Jan. 10, 1939. P. B. BOCHICCHIO ET AL 2,143,675

SANITARY DEVICE FOR TELEPHONE MOUTHPIECES

Original Filed April 3, 1937

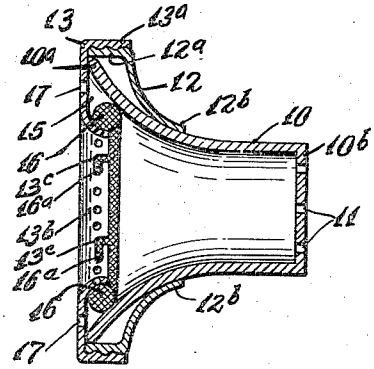


Fig. 1.

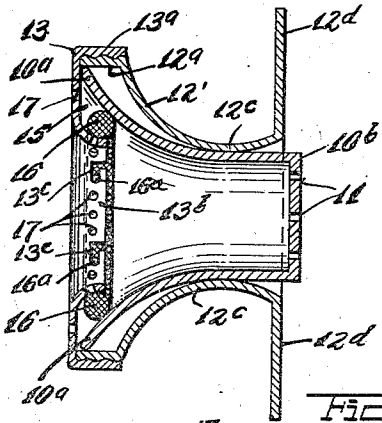


Fig. 4.

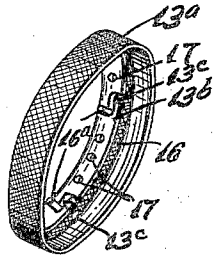


Fig. 2.

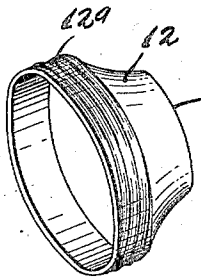


Fig. 3.

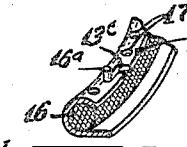


Fig. 2A.

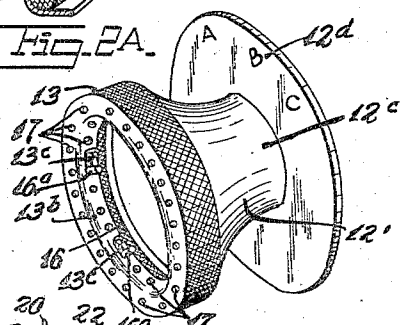


Fig. 5.

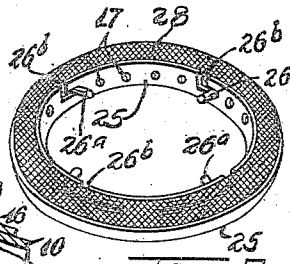


Fig. 8.

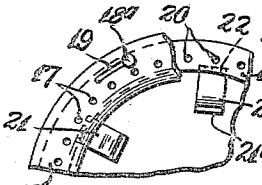


Fig. 7.

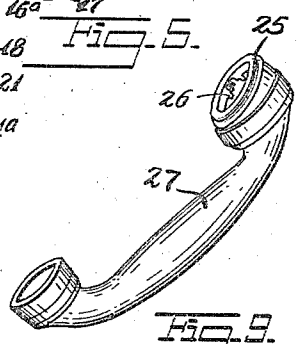


Fig. 9.

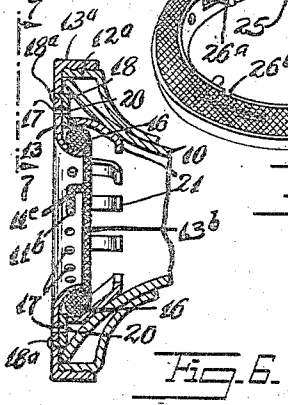


Fig. 6.

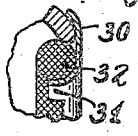


Fig. 11.

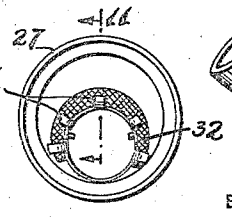


Fig. 10.

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Patented Jan. 10, 1939 2,143,675

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,143,675

SANITARY DEVICE FOR TELEPHONE MOUTHPIECES

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Application April 3, 1937, Serial No. 134,748
Renewed June 29, 1938

3 Claims. (Cl. 179—185)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a sanitary and advertising device for telephone mouthpieces.

The invention has for an object the construction of a device as mentioned which is characterized by a casing consisting of a body section for engaging over the outer edge of a telephone mouthpiece, and a cap section detachably connected with the body section and extending into the mouthpiece and provided with elements capable of releasably holding a sanitary chemical member in position along the inner wall of the mouthpiece.

More specifically, the invention contemplates arranging the elements upon the cap section in a manner so that there are spaces between which the fumes from the sanitary chemical member may pass.

Still further the invention proposes to arrange the elements in an annular path around the mouthpiece and to construct the sanitary chemical member from an annular piece of absorbent material chemically saturated.

Another one of the objects is to provide vent and air passage openings in the cap section through which the sanitary fumes may pass to the front of the sanitary device.

Another one of the objects of this invention is the provision of an annular element rotatively mounted on the cap section and by which the passage through the cap section may be controlled.

Still further the invention proposes the association of pressure elements with said annular member by which the chemical member may be pressed when desired to agitate it and assist in releasing its chemical fumes.

Still further the invention proposes the arrangement of an advertising disc in conjunction with the casing.

Another one of the objects of this invention is to adapt the sanitary device for a French telephone.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:—

Fig. 1 is a sectional view of a sanitary device for telephone mouthpieces constructed according to this invention and shown mounted on a telephone mouthpiece.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the cap section per se.

Fig. 2[a] is a fragmentary enlarged sectional view of a portion of Fig. 2.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the body section per se.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 1 but illustrating another embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the device shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 1 but illustrating a modification.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary sectional view looking in the direction of the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a sanitary device constructed according to another embodiment of the invention and adapted for a French telephone.

Fig. 9 illustrates the device shown in Fig. 8 applied to a French telephone.

Fig. 10 is an elevational view of the inner side of a sanitary and advertising device for telephone mouthpieces constructed according to a modification of the invention.

Fig. 11 is a sectional view taken on the line 11—11 of Fig. 10.

In Fig. 1 a telephone mouthpiece 10 is shown in cross section. This mouthpiece has an outer flared end 10[a] and a wall closed inner end 10[b]. This wall closed inner end is formed with perforations 11. The sanitary device consists of a casing composed of a body section 12 and a cap section 13. The body section 12 is adapted to engage over the outer edge 10[a] of the telephone mouthpiece and to extend along the outer face thereof for a short distance. The cap section 13 is adapted to be detachably connected with the periphery of the body section 12 and to extend into the open edge 10[a] of the mouthpiece.

The body section 12 and the cap section 13 are formed with inter-engaging flanges 12[a] and 13[a] respectively, threadedly engaged with each other. The free edge 12[b] of the body section 12 snugly engages against the outer wall of the telephone mouthpiece. When the body section and the cap section are threadedly engaged with each other the edge 12[b] will be forced against the outer face of the telephone mouthpiece.

The cap section 13 has an edge element 13[b] extending inwards into the open end 10[a] of the telephone mouthpiece and forming a compartment 15 with the inner face of the telephone mouthpiece. A sanitary chemical member 16 is arranged within the compartment 15 and supported upon the elements 13[b] by reason of pins 16[a] projecting from the chemical member and en-

gaging bayonet slots 13c formed in the element 13b. This chemical member 16 preferably should be of saturated absorbent material such as cotton or cord or solid or soft chemical materials, and is of a diameter so that when engaged on the elements 13b, maintains its position. The front of the cap 13 is formed with a plurality of apertures 17 which communicate with the compartment 15 through which fumes from the chemical member may pass.

After use, when the chemical 16 becomes inert it may be replaced by first separating the body section and the cap section of the casing and removing them from the mouthpiece. The chemical member may then be forced off from the edge portion 13b by turning it to disengage the pins 16a from the bayonet slots 13c. A fresh chemical element may then be substituted.

In Figs. 4 and 5 a modified form of the invention has been disclosed in which the body section 12' of the sanitary device continues into a portion 12c engaging the outer face of the telephone mouthpiece and extending rearwards and terminating in a disc shaped portion 12d, disposed at right angles to the axis of the mouthpiece. This disc shaped portion 12d forms a support for advertising material which may be printed or pasted thereon.

In Figs. 6 and 7 a modified form of the invention has been disclosed which is very similar to the previous forms except for the fact that there is a control for disseminating the fumes from the chemical member. Specifically, there is an annular element 18 which is rotatively mounted upon the inner face of the front wall of the body section 13. Several riveted lug portions 18a project from the annular element 18 and engage through arcuate slots 19 formed in the cap section 13. These lugs 18a serve a dual purpose; they hold the annular element rotative in position, and they provide heads by which the annular element may be moved from the exterior of the device.

The annular element 18 is formed with a plurality of apertures 20 adapted in one position to align with the apertures 18 in the cap—and in other positions to be partially aligned, and in certain positions to completely block the passages through the apertures. At spaced positions there are a plurality of pressure members 21 which are pivotally connected by hinge elements 22 at their inner ends upon the annular element 18. The outer ends 21a of the pressure members 21 extend from the compartment 15 through a passage between the cap section and the telephone mouthpiece. These outer ends 21a may be manually moved by engagement with one's finger nails and may be utilized to exert pressure against the chemical member 16 to disturb it and disseminate its fumes when desired. The pressure members 21 may be engaged against the chemical member while the annular element 18 is being moved. This will cause a sufficiently large disturbance of the chemical material on the chemical member to make it give off its fumes freely.

In Figs. 8 and 9 another embodiment of the invention has been disclosed and particularly shows a sanitary device for a French telephone. Specifically, there is a casing section 25 from which a flange 26 projects from the inner edge thereof. This casing section 25 is of annular form and is adapted to extend along the edge of the opening in a French telephone such as illustrated in Fig. 8 and indicated by the reference numeral 27. The flange 26 engages over and holds a sanitary chemical member 28 which comprises absorbent material saturated with a chemical substance by reason of pins 26a projecting from the chemical member and engaging bayonet slots 26a formed in the flange 26. The flange 26 has another purpose, namely, when the casing 25 is engaged over the opening in the French telephone the flange 26 engages the inner edge of the telephone opening and so maintains the position of the sanitary device.

In Figs. 10 and 11 another embodiment of the invention has been disclosed which is particularly intended for the so called "French" telephone. According to this form of the invention there is an annular member 30 which may engage over the front edge of the mouthpiece of a French telephone and which is provided with several prongs 31 projecting from its inner periphery which engage over and hold a chemical substance 32. This chemical member is of crescent shape extending over about half of the annular distance of the annular member 30.

The outer face of the annular member may be inscribed with advertising matter. The prongs 31 which hold the chemical member 32 are also adapted to engage the outer edge of the mouthpiece of the French phone to maintain the position of the device thereon. The chemical member 32 may be of similar material to that preferred with respect to the chemical member 16.

While we have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of our invention, it is to be understood that we do not limit ourselves to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:—

1. A sanitary device for telephone mouthpieces, comprising a casing consisting of a body section for engaging over the outer edge of a telephone mouthpiece and a cap section detachably connected with said body section and extending into said mouthpiece, an element on said cap section extending inwards and forming a compartment with the inner face of said mouthpiece, and a sanitary chemical member within said compartment and supported on said element, and the front portion of said cap section being formed with openings for passage of the chemical fumes.

2. A sanitary device for telephone mouthpieces comprising a casing consisting of a body section for engaging over the outer edge of a telephone mouthpiece and a cap section detachably connected with said body section and extending into said mouthpiece, an element on said cap section extending inwards and forming a compartment with the inner face of said mouthpiece, a sanitary chemical member within said compartment and supported on said element, a link element rotatively mounted upon the inner face of said cap section and formed with openings in certain position alignable with complementary openings in the cap section for controlling the venting of said compartment.

3. A sanitary device for telephone mouthpieces comprising a casing consisting of a body section for engaging over the outer edge of a telephone mouthpiece and a cap section detachably connected with said body section and extending into said mouthpiece, an element on said cap section extending inwards and forming a compartment with the inner face of said mouthpiece, a sanitary

chemical member within said compartment and supported on said element, a link element rotatively mounted upon the inner face of said cap section and formed with openings in certain position alignable with complementary openings in the cap section for controlling the venting of said compartment, and pressure members pivotally mounted on said annular element and engaging against the sides of said chemical member and extending to the exterior of said compartment between the cap section and the telephone mouthpiece whereby they may be manually moved to exert pressure against said chemical member.

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