

No. 897,681.

PATENTED SEPT. 1 1908.

C. TRUITT.  
TELEPHONE SWITCH.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1907.

Fig. 1.

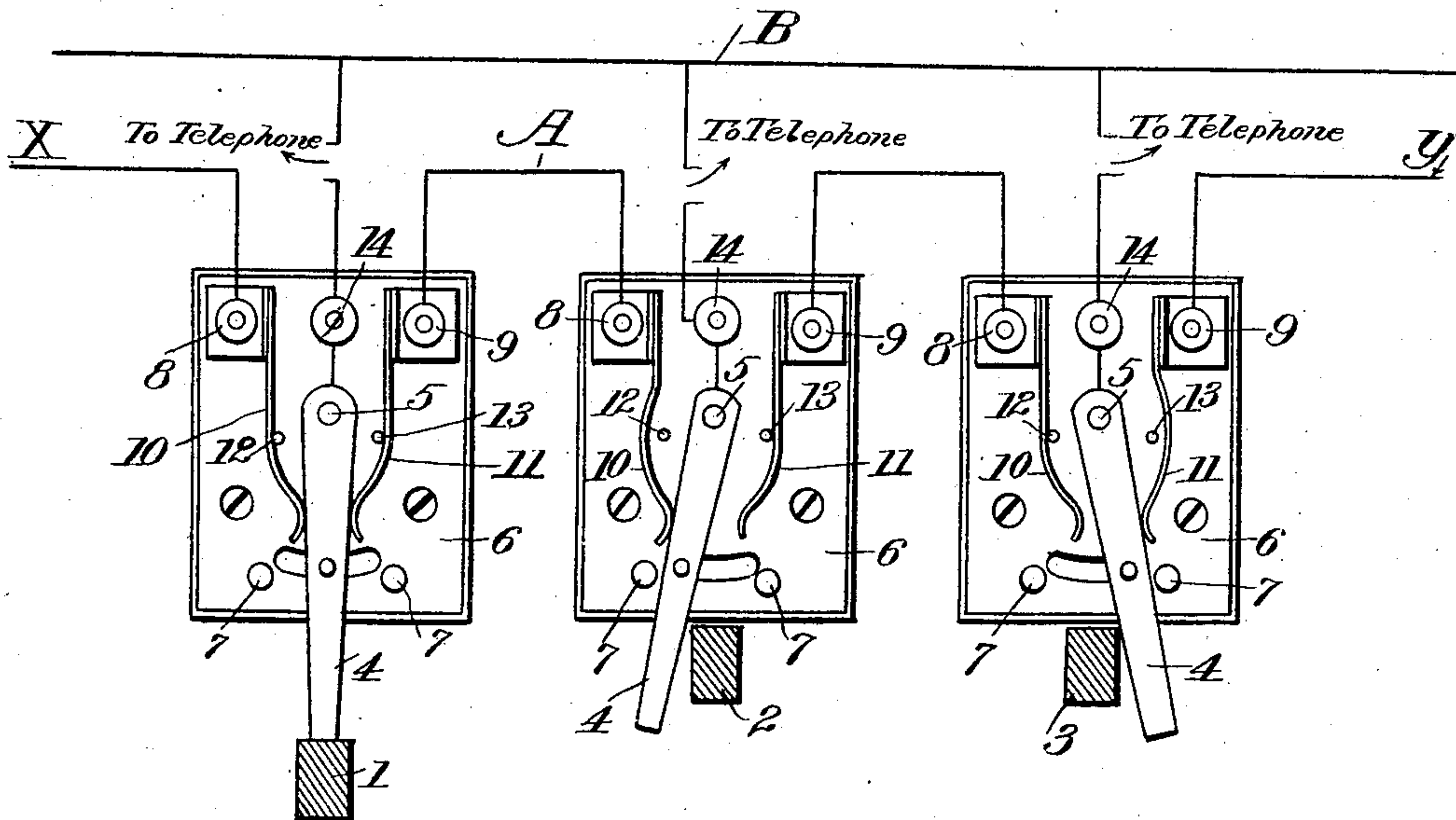
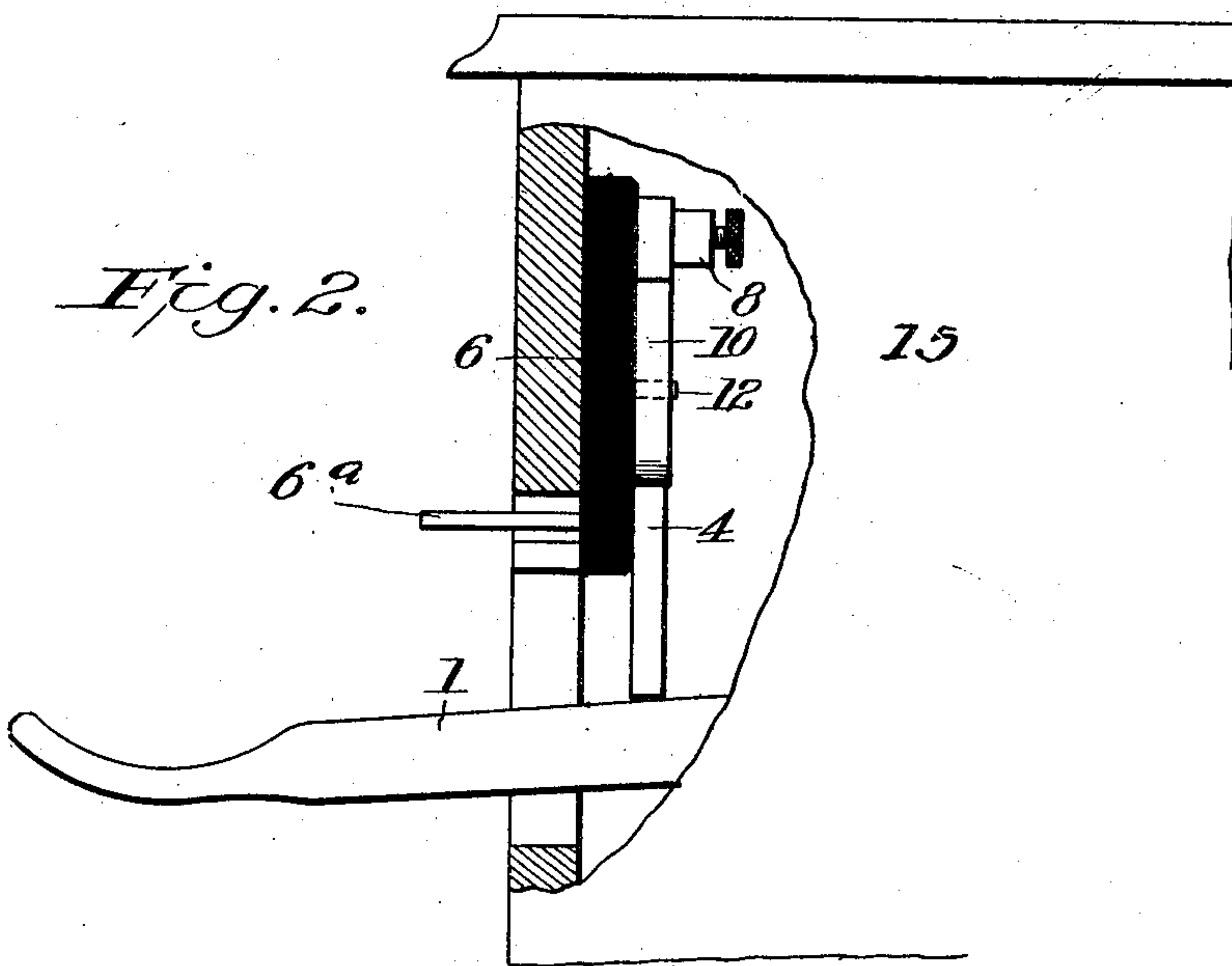


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## TELEPHONE-SWITCH.

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No. 897,681.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Application filed June 8, 1907. Serial No. 377,902.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CLARENCE TRUITT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Moscow, in the county of Latah and State of Idaho, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone-Switches; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in switches for telephones whereby the subscriber can cut out the section of the main line at either side of his station, so that the conversation being carried on between two subscribers cannot be heard by the other subscribers on the same line.

The improvement is, of course, only intended for use in connection with telephone systems wherein a plurality of instruments are on the same main-line circuit or what are known as "party-lines."

The object of the invention is to overcome the objection of all subscribers on the same main line being able to hear conversations carried on between any two subscribers.

The invention consists in the features of construction and combinations of devices hereinafter described and specified in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating the preferred embodiment of my invention:— Figure 1 is a diagrammatic view, of switches and connections for three telephones on the same party line, and Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the hook and switch bar of one of the telephones with the inclosing casing broken away.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, in Fig. 1 the main line wire is designated A and the second wire or ground side of the circuit is indicated at B. Three telephones are illustrated on the same line, the hooks for holding the receivers being numbered 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The switch bar 4 for each telephone is pivoted at 5 to a hard rubber base 6 having a slot therein through which projects the operating pin or handle 6<sup>a</sup> on said switch bar. Stop lugs 7 are arranged at each end of said slot to arrest the movement of the switch bar in each direction. Two binding posts, 8 and 9, are mounted on the base 6 and are connected with the main line A. Flat springs, 10 and 11, are fastened to said binding posts and, passing around

pins 12 and 13, normally bear against the opposite sides of the switch bar and hold it in a vertical position. Said pins are positioned so that when the switch bar is turned in either direction, the spring on the opposite side will be held out of contact therewith, thereby breaking the main line circuit which normally passes through the binding posts 8 and 9, the springs and the switch bar. A third binding post 14 on the base 6 is connected up with the switch bar and through the telephone to the ground or second line wire.

In Fig. 2 the base 6 is shown secured to the inside of the casing 15 containing the receiver hook. The switch bar, when in its normal vertical position, engages and locks the hook so that it will not rise when the receiver is taken off. In order to permit said hook to rise and close the circuit through the telephone so that it may be used, it is necessary to turn said switch bar either forward or backward and in doing this the main line circuit through the telephone in use is broken, as already explained, and the other telephones are cut out.

In Fig. 1 the left hand switch bar is shown in normal position when the telephone is not in use and the circuit is complete through the binding posts 8 and 9 and said switch bar. The middle switch bar is in position when the telephone is being used to communicate with a party in the direction X and the circuit is through binding post 8, the switch bar and the binding post 14 to the second line or ground. The right hand switch bar is in position to permit the telephone to be used to talk to a party in the direction Y and in this case the circuit is complete through the binding post 9, the switch bar and the binding post 14 to the second line or ground.

It will be noted that when a telephone is in use its receiver hook being up locks the switch bar in its turned position and keeps the main line circuit broken until the hook is depressed, when said switch bar will be returned to its normal vertical position by the springs 10 and 11. It should also be understood that the switch bar is turned forward or backward in accordance with the direction the subscriber desires to talk before the receiver is taken off the hook.

I claim:—

1. The combination, with a telephone in a party line circuit, of a switch-bar pivoted directly above its receiver-hook and nor-



mally arranged in a vertical position with its free end engaging said hook, means to turn said switch bar to permit said hook to rise, and means to break the main line circuit 5 when said switch is turned.

2. The combination, with a telephone in a party line circuit, of a switch bar pivoted directly above its receiver-hook and normally arranged in a vertical position with its 10 free end engaging said hook, a handle on said switch bar arranged at an angle thereto and projecting through a slot in the support for said switch bar whereby the latter may be turned to permit said hook to rise, and 15 means to break the main line circuit when said switch is turned.

3. The combination, with a telephone in a party-line circuit, of a switch bar adapted to normally engage and hold down its receiver- 20 hook, means for turning said switch bar to permit said hook to rise, springs normally contacting with the sides of said switch bar and comprising parts of the main line circuit, and pins adapted to hold either of said 25 springs out of contact with said switch bar when the latter is turned in the opposite direction.

4. The combination, with a telephone in a party-line circuit, of a switch-bar pivoted 30 directly above its receiver-hook and normally arranged in a vertical position with its free end engaging said receiver hook, means for turning said switch bar to permit said hook to rise, springs normally contacting 35 with the sides of said switch bar and comprising parts of the main line circuit and pins adapted to hold either of said springs out of contact with said switch when the latter is turned in the opposite direction.

40 5. The combination, with a telephone in a

party line circuit, of a switch bar adapted to normally engage and hold down its receiver-hook, means for turning said switch bar to permit said hook to rise, electrical connections from the main line circuit normally 45 contacting with the sides of said switch bar and means to hold either of said connections out of contact with said switch bar when the latter is turned in the opposite direction.

6. The combination, with a telephone in a 50 party line circuit, of a switch bar adapted to normally engage and hold down its receiver hook, means for turning said switch bar to permit said hook to rise, means to lock said switch bar in its turned position when said 55 hook is raised, electrical connections from the main line circuit normally contacting with the sides of said switch bar, and means to hold either of said connections out of contact with said switch bar when the latter is 60 turned in the opposite direction.

7. The combination, with a telephone in a party line circuit, of a switch bar adapted to normally engage and hold down its receiver 65 hook, means for turning said switch bar to permit said hook to rise, electrical connection from the telephone to said switch bar, electrical connections from the main line circuit normally contacting with the sides of 70 said switch bar and means to hold either of said latter connections out of contact with said switch bar when the latter is turned in the opposite direction.

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

CLARENCE TRUITT.

Witnesses:

JOHN MOORE,  
E. E. CRANDALL.