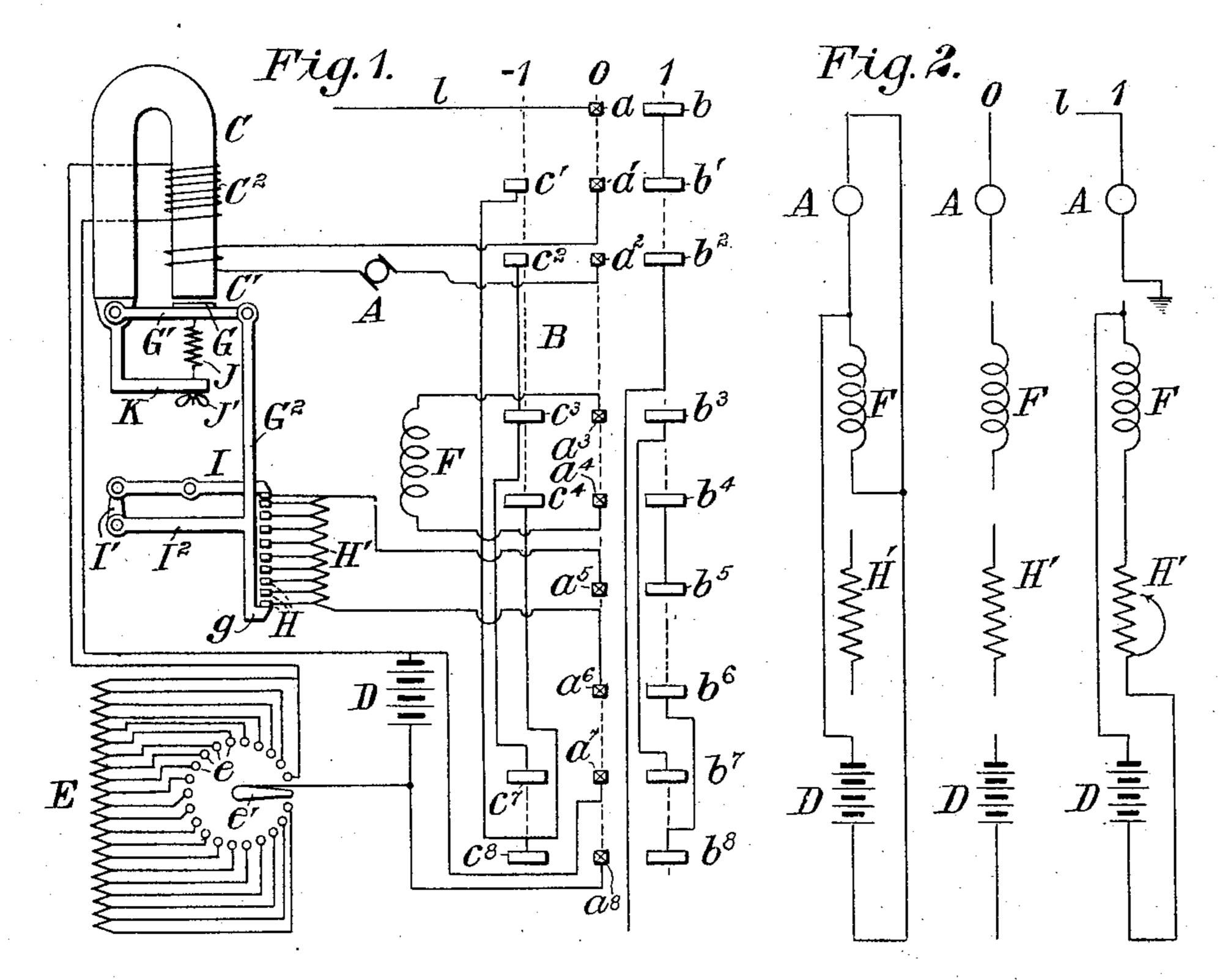
C. J. REED.

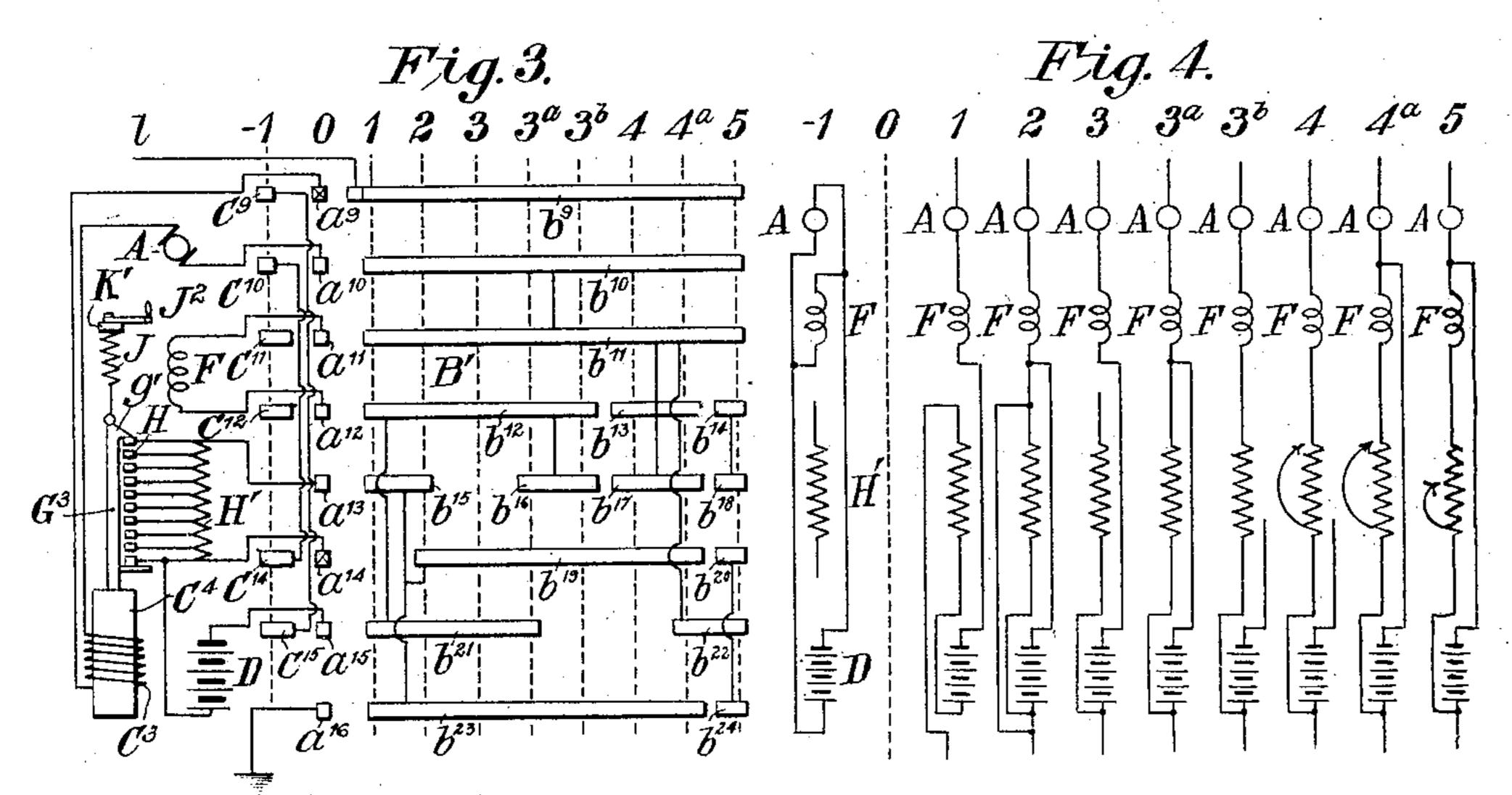
METHOD OF OPERATING AND CONTROLLING ELECTRIC MOTORS.

(Application filed May 8, 1901.)

(No Model.)

4 Sheets-Sheet I.





WITNESSES :

C. L. Belcher Birney Hines Charles J. Read.

BY

Tesley S. Carr

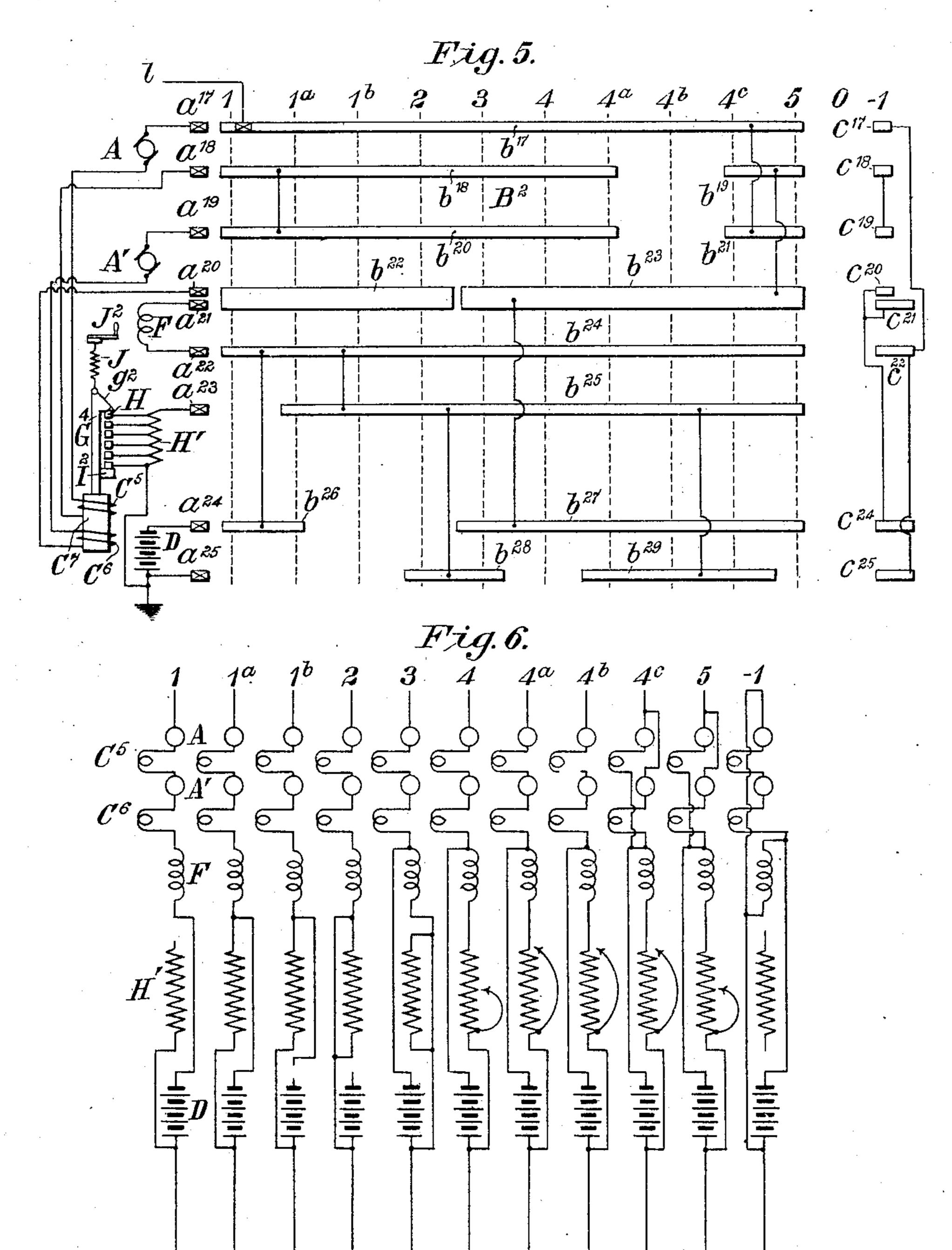
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WITNESSES :

C. L. Belcher Birney Hines Charles J. Read

BY

Charles J. Read

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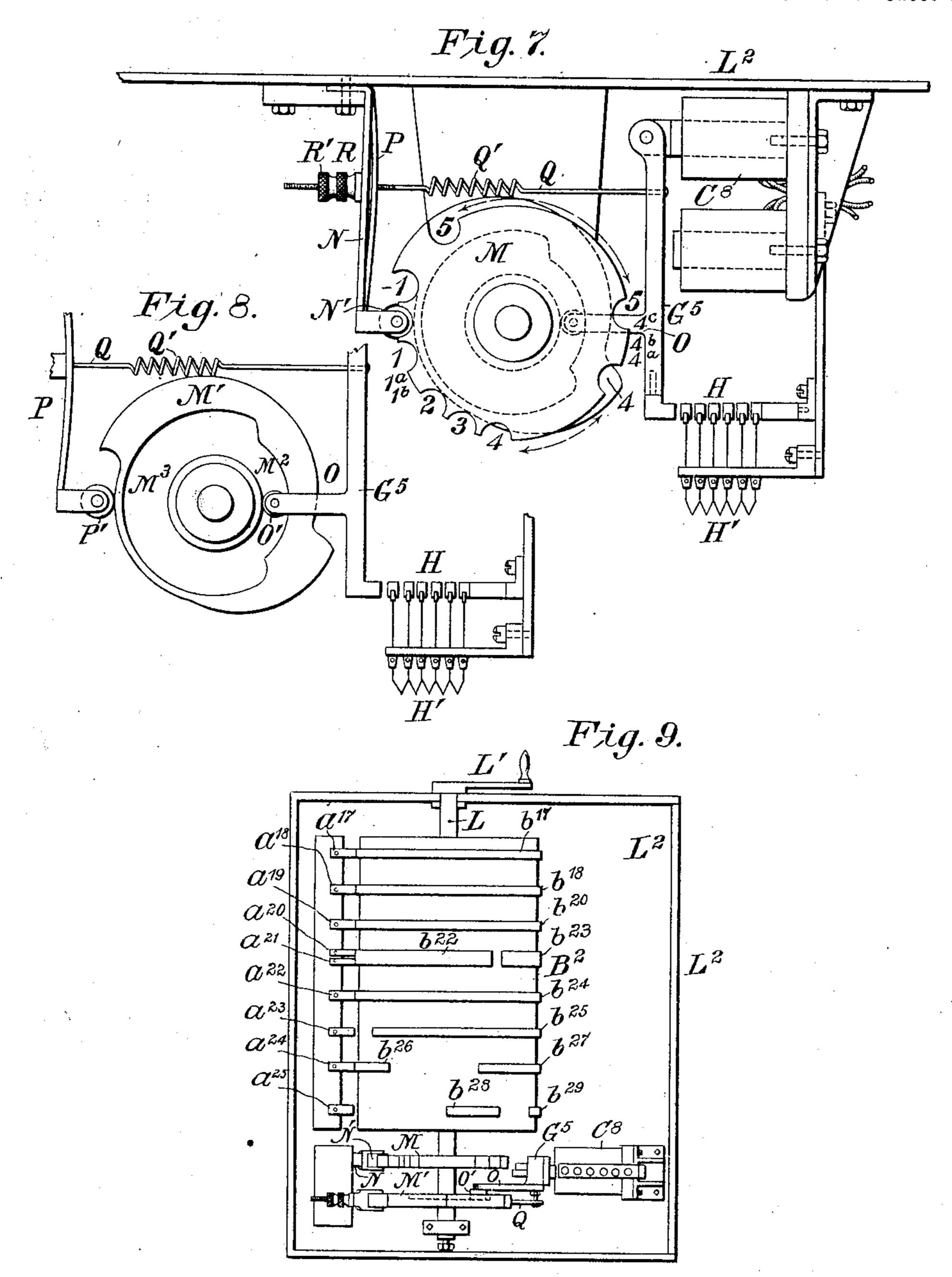
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(Application filed May 8, 1901.)

(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 3.



WITNESSES:

C. L. Belcher Birney Hines INVENTOR

Charles J. Reed

BY

Feley-Glass

ATTORNEY.

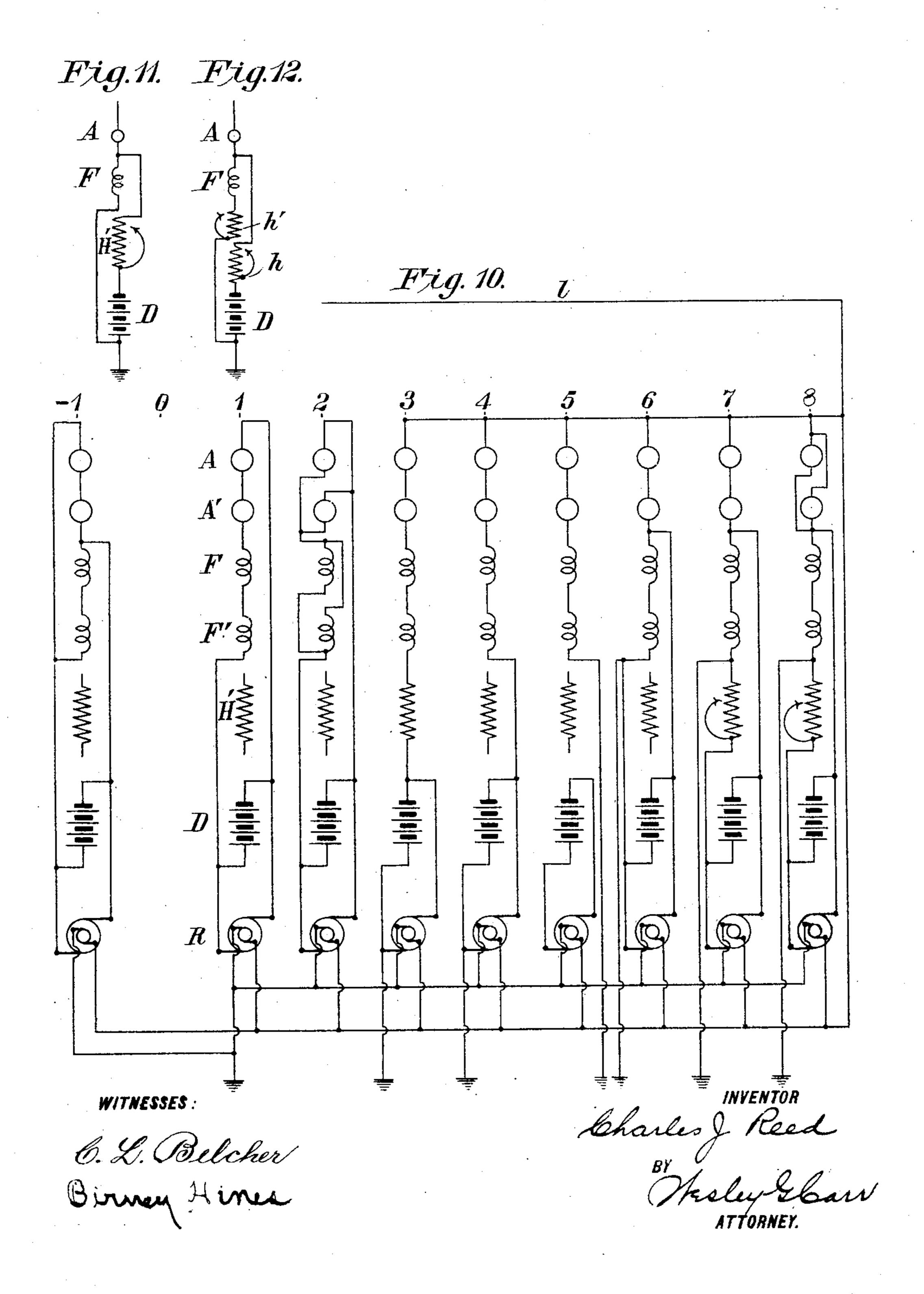
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(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 4.



United States Patent Office.

CHARLES J. REED, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

METHOD OF OPERATING AND CONTROLLING ELECTRIC MOTORS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 685,796, dated November 5, 1901.

Original application filed March 22, 1899, Serial No. 710,039. Divided and this application filed May 8, 1901. Serial No. 59,326. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. REED, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Methods of Operating and Controlling Electric Motors, (Case No. 962,) of which the following is a specification, this application being a division of application Serial No. 710,039, filed by me March 22, 1899.

My invention relates to the operation and control of electric motors; and it has for its object to provide a method of operating and controlling either a single motor or a plurality of motors advantageously at variable speed without unnecessary waste of operation

speed without unnecessary waste of energy. In direct-current motors for gradually accelerating working speeds as heretofore em-20 ployed it has been usual to connect each armature and the corresponding field-magnet winding in series and to vary the power and speed by varying the amount of external resistance included in the circuit and where 25 two or more motors are employed for driving a common load to also vary the circuit connections, so that the motors are connected in series and in parallel for different rates of speed. In starting such motors under load 30 it is necessary in order to avoid injury to the motors by reason of excessive current to introduce a considerable amount of external resistance into the circuit, this being reduced as the counter electromotive force increases with the acceleration in the speed of the motors. After passing from series to parallel connection of the motors, where the armature and field-magnet windings of each motor are connected in series, it is also usual to insert 40 a large amount of resistance into the circuit

and to gradually cut out such resistance in order to increase the speed to a maximum. This insertion of dead resistance into the circuit in starting and after changing from series to parallel connection is extremly wasteful of energy by reason of the fact that all of the current absorbed in the resistance is converted into heat, and therefore wasted, so far as the production of mechanical motion is consorted. In the use of "series-wound" motors the energy expended in overcoming the

inertia of the load in stopping is also wasted, and where the service involves starting and stopping at frequent intervals and intermediate running at comparatively high speeds 55 the amount of energy converted into heat or otherwise expended wastefully is very large. By my present invention I propose to supply the armature and the field-magnet of the motor with substantially independent currents 60 either from the same or from separate sources and to provide a variable resistance, more or less of which may be included in the fieldmagnet circuit. The amount of this resistance which is included in the field-magnet 65 circuit is automatically regulated by the armature-current. Inasmuch as the latter is dependent upon the load, the field-magnet excitation will be automatically regulated, so as to provide for variations in the load. 70 While I propose to make the counter electromotive force depend largely upon the armature-current, I propose also to make it capable of independent variation to a certain extent.

I desire it to be understood that my invention is adapted for use in connection with one or a plurality of direct-current motors employed for driving any load where the motor is to be started under load, varied as to speed, and stopped at more or less frequent intervals, irrespective of the particular service. Where two or more motors are employed in conjunction with each other, the common load will more generally be a railway-vehicle sor a number of such vehicles constituting a train; but, as I have already stated, the invention is not limited in this respect.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a diagram of a single motor and the accompanying controller and accessories, the controller-drum being indicated as developed into a plane. Fig. 2 is a diagram of the circuits embodied in the apparatus shown in Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are diagrams corresponding, respectively, to Figs. 1 and 2, but showing a different form of controller and a different combination of apparatus. Figs. 5 and 6 correspond, respectively, to Figs. 3 and 4, but show a controller and connected apparatus noo adapted for two motors. Fig. 7 is a plan view of a portion of a controller adapted for two

motors, and Fig. 8 is a plan view of a portion of the mechanism shown in Fig. 7. Fig. 9 is a front elevation of a controller adapted for use in connection with two motors. Each of 5 Figs. 7, 8, and 9 is largely diagrammatic and is intended merely to show a means whereby the circuit changes illustrated in the preceding figures may be effected. Fig. 10 is a diagram of circuits, illustrating the operation 10 and control of two motors by a modified sys-

tem. Figs. 11 and 12 are diagrams of modified circuits. Referring now particularly to Figs. 1 and 2, the stationary contact-terminals a, a', a^2 , 15 a^3 , a^4 , a^5 , a^6 , a^7 , and a^8 of the controller are shown as in the zero or "off" position, and the drum B is provided with contact-strips $b, b', b^2, b^3, b^4, b^5, b^6, b^7, b^8, c' c^2, c^3, c^4, c^7, and$ c^8 , having such lateral arrangement as to en-20 gage the contact-fingers in the proper order to make the circuit connections indicated in Fig. 2. The working positions of the controller-drum and the corresponding circuit connections are designated as 1, 0, and -1. 25 The terminals of the armature A are the fingers a' and a^2 , and the armature-circuit includes a coil C' of an electromagnet C, the core of this magnet being also provided with a coil C², preferably of fine wire, wound in 30 the reverse direction to that of the coil C' and having one terminal connected to the positive terminal of a secondary battery D and its other terminal connected to one end of a suitable resistance E. This resistance is sub-35 divided and connected to contact-pieces e. The movable switch-arm e' of the rheostat is connected to the negative terminal of the secondary battery D. This terminal of the battery is also connected to contact-finger a^8 . 40 The terminals of the field - magnet winding F of the motor are connected to fingers a^3 and a^4 . The armature G of the magnet C is mounted upon a lever-arm G', pivoted to a stationary support at one end and having 45 its free end pivoted to rod G2, provided with a projection g, extending beneath a series of carbon blocks or plates H. These carbon blocks or plates II are severally connected to different points in a resistance H', 50 of suitable character and proportions, the end terminals of this resistance being connected to fingers a^5 and a^6 . The uppermost carbon block or plate may rest against a stationary stop or, as shown in Fig. 1, may be 55 engaged by one end of a pivoted lever I, the other end of which is connected through a link I' and a laterally-projecting arm I² to the rod G², so that when the latter is drawn upward by means of the magnet C acting 60 upon the armature G the carbon blocks H will be pressed toward each other to bring | them successively into contact with each other, and thus short-circuit a portion or all of the resistance H'. A coiled spring J, one 65 end of which is connected to the armature-

provided in order to oppose the pull of the magnet to such extent as may be found desirable. The tension exerted by this spring 7° may be adjusted by a nut J' or other adjusting means. When the drum B is rotated in the forward direction until the fingers a to a^8 are in position 1, the armature will be supplied with current from the line (designated 75 by l) and the field-magnet F will be energized by current from the secondary battery D. The amount of current flowing from the battery through the field-magnet winding will beautomatically regulated in accordance with 80 the load by the amount of current flowing through the armature, since this current will energize the magnet C and the latter will act through its armature and the connected mechanism upon the carbon blocks to decrease 85 the resistance of the field-magnet circuit by shunting more or less of the current through the carbon blocks or plates or by short-circuiting the resistance altogether. The speed of the motor may be independently varied 90 by means of the rheostat E, since the pull of the magnet upon its armature may be varied by including more or less of the resistance in the circuit of the opposing coil C², and thus varying the demagnetizing-current 95 supplied thereto from the secondary battery D. It will thus be seen that so long as the action of the coil C' is opposed by a constant force any change in the armature-current due to a change of load will produce in the 100 field-current and in the motor speed a change corresponding to that change of load; but a change in the force opposed to the action of the coil C', whether mechanical or electromagnetic, or both, causes a change in the re- 105 lation between the armature and field currents and a corresponding change in motor speed, which is independent of changes in load. In order to stop the motor, the drum will be moved in the reverse direction to bring 110 the fingers a a', &c., into the zero position; but this will not serve to stop the motor, since it merely opens the circuits. Consequently the drum will be moved a further notch beyond the off position, thus bringing it into 115 position -1, in which position a closed circuit is established, which includes the secondary battery and the motor, the armature and fieldmagnet being in parallel. In moving to position -1 the circuit is first closed between the 120 battery and the field-magnet winding, and subsequently the circuit is closed through the armature. To accomplish this, the contact-strips c^3 , c^4 , c^7 , and c^8 are longer than the contact-strips c' and c^2 , as shown. In position 125 -1 the motor becomes a generator, and thus acts as a brake and at the same time charges the battery. It will be understood that with the arrangement just described the rheostat, or at least the switching portion of it and the 130 other mechanism, may, if desired, be embodied in the controller, so that the operatinghandle of the controller may serve by its norsupporting lever G and the other end of which mal operation to effect the necessary changes is connected to a stationary bracket K, is

to secure the starting, stopping, and variation of speed of the motor.

In Figs. 3 and 4 I have shown a modified system for operating and controlling a single 5 electric motor, including, for the purpose of additional regulation, a resistance adapted to be inserted in the main circuit. In these figures the drum B' is shown as having eight positions on one side of the zero or off position 10 and a single stopping or braking position on the other side. Positions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are running positions—i. e., positions in which the controller may be stopped for any desired length of time—and positions 3a, 3b, and 4a 15 merely represent intermediate positions in which the circuits are charged in order to facilitate the making of the circuit connections corresponding to the succeeding running positions. The controller-fingers a^9 to a^{16} engage 20 with the strips b^9 to b^{24} , that are correspondingly located laterally on the drum B', as the same is rotated positively and with the strips c^9 to c^{15} when the drum is rotated negatively to position -1. The terminals of armature A 25 are connected to fingers a^9 and a^{10} , and the armature-circuit includes a solenoid or magnet coil C³. The core C⁴ of this solenoid, which might obviously be an armature of a magnet, the same as is indicated in Fig. 1, is provided 30 with a rod G^3 , having a projection g' to engage with the upper one of a series of carbon blocks or plates H, the latter being severally connected to different portions of a suitable resistance H', the same as in Fig. 1. A spring 35 J is also interposed between the rod G³ and a suitable stationary bracket K', a crankarm J² being shown as a means for varying the tension of the spring in order to vary the force opposed to the action of the ar-40 mature-current acting through the coil C3, this means being employed in lieu of the rheostat E and the demagnetizing-coil C2 shown in Fig. 1. The terminals of the fieldmagnet winding F are connected to fingers 45 a^{11} and a^{12} , the terminals of the resistance H' to fingers a^{13} and a^{14} , and the positive terminal of the secondary battery D to finger a^{15} . The negative terminal of the battery is permanently connected to finger a^{14} , and the 50 finger a^{16} is connected to ground. With this arrangement of circuits when the drum is moved into position 1 the armature A, fieldmagnet F, secondary battery D, and resistance H' are all in series, the battery being so 55 connected as to oppose the line-current—that is to say, it is in position to be charged by the current flowing from the line through the motor. In position 2 the armature and fieldmagnet are connected in series with the bat-60 tery and the resistance is short-circuited. In position 3 the armature and field-magnet are in series with the battery and the resistance is cut out. In position 3ª the armature, the field-magnet, and the battery are in series 65 and the resistance and battery are in parallel relation. In position 3b the armature and field-magnet are connected in series with the

resistance and the battery is cut out. In position 4 the resistance is short-circuited and the battery cut out. In position 4a the bat- 70 tery and field-magnet winding in parallel form part of the armature-circuit, the fieldmagnet branch including the short-circuited resistance. In position 5 the connections are the same as in position 4a, except that the 75 short circuit on the resistance is open and the amount of resistance opposing the current in the field-magnet branch is governed by the regulating apparatus, of which the coil C³ is the controlling member. Until position 80 4a is passed the mechanism for varying the amount of resistance in the field-magnet circuit will be preferably locked, so that such resistance is invariable. Before the position 5 is reached the mechanism is released, so 85 that the resistance, and therefore the counter electromotive force, may be automatically varied with variations in the load and so that the force exerted against the action of coil C³ may be independently varied in order to vary 90 the motor speed independently of the load, as will be hereinafter described. Position 5 may extend over a considerable portion of the drum, so as to provide for a wide range in speed by varying the tension of spring 95 J or by varying the demagnetizing-current through the agency of the rheostat shown in Fig. 1. In stopping the motor the drum will be returned gradually to zero position at such a rate of movement as will provide the rate 100 of retardation desired and then a further step to the position -1 to effect a complete stop. In this position the motor and battery are cut off from the line 2, and the motor acts as a generator to charge the battery and to serve 105 as a brake, the armature and field-magnet being connected in parallel.

Referring now to Figs. 5 and 6, the controller-drum B2 is shown as divided, so as to bring the negative or braking contacts at the 110 right instead of at the left, as in the preceding figures. In the system here shown two motors are employed, and while a single fieldmagnet winding F is shown it is to be understood as merely indicative that the connec- 115 tion of the field-magnet windings of the two machines is such as to constitute, in effect, a single winding, so far as the circuit changes are concerned. Mechanically there will obviously be two separate windings; but they 120 may be fairly represented by a single winding in the sense above specified. As shown in these figures, the terminals of the armatures A and A' are respectively connected to fingers a^{17} and a^{18} and a^{19} and a^{20} , and the re- 125 spective armature-circuits include the coils C⁵ and C⁶ of an electromagnet or solenoid, in this case shown as a solenoid. The two coils C⁵ and C⁶ are arranged for a single core C⁷, which is provided with a rod or stem G4, hav- 130 ing a projection g^2 cooperating with a stationary stop or bracket I2 for the purpose of drawing the carbon blocks or plates H together when the solenoid is energized suffi-

ciently to overcome the tension of the spring \ J, an adjusting device J² being shown for varying the tension of the spring. The carbon blocks or plates H are connected to the 5 sections of a suitable resistance H', as in the preceding figures. The terminals of the fieldmagnet windings F are connected to the fingers a^{21} and a^{22} , one terminal of the resistance H' being connected to finger a^{23} and the ro other terminal to the negative terminal of the secondary battery D and also to the ground. The positive terminal of the battery is connected to finger a^{24} and the negative terminal to finger a^{25} . The drum contact-15 strips b^{17} to b^{29} corresponding to the power positions are so arranged and interconnected as to insure circuit changes when the drum is rotated positively, as follows: In position 1 the armatures and field-magnets are connected 20 in series with the battery, so that the latter is charged by the line-current and exerts a counter electromotive force in the line, the resistance being out of circuit. In position 1^a the relation of the motors and battery is the same 25 as in position 1, but the resistance is included in parallel with the battery. In position 1^b the battery is cut out and the resistance is included in series with the motors. In position 2 the battery is cut out and the resistance is 30 short-circuited. In position 3 the positive terminal of the battery is connected between the armatures and the field-magnets of the motors and the resistance is short-circuited, the excitation of the field-magnets being thus 35 dependent in part upon the battery. Up to this point the mechanism for varying the resistance is preferably locked, as will be hereinafter described, so that the resistance is utilized in its full capacity without variation. 40 In position 4 the resistance is in the fieldmagnet circuit, but is varied by the automatic mechanism described to vary the strength of the field-magnet current, the positive terminal of the battery being connected to the posi-45 tive terminal of the field-magnets, so that the armature-current is divided between the battery and the field-magnet in accordance with the strength of the armature-current and the resistance of the field-magnet circuit. Posi-50 tion 4 represents a considerable circumferential surface of the drum in order that a comparatively wide variation in motor speed may be effected by varying the tension of the spring J or by the electromagnetic variation 55 indicated in Fig. 1, while the circuit connections are as here indicated. Position 4a is the same as position 4, except that the resistance in the field-magnet circuit is entirely shortcircuited. This connection is made at the 60 instant preceding the opening of the armature-circuit, and on being made causes a sudden increase of the field-current and of the counter electromotive force of the motor, tending to entirely stop the armature-current 65 for a short period during which the speed has not had time to materially change. Position

described for position 4a after the armaturecircuit has been opened. Position 4° is the same as position 4b, except that the armature- 70 circuits have been closed in parallel, the strong field being maintained. In position 5 the circuits are the same as in position 4°, except that the short circuit is removed from the variable resistance, so that the latter is 75 susceptible of automatic variation by means of the armature-currents. This position occupies a considerable portion of the drum for the same reason as that stated in connection with position 4. In position — 1 the battery is 80 charged, and the motors provide the braking action incident to their operation as generators.

In Figs. 7, 8, and 9 I have shown controller mechanism adapted for controlling two elec- 85 tric motors substantially in the manner indicated in Figs. 5 and 6. A controller-drum B^2 , provided with the contact-strips b^{17} to b^{29} and c^{17} to c^{25} , properly arranged and connected, is mounted upon a shaft L, having at its 90 upper end an operating-handle L', as is usual in devices of this character. At one side of the drum are located the stationary circuitterminals, in the form of contact-fingers a^{17} to a^{25} , adapted to engage the strips on the drum 95 as the latter is rotated by means of the handle L'. On the shaft below the drum is mounted a plate or disk M, provided with notches-1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, corresponding, respectively, to the braking and zero positions and the sev- 100 eral running positions. The space between notches 1 and 2 is the space represented in Figs. 5 and 6 as positions 1a and 1b, this being merely wide enough to permit of the momentary changes in circuit connections indi- 105 cated in Fig. 6. Position 4 is represented by two notches and an intervening space of considerable width, this space being provided in order to secure a variation in speed while the circuit connections are as indicated at posi- 110 tion 4 in Fig. 6. The disk is also provided with two notches and a comparatively wide intervening space corresponding to position 5 for the same reason as that specified in connection with position 4. Projecting from the 115 frame L² of the controller is a spring-arm N, having a roller N' to engage with the periphery of the disk M, so as to indicate to the motorman the several positions of the drum. Another plate M' is mounted upon shaft L 120 below plate M. The upper side or face of this disk is shown as provided with an annular recess, one portion M² of which is comparatively narrow-that is, it has an outer wall that is nearer the axis of the drum than 125 the corresponding wall of the remaining portion M³. A roller O' is mounted in the end of an arm O and is located in this annular recess M² M³, so as to be guided by its outer wall. The other end of the arm O is attached 130 to an arm G⁵, constituting or provided with an armature for the magnet C⁸, the coils of which are in the armature-circuit, as indi-4^b represents the connection and conditions | cated in Fig. 5, these coils being to all intents

and purposes the same as the coils C⁵ and C⁶ of said figures. The free end of this armature G⁵ is in position to engage one of the carbon plates or blocks H when drawn inward 5 by the energized magnet, thus short-circuiting the resistance H'. The outer wall M² of the groove M² M³ constitutes, together with the arm O and its roller O', the locking device for preventing variation of the resistance H' ro between positions 1 and 4 of Fig. 6, since the wall engages the roller O' and prevents the armature G⁵ from moving toward the magnet C⁸, whatever may be the strength of the current flowing through the magnet. The periphery 15 of plate M' is in the form of a cam, with which engages a roller P', mounted in the end of an arm P, the latter being connected to the armature G⁵ by means of a spring or a rod Q, embodying a coiled spring Q', the latter being 20 fastened to the arm P by means of an adjusting-nut R and a set-nut R', so as to adjust the tension of the spring Q, if desired. This cam-and-lever mechanism constitutes the mechanical device for varying the force ex-25 erted against the coils in the armature-circuits in order to vary the speed of the motors independently of the load. The cam-surface is so designed and proportioned that the tension of the spring will be increased from the 30 beginning to the end position 4 and also from the beginning to the end position 5, the additional tension being removed before making the circuit changes indicated at 4a, 4b, and 4c. This means, as has already been indicated, 35 is, in effect, the substantial equivalent of the electromagnetic means shown in Fig. 1, so far as the resulting variation of motor speed is concerned. It may sometimes be desirable to use as the auxiliary source of energy, in-40 stead of a storage battery alone, either a motor-generator alone or a storage battery and motor-generator combined. I have shown in Fig. 10 a diagram of the circuits and circuit changes in a system embodying both a sec-45 ondary battery and a motor-generator as the auxiliary source of energy. In this case the motor-generator is adapted to transform the current taken from the main source and deliver it at a constant or nearly constant po-50 tential to the terminals of the secondary battery. One purpose of this motor-generator is to maintain the charge in the secondary battery and another purpose is to assist the secondary battery under a heavy discharge. 55 Another purpose served by the motor-generator is to absorb the excess of current during excessive charge of the battery and after transforming it return it to the source of supply. I have shown the circuit connections corre-**60** sponding to power positions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and S of a suitable controller for this system and the circuit connections for the braking position—1 of such a controller. In position 1 the armatures A and A' and the field-mag-65 net windings F and F' of the two motors are connected in series and are supplied with energy by the secondary battery D and the mo- | field-magnet winding or windings and to the

tor-generator R in conjunction, the amount of energy supplied by the battery being dependent upon its condition as to charge. The 70 primary winding of the motor-generator in this and in all the succeeding positions is connected to the line 1 and to the ground, and in position 1 the resistance H is out of circuit. In position 2 the motors are connected in par- 75 allel and are supplied with energy by the battery and the motor-generator, the same as in position 1. In position 3 the motors and resistance are connected in series and are supplied from the line 1, the battery and second- 80 ary coil of the motor-generator in parallel being also included in series in circuit with the motors. In position 4 the connections are the same as in position 3, excepting that the resistance is taken out of circuit. In position 85 5 the motors in series are connected directly to the source of supply, the battery resistance and secondary coil of the motor-generator being out of circuit. In position 6 the armatures and fields of the motors are connected 90 in series to the main source of supply, as in position 5, and the battery and secondary coil of the motor-generator are connected in parallel with the field-coils, giving the fields in this position a source of supply independent 95 of the armature-current. In position 7 the connections are the same as in position 6, except that a variable resistance H is inserted in the field-circuit between the field-coils and the battery. In this position variations in 100 speed due to changes of load are automatically made, and independent variations of speed are made in the manner and by the means heretofore described. In position 8 the connections are the same as in position 7, ex-105 cepting that the armatures are connected in parallel instead of in series. In position-1, corresponding to a backward motion of the controller beyond the off position, the armatures in series are connected to the ter- 110 minals of the battery and the fields in series are connected to the terminals of the battery, the connections being such that the motors act as generators, tending to either charge the battery or send the overflow, if the cur- 115 rent is excessive, back to the source of supply through the motor-generator transforming in the opposite direction.

The structure and mode of operation of the controlling mechanism employed in the sys- 120 tem illustrated in Fig. 10 may in general be the same as have already been described in connection with preceding modifications in order that the resistance may be invariable until position 7 is reached and in order that 125 positions 7 and 8 may represent continuing conditions to such an extent as to permit of

the desired variation in speed. In Figs. 1 to 10 I have shown the field-magnet winding or windings and the variable re- 130 sistance as connected in series and the battery-terminals as respectively connected between the armature or armatures and the

ground in the positions corresponding to variations of speed independently of variations in load.

In Fig. 11 I have shown a modification of 5 circuit connections for independent speedvarying conditions in which the variable resistance H', the battery D, and the armature A are all connected in series between the line and the ground, and the terminals of the field-10 magnet winding are respectively connected between the armature and the resistance and to the negative terminal of the battery.

In Fig. 12 I have shown a further modification in which the variable resistance is in 15 two parts h and h', the circuit connections being the same as in Fig. 11, except that each of the branches leading from the armature to ground contains one of the resistance divi-

sions.

It is evident that with any of the arrangements shown the amount of resistance included in the field-magnet circuit may be made automatically, dependent upon the strength of the armature-current and be also 25 independently variable.

While the arrangement shown in Figs. 1 to 10 or that shown in Fig. 11 is regarded as particularly desirable on account of economy in the consumption of energy, conditions may 30 arise which will make it desirable to employ

the arrangement shown in Fig. 12.

While I have designated the ground as the negative or return conductor of the system hereinbefore described, I do not intend to 35 limit the invention to any specific time or location of return-circuit.

In cases where electromagnetic means for independent regulation similar to that shown in Fig. 1 is employed in connection with the 40 operation and control of two or more motors the independent regulator should be restored to its initial condition whenever the arma-

tures are changed from series to parallel. It will be understood that the means shown 45 and described are merely illustrative of a large variety of devices that might be employed for effecting the desired results. It will also be understood that more than two motors may be employed and that the circuit 50 changes may be widely varied from those shown without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. I desire it to be also understood that the carbon blocks shown in connection with the field-magnet-circuit va-55 riable resistance may be replaced by contacts

of other conducting material or that they may

.

field circuits, with substantially independent currents and causing the field-current to automatically vary as the armature-current va- 65 ries. 2. The method of operating electric motors, which consists in supplying the armature and

be used in conjunction with metal contacts

for taking the arcs when the short circuit is

taken off in a manner well known in the art.

1. The method of operating electric motors,

which consists in supplying the armature and

field circuits with substantially independent currents, and causing the variations in the 70 armature-current to produce correlative va-

riations in the field-current.

I claim as my invention—

3. The improvement in the method of controlling a plurality of electric motors utilized for driving a common load, which consists in 75 increasing the counter electromotive force of the motors immediately before opening the armature-circuits to change their connections from series to parallel.

4. The improvement in the method of con- 80 trolling a plurality of electric motors utilized for driving a common load, which consists in increasing the counter electromotive force of the motors by increasing the strength of the field and immediately afterward opening the 85 armature-circuits to change their connections from series to parallel.

5. The improvement in the method of controlling an electric motor which consists in increasing the counter electromotive force of 90 the motor immediately before opening the ar-

mature-circuit.

6. The improvement in the method of controlling an electric motor, which consists in increasing the counter electromotive force of 95 the motor and subsequently opening the armature-circuit before the speed of the motor is materially reduced.

7. The improvement in the method of controlling an electric motor which consists in 100 increasing the counter electromotive force of the motor by reducing the resistance of the field-circuit and subsequently opening the armature-circuit before the speed of the motor is materially reduced.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 18th day of April, 1901.

CHARLES J. REED.

105

Witnesses:

JAMES B. YOUNG, J. C. Morse.

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