

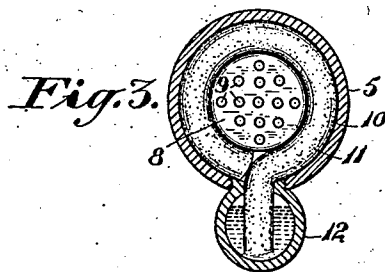
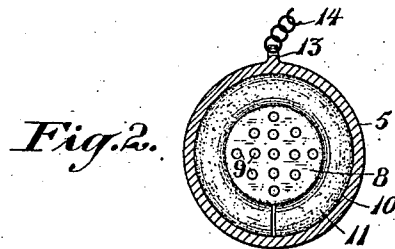
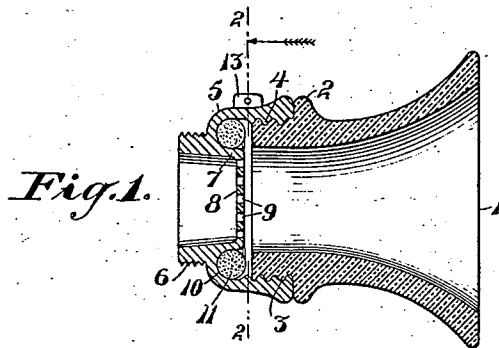
W. M. ENGLISH, L. E. BOUKOFSKY & S. M. LICHTENSTEIN.

ANTISEPTIC TELEPHONE MOUTHPIECE.

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985,021.

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WILLIAM M. ENGLISH, OF SAUSALITO, AND LOUIS E. BOUKOFSKY AND SOLOMON M. LICHTENSTEIN, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

ANTISEPTIC TELEPHONE-MOUTHPIECE.

985,021.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

Application filed August 29, 1910. Serial No. 579,543.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM M. ENGLISH, residing at Sausalito, county of Marin, State of California, and LOUIS E. BOUKOFSKY and SOLOMON M. LICHTENSTEIN, residing in San Francisco, county of San Francisco, State of California, citizens of the United States, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Antiseptic Telephone-Mouthpieces, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in telephone mouth pieces, and especially in antiseptic mouth pieces.

An ill effect resulting from the use of all telephone mouth-pieces, antiseptic or otherwise, is that the moisture in the breath of the user of the telephone condenses on the inner surface of the mouthpiece and gradually creeps over said inner surface and collects upon the diaphragm of the telephone transmitter, with consequent injury to said diaphragm. This result is especially observed in cold climates or cold weather. Moreover, such moisture tends to collect and retain impurities, bacteria, and noxious vapors, rendering the telephone obnoxious to the user of the same.

One object of our invention is to provide a mouthpiece by which this result is avoided.

A further object is to provide a telephone mouthpiece to which antiseptic liquid can be supplied very easily and readily.

A further object is to provide such a mouth-piece, which, while accomplishing the above results, will be extremely simple in construction and can be made and sold at a low cost.

A further object is to provide such a mouthpiece in which the antiseptic liquid can be supplied thereto automatically as needed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of the mouth piece; Fig. 2 is a transverse section on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow; Fig. 3 is a view, similar to Fig. 2, showing a modification.

Referring to the drawing, 1 indicates a flaring mouth piece proper, preferably made of glass, having an external flange near its rear end and external screw threads 3 between said flange and rear end. By these threads it is screwed into internal threads 4 in a holder 5, the rear end of

which is reduced in diameter and which is formed at its rear end with external threads 6 adapted to be connected with the casing of the transmitter. Said holder 5 is formed with an inner wall 7, projecting forwardly from said reduced rear ends, the front edge of said wall being connected by a transverse partition 8, perforated, as shown at 9. Between the inner wall 7 and the outer wall or casing of the holder is thus formed an annular recess 10 in which is placed a ring of wicking 11. When the mouth piece is screwed into the holder, the flange 2 abuts against the front end of the holder, and limits the inward movement of the mouth piece, forming the annular recess 10. An antiseptic liquid is readily supplied to said absorbent material by means of a dropper inserted in the mouthpiece and is dropped at any point between the inner wall 7 of the holder and the rear edge of the mouth piece. It will be observed that the holder is so constructed that the front edge of the inner wall is spaced from the rear edge of the mouth-piece along its whole circuit. Consequently no moisture deposited upon the inner surface of the mouthpiece can creep backward along the inner surface of the holder to the diaphragm of the telephone transmitter, but must first fall into the recess 10, in which recess it meets the antiseptic liquid, and is thus prevented from reaching the diaphragm of the telephone. The vapor of the antiseptic liquid, deposited in said absorbent material passes between said wall and the mouthpiece and destroys any germs which might lodge upon the partition 8.

In Fig. 3 is shown a modified form of the invention in which the necessity for so supplying the liquid by a dropper is avoided. In this modification a cup 12 is screwed into the under side of the casing, the mouth of said cup connecting with the bottom of the annular recess 10. This cup from time to time is supplied with antiseptic liquid and the wicking furnished is of a length sufficient to permit an end thereof to hang through the mouth of the cup into the liquid therein. By capillary attraction the liquid ascends into the wick as fast as it escapes therefrom in the form of vapor, and thus the wick is kept continually moist.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the holder may be formed with a lug 13, to which is attached a chain 14, which may be secured to the

transmitter or other convenient device, and thus secure the holder against unauthorized removal.

We claim:

5 1. In combination with a telephone mouth piece, a holder secured to said mouth piece and having formed integral therewith an outer wall and an inner cylindrical wall, spaced from the outer wall or casing of the
10 holder to form an annular recess, the edge of said inner wall being spaced from the mouth piece adapted to contain absorbent material, substantially as described.

15 2. In combination with a telephone mouth piece, having an external flange and externally threaded between said flange and its rear end, a holder for said mouth piece internally threaded to receive the threads of the mouth piece, the flange abutting against
20 the front edge of said holder, and said holder having formed integral therewith an outer wall and an inner cylindrical wall spaced from the outer wall or casing of the holder to form an annular recess, the edge of
25 said inner wall being spaced from the mouth piece and absorbent material in said recess, substantially as described.

3. In combination with a telephone mouth

piece, a holder secured to said mouth piece and having an outer wall and an inner wall
30 spaced from the outer wall or casing of the holder to form a recess, a receptacle for liquid secured to said holder, and absorbent material in said recess and depending into said receptacle, substantially as described. 35

4. In combination with a telephone mouth piece, a holder secured to said mouth piece and having an outer wall and an inner cylindrical wall spaced from the outer wall or casing of the holder to form an annular recess, a receptacle removably secured to the lower portion of the outer wall of the holder and connecting with the said recess, and wicking in said annular recess and depending into said receptacle, substantially as described. 45

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM M. ENGLISH.
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SOLOMON M. LICHTENSTEIN.

Witnesses:

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