

Oct. 20, 1953

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2,655,760

HOLDER FOR CARDS OR MEMORANDUM PADS

Filed Feb. 7, 1950

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

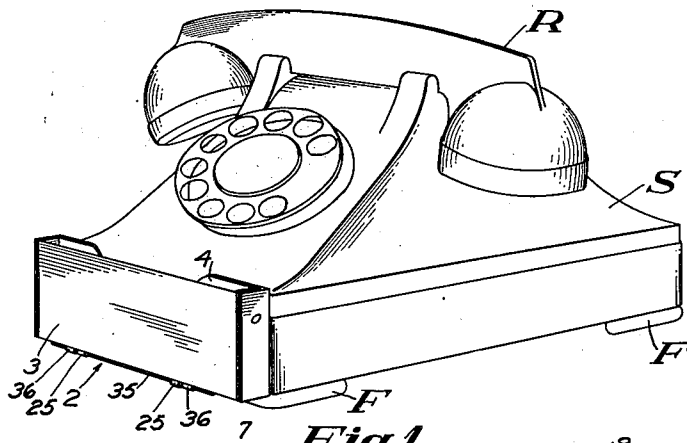


Fig. 1.

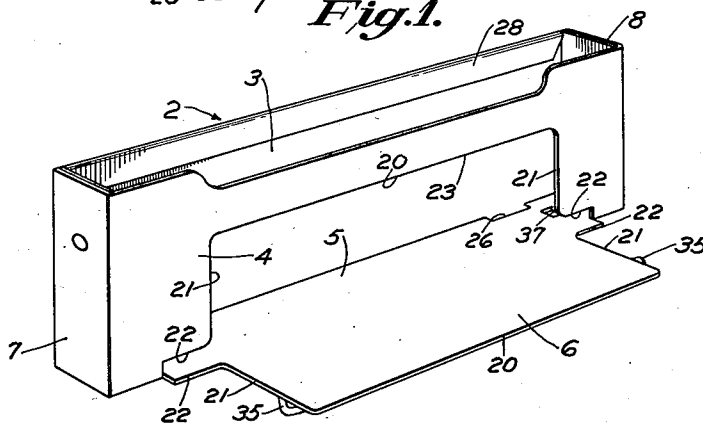


Fig. 2

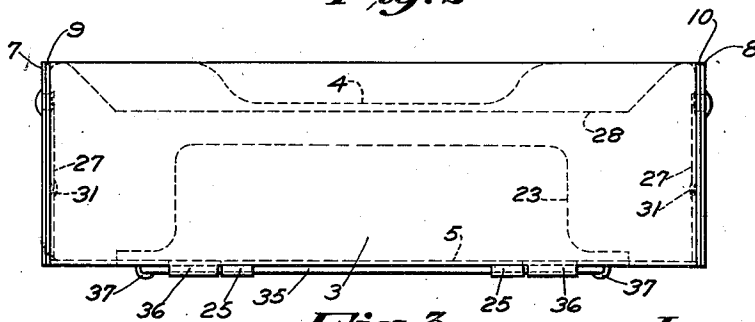


Fig. 3.

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

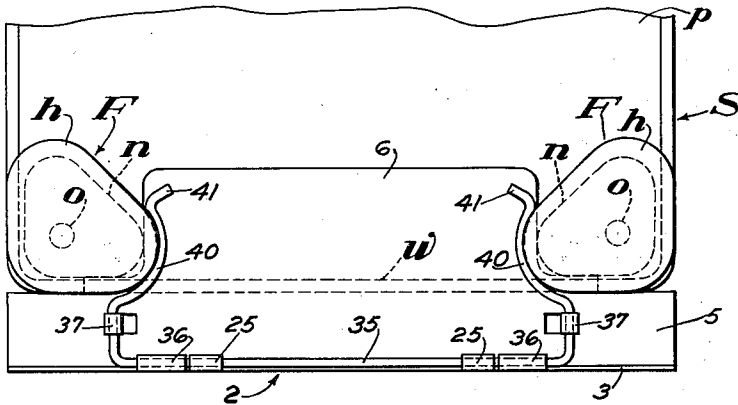


Fig. 4.

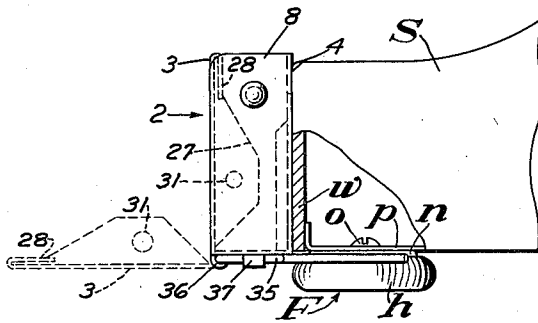


Fig. 5.

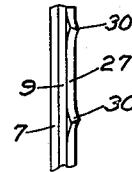


Fig. 6.

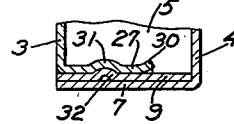


Fig. 7.

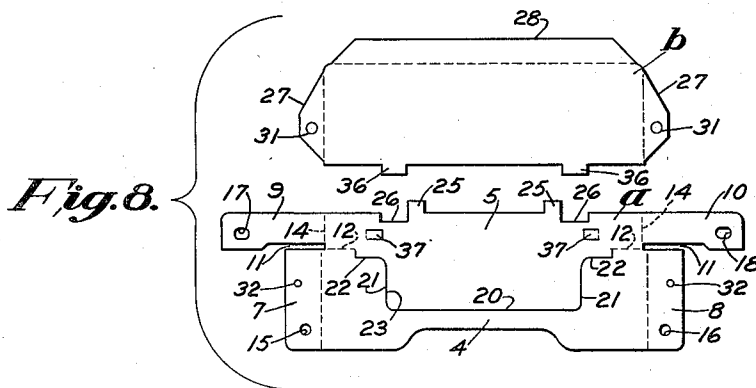


Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,655,760

HOLDER FOR CARDS OR MEMORANDUM
PADS

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Application February 7, 1950, Serial No. 142,861

5 Claims. (Cl. 45—.5)

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This invention relates to a receptacle or holder for a card-index or a memorandum pad that is particularly adapted for use with telephone sets.

One object of the invention is to provide a receptacle or holder for containing index cards or a memorandum pad and embodying means for attaching the holder to conventional telephone sets without change in the structure thereof or the addition of extraneous parts thereto.

Another object is to provide a device of the type specified which can be attached to the base of the telephone set by inserting a plate-like extension on the holder into a space provided on said base.

Another object is to provide a device of the type specified having resilient clamping means engageable with the feet on the base of the telephone set to retain the holder in attached position thereon.

Another object is to provide a device of the type specified having a hinged door or closure at the front of the holder that may be swung down to lower the pad contained in the holder into convenient position for writing thereon.

Another object is to provide a compact, lightweight article of the type specified which may be constructed from a pair of sheet-metal blanks stamped out and folded to form a box-like compartment for the cards or pad.

Another object is to provide an article of the type specified which is neat in appearance and of compact size and shape so as not to hinder or obstruct the manual operation of a dial-type telephone instrument.

Further objects of the improvement are set forth in the following specification which describes a preferred form of construction of the holder as illustrated by the accompanying drawings. In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a conventional dial-telephone set showing the present card- or pad-holder applied to use therewith;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the holder as seen from the rear;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged front elevational view of the holder;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view showing the holder applied to the base of the telephone set and illustrating the resilient means for clamping it in place;

Fig. 5 is a part-sectional view of the fore part of the instrument's standard or base illustrating the means for attaching the holder thereto and clamping it thereon and showing the hinged door or closure in dotted lines as in open position;

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Fig. 6 is an enlarged detailed view of the edge of one of the door flanges or wings;

Fig. 7 is a transverse sectional view of a portion of the holder showing the means for latching the door in closed position; and

Fig. 8 is a composite view in reduced scale showing the two blanks from which the holder is constructed.

In the use of telephone instruments it is often necessary to refer to an index of subscribers to obtain the call numbers, and in other cases it is desirable to make notes of telephone conversations or information obtained therefrom, and the present card-index holder or memorandum pad receptacle may be used for either purpose. That is to say, it may be employed for holding a card-index listing the names and call numbers of clients, patients or other persons to be called, while in other instances it may contain a pad on which memoranda can be written, the pad being held so that it can be swung down into convenient position for writing thereon. The present receptacle or holder is adapted for either of such uses and provides a convenient adjunct to telephone instruments of standard type in use at the present time.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, the present card- or pad-holder is constructed in the form of a relatively long, narrow box-like receptacle of substantially the same height as the base portion of the instrument with which it is to be used, and of such dimensions as to fit thereagainst without overlapping said base to any appreciable extent at the top or sides. The receptacle or holder 2 may have a thin plate or like horizontal projection at the bottom for insertion into the opening beneath the fore part of the base of the instrument. The box-like receptacle 2 of the holder is preferably made of relatively thin sheet-metal with a front wall 3, which may be constructed as a hinged door or closure; a rearward wall 4; and a bottom wall 5 which is continued rearwardly in a plate-like extension 6 formed by a portion of the metal cut away from the rear wall 4 and folded flat in the plane of the bottom wall. The end walls 7 and 8 of the enclosure 2 are formed by overlapping portions of the rearward wall 4 and the bottom wall 5 folded around into contiguous relationship as more particularly explained with reference to Fig. 8.

Fig. 8 is a plan view of the sheet-metal blanks a and b from which the box-like receptacle 2 and its door 3 are constructed, the foldable portions being indicated by dotted lines in this view.

The main blank *a* which forms the rear wall, side walls and bottom of the receptacle or holder 2 is of generally rectangular shape in outline with extensions or wings 9 and 10 projecting laterally from its main portion and separated from the ends thereof by slots 11. That portion of the main blank *a* from which the wings 9 and 10 project is adapted to be folded along its length at points indicated by the dotted lines 12—12 and the wings 9 and 10 folded as indicated by the dotted lines 14 to project vertically upward from the ends of the bottom wall 5. The rearward wall 4 is folded upwardly from the base or bottom wall 5 and its end portions 7 and 8 folded rearwardly to overlie the two wing-like extensions 9 and 10 at the ends of the base which stand in perpendicular relation thereto. Suitable rivets or other fastening means are inserted through holes 15 and 16 in the extensions 7 and 8 of the rearward wall 4 and through slotted holes 17 and 18 in the wings 9 and 10 to fasten these portions together in contiguous overlapping relationship to complete the box-like enclosure. When the blank *a* is stamped out it is slitted on the lines 20, 21 and 22, indicated in Fig. 8, to form a substantially rectangular panel which constitutes the forwardly-projecting extension 6 of the base 5. This portion of the metal remains flat in the same plane as the base or bottom wall 5 of the holder when the rearward wall 4 is folded upwardly at 12—12, see Fig. 2, an opening 23 being left in the rearward wall bounded by the edges of the slit indicated at 20, 21 and 22 in Figs. 2 and 8.

Referring to Fig. 8, the forward edge portion of the bottom wall 5 is shaped to irregular contour providing two ears 25 with rectangular slots or openings 26 adjacent their outer edges. These ears 25 are formed into cylindrical loops, shown more in detail in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, for holding a wire rod 35 which hingedly connects the door 3 to the holder 2. The door or closure 3 is formed from a flat blank *b*, shown in outline in Fig. 8 as of substantially rectangular shape except for triangular extensions 27 projecting at either end and a narrow strip 28 with beveled ends extending along the top. The extension strip 28 is folded downwardly at the top to overlie the rearward face of the door 3, as shown most clearly in Fig. 5, with a slight space therebetween and the end extensions 27 are folded inwardly to form side flanges adapted to slide into abutting relation with the end walls 7 and 8 of the enclosure. These end flanges 27 are preferably distorted or offset along their forward edges to provide inwardly-directed corners 30; see Fig. 6, to adapt the flanges 27 of the door 3 to enter between and slide freely along the inner faces of the end walls 7 and 8 of the enclosure with a sort of camming action. Each end flange 27 of the door 3 is also formed with a circular depression 31, see Fig. 7, adapted to snap over a rounded protuberance 32 formed by indenting the inner lamination 9 or 10 of the end walls 7 and 8 of the receptacle, see Figs. 5 and 7.

For hingedly mounting the closure 3 on the holder 2 ears 36 at the bottom of the door 3 are rolled into cylindrical form to loosely enclose the rod 35. The hinge-ears 36 are adapted to turn on the rod 35 in the slots 26 of the bottom wall 5 to permit swinging the door 3 to open or close it at the front of the holder 2; see Fig. 5. The opposite ends of the wire rod 35 are bent rearwardly at right-angles to its main length as shown in Fig. 4 and secured in cylindrical loop-

shaped tabs 37, struck up from the bottom wall 5. Beyond the loops 37, the rod 35 is bent into arcuate shape to form spring-arms 40 terminating in oppositely-bent ends 41; the purpose of these spring-arms 40 being to engage around the feet on the base of the telephone standard as later more fully explained.

Referring to Figs. 4 and 5, the conventional dial type telephone set has a bell-housing or base *S* forming a standard and support for the receiver *R* and usually constructed of Bakelite or similar plastic material. This part of the set is of hollow construction, as indicated in Fig. 5, and closed at the bottom by a metal plate *p* to which are attached four feet *F*. Each foot *F* is of substantially mushroom form with a triangularly-shaped head or lower bearing-portion *h* protruding from a reduced neck *n* into which a screw *o* is inserted to fasten it to the plate *p*. The head *h* is usually covered with fabric such as felt to adapt it to slide freely on the top of a desk or table without marring the surface.

For attaching the present card- or pad-holder 2 to the front of the base or standard *S* of the telephone set the rearwardly-projecting bottom wall-extension or plate 6 is slid in under the edge of the front vertical wall *w* of the base to engage snugly in the space between the bottom plate *p* and the heads *h* of the feet *F* in a manner shown most clearly in Figs. 4 and 5. During this operation of attaching the holder 2 to the front of the telephone base *S* the spring-arms 40 will engage around the rounded surfaces of the heads *h* of the feet *F* to yieldingly clamp the holder in place and prevent its accidental or unwarranted release from the instrument. When so attached to the telephone instrument the receptacle or holder 2 may be used for containing indexed cards of proper size with names, addresses and telephone numbers typed or delineated thereon; or in other instances the holder may be used to contain a small memorandum pad in vertical position therein. The card-board back of the pad may be attached to the door or closure 3 of the holder 2 by slipping its edge under the folded-over portion 28 at the top of the door so that when the door is swung down into the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 5 the pad will lie flat in horizontal position for receiving memoranda or other notations inscribed thereon.

In either case, whether used to contain a card-index or a memorandum pad, the present receptacle or holder provides a neat, compact and unobtrusive article of utility of great convenience for the operator of the telephone in finding telephone numbers, etc., or in recording information on a pad with the use of one hand while the other hand is holding the receiver.

While the device is herein shown and described as embodied in a preferred form of construction to render it economical to manufacture, it is to be understood that modifications may be made in the design and structure of the device without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as expressed in the following claims. Therefore, without limiting myself in this respect, I claim:

1. A holder or receptacle for cards or a writing pad comprising a rectangular box-like casing having a bottom wall and upstanding front, rear and end walls, a hinged door at the front of the casing adapted to swing down into horizontal position thereon, a plate projecting rearwardly from the bottom wall of the casing in alignment therewith for insertion under the base of a telephone instrument; said plate of a width to adapt its lat-

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eral edges for engagement with grooves in the feet thereon, and resilient means on the plate having arcuate portions engageable around circular portions of said feet.

2. In an article of the type indicated, a box-like casing shaped to overlie the front of the base of a telephone set and having a bottom wall with vertical front, rear and end walls, a relatively thin plate projecting rearwardly from the bottom wall of the casing and forming a horizontal extension thereof for insertion under the base of a telephone set, said plate dimensioned to adapt its lateral edges to be engaged in grooves in the feet thereon, and spring-arms fastened to the bottom of the casing at the front thereof and projecting rearwardly therefrom with arcuate portions at their ends for engagement around circular sides of said feet on the base to hold the casing from being displaced forwardly from the telephone set.

3. In an article of the type specified, a sheet-metal casing having a bottom wall, rear and end walls, a plate-like extension of the bottom wall constructed integrally with and projecting rearwardly therefrom for insertion under the base of a telephone instrument, clamping means on the under side of said extension comprising a pair of wire arms projecting rearwardly from the front of the casing beneath the plate extension and having arcuate portions for embracing the feet on the under side of the base, a door hinged to the front of the casing and formed with rearwardly projecting flanges adapted to slide within the end walls of the casing, and interengaging means between said flanges and the ends walls of the casing for latching the door closed thereagainst.

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4. In an article of the type specified, a sheet-metal box-like casing having a bottom wall, rear and end walls, said bottom wall being extended rearwardly in a plate adapted for insertion beneath the base of a telephone instrument, a wire rod fastened to the under side of the casing and formed with spring arms projecting rearwardly therefrom for resilient engagement with the feet on the under side of the telephone base, and a door pivoted on said rod at the bottom of the casing for closing the open front thereof.

5. An article of the type specified comprising a box-like casing constructed from sheet-metal blanked out to provide a bottom wall, a rear wall foldable upwardly from said bottom wall, extensions of the bottom wall foldable into perpendicular relation thereto, extensions on the rear wall foldable into position to overlap the extensions of the bottom wall, said extensions fastened together to form the end walls of the casing, and a plate-like extension of the bottom wall sheared from the metal of the rear wall to project rearwardly therefrom in the plane of the bottom wall for insertion under the base of a telephone instrument for attaching the casing thereto.

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