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O. H. GOODRICH.

APPLIANCE FOR USE WITH TELEPHONE TRANSMITTERS.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 4, 1908.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

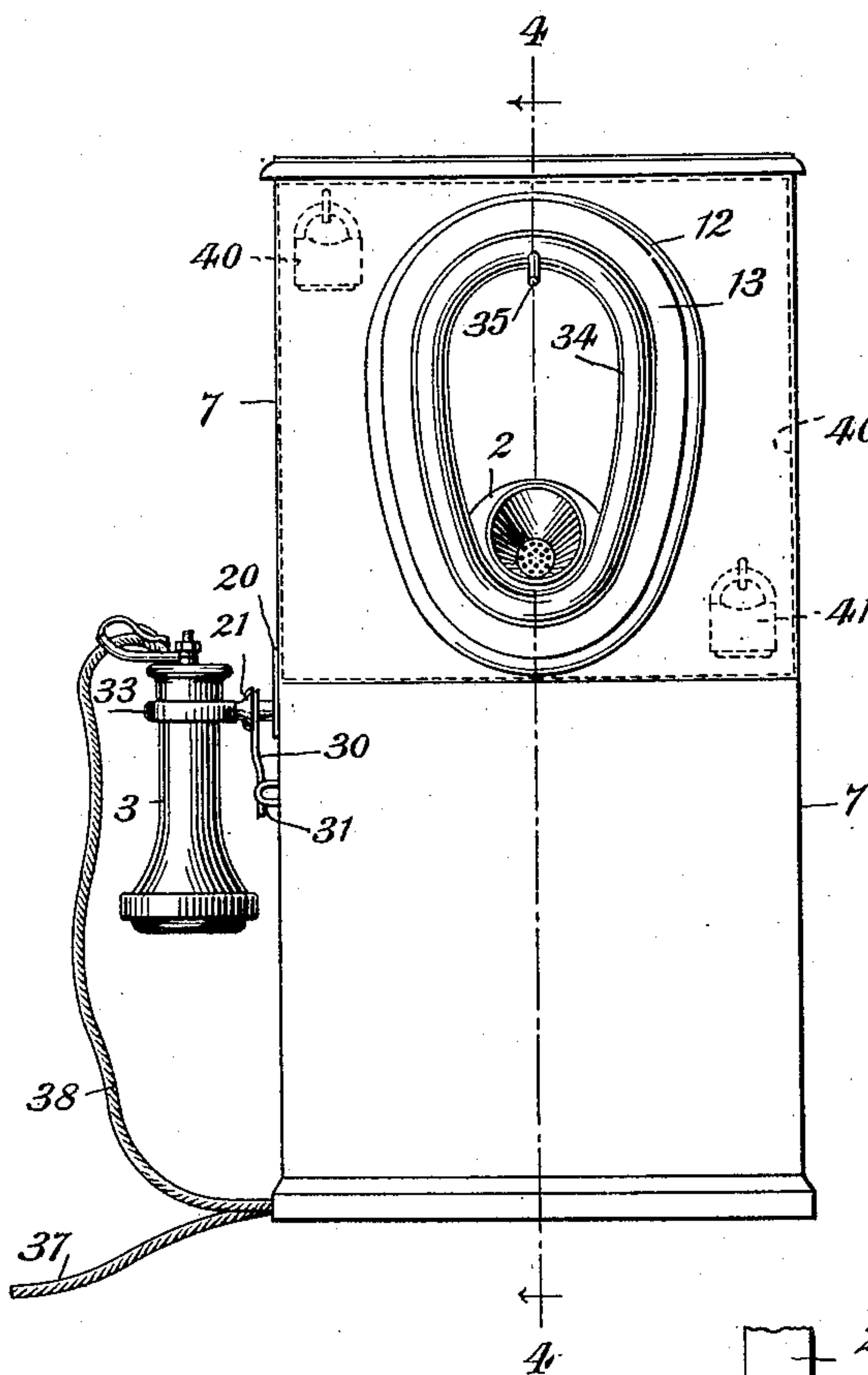


Fig. 2.

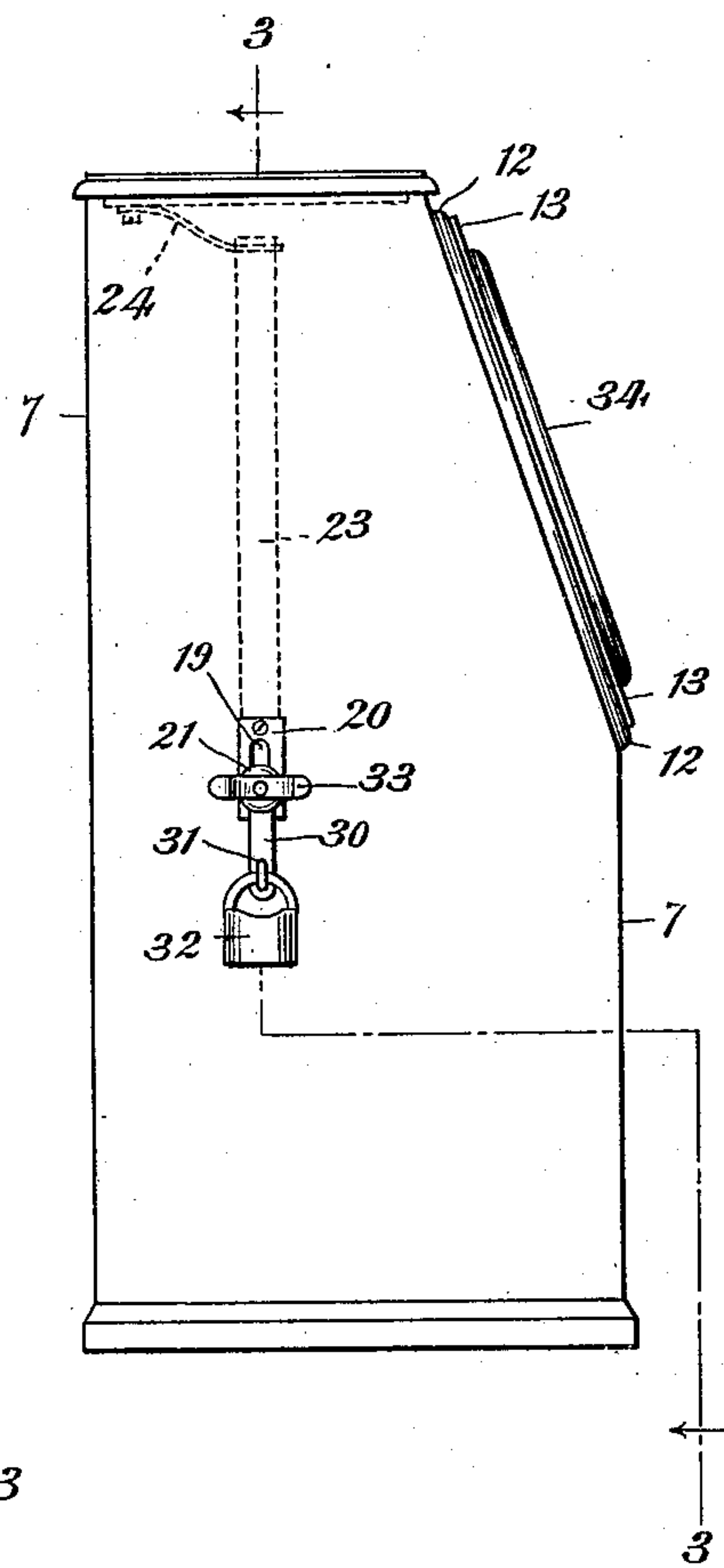
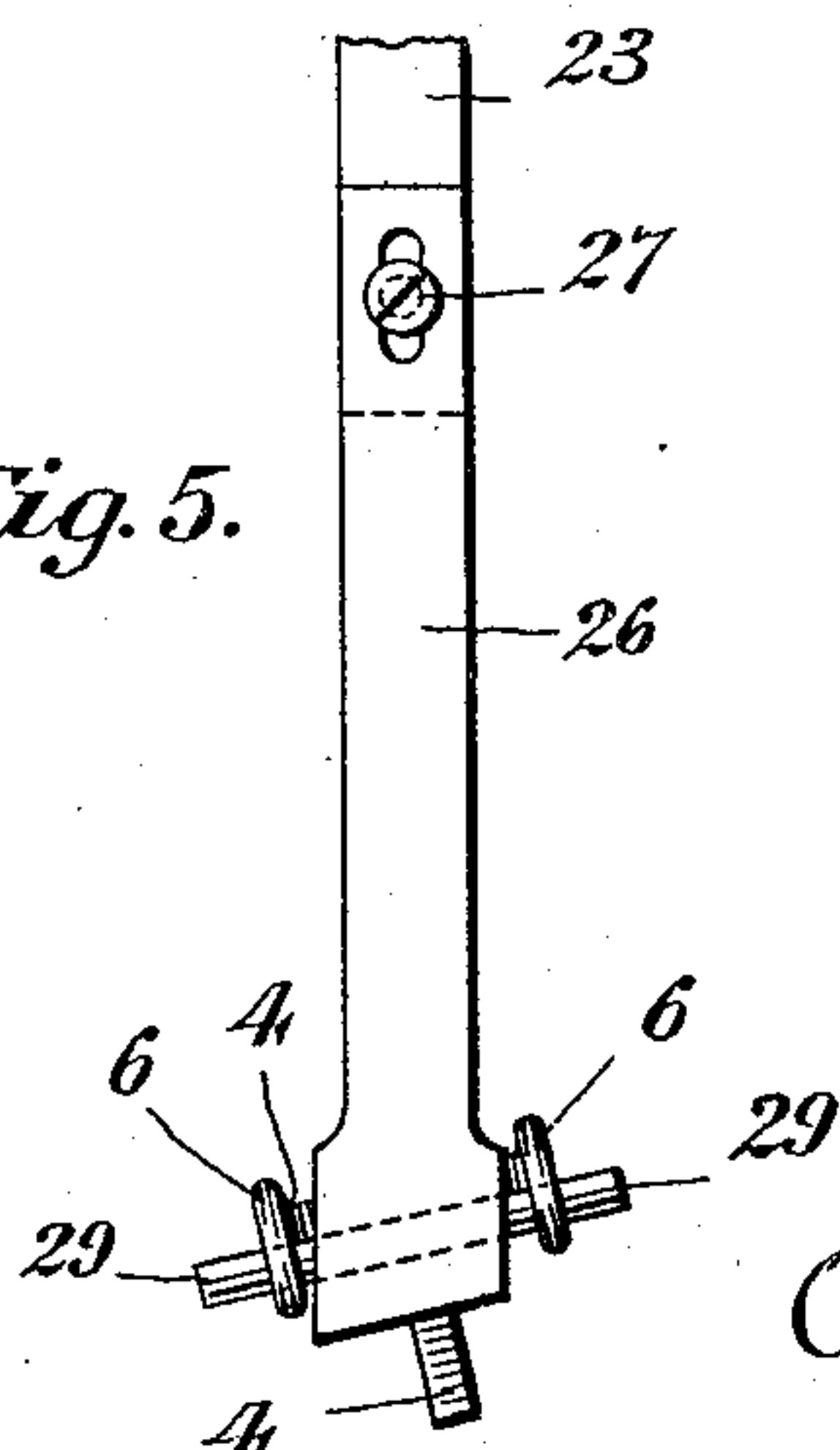


Fig. 5.



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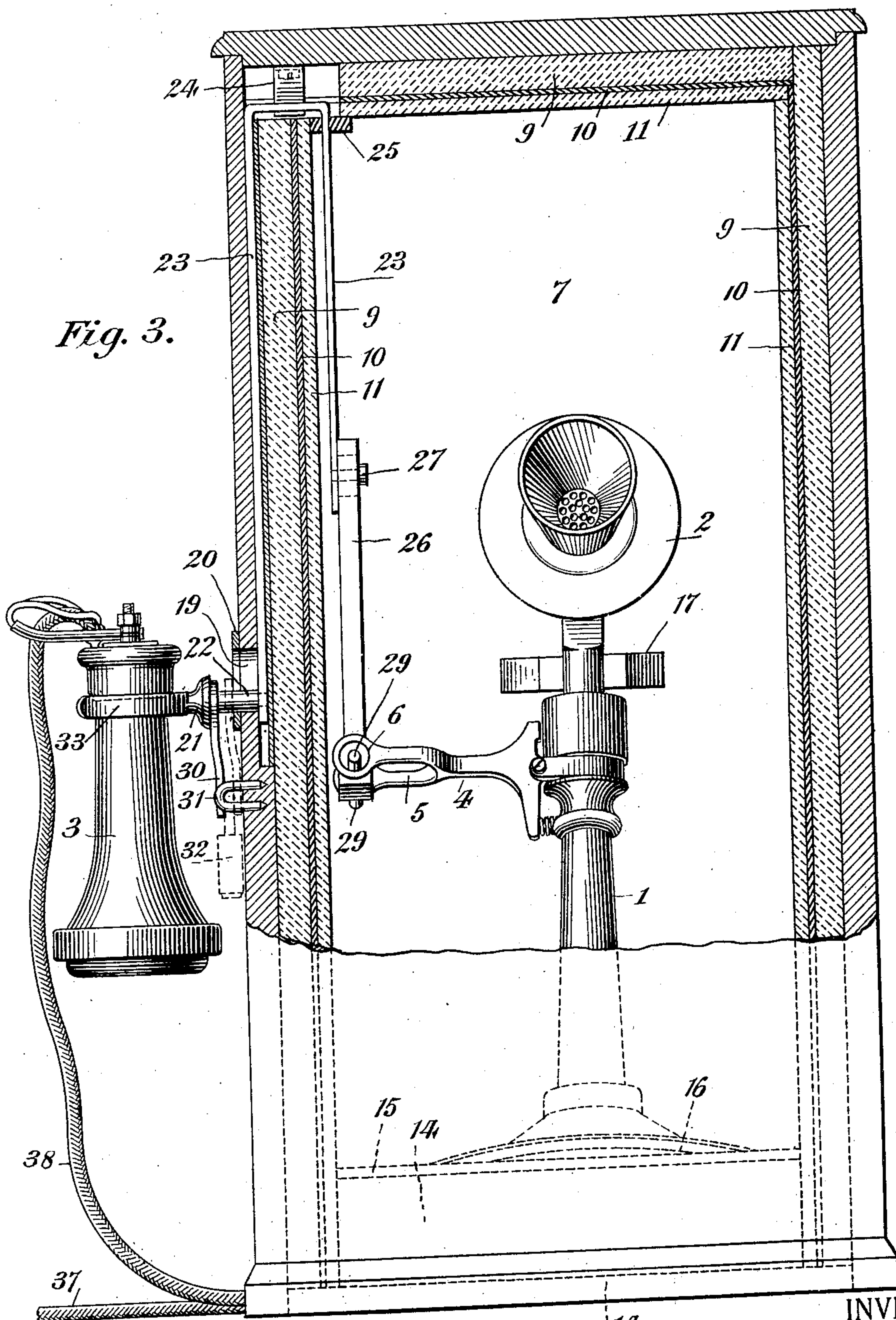
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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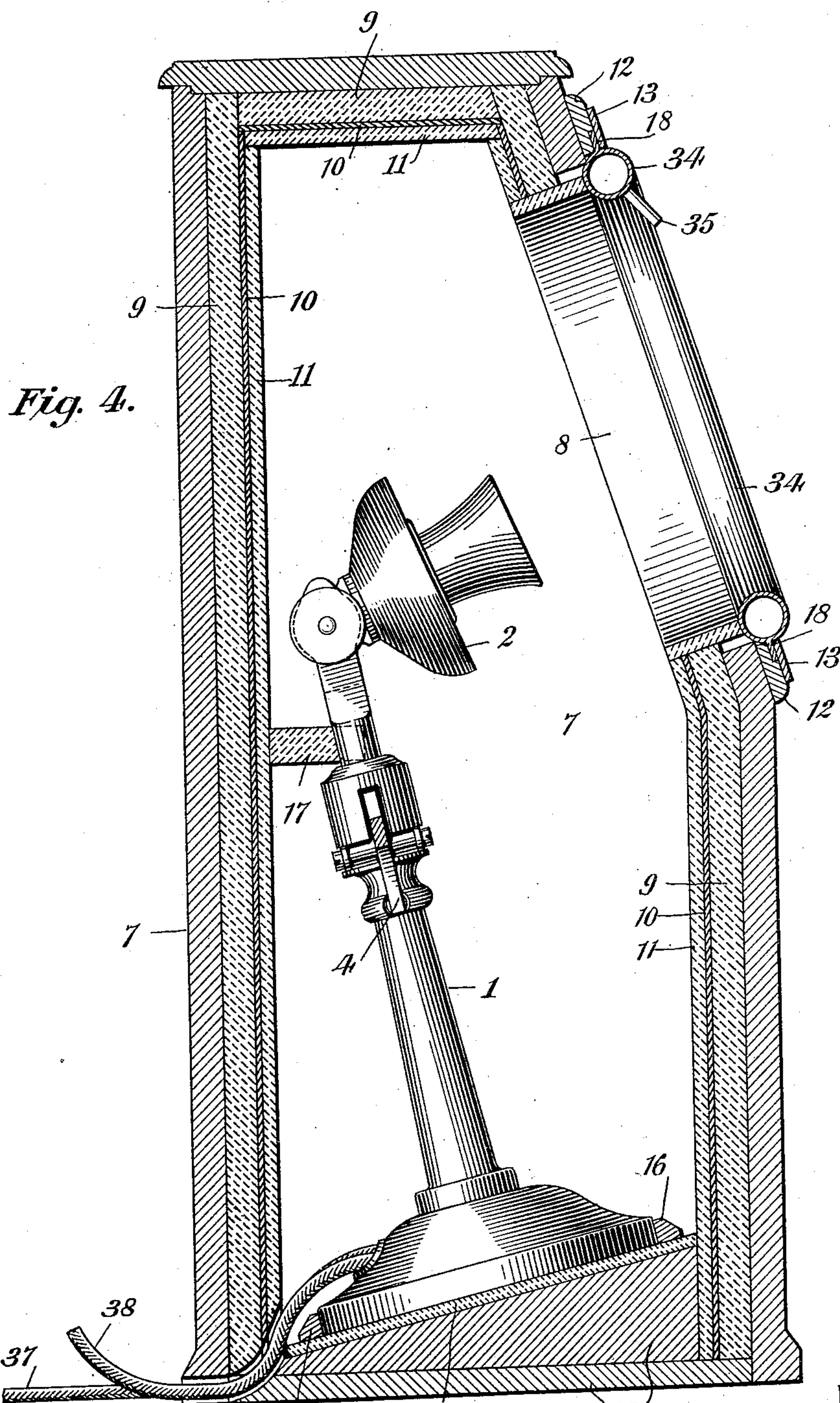
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APPLIANCE FOR USE WITH TELEPHONE-TRANSMITTERS.

No. 897,084.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 25, 1908.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORRIN H. GOODRICH, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Castleton Corners, Staten Island, county of Richmond, and State of New York, have made a new and useful invention in Appliances for Use with Telephone-Transmitters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is directed particularly to an improvement upon appliances for enabling the users of telephones to hold conversation with other subscribers in such manner that other persons in the same room where the transmitter is located will not hear any portion of the conversation, and it has for its objects, first, to provide means for detachably wholly inclosing well known forms of portable or desk telephones and in such manner that the receiver may be utilized in a well known way for effecting the usual circuit changes, said inclosing means being provided with a transmission opening in front of the transmitter. Second, to provide a portable or desk telephone with an inclosing casing or box having a transmission opening in front of the transmitter so constructed as to enable the user to effect secret conversation with a subscriber, and to further provide means exterior to such casing and yieldingly connected with the usual switching lever of the telephone in such manner that the receiver may be hung outside of the casing and effect the usual circuit changes on removal and replacement. Third, to provide a portable or desk telephone with a portable inclosing casing or box adapted to wholly inclose the transmitter and its switching attachments, and provided with means exterior to the casing and yieldingly connected with said switching attachments, said casing being additionally provided with a transmission opening in front of the transmitter and an inflatable yielding ring having such a contour as to accurately fit around the mouth and nose of the user. Fourth, to provide a portable or desk telephone with an inclosing casing or box having a transmission opening in front of the transmitter so constructed as to admit of secret conversation, and provided with means for locking the opening closed so as to thereby prevent unauthorized persons from using the instrument, and also for protecting the instrument from dirt, dust and moisture. Fifth, to provide a portable or desk tele-

phone with an inclosing casing and interconnecting means between the inclosed telephone and the exterior of the casing whereby the receiver may be sustained in such manner as to effect the usual circuit relations; together with additional means for locking the first-named means so that when the telephone receiver is removed when so locked unauthorized persons may not use the instrument. Sixth, to provide a portable or desk telephone with an inclosing casing or box having a transmission opening in one side so constructed as to enable the user to talk confidentially to other subscribers, said casing being provided additionally with a sound absorbing or deadening lining, and interconnections between the usual receiver sustaining hook and a similar sustaining hook outside the casing, whereby the circuit changes of the instrument may be effected on removing and replacing the receiver with relation to the outside hook.

My invention will be fully understood by referring to the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of the entire device as seen looking at Fig. 2 from right to left; and Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of Fig. 1 as seen looking thereat from left to right, the telephone receiver and the conductors, however, not being shown in this view. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken through Fig. 2 on the broken line 3—3 and as seen looking thereat from right to left in the direction of the arrows, the base of the instrument, its inclined support, and the lower part of the sustaining standard of the transmitter being shown in dotted lines, the transmitter, the receiver, and interconnecting circuit changing mechanism being shown in elevational view with the receiver suspended upon the circuit changing hook. Fig. 4 is a similar enlarged sectional view taken through Fig. 1 on the line 4—4 and as seen looking thereat from right to left in the direction of the arrows, the transmitter and its supporting standard and base being shown in elevational view. Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail side elevational view of a part of the circuit changing mechanism, illustrating the connection thereof with the usual circuit changing lever and hook of a portable or desk telephone for sustaining the receiver, said lever being shown in sectional view.

Prior to my invention appliances for maintaining secrecy in telephone conversation, by covering up or surrounding the mouth and nose of the user, have been devised in which
 5 a transmitter was inclosed in a casing or box having an opening at one side thereof and located directly in front of the transmitter, said opening having a proper contour to admit of the insertion of the nose and mouth of
 10 the user in such manner as to enable his face to effectually close the opening so that none of the sound vibrations might reach other persons in the room where the transmitter was located. Attachments have also been
 15 devised adapted to be detachably secured directly to the transmitter, said attachments being of such conformation as to wholly surround the mouth and nose of the user, the same being combined with a telephone trans-
 20 mitter pivotally attached to some point of permanent support. I am also aware that prior to my invention a telephone transmitter hood had been devised composed of curvilinear hinged sections having their edges
 25 surrounded with rubber and adapted to be closed about the mouth and nose of the user in such manner as to effect secret conversation, said hood being detachable from the transmitter of a desk telephone.

30 My improvement is designed especially for use in connection with well known forms of portable or desk telephones and is so constructed and arranged as to enable the user of such telephones to wholly surround or protect
 35 them from the evil effects of dirt, dust, and moisture, and also to enable him to have the exclusive use of such instrument, thereby preventing any possibility of over-charge for conversations not actually held by him or
 40 some authorized person.

Referring now to the drawings in detail for a full and clear understanding of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to construct and use the same, I represent
 45 the standard of a well known portable or desk telephone provided with a transmitter 2 hinged to the upper portion of the standard, 3 being the receiver of well known form and 4 the usual spring pressed circuit
 50 changing lever provided with forks 5 and 6 for supporting the receiver, 37 and 38 constituting the well known insulated conductors of such an outfit. Receiving and transmitting outfits of this general structure are and
 55 have been for years in well known public use throughout the United States.

My improvement embodies a surrounding casing or box 7 provided with a transmission opening 8 at one side having preferably the
 60 conformation of that portion of the human face embracing an outline around the nose, mouth and chin, said opening being so located in such relation to the transmitter 2, as will be hereinafter described, as to give the
 65 best effects. This casing 7 is portable and

made preferably of wood and is lined throughout interiorly, except at the bottom, with a good sound absorbing medium 9, preferably thick felt or the like. Inside of this lining is a second lining 10 of thin soft rubber sheeting or other light material, and inside of this is still a third lining 11 of good sound absorbing material, as felt. 70

12 is a wooden ring secured around the transmission opening 8 and constituting a seat for a metal clamping ring 13, the function of which will be described later on. 75

14 is a removable base adapted to wholly inclose the lower end of the box when the telephone is in place, the inner portion of said base being inclined in the manner shown in Fig. 4 and provided with a soft sound absorbing medium 15 of felt or the like for supporting the base of the telephone proper; 16 being a ring adapted to rigidly secure said base in place as shown in Fig. 4. Openings are provided as shown in Fig. 4 at the rear and bottom of the casing for the passage of the usual conductors 37, 38 of such an outfit. The base 14 is inclined in the manner shown for the purpose of economizing space and enabling the instrument to be located in the best possible position for use at ordinary desk or table levels. 80 85 90

17 is a forked standard or support at the back of the casing for gripping or rigidly holding the upper end of the standard, the arrangement being such that when the telephone is secured in the manner shown it is entirely stable and it and its inclosing casing 7 are jointly portable and may be transported from place to place and connected with any outlying subscriber. By the expression "portable or desk telephone" used in the specification and claims, I wish to be understood as meaning a telephone set embracing a transmitter, receiver and switching appliance operatively connected with flexible conductors and adapted all to be sustained by a single standard and base and to be moved from place to place in a room, dependent upon the length of the flexible conductors which interconnect the talking and call circuits. Or, the telephone itself may be wholly removed by withdrawing the base 14, said base being secured by any preferred means, such as screws, nails or the like; or, it might be provided with one or more padlocks if desired. 95 100 105 110 115

34 is a flexible tube or ring preferably of soft rubber provided exteriorly with a flange 18, the function of which is to secure said tube or ring against the wooden ring 12 through the agency of a metal clamping ring 13 provided with clamping screws, not shown, the arrangement being such that the ring may be detached and washed or otherwise cleansed, or disinfected. 120 125

35 is a filling tube which may be provided with any type of valve for retaining the air 130

within the tube 34, the structure being such that said tube may be inflated to any desired extent.

19 is a slot located in one side of the surrounding casing 7 and 20 is a metal guiding strip having a guiding slot, said strip being secured directly to the outer face of the casing by screws as shown in Fig. 2.

21 is a circuit changing arm provided with forks 33, 33, similar to the forks 5 and 6 of the circuit changing lever 4, the function of the same being to sustain the telephone receiver 3 in the same manner as the like part of the instrument is secured by the forks 5 and 6 in ordinary use, said parts constituting the receiver supporting hook. This circuit changing arm 21 is provided with a cylindrical extension 22 having the diameter of the slot 19 and is secured by a screw, rivet or otherwise directly to a vertical sliding yoke 23, the upper end of which is sustained directly by a leaf spring 24 at the top of the casing, 25 being a soft rubber or other yielding means for closing the opening through which the inner arm of the yoke 23 extends when the telephone is removed from the arm 21, thereby preventing the sound waves from passing out through said opening.

To the lower end of the inner portion of the yoke 23 is adjustably secured, by a screw 27, an extension 26. The lower end of this extension is enlarged and is provided with an inclined pin 29 adapted to be passed through the eyes of the forks 5 and 6 of the circuit changing lever 4, the arrangement being such that when the receiver 3 is suspended by the fork 33 the weight thereof will transmit motion through the sliding yoke 23, extension 26, pin 29, forks 5 and 6 of the circuit changing lever 4 and cut the call bell in and the transmitter out of circuit, and when removed therefrom the action of the spring behind the lower end of the lever 4, combined with the retractile force of the spring 24, will effect the usual reverse circuit changes and cut in the receiver 3, it being obvious on inspection of the drawings, and particularly of Figs. 3 and 5, that by virtue of the circuit changing means described one is enabled to utilize the exterior fork 33 for effecting the circuit changes in identically the same manner as said circuit changes are ordinarily effected by removing and replacing the receiver 3 upon forks 5 and 6 and in a manner well understood by those who use telephones of this nature.

30 represents a slotted yielding metal strip secured at its upper end directly to the circuit changing arm 21 and 31 represents a staple secured to the side of the casing 7, 32 being a pad-lock, the structural arrangement being such that when the receiver is in the position shown in the drawings in Figs. 1 and 2 the bolt of the pad-lock may be slipped into place after pressing the lower end of the strip

into the position shown in full lines, Fig. 2, and in dotted lines Fig. 3, thereby locking the circuit changing parts so that when the receiver is removed no conversation can be had.

As a further safe-guard against conversation by unauthorized persons and as a means of protecting the transmitting instrument and interconnected parts from dust, dirt, and moisture, I provide a removable door or cover 40 shown in dotted lines Fig. 1, the same having slots at its opposite corners, staples being secured to the casing so that when the door or cover is in position with the staples extending through the slots therein one or more pad-locks 41 may be attached so that the entire structure will be secured from use by unauthorized persons, or the results above referred to effected.

I do not limit my invention to the especial structural details hereinbefore described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, for effecting the various objects for which it is designed. Nor do I limit all of the details to use especially with portable telephones, as various modified forms of appliances might be devised for effecting the results accomplished, and some of the details might be utilized with telephones of the stationary type.

I believe it is broadly new with me to inclose a portable telephone of the type illustrated in the drawings in a casing or box provided with a transmission opening so located with relation to the inclosed transmitter and so constructed that the user may close the opening on pressing his face firmly against the contour of said opening and hold secret conversations, and the entire arrangement such that the controlling switch may be actuated on hanging up or removing the receiver therefrom, and my claims are generic as to these features, and various modified arrangements may be devised and still come within the terms of my most generic claims. To illustrate, the exterior hook and interconnecting mechanism extending into the casing or box may be done away with entirely and the telephone located as shown in the drawings, and the receiver may be inserted into the casing or box through the transmission opening and hung upon the inner switch 4 on the forks 5, 6, the receiver conductors 37 being located at the lower end of the transmission opening when it, the receiver, is on the outside; or, a groove may be provided at the lower edge of the opening for such conductors, it being obvious that such an arrangement would be entirely practical.

Obviously the telephone instrument as a whole, with the receiver 3 suspended on the inner switch lever 4, might be secured directly to the inner face of the rear wall of the box and said wall hinged at one side of the

box so as to act as a door which might be opened and the receiver removed therefrom and the door again closed during conversation. When thus sustained the inclined base would of course be secured to the door and might be provided with means for changing its angular relation so as to adjust for proper alinement with relation to the approximate center of the transmission opening. In this event the bottom would of course be permanently secured in place and lined interiorly with a sound absorbing medium like that described.

Having thus described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is—

1. An inclosing casing or box for a portable telephone having a transmission opening at one side; a detachable supporting bottom for the telephone and circuit changing means outside the box adapted to support the receiver, substantially as described.

2. A telephone box adapted to inclose a portable telephone provided with a circuit changing switch and an opening for inclosing the user's mouth; in combination with a receiver hook located exterior to the box and mechanically connected to the circuit changing switch, substantially as described.

3. A telephone casing or box embracing an opening adapted to inclose the mouth of the user; a detachable base adapted to support a portable telephone; a receiver hook yieldingly secured to the box and provided with mechanical connections extending into the box and adapted to act on the switch of the instrument when in place, substantially as described.

4. A telephone casing or box adapted to inclose a telephone transmitter and provided with an opening adapted to inclose the lower portion of the user's face; in combination with means exterior to the box for effecting the circuit changes of the instrument through the agency of the receiving telephone; together with means for locking the transmission opening closed and additional means for locking the switching mechanism in its normal position, the arrangement being such that the transmitter is protected and that unauthorized persons cannot use either part of the instrument, substantially as described.

5. A casing or box for inclosing a portable telephone transmitter, said casing having a transmission opening on one side and an inclined bottom provided with means for fixedly securing a telephone transmitter in place and in proper relation to the opening, substantially as described.

6. A casing or box for inclosing a portable telephone, said casing being lined with a sound absorbing medium and provided with a transmission opening and a detachable

bottom having means for securing the base and standard of said portable telephone in place with the transmitter located in proper alinement with the center of the transmission opening; in combination with an expansible tube filled with air and detachably secured within the transmission opening, substantially as described.

7. A casing or box provided with a transmission opening on one side having substantially the contour of the lower portion of a person's face; in combination with means for detachably securing a portable telephone embracing a transmitter and a receiver and a coacting circuit changing switch on the inside thereof, the arrangement being such that the user may remove the receiver from the switch, withdraw it through the transmission opening, talk to another subscriber and not be heard by others at the transmitting end, substantially as described.

8. A casing or box adapted to wholly inclose a portable telephone transmitter and its accompanying receiver and switching appliances, said box being provided with a facial opening located in front of the transmitter and the arrangement such that the receiver may be removed through the facial opening to the outside of the box when in use, substantially as described.

9. An inclosing casing or box for a portable telephone transmitter and its accompanying flexible conductors receiver and switching appliances, the latter being adapted to be actuated by the receiver when hung thereon or removed therefrom; said box being provided with a transmission opening located in front of the transmitter when detachably secured therein and all so constructed and arranged that the receiver may be removed therefrom through the transmission opening when in use, substantially as described.

10. A portable telephone embracing a combined transmitter, receiver and switch, all sustained by a common standard and base; in combination with an inclosing casing or box therefor, said box being provided with a transmission opening located in front of the inclosed transmitter when secured therein and the arrangement such that when the receiver is removed through the transmission opening from within the box secret conversations may be had with other subscribers, substantially as described.

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

ORRIN H. GOODRICH.

Witnesses:

C. J. KINTNER,
M. F. KEATING.