Dec. 2, 1941. K. C. SHYVERS 2,264,911

TELEPHONIC MUSIC SELECTOR APPARATUS

Filed Feb. 12, 1941 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

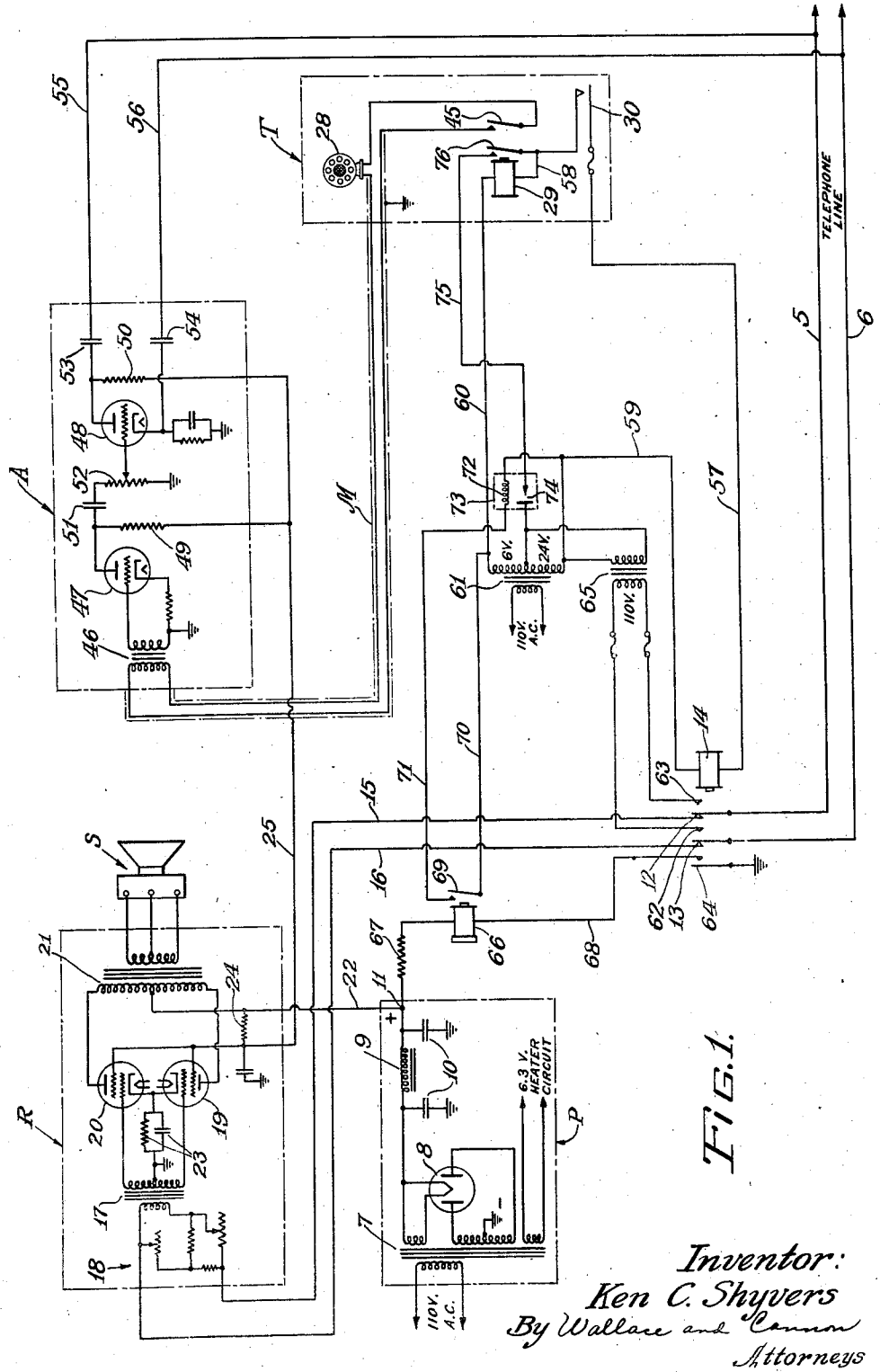


FIG. 1.

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FIG. 2.

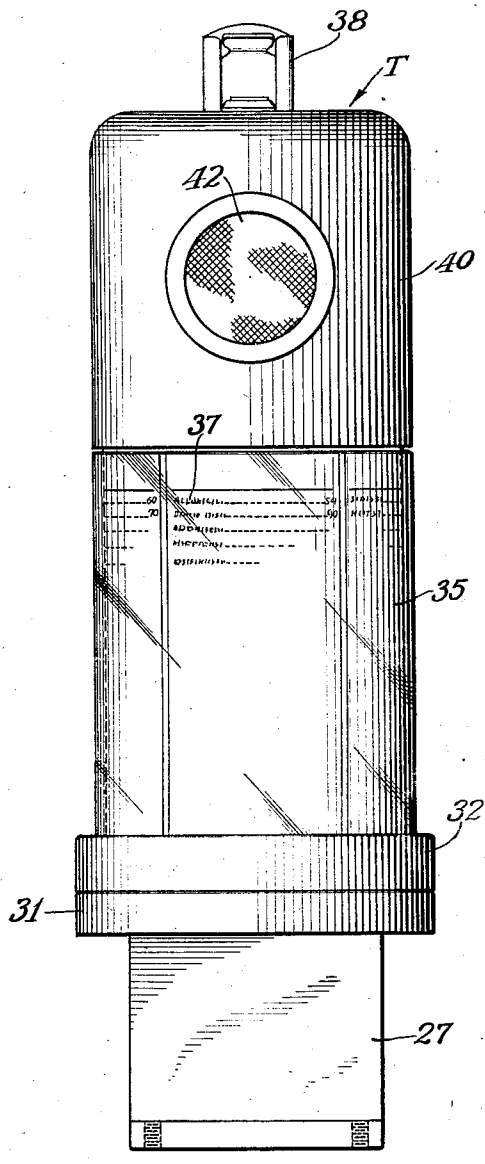
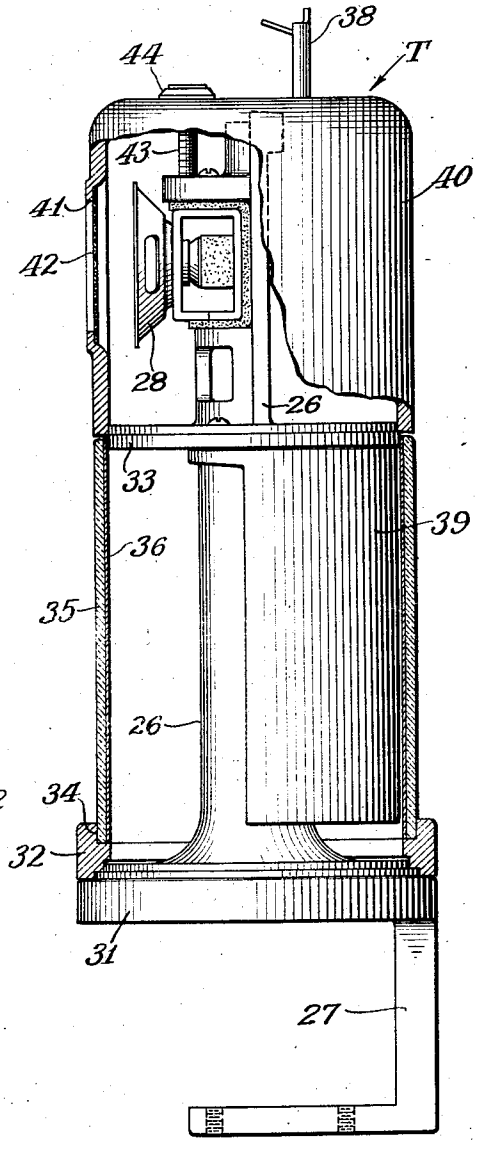


FIG. 3.



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TELEPHONIC MUSIC SELECTOR APPARATUS

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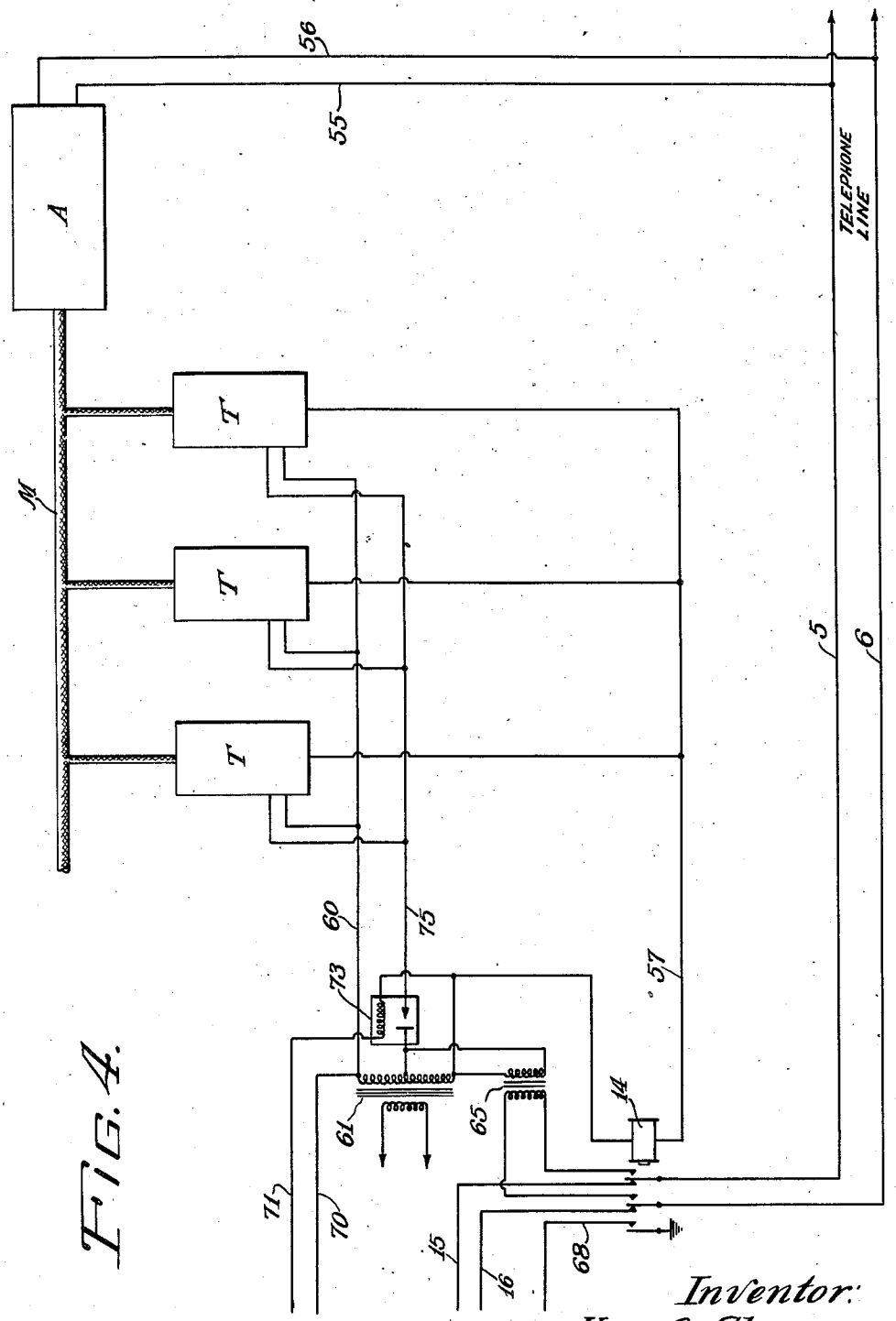


FIG. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,264,911

TELEPHONIC MUSIC SELECTOR APPARATUS

Ken C. Shyvers, Seattle, Wash.

Application February 12, 1941, Serial No. 378,540

22 Claims. (Cl. 179—6)

This invention relates to telephonic music selector apparatus and particularly to arrangements of such apparatus in which a plurality of stations are operated on a single telephone line.

In music selector apparatus of the character just referred to, each station is provided with a coin-controlled transmitting device which feeds into a telephone line for enabling a customer to signal an operator at a central office and communicate to the operator the number or name of the particular musical selection or selections which the customer desires to hear. A phonographic apparatus, such as a turntable and pick-up, is provided at the central office for each subscribing line, and when the operator has been informed of the identity of the piece, she selects the proper record and plays it on the turntable. The sound-representing impulses that are picked up from the record are pre-amplified and sent back over the telephone line to the calling station, where a suitable transducing means amplifies the signals for operating a loudspeaker or the like.

In order to economically accommodate a maximum number of customers, it is desirable to have a plurality of transmitting stations connected to a single line, particularly if all the stations are located in the same establishment. However, one very serious disadvantage of the prior types of multiple station hookups was that the talking circuits of all the stations were rendered simultaneously operative whenever a customer deposited a coin at one of the stations. This made it possible for several persons at different stations to join in the conversation with the operator without paying for the same, and frequently led to confusion and altercations and in some instances resulted in encounters between customers.

It is, therefore, an object of my invention to enable a plurality of stations to be independently operated on a single telephone line, and an ancillary object is to prevent persons who have not paid for the music selection service from deriving any undue benefit thereof or interfering with the services to customers who have paid for the same.

Another object is to provide a music selector embodying a transmitting device of novel construction having a rotatable drum on which the identifying legends of a large number of available musical selections may be represented and which may be conveniently manipulated to expose various sections thereof to view.

Still another object is to adapt the transmitting device for installation in relatively small spaces such as in booths or at positions along a counter or the like.

Other and further objects of the present invention will be apparent from the following description and claims and will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawings which, by way of illustration, show a preferred embodiment and the principle thereof and what I now consider to be the best mode in which I have contemplated applying that principle. Other embodiments of the invention embodying the same or equivalent principle may be used and structural changes may be made as desired by those skilled in the art without departing from the present invention and the purview of the appended claims.

In the drawings,

Fig. 1 is a circuit diagram of the apparatus, including but a single transmitting station;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the transmitting device, showing the selector drum;

Fig. 3 is a partially sectional side elevation of the transmitting device, showing the manner of mounting the microphone and selector drum thereon; and

Fig. 4 is a schematic view of a multiple station arrangement according to my invention.

My novel music selector apparatus is adapted to be operated from a telephone line comprising the wires 5 and 6, Fig. 1, which lead to a central office. The apparatus includes a source of electrical energy such as the power pack P; a receiver R which is adapted to receive and amplify signals sent over the telephone line for the purpose of operating a loud-speaker S; one or more transmitting devices generally designated T and an associated talk amplifier A; and coin-controlled means governing the operation of the apparatus.

Assuming that the apparatus is to be operated from an alternating-current supply, the power pack P is utilized to furnish direct current wherever it is needed in the system. This power pack is of conventional construction and comprises a transformer 7, a full-wave rectifier tube 8 and the usual filter choke 9 and filter capacities 10. The interaction of these elements serves to apply a positive direct-current potential to the terminal 11, the negative side of the system being at ground potential.

The connection from the telephone line to the input side of the receiving amplifier R is effected through the contacts 12 and 13 of the relay 14, which contacts are normally closed when this relay is deenergized. Thus, these contacts connect the line wires 5 and 6 with the conductors 15

and 16, respectively, that are connected to the primary of the input transformer 17 of amplifier R through the medium of a dual volume control generally designated 18. While any suitable type of amplifier may be employed, I prefer to utilize a push-pull arrangement including a pair of tetrodes 19 and 20. The secondary of the transformer 17 supplies the signal to the control grids of the tubes 19 and 20 which amplify the signal and supply it to the output transformer 21 of the amplifier R. The normal plate voltage for the tubes 19 and 20 is supplied through a conductor 22 which leads from the positive terminal 11 of the power pack P to a center tap on the primary of the transformer 21. The speaker S receives the output signal furnished by the transformer 21 and converts it into audible energy. The bias for the control grids of the tubes 19 and 20 is supplied by a resistance-capacity combination 23 in the cathode circuit of these tubes. The bias for the screen grids of these tubes is derived from the voltage drop set up in a resistance 24 which is connected between the conductor 22 and another conductor 25 that supplies plate current to the tubes of the talk amplifier A, the construction of which will be explained presently.

Each transmitting device T is adapted to be mounted at a convenient location such as in a booth or at a position along a counter or the like. As shown in Figs. 2 and 3, such a device T comprises a frame 26 which may be built up of several castings, a bracket 27 or the like being provided at the base of this frame to facilitate mounting the device. A microphone 28, relay 29, Fig. 1, and a coin-operated switch 30 are mounted on the frame 26, these elements being included in the electrical circuits which will be described presently. A circular flange 31 is formed on the frame 26 at its junction with the bracket 27, and a ring 32 is rotatably mounted on this flange. Another flange 33, Fig. 3, is formed on the frame 26 a predetermined distance above the flange 31. A recess 34 is afforded in the ring 32 to receive the lower end of a hollow cylindrical member or drum 35, the upper end of the member or drum 35 being loosely fitted around the flange 33.

The drum 35 is made of a transparent material such as glass or Celluloid so that a paper sleeve 36 fitted within the drum 35 may be observed. The names and numbers of the available musical selections are printed on the outer surfaces of the sleeve 36 as indicated at 37, Fig. 2, and lights (not shown) may be mounted on the frame 26 interiorly of the drum 35 to furnish illumination so that the printed legends 37 can be easily read. A rather snug fit is afforded between the drum 35 and the ring 32 for enabling the ring to be rotated manually to bring different sections of the sleeve 36 into view.

A conventional coin slide 38 is positioned at the upper end of the frame 26 and a receptacle 39 is attached to the frame 26 below the flange 33 to receive the coins deposited by customers. The receptacle 39 may be generally cylindrical in shape to conform to the inner surface of the selector drum 35 when the latter is installed on the frame 26, thereby affording a compact construction. The microphone 28 is mounted near the upper end of the frame 26 above the flange 33 and is normally hidden from view by a hollow cylindrical cap 40 which fits over the frame and rests upon the flange 33. The cap 40 is closed at its upper end except for a suitable opening to enable the coin slide 38 to project therethrough. An opening 41 covered by wire gauze 42 is afforded in the cap 40 opposite the microphone 28 to permit the customer to speak into the microphone. The cap 40 is removably secured to the frame 26 by a threaded bolt 43, Fig. 3, that is connected to the rotatable cylinder of a lock 44 mounted in the upper end of the cap 40, this bolt depending from the lock and being received in a tapped opening in the frame 26. When it is desired to remove the cap 40 a key is inserted in the lock 44 and is turned to unscrew the bolt 43. The cap may then be lifted off the frame to enable the coins to be collected or for the purpose of replacing the printed paper sleeve 36.

The microphone 28, Fig. 1, is connected in a series circuit which includes a normally open contact 45 of the relay 29 and the primary of an input transformer 46 of the amplifier A. The conductors which extend between the amplifier A and the device T are contained in a shielded cable or microphone line M, the sheath of this cable being grounded at a convenient point. Whenever the relay 29 is energized, in a manner to be explained, and closes its contact 45 the microphone 28 is electrically connected in circuit with the primary of the transformer 46. Any sound impulses which impinge on the microphone under these circumstances are converted into electrical impulses which are supplied to the input side of the amplifier A. The output of the amplifier A is delivered to the telephone line, and hence the microphone is coupled to the line when the relay contact 45 is closed. I have found that a two-stage amplifier is satisfactory for the purpose of amplifying these speech impulses, each stage including a triode 47 or 48. The plate voltage for these tubes is supplied by the power pack P through the medium of the aforesaid conductor 25 and the load resistors 49 and 50, respectively. The secondary of the transformer 46 supplies the incoming signal to the grid of the first tube 47, the plate of which is coupled by a condenser 51 and volume control resistor 52 to the grid of the second tube 48. The plate and cathode of the tube 48 are respectively connected through the blocking condensers 53 and 54 and the conductors 55 and 56 to the wires 5 and 6 of the telephone line.

The operating arm of the coin switch 30 is positioned in the coin shute of the transmitting device T to be actuated in response to the passage of a coin. This switch is electrically connected on one side by a conductor 57 to the winding of the relay 14 and on its other side by a conductor 58 to the winding of the relay 29. The other ends of the windings of these relays are connected by conductors 59 and 60, respectively, to the end terminals of the secondary winding of a tapped transformer 61, the primary of which is connected to the alternating-current supply line. Hence, whenever the switch 30 is closed due to the depositing of a coin by a customer, the windings of the relays 14 and 29 are connected in series with the secondary of the transformer 61, and are energized. Energization of the relay 14 opens its contacts 12 and 13 and closes its contacts 62, 63 and 64. Closure of the contacts 62 and 63 connects the telephone line wires 5 and 6 across the secondary of a transformer 65, the primary of which is connected across one of the end terminals and the middle terminal of the secondary of transformer 61. The transformer 65 thereupon operates to send an impulse at full-line voltage through the wires 5 and 6 for the purpose of signalling the operator at the central office. The coin switch

30 is closed only momentarily and upon opening it breaks the circuit to the winding of the relay 14, causing this relay to again deenergize and open its contacts 62 and 63 so that the signal to the operator is not unduly prolonged. The contact 64 is likewise opened again, and the contacts 12 and 13 become closed to reestablish the electrical connection between the telephone line and the input of the receiving amplifier R.

A direct-current relay 66 of the slow-to-release type has its winding connected on one side through a protective resistor 67 to the positive terminal 11 of the power pack P, and the other side of this winding is connected by a conductor 68 to the normally open contact 64 of the relay 14. The momentary closure of the contact 64 applies ground or negative potential on the connected end of the winding of relay 66 for energizing this relay. Upon energizing, the relay 66 closes its normally open contact 69, and because of the slow-to-release characteristics of this relay the contact 69 is maintained closed for a predetermined time.

The solenoid 72 of a conventional timing clock mechanism 73 is included in a conductor 71 which connects one terminal of the relay contact 69 to one end of the secondary of transformer 61, and the other end of this secondary is connected by a conductor 70 to the other terminal of this relay contact. Closure of the relay contact 69, therefore, energizes the solenoid 72 to bring about the closure of the contacts 74 of the clock 73. The relay 66 is made slow-to-release to insure that the electrical and mechanical inertia afforded by the solenoid 72 will be overcome and that the solenoid will become fully energized to actuate the clock. The clock 73, once it has been set in operation, maintains its contact 74 closed for a predetermined time interval. One terminal of the contact 74 is connected to the middle tap of the transformer 61 and the other terminal is connected by a conductor 75 to one terminal of a normally open contact 76 of the relay 29, the other terminal of this relay contact being connected to the conductor 58 which leads to the winding of this relay. Thus, the closure of the timing contact 74 establishes a holding circuit for the relay 29 for maintaining this relay energized and thereby closing the microphone circuit for a predetermined time, enabling the customer to communicate to the operator the identification of the musical selection that is desired to be heard.

In this connection it is to be noted that the relay 66 and the time clock 73 are so timed in their operations that the holding circuit is established for the relay 29 before it has had an opportunity to re-open its contact 76 following the initial energization of this relay produced by the dropping of a coin. I have found that a satisfactory way of insuring that the contact 76 will not drop open prematurely is to space it a little farther than the customary amount from the core of the relay 29, by bending the contact slightly. The contacts 45 and 76 then close in sequence, and this retardation of the contact 76 seems to aid materially in producing satisfactory operation. It is to be further noted that any suitable time delay device, such as an electronic timer, may be employed in lieu of the clock 73.

In the actual construction of my telephonic music selector apparatus the receiver R, power pack P, talk amplifier A, and the other apparatus diagrammatically shown in Fig. 1, exclusive of the speaker S and transmitting device T, are assembled on a single chassis which may be installed at any convenient point. Each transmitting device T is positioned to enable a customer to conveniently utilize the same for calling the operator. Whenever a coin is deposited the relay 14 operates to momentarily disconnect the receiver R from the line and send a signal to the operator, and concurrently therewith, the relay 29 is energized to connect the microphone 28 in the input circuit of the amplifier A for a predetermined time. The operator's voice is amplified by the receiver R and is manifested at the speaker S, thereby affording a two-way talking circuit. If a coin is deposited while a musical selection is being played, the operator is again signalled with only a momentary interruption in the reception of the music and at any convenient time she may communicate with the customer. The amplifying characteristics of the receiver R and amplifier A are such that the voice of the customer is not amplified sufficiently to enable it to be heard at the speaker S, whereas the operator's voice and the music, which are pre-amplified at the central office, may be heard plainly.

Where there are a plurality of customers' stations to be operated on a common telephone line, a separate transmitting device T is provided at each such station and the electrical connections between the various devices T and the remainder of the apparatus shown in Fig. 1 are run in parallel, as indicated in Fig. 4. Because of the fact that the microphone circuit of each transmitting device is normally open, due to the normally open position of the contact as 45 of its relay as 29, the customer cannot communicate with the operator until he has deposited a coin and thereby closed the switch 30 for energizing the relay 29. This has an outstanding advantage, as noted hereinabove, in that it prevents those who have not paid for the service from having any voice in the selection of the musical numbers to be played. If it should happen that two customers deposit coins in close succession, the operator will receive two impulses and upon learning that two customers are in the line she may request that the customer, say, at the lower-numbered station, give his request first, or any other arrangement which is convenient and satisfactory may be worked out. The likelihood that two customers will deposit coins at identically the same instant so that but one signal is received by the operator is extremely remote and hence for practical purposes need not be considered. It is, of course, evident that a plurality of speakers as S may be employed, and these may be distributed among various locations in a manner similar to that of the transmitting devices T.

It is recognized that if a plurality of transmitting devices T are to be associated with a common timing means such as the clock 73, as shown in Fig. 4, there is a possibility that after one customer has completed his call, another customer at another station may deposit a coin within the timing period for which the clock is adjusted, thereby lengthening this period and maintaining the first station in an unduly prolonged operative state, and of course this situation can become further aggravated by other customers dropping their coins in close sequence. On the other hand, if the circuits are so designed that only one impulse can be delivered to the clock solenoid within any particular operative period, then only the customer whose coin initiates operation of the

clock will have the maximum available time for making his communication to the operator, and a subsequent customer at another station may come on the line just before the measured time interval expires so that the control relay as 29 of his transmitter is shortly thereafter released, thereby depriving the customer of his opportunity to talk with the operator. If these conditions should become acute, it may be advantageous to utilize a separate timer for each station, such means preferably being incorporated in the transmitting device T at that station, for holding each relay energized a certain length of time after its operation has been initiated upon the dropping of a coin. An alternative expedient, particularly where only a short timing period is necessary, is to dispense with the relatively quick-acting relays as 29, which must be held locked up through holding circuits in order to keep their microphones coupled to the line, and to utilize in place thereof slow-to-release relays or solenoids.

Another important advantage of my invention is the compact and convenient construction of the transmitting device T as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Formerly, it was customary to have the printed titles of the various musical selections arranged on a flat sheet which was mounted on the apparatus in position to be observed by the customer. This made it impracticable, where the transmitting devices were installed as separate units at a plurality of stations within the establishment, to provide each customer with a complete list of the available selections. However, by disposing the title list 36 in the form of a cylinder within the drum 35 so that it may be rotated to bring different sections into view, a great economy of space is afforded and the customer is better satisfied because he does not have to leave his particular station to consult a chart or the like for ascertaining whether a particular selection is available or the identifying number of the same.

Each transmitter T is mainfestly able to operate under control of a plurality of coins consecutively fed thereto, in the event a customer desires to select a plurality of musical pieces, in which case the predetermined timing period commences to run from the moment the last coin is deposited. In practice the customer is generally notified by appropriate instructions on the selector drum to deposit, say, from one to ten coins for selecting a corresponding number of pieces. The operator at the central studio, either by manually counting the flash signals received or by reading a counter with which the line may be equipped, is apprised of the number of selections which the customer is permitted to make. Any conflicts which may arise by reason of a station coming on the line while orders are still being transmitted from another paying station can be readily adjusted either by observance of the ordinary rules of courtesy or, if necessary, by adapting the control relays of the transmitters to the additional function of causing the microphones of the paying stations to come on the line in rotation, this distributing arrangement being an extension of the more basic idea of preventing a non-paying station from coming on the line.

While I have illustrated and described a selected embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that it is capable of variation and modification and I therefore do not wish to be limited to the precise details set forth but desire to avail myself of such changes and alterations as fall within the purview of the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a coin-controlled telephonic apparatus for receiving and converting sound-representing impulses of a musical character originating at a central office in response to voice signals communicated to said office, a transmitting device adapted to operate on a telephone line independently of other like devices which may operate on said line for establishing communication between a calling station and said central office and comprising a microphone, circuit means enabling said microphone to be coupled to said line, a relay controlling said circuit means and effective when in an inoperative condition to prevent said microphone from being coupled to said line, a coin-operated switch closable to initiate operation of said relay for rendering said coupling means effective, and means including a holding circuit for maintaining said relay in an operative condition for at least a predetermined time after its operation has been initiated by closure of said switch.

2. In a coin-controlled telephonic apparatus for receiving and converting sound-representing impulses of a musical character originating at a central office in response to voice signals communicated to said office, a transmitting device adapted to operate on a telephone line independently of other like devices which may operate on said line for establishing communication between a calling station and said central office and comprising a microphone, means operable to couple said microphone to said line, means normally effective to disable said coupling means, and coin-operated means for rendering said disabling means ineffective.

3. In a coin-controlled telephonic apparatus for reproducing sound impulses of a musical character originating at a central office in response to voice signals communicated to said office from any of a plurality of transmitting stations associated with a common telephone line, a transmitting device at each of said stations comprising a microphone coupled to said line, switching means controlling said microphone and effective when in a normal condition to disable said microphone, electromagnetic means operable to adjust said switching means to an operative relation for enabling said microphone to transmit voice signals, and a coin-controlled switch for initiating operation of said electromagnetic means.

4. In a coin-controlled telephonic apparatus for reproducing sound impulses of a musical character originating at a central office in response to voice signals communicated to said office from any of a plurality of transmitting stations adapted to be operatively connected by suitable coupling means to a common telephone line connected to said central office, a transmitting device located at each of the several stations and each of the said transmitting devices comprising, in combination, the following parts: a microphone, a relay operating only when energized to connect said microphone to said coupling means, and a coin-operated switch for energizing said relay.

5. In a coin-controlled telephone system having a music reproducer operated from a telephone line and a plurality of microphones adapted to be coupled to said line for transmitting orders to a central office, control means at each transmitting station on said line comprising

switch means interposed between the microphone and said line and normally adjusted to an inactive relation for uncoupling said microphone from said line, a coin-operated switch, and electromagnetic means controlled by said coin-operated switch for adjusting said switch means to an active relation in response to the dropping of a coin and thereby establishing communication between the transmitting station and the central office.

6. In a coin-controlled telephone system having a music reproducer operated from a telephone line and a plurality of microphones adapted to be coupled to said line for transmitting orders to a central office, control means at each transmitting station on said line comprising a relay having a contact in circuit with the microphone for controlling the operation thereof, said contact being normally open to disable said microphone when said relay is deenergized, a coin chute, and a switch responsive to the passage of a coin through said chute to energize said relay and thereby close said contact for establishing communication between said microphone and said line, said relay remaining operative for at least a predetermined time after it has been energized by said coin-responsive switch.

7. An apparatus as set forth in claim 6, in which said relay has a second normally open contact included in a holding circuit for said relay, said holding circuit being governed by timing means and becoming effective when said relay is energized to maintain the state of energization thereof for at least a predetermined time.

8. In a telephonic music selector apparatus having a receiver for radiating sound energy of a musical character originating at a central office in response to a verbal order transmitted to said office from any of a plurality of transmitting stations adapted to be coupled to a common telephone line, and which has a timing means effective when operated to condition an electrical circuit for a predetermined time interval, a transmitting device at each of said stations for operating on said line independently of other like devices which may operate on said line and including a relay having first and second contacts which are normally open when said relay is deenergized, said first contact being effective while open to prevent its transmitting device from being coupled to said line and said second contact operating when closed to complete the electrical circuit conditioned by said timing means through the winding of said relay for maintaining said relay in an energized condition during said time interval, a coin chute, and a switch positioned in said chute and operated in response to the passage of a coin for energizing said relay to close its contacts and operating said timing means whereby said first relay contact is closed to enable said transmitting device to be coupled to said line, said second relay contact being delayed in its closure until said timing means has become operative.

9. In a coin-controlled telephone system having means for transducing and radiating acoustically induced signals of a musical character which are received from a central studio, a coin-operated transmitting device operating on a telephone line leading to said central studio for enabling the selection of a musical number to be played, comprising the combination of a microphone, coin-receiving means including a receptacle, a control relay responsive to said coin-receiving means for coupling said microphone to said line, and a casing for said transmitting device embodying a stationary part enclosing said microphone and a rotatable cylindrical portion enclosing said control relay and said receptacle, said cylindrical portion displaying indicia related to the available musical selections.

10. In a coin-controlled telephone system having means for transducing and radiating acoustically induced signals of a musical character which are received from a central studio, a coin-operated transmitting device operating on a telephone line leading to said central studio for enabling the selection of a musical number to be played, comprising the combination of a microphone, coin-receiving means, a control relay responsive to said coin-receiving means for coupling said microphone to said line, and a casing enclosing said microphone, said relay and said coin-receiving means, a portion of said casing comprising a rotatable selector drum displaying indicia pertaining to the available musical selections.

11. In a coin-controlled transmitting device for a telephonic music selector apparatus embodying a coin receptacle of partially cylindrical shape, a cylindrical selector member bearing legends relating to the available musical selections and being adapted to enclose said receptacle, and manually manipulated means rotatably mounted on said device and carrying said selector member to enable said member to be rotated about its axis for bringing different groups of legends into view.

12. In a coin-controlled transmitting device for use in a telephonic music selector system and embodying a microphone and a coin receptacle of partially cylindrical configuration, a bracket for supporting said device in upright position, a flange formed on said bracket, a ring rotatably mounted on said flange, a cylindrical selector drum carried by said ring and rotatable about a vertical axis for displaying different portions of its periphery, said drum bearing legends relating to the available musical selections and enclosing said coin receptacle, and a cylindrical cap enclosing said microphone and having a mouthpiece opposite said microphone, said cap being removably secured to said device for retaining said selector drum in position.

13. In a coin-controlled telephonic apparatus for receiving and converting sound-representing impulses of a musical character originating at a central office in response to voice signals communicated to said office, a transmitting device adapted to operate on a telephone line independently of other like devices which may operate on said telephone line for establishing communication between a calling station and said central office and comprising a microphone, means affording a circuit between said telephone line and the said microphone, a switch in said circuit which is normally effective to maintain said circuit open, and coin-operated means for automatically closing said switch so as to automatically close said circuit between said microphone and said telephone line upon the passage of a coin through said coin-operated means.

14. In a coin-controlled telephonic apparatus for reproducing sound impulses of a musical character originating at a central station in response to voice signals communicated to said central station from any of a plurality of transmitting stations adapted to be operatively connected to said

central station by suitable coupling means over a common telephone line and in which said plurality of transmitting stations have a common sound reproducing unit associated therewith, a transmitting device located at each of the said transmitting stations and each of said transmitting devices comprising the following parts: a microphone; a switch adapted when closed to connect said microphone to said coupling means; and a coin-operated means for automatically closing said switch.

15. In a telephonic music selecting and music-transmission apparatus, and in combination, a single telephone line, a central station located at one end of said telephone line, a plurality of calling stations located at a single and common location at the other end of said telephone line, and a transmitting device arranged at each of said calling stations, each of said transmitting devices comprising the following combination of parts: a microphone, a normally open circuit between each of said microphones and said telephone line, and coin-controlled means for selectively and automatically closing each of said normally open circuits to selectively establish communication between a selected one of said calling stations and said telephone line.

16. In a music selecting and music-reproducing apparatus which includes a central station at which records may be played and a calling station, a substantially cylindrical member bearing legends upon and around its external peripheral surface representing available music selections, and means for supporting said substantially cylindrical and legend-bearing member at the said calling station.

17. The device defined in claim 16 in which the said substantially cylindrical member is rotatably mounted upon the said supporting means therefor so that it may be rotated to expose to view successively all of the legends which are arranged upon and around its external peripheral surface.

18. The device defined in claim 16 in which the said substantially cylindrical member is rotatably mounted upon the said supporting means therefor so that it may be rotated to expose to view successively all of the legends which are arranged upon and around its external peripheral surface, and in which said supporting means comprises a bracket for attaching said substantially cylindrical and legend-bearing member to a supporting surface.

19. In a music selecting and music reproducing apparatus of the type which includes a central station at which records may be played and a calling station, and which includes means for conveying electrical impulses from the calling station to the central station to connote the record selected, and coin-controlled means for controlling the operation of said impulse-conveying means: a casing enclosing said coin-controlled means and said impulse-conveying means; said casing including a substantially cylindrical portion bearing legends upon and around its external peripheral surface indicating available record selections, and means rotatably supporting the substantially cylindrical portion of said casing so that the latter may be rotated to successively display the legends on its external peripheral surface.

20. The device defined in claim 19 in which the said supporting means for said casing includes a bracket for attaching said casing to a supporting surface.

21. The device defined in claim 19 in which the said electrical-impulse-conveying means includes a microphone arranged in the said casing and in which the said casing is provided with a passage for communicating voice signals into said microphone from a point outside the said casing.

22. In a telephonic apparatus for reproducing sound impulses originating at a central office in response to voice signals communicated to said central office selectively from any one of a plurality of transmitting stations arranged at a single and the same location and adapted to be operatively and selectively connected to a common telephone line by suitable coupling means embodied in said apparatus; a transmitting device located at each of the said transmitting stations at the said location comprising the combination of the following parts: a microphone, a relay operating only when energized to connect said microphone to said coupling means, and a coin or token-operated switch for energizing said relay.

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