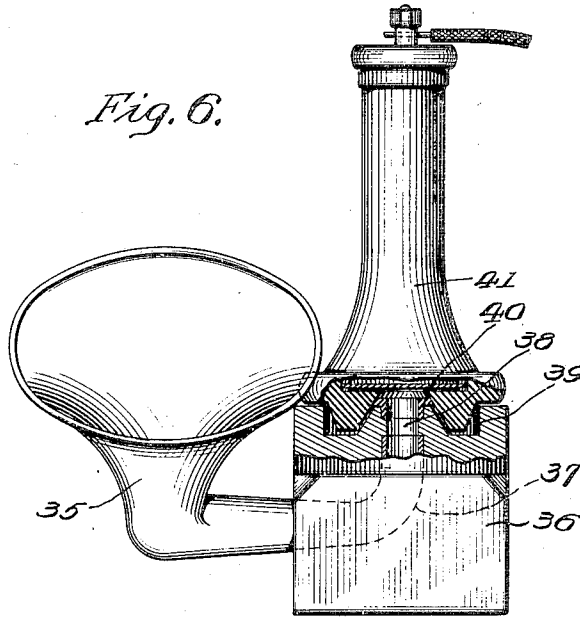
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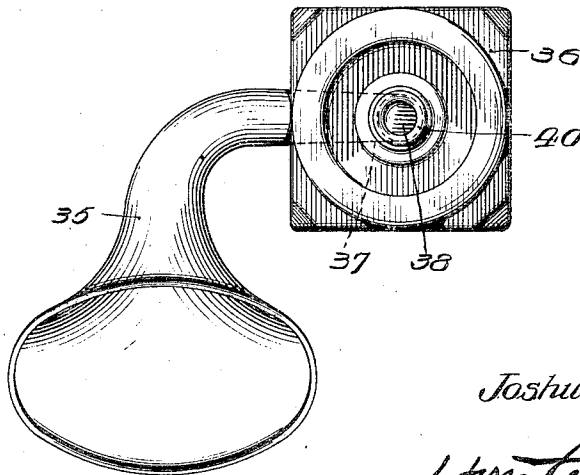
Patented Sept. 27, 1910.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

*Fig. 6.*



*Fig. 7.*



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSHUA W. ATLEE, OF RIVERTON, NEW JERSEY.

TELEPHONE.

971,237.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 27, 1910.

Application filed June 4, 1908. Serial No. 436,557.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSHUA W. ATLEE, of Riverton, New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephones, of which the following is a full, clear, and complete disclosure.

The objects of my invention are, to provide improved means for holding a telephone receiver when it is desired to hold it away from the usual switch hook, which may be mounted upon a stand in combination with the operative parts usually carried by a telephone stand, or which may be mounted upon a stand separate from the stand carrying such parts; to enable one who has called up a party and is waiting for an answer, or for the person called, to look up any matter which may have been called for, to leave the instrument and attend to any other matters until the person called by him is ready to converse; to enable a party using the telephone to have both hands free for taking notes or for any other purpose; to provide means for amplifying the accoustic effects of the receiver; to provide means for insuring an accoustic seal between the receiver and the end of my amplifier; and to provide other improvements which will appear in the specification and claims below.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a front elevation of a stand equipped with my improved holder and carrying the usual operative parts of a telephone; Fig. 2 a top plan view of the said holder; Fig. 3 a side elevation of the holder partly in section showing the receiver in position thereon; Fig. 4 a vertical section of a detail of the holder; Fig. 5 a front elevation of a modified form of this invention; and Figs. 6 and 7 are a front elevation partly in section, and a top plan view respectively of a further modification of this invention.

Figs. 1 to 4 of the drawings show one form of my invention, comprising a stand 1, carrying the usual telephone transmitter 2, receiver 3, and hanger or switch hook 4. A bracket 5 consisting of a flat strip of metal folded upon itself forming a substantially circular loop 6 at its fold, and having inner ends 7 curved outwardly and terminating in flanges 8 forms, in connection with the curved plate 9 having corresponding flanges 10, a divided clamp, embracing the stand 1, and held rigidly in position by means of the

screws 11. The bracket 5 is secured to the stand just above the usual supporting ring 12 of the receiver hook 4, the bracket extending radially from the stand and in a direction opposite to that of the switch hook 4. The clamp member is recessed as at 13 to avoid interference with the switch hook 4, and to permit the switch hook to be seated in its usual position against the stand when the receiver is removed from the hook.

A curved amplifier 14 is secured adjacent its smaller inner end 15 in the loop 6 at the outer end of the bracket 5, and extends downwardly and then rearwardly from the loop, then curves upwardly, and then forwardly and upwardly, and opens toward the usual position of the operator. The walls of the amplifier diverge gradually from the inner end to the outer end thereof. The upper end 15 of the amplifier is provided with an upward vertical extension 16, over which is seated a tubular sleeve 17, preferably of soft rubber or other yielding material, which projects beyond the upper end of the amplifier and flares outwardly forming preferably a rounded substantially annular soft cushion 18 adapted to yield and fit against the flaring side 19 of the opening into the receiver 3, and to form a seal to prevent the escape of sound waves laterally between the receiver and the amplifier. The yielding nature of the sleeve 17 also obviates the necessity of bringing the receiver into perfect alinement with the amplifier in order to make a good connection as the sleeve will yield sufficiently to compensate for any slight difference in alinement. Fig. 4 of the drawings shows the normal shape of the tubular seat.

Secured rigidly between the folds of the bracket 5 by means of rivets 20 or in any other suitable manner, is a vertical arm 21, the upper end of which is curved outwardly and terminates in a bifurcated hook comprising arms 23 having upwardly extending ends adapted to engage against the side of the upper end of the receiver when the receiver is in position in the hook, to hold the receiver in place. The inner edge of the lower end of the arm 21 contacts against the surface of the stand 1, and conforms to the shape of a shoulder of the stand, forming a projection 24 on the arm to prevent a downward movement of the arm. The lower end of the arm

21 also projects beyond the lower surface of the bracket 5 and rests against the side of the stand 1 to increase the rigidity of the bracket 5.

5 Rigidly secured to the upper end 15 of the amplifier by means of a yoke 25 is an annular metal band 26 having upwardly and outwardly flaring curved sides adapted to guide the receiver into position upon the yielding annular seat 18 of the amplifier, the sides of the annular band or guide being spaced from the sides of the receiver when the receiver is in position upon its seat.

With this construction in mind, it is apparent that this improved holder may be quickly and easily secured to any telephone stand by means of thumb screws and that when in position the attachment offers a very convenient means for supporting the telephone receiver when the receiver is off of the usual switch hook, and when the operator is ready and waiting for a call, or while the telephone is being used, thus relieving the operator of any necessity of giving manual attention to the telephone during such periods. It is also apparent that the device is extremely simple and easy to operate.

When using the attachment, the receiver is placed in the hook 23 of the attachment in the same manner that it is placed in the usual switch hook of the telephone, except that the weight of the receiver in the former case is not supported by the hook, but the hook simply serves to keep the receiver in alinement over the yielding seat 18 of the amplifier through which the receiver communicates with the amplifier, the lower end of the receiver being guided into position upon the seat by the guide 26, as heretofore stated. In this form of my device, it is further to be observed that the amplifier 14 is mounted upon the support or bracket 5, and that the receiver is held in communication with the amplifier by its engagement with the elastic seat 18 at the end of the amplifier, and that the conical ring 26 guides the receiver into proper position on the said seat.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings, I have shown a modification of this invention, in which the amplifier 27 is supported upon a bracket 28 which is supported upon an independent base 29, the upper end 30 of the amplifier being rigidly held in an arm 31 of the bracket. The upper end of the amplifier and the guide 32, and the upper bifurcated arm 33 of the bracket are similar in construction and function with the corresponding parts already described. This form of the invention is obviously adapted to stand upon a table or other support which carries the usual telephone stand, or may be placed upon a separate support more remote from the telephone stand, according to the convenience of the user, the distance being limited only by the length of the cable carried by the telephone

receiver, otherwise the function and use of this modified form is identical with that already described. As in the modification illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 in this form of my invention, the amplifier is mounted upon a support or bracket 31, 28 and 29, and the receiver is held in communication with the smaller end of said amplifier by reason of the engagement of the receiver with the elastic cushion on the smaller end of the amplifier, and the ring 32 serves to guide the receiver toward the amplifier and into position with respect thereto.

In the further modification of this invention shown in Figs. 6 and 7, the amplifier 35 is supported in a substantially rectangular block or stand 36 of wood or other material, but preferably made of hard rubber, and which is provided with a curved aperture 37, in which the receiving end of the amplifier is incased. The block or support 36 is provided upon its upper side with an opening 38 communicating with the receiving end of the amplifier, and with an annular recess 39 concentric with this opening. The opening 38 is provided with a bushing 40 of soft rubber or other suitable material to form a yielding seat for the receiver 41. When the receiver is placed upon the seat 40, it is held out of contact with any part of the supporting block 36; and the seat 40 by virtue of its yielding quality prevents the escape of sound between the receiver and the amplifier. In this form of my invention, the amplifier 35 is mounted upon the block or support 36, the receiver is supported on said block by reason of its engagement with the rubber bushing 40, and the receiver is guided into position with respect to the amplifier by the tapering or conical walls of the projection surrounding the opening 38. It is also to be noted that the exterior wall of the recess 39, by its contact with the tapering end of the receiver, also assists in guiding the receiver into position upon the seat 40. The use of this latter form of my invention is obvious from the above description.

The function of the amplifier is to accentuate the acoustic effects of the receiver, so that the sounds produced thereby may be heard at some distance from the telephone, thereby relieving the operator of the necessity of remaining constantly within a short distance of the telephone, in order to know when the party called is ready to converse.

It is well known that when one calls up a party by telephone, he often has to waste a considerable time in getting that party and after the party has been brought to the telephone, it often occurs that the party called has to leave the wire while he looks up information or data called for. During this time the party calling has to cease doing anything but holding the receiver to his ear. My invention contemplates the avoiding of this

difficulty. As soon as a party has called up or as soon as the number is given to the operator, the telephone receiver is placed upon my device, in communication as above described with my improved sound amplifier. The party calling may then busy himself about anything else that he may desire until he hears the word "hello" as spoken by the party called. He may then lift the receiver from my device and converse in the ordinary manner. If the person called has to leave the instrument for any purpose, as for instance to look up matter relating to the conversation, the receiver may be again placed on my device and no further attention paid to the telephone until the party at the other end of the wire returns and begins conversation.

While I have described my invention as being capable of being used to carry on the conversation with the receiver in position on my device, I regard as the primary object of my invention the use of my device as merely temporary and for occasions like those which I have just above pointed out.

Although I have described only three forms in which this invention may be embodied, it is obvious that many changes might be made in the constructions herein set forth to adapt the attachment to various telephones and to various purposes, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from this invention or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States:

1. The combination with a stand, of a bracket rigidly secured thereto, an amplifier supported by said bracket, and means carried by said bracket to hold a telephone receiver in position to communicate with said amplifier.

2. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising a stand, a bracket rigidly secured thereto, an amplifier supported by said bracket, and means carried by said bracket to removably hold a receiver in position to communicate with said amplifier.

3. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising a fixed bracket, an amplifier carried thereby, means upon said amplifier forming a yielding seat, and means carried by said bracket to hold a receiver upon said seat to communicate with said amplifier.

4. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, a support for said amplifier, means to hold a receiver in communication with said amplifier, and means to guide said receiver toward said amplifier and into said position.

5. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, a support for said amplifier, means to hold said receiver in communication with said amplifier, and substan-

tially conical means for guiding said receiver toward said amplifier and into communication with said amplifier.

6. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, a yielding seat communicating with said amplifier, and means rigid with said amplifier to guide a receiver toward said amplifier and into position upon said seat.

7. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, a seat communicating with said amplifier, and flaring means rigid with said amplifier to guide a receiver toward said amplifier and into position upon said seat.

8. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, a yielding seat communicating with said amplifier, and flaring means to guide a receiver toward said amplifier and into position upon said seat.

9. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, a seat communicating with said amplifier, and substantially annular means distinct from the amplifier arranged to guide the receiver toward said amplifier and into position upon said seat.

10. In a holder for telephone receivers, the combination with a stationary megaphone, of a soft elastic cushion mounted on the smaller end of said megaphone, a telephone receiver resting and entirely supported upon said cushion and means to guide said receiver into substantial alignment with the smaller end of said megaphone.

11. The combination with a telephone receiver having an opening adjacent the diaphragm, of a sound amplifier, means for detachably holding said receiver in communication with said amplifier, and means distinct from the amplifier arranged to guide said receiver toward said amplifier into a position with said opening substantially in alignment with the smaller end of said amplifier.

12. The combination with a telephone receiver provided with an opening adjacent the diaphragm, of a megaphone adjacent said diaphragm, the smaller end of which is provided with a soft yielding cushion, means to guide said receiver toward said megaphone into a position in which the opening in said receiver registers with the opening in the smaller end of said megaphone with the receiver resting upon said cushion.

13. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising a bracket, an amplifier secured to said bracket, an arm rigid with said bracket and terminating in a bifurcated fork to hold a receiver in communication with said amplifier.

14. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising a flat strip folded centrally upon itself forming a substantially circular loop

at its fold, and having its ends curved outwardly to embrace a support, an amplifier secured in said loop, and means carried by said support to removably hold a receiver in communication with said amplifier.

15. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising a bracket consisting of a flat strip folded centrally upon itself, forming a substantially circular loop at its fold, and having its ends curved outwardly to form part of a clamp to embrace a support, an amplifier secured to said loop, and an arm rigid with said bracket and terminating in a bifurcated fork for holding a receiver in communication with said amplifier.

16. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, means for supporting said amplifier, and means for guiding a receiver into engagement with said amplifier to communicate therewith, said guiding means being out of contact with said receiver when said receiver is in position to communicate with said amplifier.

17. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising an amplifier, means distinct from the amplifier arranged to guide a receiver toward said amplifier into position, and means to hold the receiver in said position to communicate with said amplifier, the entire weight of said receiver being supported by said amplifier when said receiver is in position to communicate therewith.

18. A holder for a telephone receiver comprising a bracket, an amplifier secured to said bracket, an arm rigid with said bracket, and means carried by said arm to guide a receiver toward said amplifier and into communication therewith.

19. The combination with a stand, of a bracket rigidly secured thereto, an amplifier supported by said bracket, a yielding seat upon the small end of said amplifier, and means carried by said bracket to guide a telephone receiver toward said amplifier and into position upon said seat to communicate with said amplifier.

20. The combination with a sound amplifier, of means distinct therefrom and surrounding the smaller end of said amplifier for guiding a receiver into alinement with the said smaller end of said amplifier.

21. A holder for a telephone receiver, comprising a support, a sound amplifying means rigidly mounted on said support, means rigid with said support for guiding said receiver into communication with said amplifier and means for removably supporting said receiver in such position.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand this 9th day of May, 1908.

JOSHUA W. ATLEE.

Witnesses:

ALSTON B. MOULTON,  
ALEXANDER PARK.