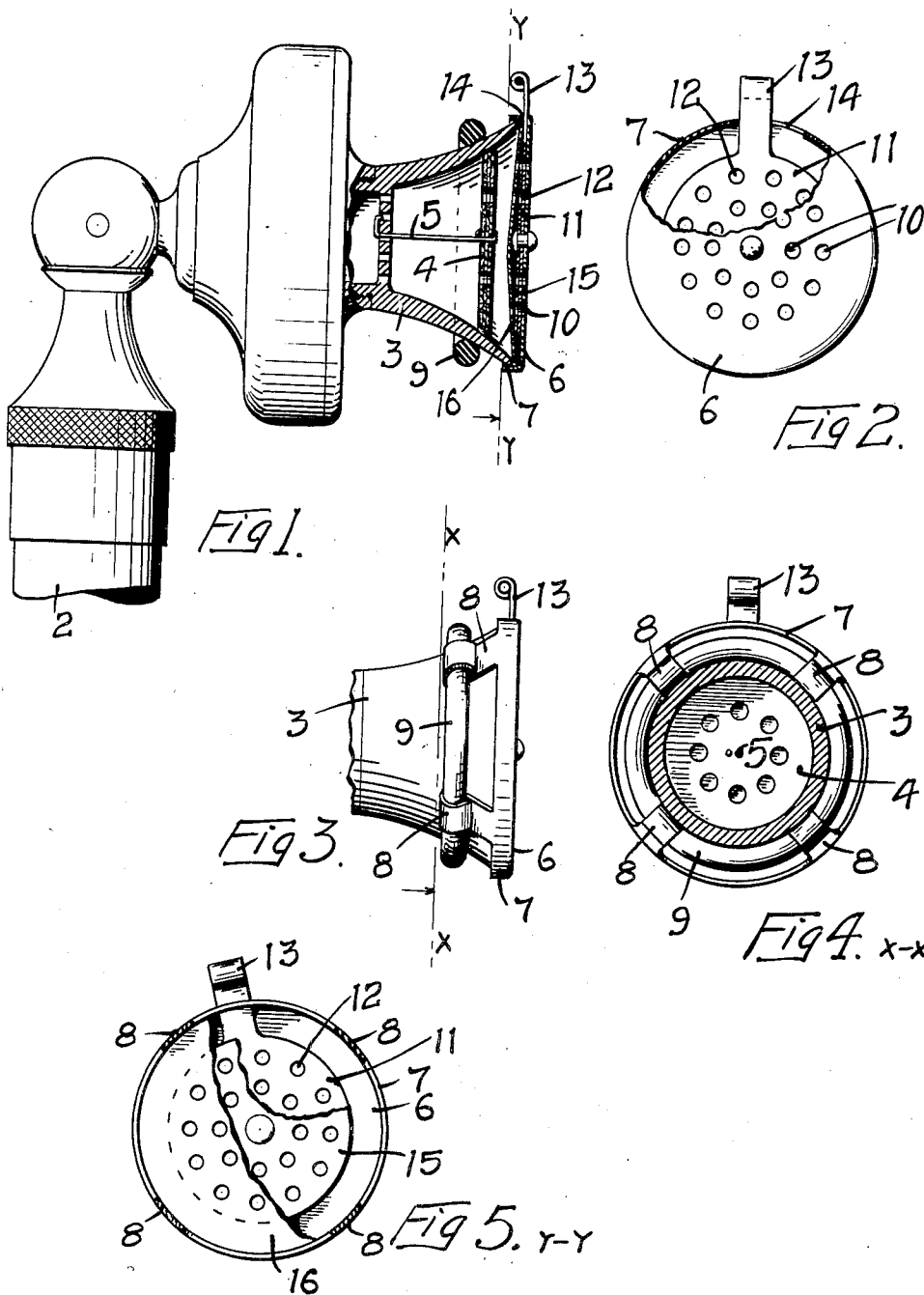


J. B. BURKHOLDER.
TELEPHONE ATTACHMENT.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 3, 1909.

933,228.

Patented Sept. 7, 1909.



WITNESSES
M. Walstein
J. Byington

INVENTOR
JOSEPH B. BURKHOLDER
BY *Paul & Paul*
HIS ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH B. BURKHOLDER, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

TELEPHONE ATTACHMENT.

933,228.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 7, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH B. BURKHOLDER, of Minneapolis, Hennepin county, Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone Attachments, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an attachment for a telephone mouth piece, which can be applied easily and quickly and without necessitating hinges or clamping devices of any kind.

A further object is to provide an attachment, which, in its normal position, will not in any way interfere with the use of a telephone, but can be, whenever desired, rendered impervious to the passage of sound waves, thus preventing any one on the line from hearing a conversation in the room where the telephone is located.

Other objects of the invention will appear from the following detailed description.

My invention consists generally in various constructions and combinations, all as hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a view of the upper portion of a desk telephone standard with the wall of the mouth piece broken away, illustrating the application of my invention thereto, Fig. 2 is a front view of the attachment, showing the perforations or holes therein, Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the mouth piece, showing the means for securing the attachment thereto, Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line X—X of Fig. 3, Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line Y—Y of Fig. 1.

In the drawing, 2 represents a telephone standard and 3 a mouth piece of the usual construction. Within this mouth piece I place a disk 4 of any suitable material, such as muslin, paper or a fabric that is capable of carrying a suitable antiseptic material, which will thoroughly disinfect the interior of the mouth piece and at the same time will not interfere with the use of the telephone. This disk may be supported in any suitable way, as by a wire 5 extending back to the wall at the rear of the mouth piece. Other suitable means may be provided for securing the disk, if preferred.

The cover, which I prefer to employ, consists of a metal disk 6, having a flanged edge

7 that is adapted to clasp the end of the mouth piece, and provided at intervals with flexible straps 8, which lie close to the outer wall of the mouth piece and are adapted to be bent outwardly around a band 9 of rubber or other yielding material that is placed on the mouth piece and grips the wall with sufficient pressure to hold the straps 8 securely and prevent the cover from becoming accidentally detached, although it may be easily and quickly removed at any time by merely bending back the ends of the straps. This cover is provided with a series of perforations 10 therein and a second disk 11 is centrally pivoted on the first-named disk and has holes or perforations 12 therein that are adapted to register with the holes in the disk 6, when the disk 11 is rotated to a predetermined point. An arm 13 extends through a slot 14 in the flanged edge of the disk 6 and by grasping this arm, the operator can rotate the disk 11, so that the perforations of the two disks will register with one another or will be moved out of register, thus closing the openings in the mouth piece. Generally the disk 11 will be left in such a position that these holes will register with those in the disk 6 and the instrument will be ready for use at all times. It sometimes happens however, that when one telephone is in use, the person desires to talk over another line with some one else and does not wish the conversation to be heard by the first party. I therefore, provide flexible disks 15 and 16 of suitable material, such as rubber, one between the stationary disk and mouth piece and the other secured to the movable disk (see Fig. 1), the disks 15 and 16 having perforations, which register with the perforations in the metallic disks. These flexible disks serve to interrupt the sound waves when the rotary disk is moved to its closed position and positively prevent the person at the other end of the line from hearing the conversation, although the circuit may still be closed through the instrument. It will only be necessary therefore, for the person using the telephone to place his finger on the arm 13 and swing the disk 11 so that the perforations will be out of register and the rubber disks will be interposed in the path of the sound waves through the perforations, when it will be impossible for any one on the line to hear conversation in the room where the

telephone is located. Ordinarily, the disks need not be moved to use the instrument.

I have found that the wire extending from the antiseptic disk back through the mouth piece, aids in transmitting the sound of the voice, as well as serving as a support for the antiseptic disk.

By placing the cover on the outer normally open end of the mouth piece, I am able to seal the mouth piece against the entrance of dust and disease germs and at the same time form a chamber therein where the vapor from the volatile antiseptic material will be confined until such time as the openings in the cover are exposed. This I regard as an important feature of my invention, as generally in mouth pieces using antiseptic pads, no means are provided for preventing the escape of the vapor from the pad. My device retains the antiseptic vapor within the mouth piece and insures its penetration into every part thereof.

The disks between the perforated metallic plate of the cover positively deaden the sound of the voice and cut it off completely from the person at the other end of the line.

I have shown the movable disk portion of the cover centrally pivoted and capable of rotation on the stationary disk, but do not wish to confine myself to this construction, as it may be arranged to slide, instead of revolve, without altering materially the character of the device or departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim as my invention:—

1. The combination, with a stationary telephone mouth piece, of a cover fitting the outer open end thereof, said cover comprising two disks having perforations therein, one of said disks being stationary and the other disk movable to permit it to be adjusted with its perforations in register with the perforations of the stationary disk, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a telephone mouth piece, of a cover closing the outer end thereof and comprising two disks having perforations therein, one of said disks being stationary and the other disk movable to permit it to be adjusted with its perforations in register or out of register with the perforations of the stationary disk, said cover when closed sealing the mouth piece against the entrance or escape of air, and an antiseptic pad arranged within the mouth piece in the rear of said cover, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a telephone mouth piece, of a cover therefor, said cover comprising two disks having perforations therein, one of said disks having a flanged edge adapted to clasp the end of the mouth piece, and flexible lugs or strips adapted to lie against the outer surface of the mouth piece, a band of yielding material clasp-

the mouth piece and around which the ends of said flexible straps are bent, the other disk being movable on said first-named disk to permit its perforations to be moved into or out of register with the perforations in said first-named disk, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with a telephone mouth piece, of a cover for the outer open end thereof and comprising two disks having perforations therein, one of said disks being stationary and the other disk movable, and a disk of flexible material, also having perforations therein and movable with said movable disk and adapted to deaden the voice and interrupt the passage of the sound waves when said movable disk is adjusted with its holes out of register with those in said stationary disk.

5. The combination, with a stationary mouth piece, of a cover fitting the open outer end thereof and comprising two metallic disks having perforations therein and rubber disks also perforated, the holes in all of said disks being adapted to register with one another, and one of said metallic disks being movable to permit its holes to be adjusted out of register with the holes in the other disk, and one of said rubber disks being movable with said metallic disk and adapted to interrupt the vibration and passage of sound waves through the holes in said disks, substantially as described.

6. The combination, with a mouth piece, of a cover therefor, said cover comprising a stationary disk having a series of holes therein, a movable disk centrally pivoted on said first-named disk and having perforations to register with those in said first-named disk, said first-named disk having a flanged edge and a slot therein, and said movable disk having an arm projecting through said slot by means of which the operator can rotate said removable disk to adjust its holes in register or out of register with those in the other disk.

7. The combination, with a telephone mouth piece, of a cover fitting the open outer end of said mouth piece, and comprising perforated disks, one of said disks being movable to permit its adjustment with respect to the other disk and obtain a register of the perforations therethrough, substantially as described.

8. The combination, with a telephone mouth piece, of a cover fitting the open outer end of said mouth piece and comprising perforated disks, one of said disks being movable to permit its adjustment with respect to the other disk to obtain a register of the perforations, said movable disk having an arm radiating therefrom, and said arm having a reciprocating movement to oscillate said movable disk and bring its perforations into or out of register with the other disk, for the purpose specified.

9. The combination, in a telephone, with
a stationary mouth piece, of a cover having
means for detachably securing it to the open
outer end of said mouth piece, said cover in-
5 cluding disks having perforations therein,
one of said disks being movable to permit it
to be adjusted with its perforations in regis-
ter or out of register with the perforations
of the other disk, and said movable disk hav-

ing an operating means projecting there- 10
from.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand this 31st day of March 1909.

JOSEPH B. BURKHOLDER.

Witnesses:

RICHARD PAUL,
C. G. HANSON.