

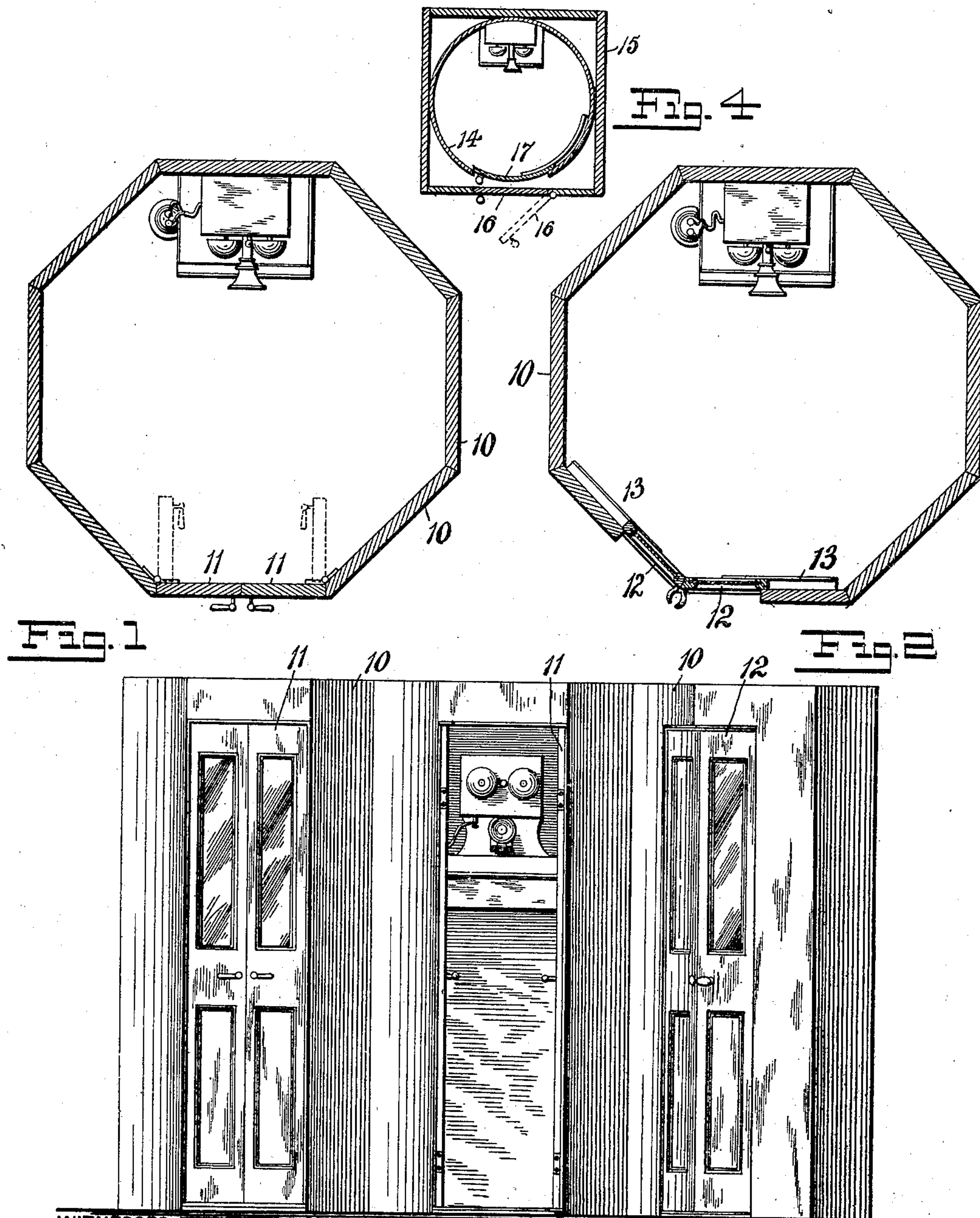
No. 704,987.

Patented July 15, 1902.

F. L. TUFTS.
TELEPHONE BOOTH.

(Application filed Dec. 24, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

Wm. H. Campfield Jr.
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Fig. 3

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TELEPHONE-BOOTH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 704,987, dated July 15, 1902.

Application filed December 24, 1901. Serial No. 87,056. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK LEO TUFTS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improve-
5 ments in Telephone-Booths, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in telephone-booths; and the object of my invention is to produce a booth in which privacy of conversation can be preserved, the walls being constructed so as to prevent the transmission of sound through them.

Since filing my application No. 81,232 on November 5, 1901, I have been experimenting
15 with sound transmission, and I find that a tube, for instance, which is circular in cross-section will transmit high notes as well as and perhaps better than a tube which is flat-sided; but, on the other hand, the low notes
20 are cut out by the circular tube, and the flat-sided tube carries them much better. In making these experiments I have found, too, that certain tones, and perhaps most tones, can be kept within a booth if it is made octag-
25 onal or polygonal in shape, or, in fact, if its broad sides are broken, so as to be less than the sides of a rectangular booth in width. In carrying out this idea the walls are so braced in different directions as to prevent the vi-
30 bratory and sounding-board effect. Further, as the circular form of booth cuts out certain tones and the flat-sided booth cuts out certain other tones I have found that by combining these two ideas and inclosing a circular booth within a structure having flat sides
35 (even a rectangular outer structure will do) all tones are practically confined to the booth, and so the person using the telephone is in no danger of being overheard from without.

40 To these ends my invention consists of a telephone-booth the construction of which will be hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification,
45 in which similar figures of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a sectional plan of a telephone-

booth embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan of a similar booth, but with slightly-different doors. Fig. 3 is a front ele-
50 vation of a group of booths, and Fig. 4 is a sectional plan of a modified form of booth in which one circular in cross-section is inscribed or included in one of rectangular shape.

The booth may be made of any suitable material—such as metal, wood, papier-mâché, or other suitable substance—and either with single or double walls; but it is provided with a series of flat sides 10 and is polygonal in
60 cross-section. I find that the octagonal form, as illustrated, is well suited for the intended purpose; but the effect is preserved if six sides are used, and obviously a greater or less number of sides can be made; but the struc-
65 ture must be polygonal or else the sounding-board effect is not overcome and the sound-waves go through the walls.

The booth, as shown in Fig. 1, has swinging doors 11, forming one side or panel of the
70 structure; but sliding doors 12, moving in guides 13, can be used, these being arranged at one of the corners, or any other suitable door can be employed.

To preserve the greatest privacy, a booth 14
75 of circular cross-section can be inclosed in one 15 of a rectangular or polygonal shape, the rectangular form being shown, and suitable doors 16 and 17 can be provided for the booth. Obviously the top or roof can be
80 made of the same general shape as the sides, and I have not thought necessary to illustrate this feature.

These booths can be used singly or collectively; but the booth is especially designed
85 for use in close proximity to others, so that for economy of space a group of booths can be arranged as usual, and yet a person in one cannot hear the conversation in an adjoining one.

90 Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A telephone-booth comprising an inner

structure formed with curved walls, and an outer flat-sided structure inclosing the said inner structure.

2. The combination of a double-walled booth
5. provided with suitable means of ingress and egress, the inner wall being curved and the outer walls being flat.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK LEO TUFTS.

Witnesses:

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WARREN B. HUTCHINSON.