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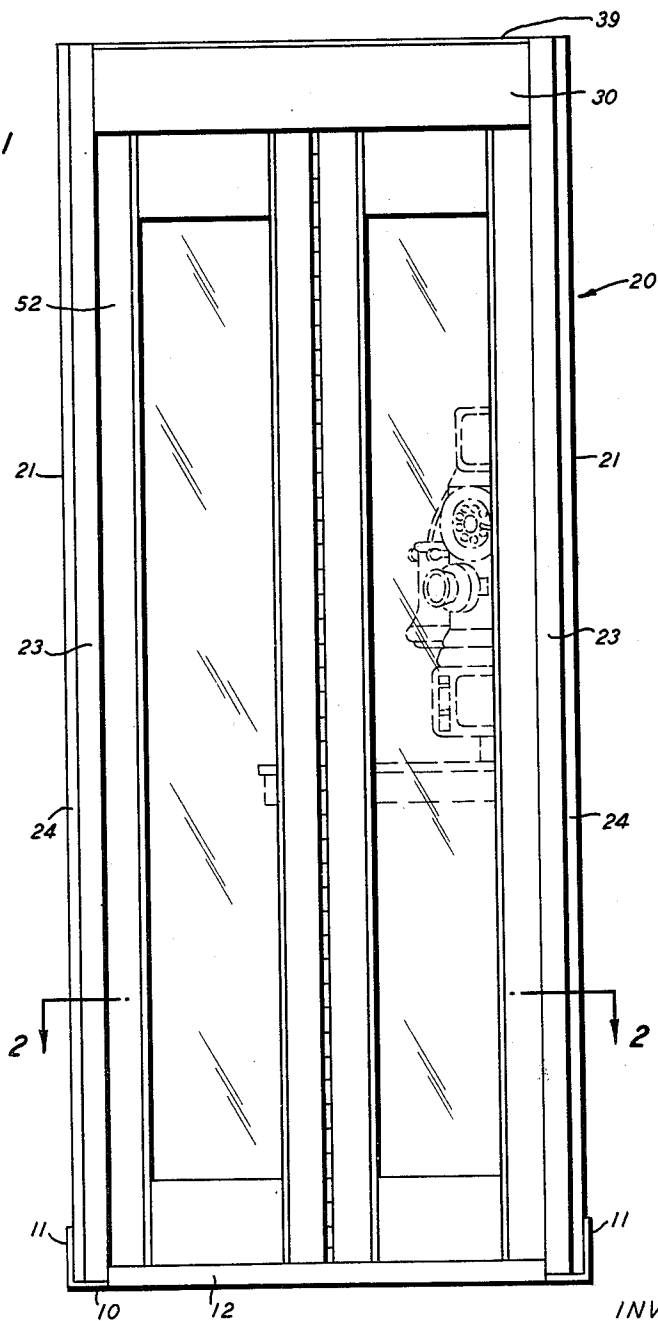
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SHEET METAL TELEPHONE BOOTH

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3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1



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SHEET METAL TELEPHONE BOOTH

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2 Claims. (Cl. 189-2)

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This invention relates to telephone booths and more particularly to those of the sheet metal type. In certain localities and under certain conditions, metallic telephone booths are preferred over those constructed of wood. However, the durability of the metallic booths and the simplicity of manufacture are important factors.

An object of the invention is to provide a metallic telephone booth which is simple in structure, readily assembled and exceedingly durable.

With this and other objects in view, the invention comprises a metallic telephone booth, the salient feature of which is a substantially U-shaped sheet metal member forming two sides and a back of the booth and secured in place between a base and top by extending around interior corner posts which rigidly connect the base and top.

The vertical ends of the sheet metal member are bent inwardly to form pockets for portions of two of the interior corner posts whereby the sheet metal member when drawn about the corner posts will form a stretched skin-like outer shell of the booth.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of the completed booth;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged horizontal sectional view taken along the line 2-2 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is an exploded isometric view of the booth.

Referring now to the drawings, attention is directed to Fig. 3 which discloses a base 10 having integral vertical flanges 11 adjacent the two sides and back thereof, a flange 12 being bent inwardly to serve as an entrance portion for a tread member 14 (Fig. 2) disposed in place after the booth is assembled. Angle brackets 15 are welded to the base 12 adjacent the cutaway corners 16, these brackets being provided with threaded apertures 17 to receive mounting screws for the interior corner posts 18. The interior corner posts are of the cross-sectional contour shown in Fig. 2 being substantially W-shaped with a flattened center portion joining two angular portions.

The main body of the booth is composed of a substantially U-shaped sheet metal member 20 of the cross-sectional contour shown in Fig. 3 and of the height desired for the booth. The member 20 completes the sides 21, the back 22, the front portions 23, as well as the corner portions

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24. The front portions 23, which constitute the vertical ends of the member 20, have portions 25 bent inwardly to form pockets or substantially U-shaped ends to extend around the adjacent edges 28 of the front corner posts 18. This structure forms the only positive connection between the sheet metal member 20 and the posts.

The top of the booth is composed of a box-like member 30 to fit within the member 20 and rests upon the top ends of the corner posts 18. The top ends of the corner posts are provided with integral flanges 31 with threaded apertures 32 therein to receive mounting screws (not shown) extending through apertures 33 of the top 30. It will be noted that the top 30 substantially conforms to the interior of the member 20 having vertically extending flanges 35 with inwardly projecting portions 36 provided with threaded apertures 37 to receive mounting screws (not shown) extending through apertures 38 of a cover plate 39 completing the top structure.

The flange 35 positioned at the front of the booth is formed so that it is positioned between the front members 23 and whereby its outer surface will lie in a plane with the outer surfaces of the members 23. An aperture 40 is centrally disposed in the top 30 to receive the conventional lighting fixture and the box-like top with its cover 39 completes a housing for the necessary wires and electrical connections.

The inner structure of the booth includes panels 42 for the sides and the back positioned between their respective interior corner posts 18 and cutaway at 43 to allow for the leg portions of the posts. The panels are secured in place by vertical members 44 secured by the aid of mounting screws 45 to the central flattened portions of the posts 18. In the present embodiment of the invention, the panels 42 are composed mainly of a suitable composition such as cardboard 46 provided with a sheet metal covering 47.

Channel members 50 are secured to the front corner posts 18, the channel members complete the frame structure for the opening of the booth, one of the channel members serving as a support for the hinge 51 of the door 52. The channel members are secured in place by mounting screws 53 extending into threaded apertures 54 of the adjacent posts 18.

With the present structure, it will be apparent that the metallic telephone booth may be readily assembled by positioning and mounting the back corner posts to the brackets 15 of the base 10, then locating the front corner posts within the pockets of the inwardly bent ends of the sheet

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metal member 20. The front corner posts may be secured in position forcing the bottom edges of the member 20 within the base 10 so that the flanges 11 will be positioned externally of the member. The front corner posts are then moved into position and secured to their flanges 15. The U-shaped sheet metal member 20 is tensioned to position by any suitable means such as jacks extending between the vertical corner posts. The top 30 with the cover 39 may be secured in place to the top of the corner posts 18 which will complete the main shell structure of the booth causing the sheet metal member 20 to be secured in place in a stretched condition adding to the rigidity of the booth, completing a structure which may be readily assembled and which will be exceedingly durable and rigid. The tread 14 and the panels 42 may be readily secured in place after which the door may be mounted and after the necessary wiring is completed, the lighting fixture disposed in place, the cover 39 may be mounted on the top 30.

It is to be understood that the above described arrangements are simply illustrative of the application of the principles of the invention. Numerous other arrangements may be readily devised by those skilled in the art which will embody the principles of the invention and fall within the spirit and scope thereof.

What is claimed is:

1. A metallic telephone booth comprising a base substantially square in general contour, brackets secured to said base adjacent the corners thereof, vertical pairs of front and back posts secured at their lower extremities to said

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brackets, means secured to the upper extremities of said posts retaining said posts in parallel relationship to each other, a substantially U-shaped flexible sheet metal member having its two vertical edges bent inwardly forming vertically extending pockets, said U-shaped member tensioned about the front and back posts in a manner as to have one of said pockets receive the vertical edge of one of said front posts and the other of said pockets receive an adjacent vertical edge of the other of said front posts, that portion of said U-shaped member extending between the bent vertical edges in untensioned condition having a length less than the length of a line extending from the vertical edge of one of said front posts, about said pair of back posts, and to the adjacent vertical edge of said other front post.

2. A telephone booth as defined in claim 1 wherein said front and back posts terminate short of the top of said U-shaped member, and said means comprises a top unit disposed within said U-shaped member on said front and back posts and secured thereto.

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