

No. 648,773.

Patented May 1, 1900.

F. MUNCH.

MOUTHPIECE FOR WIND INSTRUMENTS.

(Application filed Sept. 14, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

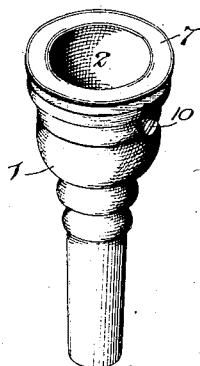


Fig. 3.

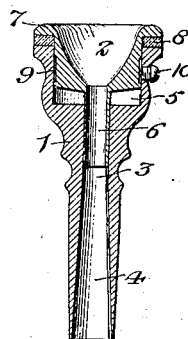


Fig. 2.

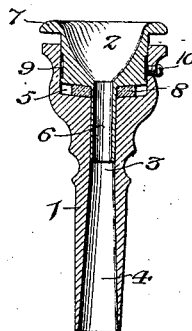
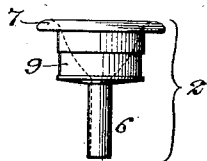


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:-

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FERDINAND MUNCH, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

MOUTHPIECE FOR WIND INSTRUMENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,773, dated May 1, 1900.

Application filed September 14, 1899. Serial No. 730,438. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FERDINAND MUNCH, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain
5 Improvements in Mouthpieces for Wind Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

One object of my invention is to so construct a mouthpiece for wind instruments as to relieve the pressure which is exerted upon the lips of the performer by the usually-rigid mouthpiece, and thereby prevent the paralyzing effect due to such pressure when long continued, a further object being to accomplish this result without affecting the usual
15 form or function of the wind-passage of the ordinary mouthpiece.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a mouthpiece for wind instruments constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a similar view illustrating another method of carrying out my invention, and Fig. 4 is a side view of part of the
25 mouthpiece.

Long-continued pressure of the rigid mouthpiece of a wind instrument against the lips of the performer has a tendency to cause paralysis of the nerves of the lips, and this incapacitates the player for a longer or shorter time and sometimes permanently. In order to overcome this objection, I provide a two-part mouthpiece comprising lip and throat sections, the lip-section being independent of the throat-section, which engages with the tube of the instrument, and being also capable of slight longitudinal movement independently thereof, a yielding or elastic washer being interposed between the two sections of the mouthpiece, so that proper contact of the lips with the lip-section can be effected without that pressure upon the lips which is necessary when a rigid mouthpiece is employed.

In the drawings, 1 represents the main or throat section of the mouthpiece—that is to say, the portion which is intended to engage with the tube of the instrument—and 2 represents the outer or lip section, which is intended to be pressed against the lips. The section 1 has a central opening which is partly cylindrical, as represented at 3, and has a

flaring throat 4 at the lower or inner end, while at the outer end of said section 1 of the mouthpiece is an enlarged cylindrical chamber or recess 5, into which snugly fits the body
55 of the lip-section 2 of the mouthpiece, the latter terminating at its inner end in a central cylindrical tube 6, which fits snugly, but so as to slide freely in the cylindrical upper portion 3 of the central opening in the section 1
60 of the mouthpiece. The lip-section 2 has the usual flaring mouth and terminates at the outer end in a projecting rib or flange 7, which overlaps the outer end of the section 1 of the mouthpiece.

In the construction shown in Fig. 2 an elastic washer 8, of rubber or other suitable material, is interposed between the base of the lip-section 2 of the mouthpiece and the base of the chamber 5, formed in the outer end of the throat-section 1, while in the construction shown in Fig. 3 the washer 8 is interposed between the outer end of the section 1 of the mouthpiece and the rib or flange 7 upon the section 2 of the same. In either case, however, the washer provides an elastic support for the lip-section 2 of the mouthpiece and renders unnecessary any excessive pressure of the same against the lips of the performer. It will be noted that this result is attained
75 without any interference with the continuity of the wind-passage of the mouthpiece or any change in the usual form or function of the same. Hence the tone of the instrument is not affected.

In order to prevent the accidental removal of the lip-section of the mouthpiece, I prefer to form in the same an annular groove or channel 9, into which projects the inner end of a set-screw 10, which is screwed into a
90 threaded opening formed in the wall of the cylindrical chamber in the outer portion of the throat-section 1 of the mouthpiece, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, or a reverse arrangement may be adopted, if desired, the set-screw being carried by the lip-section and playing in a groove or slot in the throat-section.

Instead of using a washer of rubber or like elastic material I may, if desired, use a metallic spring; but the rubber washer is preferred, as it may simply consist of an ordinary

rubber band, which is cheap, is readily obtainable, and can be easily applied or removed so as to be readily replaced when worn.

Having thus described my invention, I
5 claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

10 A mouthpiece for wind instruments comprising lip and throat sections movable longitudinally one in respect to the other but separated by an interposed elastic medium
constituting a yielding seat for the lip-section, said lip-section having a projecting tube forming a continuation of the flaring mouth or bell of the same and projecting into the

central opening of the throat-section but always projecting beyond the throat-section, whereby the continuity of the wind-passage is preserved with all possible positions of the lip-section with respect to the throat-section, substantially as specified. 15 20

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

FERDINAND MUNCH.

Witnesses:

FRANK E. BECHTOLD,
JOS. H. KLEIN.