

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM LEVI, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS
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SANITARY ATTACHMENT FOR SOUND RECEIVERS OR TRANSMITTERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 743,896, dated November 10, 1903.

Application filed July 23, 1903. Serial No. 166,666. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM LEVI, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sanitary Attachments for Sound Receivers or Transmitters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a sanitary attachment for sound receivers or transmitters, such as telephones or speaking-tubes, and has for its object to provide a simple and inexpensive device which may be readily attached to the sound instrument and easily operated to present a clean or new surface to the ear or mouth each time the instrument is used.

In the accompanying drawings the invention is illustrated as applied to a telephone-receiver; but it is to be understood that the same form of device is as readily applied to telephone-transmitters or speaking-tube mouthpieces.

In the drawings, Figure 1 illustrates a side elevation of the device attached in this case to a receiver; Fig. 2, a central vertical sectional view of the detached device, and Fig. 3 is a rear view of the detached device.

Referring to the drawings, the letter *a* designates a telephone-receiver of well-known construction, and secured to said receiver is a split ring-clip *b*, whose ends are adapted to be secured together by a screw *c*. A plurality of spring-fingers *d* are secured to the ring-clip, and said fingers at their free ends are each provided with a hook *d'*.

The device so far described is merely the holder of the sanitary attachment and is adapted to be clamped to the telephone instrument, whether it is the receiver or transmitter, and may remain permanently attached thereto.

A foundation-plate *e* of suitable material—sheet metal or cardboard—is provided with a central opening *f*, and around said opening the plate is also provided with a plurality of fastening devices *g*—staples or the like—with which the hooks *d'* of the spring-fingers *d* engage, whereby to detachably support said plate in position in front of the instrument. The plate by preference has at one side a ta-

pered or rounded point *i*. Secured to the plate on the outer surface are a plurality of sheets *j*—such as paper, thin fabric, or other suitable material—so as to form a pad, and these sheets are provided with a central opening *j'*, which register or have position in front of the opening of the instrument.

As illustrated in the drawings, the openings *j'* in the different sheets *j* vary a little in diameter, the diameter of the opening in the sheet next adjoining the plate *e* being larger than the diameter of the opening in the outermost sheet. Thus the opening through the entire pad of all the sheets is tapering or gradually diminishing in diameter as it recedes or extends outwardly from the instrument and the foundation-plate. This is an important feature, as it insures that contact with the ear or lips of a person using it shall be made with only one sheet at a time and that the outermost or exposed sheet. This pad of sheets having an opening through all the sheets constitutes the sanitary attachment. These sheets *j* are preferably shaped like the foundation-plate *e* and have a tapered point *i'*. It will also be seen that where the point-angle *i'* is formed in the sheets the pad or plurality of sheets are beveled or inclined from the outermost or exposed sheet toward the foundation-plate *e*, so as to leave the point of the outermost sheet a little longer. By thus beveling the sheets at this angle-point the pointed edge of each sheet is made prominent and easily grasped by the finger of a person during the operation of removal.

The operation, briefly stated, is as follows: The ring-clamp *b* is first attached to the instrument, with the spring-fingers pointing outwardly. The pad is then placed in position over the instrument and the spring-fingers engaged with the staples or other fastening devices. This pad of sheets thus covers the rim of the receiver or transmitter, while the opening *j'* in the pad leaves clear access for the sound. The device is then ready for use.

If attached to a telephone-receiver, the first thing a person does who desires to use the telephone is to grasp the outermost sheet at the angle-point *i'* and tear this sheet off, thus

exposing a fresh sheet against which the ear may be placed or, if it is the transmitter, against which his mouth may come in contact with a feeling of safety. When the person is through, the device is left as he used it and the next person tears off a sheet before using the instrument.

When all the sheets of one pad have been used or exhausted, the hooks are disengaged, the old plate removed, and a new pad put in place.

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

1. A sanitary attachment for telephones, speaking-tubes and like instruments comprising a plurality of sheets in the form of a pad and provided with a sound-opening which tapers or gradually diminishes in diameter from the innermost sheet where it is largest to the outermost sheet where it is smallest, in

combination with means for securing said pad to an instrument.

2. A sanitary attachment for telephones, speaking-tubes and like instruments comprising a plurality of sheets in the form of a pad and each sheet having a sound-opening which is of a different diameter from the sound-openings of all the other sheets of said pad whereby to form a sound-opening through the pad of sheets which is tapered from the innermost sheet where it is largest to the outermost sheet where it is smallest and the outer edge of the pad of sheets being provided with a portion which is beveled or inclined from the outermost sheet inwardly.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ABRAHAM LEVI.

Witnesses:

CHARLES B. MANN, Jr.,
G. FERDINAND VOGT.