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I. FLORMAN

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AUXILIARY VOICE SCREEN FOR TELEPHONE MOUTHPIECES

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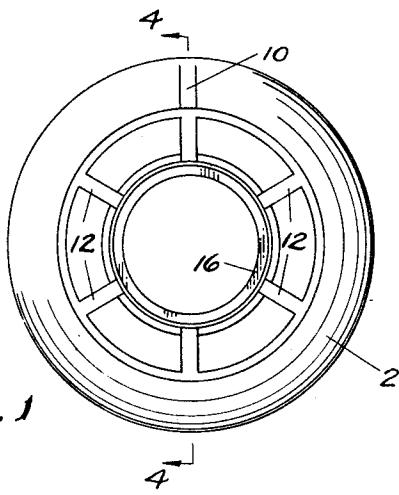


Fig. 1

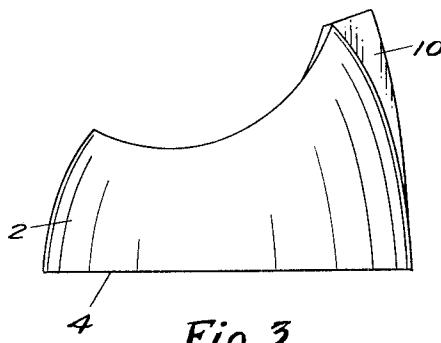


Fig. 3

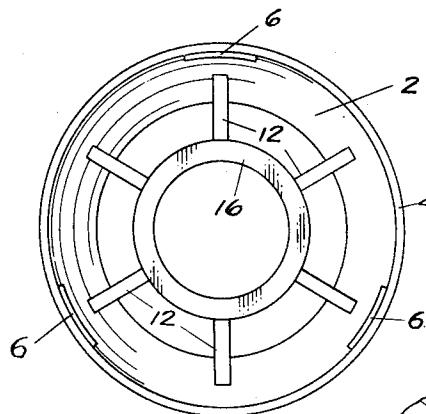


Fig. 2

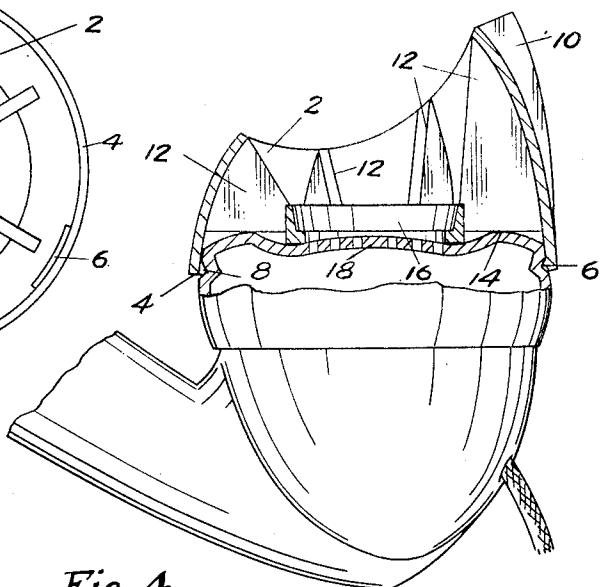


Fig. 4

INVENTOR.

Irving Florman
BY

Bailey, Stephens, & Huettig
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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AUXILIARY VOICE SCREEN FOR
TELEPHONE MOUTHPIECES

Irving Florman, New York, N. Y.

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11 Claims. (Cl. 179—188)

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The invention relates to attachments for telephone mouthpieces, and more especially to attachments intended to permit a user to talk on the telephone without being heard by other persons near at hand.

Such devices as have heretofore been known for this purpose have either been very complicated and expensive or have been subject to such vibration as to distort the voice of the speaker.

The primary object of the invention is to provide an attachment of this type which overcomes the disadvantages of the prior arrangements.

Another object of the invention is to provide an attachment which is simple and inexpensive, while yet being durable and easy to attach to a phone.

Still another object of the invention is to provide an attachment which is arranged to prevent disturbing vibrations.

A further object of the invention is to provide an attachment which seats firmly on the mouthpiece so that it is not likely to be accidentally dislodged.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide an attachment which can be applied to a French or cradle type telephone without interfering with the proper laying of the phone in the cradle when it is not in use.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully from the following description, especially when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings which form a part thereof.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of an attachment embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation; and

Fig. 4 is a cross-section, substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1, showing the attachment applied to a mouthpiece.

The device as shown includes a circumferentially closed shield 2 having a circular bottom edge 4 adapted to fit over the mouthpiece and having inwardly curved side walls. The shield is open at top and bottom. The left hand side wall (Fig. 4) is lower than the right hand wall, and is intended to be applied at the side of the mouthpiece next the handle. Along the inner face of the lower edge of the shield are spaced inwardly shoulders or lugs 6 adapted to engage in a groove 8 in the outside of the mouthpiece. On its outer face the higher wall has a rib 10, this rib acting to stiffen the shield both to reinforce it and to

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prevent vibrations which might muffle and confuse the voice of the user.

On its interior, and extending downward from its upper edge, the shield has vertical ribs 12, the lower edges of which, as shown in Fig. 4, engage the upper rim 14 of the mouthpiece. These ribs support a central ring 16, which rests on the perforated portion 18 of the mouthpiece, preferably just outside the circular group of perforations normally provided.

The whole device is preferably formed of a suitable plastic, such as a phenolformaldehyde resin, which has sufficient resiliency for the shoulders 6 to pass into the groove 8, thus holding the attachment in position. Also, it is preferably cast in a single, integral piece. When so positioned, the attachment is firmly seated by the engagement of the ribs 12 and ring 16 with the mouthpiece. This prevents accidental dislodgement and rattling. The ribs impart sufficient rigidity to the shield to dampen its vibrations and thus to prevent muffing of the user's voice.

While I have described herein one embodiment of my invention, I wish it to be understood that I do not intend to limit myself thereby except within the scope of the claims hereto or herein-after appended.

I claim:

1. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece, a ring within said shield, said ring being of less diameter than said shield, and vertical ribs connecting said ring to the shield and mounting the ring centrally within the shield adjacent the lower end thereof in a position to engage the perforated face of the mouthpiece.

2. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece, a ring within said shield, said ring being of less diameter than said shield and centrally located therein, and vertical ribs connecting said ring and shield terminating adjacent the lower end of the shield and of such length as to engage the upper rim of the mouthpiece when such lower edge fits resiliently therearound.

3. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having along such lower edge spaced inwardly directed shoulders shaped to engage in a cir-

cumferential groove in the outside of the mouthpiece, said shield having a lower wall portion and a higher wall portion, and a vertical rib extending outwardly from said higher wall portion to reinforce the same and to lessen vibration thereof.

4. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having along such lower edge spaced inwardly directed shoulders shaped to engage in a circumferential groove in the outside of the mouthpiece, said shield having a lower wall portion and a higher wall portion, a vertical rib extending outwardly from said higher wall portion to reinforce the same and to lessen vibration thereof, a ring within said shield shaped and located to engage the perforated face of the mouthpiece, and vertical ribs connecting said ring to the shield.

5. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having along such lower edge spaced inwardly directed shoulders shaped to engage in a circumferential groove in the outside of the mouthpiece, a ring within said shield shaped and located to engage the perforated face of the mouthpiece, and vertical ribs connecting said ring to the shield.

6. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having along such lower edge spaced inwardly directed shoulders shaped to engage in a circumferential groove in the outside of the mouthpiece, a ring within said shield, and vertical ribs engageable with the upper rim of the mouthpiece connecting said ring and shield.

7. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having a lower wall portion and a higher wall portion, a vertical rib extending outwardly from said higher wall portion to reinforce the same and to lessen vibration thereof, a ring within said shield, and vertical ribs engageable with the upper rim of the mouthpiece connecting said ring and shield.

8. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having along such lower edge spaced inwardly directed shoulders shaped to engage in a circumferential groove in the outside of the mouthpiece, said shield having a lower wall portion and a higher wall portion, a vertical rib extending outwardly from said higher wall portion to reinforce the same and to lessen vibration thereof, a ring within said shield, and vertical ribs engageable with the upper rim of the mouthpiece connecting said ring and shield.

9. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having along such lower edge spaced inwardly directed shoulders shaped to engage in a circumferential groove in the outside of the mouthpiece, a ring within said shield shaped and located to engage the perforated face of the mouthpiece, and vertical ribs engageable with the upper rim of the mouthpiece connecting said ring and shield.

10. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having a lower wall portion and a higher wall portion, a vertical rib extending outwardly from said higher wall portion to reinforce the same and to lessen vibration thereof, a ring within said shield shaped and located to engage the perforated face of the mouthpiece, and vertical ribs engageable with the upper rim of the mouthpiece connecting said ring and shield.

11. A telephone mouthpiece extension comprising a circumferentially closed shield open at both ends, said shield having a lower edge shaped to fit resiliently around a telephone mouthpiece and having along such lower edge spaced inwardly directed shoulders shaped to engage in a circumferential groove in the outside of the mouthpiece, said shield having a lower wall portion and a higher wall portion, a vertical rib extending outwardly from said higher wall portion to reinforce the same and to lessen vibration thereof, a ring within said shield shaped and located to engage the perforated face of the mouthpiece, and vertical ribs engageable with the upper rim of the mouthpiece connecting said ring and shield.

IRVING FLORMAN.

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