Sept. 15, 1925. 1,553,856

W. M. GARRETT

LUMINOUS DIAL ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES

Filed Jan. 7, 1925

Fig. 1

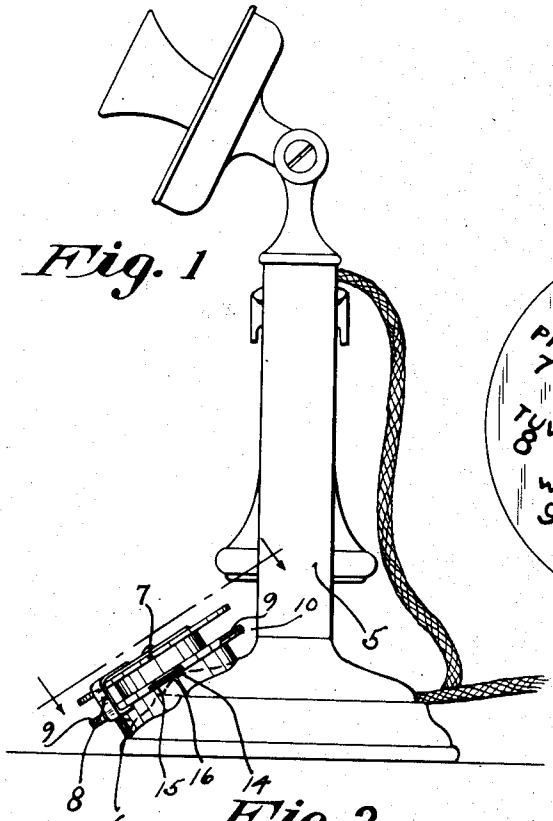


Fig. 4

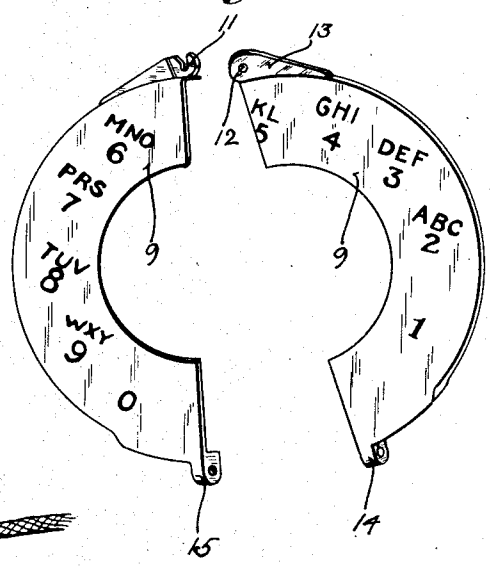


Fig. 2

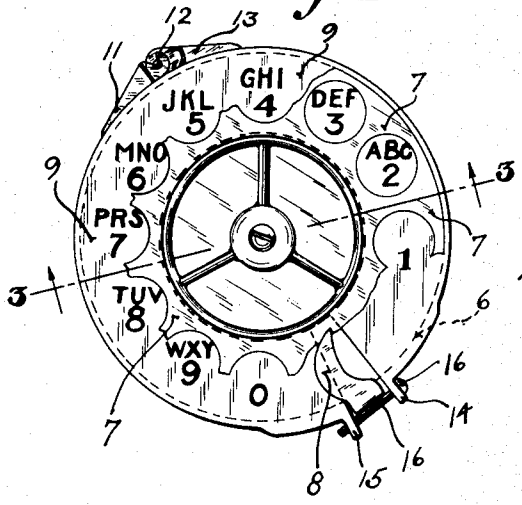
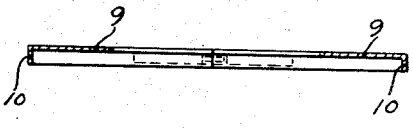


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LUMINOUS DIAL ATTACHMENT FOR TELEPHONES.

Application filed January 7, 1925. Serial No. 1,110.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. GARRETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Luminous Dial Attachments for Telephones; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention provides a simple and efficient attachment for automatic or disc-operated telephones, said attachment being in the nature of a sectional index band having illuminated connections that may be readily seen, even in the dark, through the finger openings in the operating dial. This device may be very quickly and easily applied to a standard automatic telephone without removing or changing any of the parts thereof and without interfering in any way in the operation of the telephone.

Generally stated, the invention consists of the novel construction and combinations of parts hereinafter described and defined in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate the invention, like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is an elevation showing the standard automatic telephone having my attachment applied thereto;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the operating dial, the dial base and my attachment applied to the latter;

Fig. 3 is a section through the attachment, on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is a perspective showing the two sections of the index band or attachment slightly separated.

Of the parts of the telephone, it is only desirable, for the purposes of this case, to particularly note the standard 5, the dial base 6, the operating dial 7, and the finger stop 8, which parts are of well known construction. The dial base 6 has an outstanding flange, which, in the standard telephone, is provided with a printed index band, the connections of which, of course, are arranged to be readily seen through the finger openings in the dial.

My improved dial band made as an attachment comprises two thin sheet metal segments 9, which, when put together at one end, will be slightly separated at their other ends, thereby forming slightly less than a complete ring. These segments 9 are provided with downturned outer edge flanges 10 that are adapted to closely fit and to be clamped against the outstanding flange of the dial base 6. One of the band segments 9 is formed at one end with a hook 11 that is adapted to be pivotally interlocked to a pin 12 applied to a bifurcated lug 13 secured to the adjacent end of the other band segment. The hook 11 is adapted to be engaged with a pin by angular movements of the one segment 9 in respect to the other, and this may be readily done after the two band segments have been placed loosely around the body portion of the dial base or support 6. It is, of course, understood that the dial base 6 and its outstanding flange are fixed elements and that the dial is pivotally connected thereto and under spring tension to rotate in a counterclockwise direction in respect to Fig. 2.

At their other ends, the index band segments 9 are provided with outstanding lugs 14 and 15, the latter of which is internally threaded. The numeral 16 indicates a small screw adapted to be freely passed through a perforation in the lug 14 and screwed into the lug 15. When the two index band segments 9 are applied around the flange of the base 6 with their spaced ends on opposite sides of the finger piece 8 and the screw 16 then applied and tightened, the complete index band will be securely clamped in working position. The spacing of the ends of the segments 9 is necessary to make the same clear the finger stop 8, but it will be noted, by reference to Fig. 2, that there is a slight clearance, so that the attached index band may be given slight rotative adjustments to properly align its connections with the finger openings in the dial.

The connections on the segments 9 of the dial, to wit: both the letters and the numerals, are clearly indicated in Figs. 2 and 4. As already indicated, these characters are luminous, so that they may be seen in the dark. They may be thus made luminous by the use of any of the well known radioactive paints or substances, such as used on watch and clock dials. The said luminous

characters may be marked directly on the metallic surfaces of the index segments or they may be applied thereto in any other suitable way. Also, if desired, they may be covered with thin celluloid sheets, or they may be coated with a transparent material, such as varnish. However, since they are not subject to wear, they may be unprotected or exposed directly to the atmosphere.

The usefulness of a luminous index device such as described will be appreciated by all persons who have attempted to "dial" an automatic telephone in the dark or even in places where the light is not good.

The device, as is evident, may be made at small cost and very quickly and easily applied to a telephone.

What I claim is:

1. An index band for automatic telephones, made in two sections having interlocking connections at one end and clamping means at their other ends, said band sections having flanges adapted to embrace and clamp against the flange of the dial base of the telephone, and having characters marked thereon and arranged to be viewed through the finger openings in the telephone dial.

2. An index band for automatic telephones, made in two sections having interlocking connections at one end and clamping means at their other ends, said band sections having flanges adapted to embrace and clamp against the flange of the dial base of the telephone, and having characters marked thereon and arranged to be viewed through the finger openings in the telephone dial, the said dial sections when interlocked at one end forming slightly less than a complete circle and affording a gap adapted to straddle the finger stop of the telephone.

3. The structure defined in claim 1 in which the characters on said index sections are of a luminous substance and visible in the dark.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM M. GARRETT.