

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO TELEPHONE SETS

(71) We, THE PLESSEY COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company of 2/60 Vicarage Lane, Ilford, Essex, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray

5 that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:

The invention relates to telephone sets.

10 In a telephone set employing a fixed receiver rest, line contacts associated with the set are operated by a cradle bracket having two prongs which are biased to project through apertures in the casing of the

15 telephone set at the receiver rest position and which are engaged by the receiver when placed on the rest, the weight of the receiver causing the prongs to be depressed into the casing. With such an arrangement

20 the clearance between the prongs and the apertures in the telephone set casing allows ingress of dust particles and/or foreign matter into the set.

The invention provides a telephone set

25 which includes a cradle bracket having two prongs which are biased to project through apertures in the telephone set casing at a receiver or hand-microphone rest position and which are depressed into the casing by

30 the receiver or hand-microphone when placed on the rest, and a loosely fitting cover for each of the prongs, the cover comprising a tubular member which is closed at one end thereof, which is open

35 at the other end thereof and provided with a flange and which has a cross-sectional shape that corresponds to the shape of the casing apertures and which is a sliding fit therein, the flange of each of the covers

40 being situated within the casing and adapted to substantially close the associated aperture when the prongs project through the apertures.

The foregoing and other features accord-

45 ing to the invention will be better under-

stood from the following description with reference to the single figure of the drawings accompanying the Provisional Specification which diagrammatically illustrates a cross-sectional side elevation of part of a

50 telephone set embodying the present invention.

With reference to the single figure of the drawings, part of a telephone set embodying the present invention is diagrammatically illustrated therein in a cross-sectional

55 side elevation and includes part of the casing 1 of the telephone set and part of a cradle bracket 2 biased by means not illustrated to cause a prong 3 thereof to

60 project through an aperture 4 in the casing 1 at a receiver or hand-microphone rest position 5 of the telephone set. The free end of the prong 3 may be covered by a

65 layer 6 of a plastics material.

A loosely fitting cover 7 for the prong 3 includes a tubular member 8 which is closed at one end 9 and which is open at the other end thereof and provided with a

70 flange 10.

The peripheral shape of the tubular member 8 corresponds to the shape of the aperture 4 and is such that the cover 7 is a sliding fit in the aperture 4.

The flange 10 of the cover 7 is situated

75 within the casing and, as is illustrated in the drawing, is adapted to substantially close the annular space between the cover 7 and the aperture 4 when the prongs are biased to project through the apertures.

80 The ingress of dust particles and/or foreign matter into the telephone set is prevented or minimised by the flange 10.

In practice, there are two prongs associated with the cradle bracket 2 and the

85 apertures through which the prongs project are situated one at each end of the rest position 5.

It is necessary to have relatively large

90 apertures 4 in the casing 2 in order to allow

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- the casing to be freely fitted to the telephone set and to cater for variations in the position and size of the cradle bracket 2 and the associated prongs 3. The presence of the covers 7 does not in any way prevent the casing from being freely fitted to the telephone set because the clearance between each prong and the inside of the associated cover is relatively large and allows, when the casing is being fitted, the covers 7 to pass through, and be centralised within, the apertures 4 irrespective of the position of the prongs 3 relative to the walls of the apertures 4.
- 15 The clearance between the covers 7 and the apertures 4 is sufficient to allow the covers 7 to be moved freely with the prongs 3 when biased into the illustrated position or when depressed by the weight of the receiver or hand-microphone on being placed in the rest position 5. This clearance also restricts ingress of dust particles and/or foreign matter.

25 The covers 7 are preferably of a plastics material but could be of any type of metal, for example, an aluminium die casting.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A telephone set which includes a cradle bracket having two prongs which are biased to project through apertures in the telephone set casing at a receiver or

hand-microphone rest position and which are depressed into the casing by the receiver or hand-microphone when placed on the rest, and a loosely fitting cover for each of the prongs, the cover comprising a tubular member which is closed at one end thereof, which is open at the other end thereof and provided with a flange and which has a cross-sectional shape that corresponds to the shape of the casing apertures and which is a sliding fit therein, the flange of each of the covers being situated within the casing and adapted to substantially close the associated aperture when the prongs project through the apertures.

2. A telephone set as claimed in claim 1 wherein the covers are of a plastics material.

3. A telephone set as claimed in claim 1 wherein the covers are of metal.

4. A telephone set as claimed in claim 3 wherein the covers are of aluminium.

5. A telephone set as claimed in claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the single figure of the drawings accompanying the provisional specification.

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hand-microphone rest position and which are depressed into the casing by the receiver or hand-microphone when placed on the rest, and a loosely fitting cover for each of the prongs, the cover comprising a tubular member which is closed at one end thereof, which is open at the other end thereof and provided with a flange and which has a cross-sectional shape that corresponds to the shape of the casing apertures and which is a sliding fit therein, the flange of each of the covers being situated within the casing and adapted to substantially close the associated aperture when the prongs project through the apertures.

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