C. D. PLATT.

ELECTRIC SWITCH.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 1, 1919.

1,333,874. Patented Mar. 16, 1920.

Fig. 1.

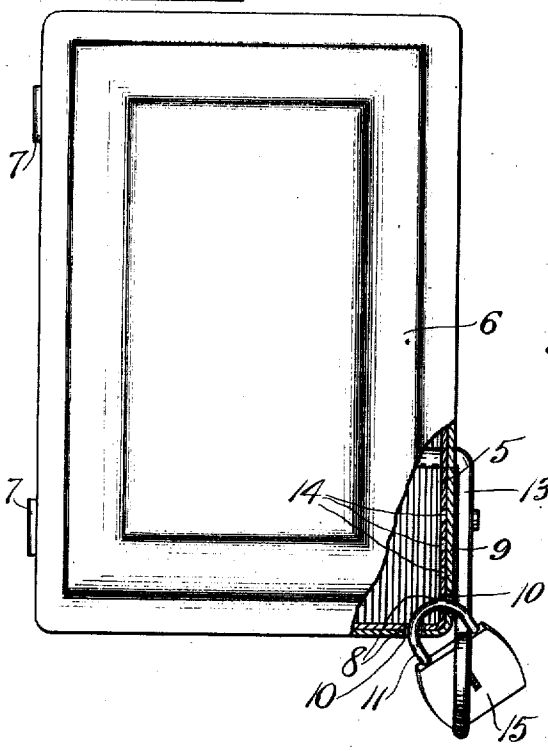


Fig. 2.

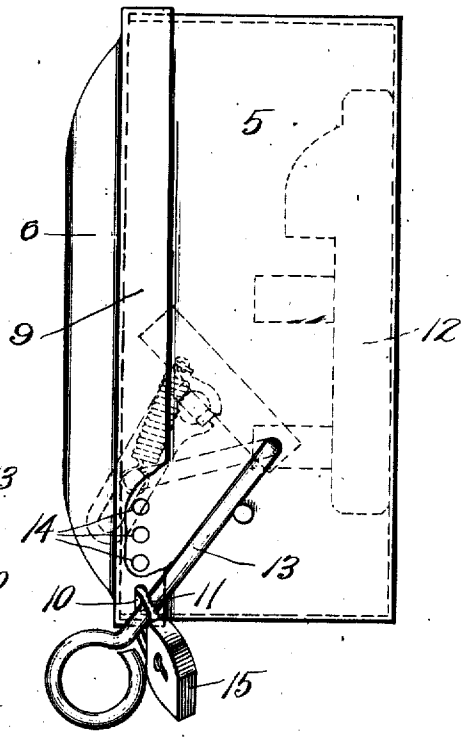


Fig. 4.

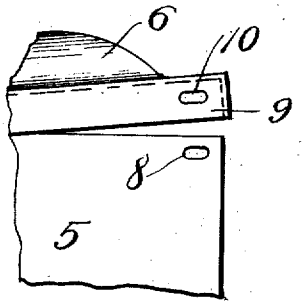
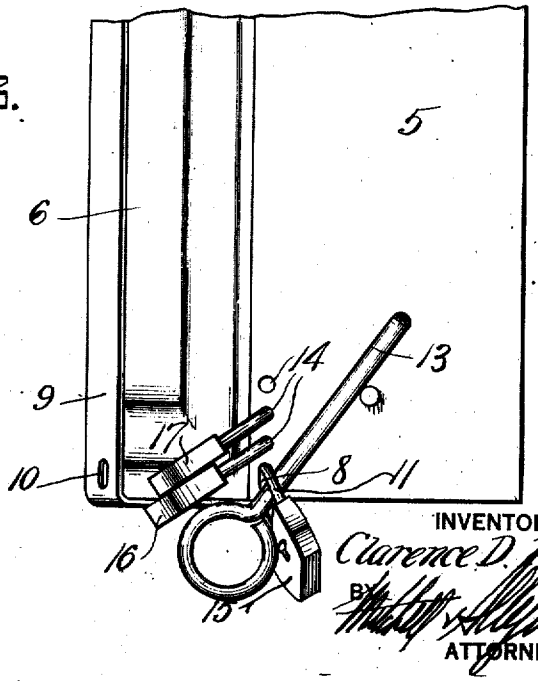


Fig. 3.



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ELECTRIC SWITCH.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE D. PLATT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Bridgeport, Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Electric Switch, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to switches of the "inclosed" type, and particularly to the locking means therefor.

The objects of the invention are to provide a secure and reliable form of lock for fastening the switch box closed, and further, to enable the use of this lock for securing the switch in a predetermined condition. Other objects are to afford facilities for enabling different linemen to lock the switch in open circuit position while they are working on the line controlled by the switch.

The invention consists generally in the combination of a switch box having a movable cover, the box and cover having registering openings in one corner thereof so that the hasp of a padlock or the like may be passed through such corner walls to thereby securely fasten the cover in closed position. The switch operating handle is preferably disposed so that it may be engaged and secured by the padlock or other fastening device. The box body is further preferably provided with one or more openings arranged normally to be covered by a flange on the cover and adapted to receive the padlocks of different individuals working on the line, any one of said padlocks serving to secure the switch handle in the open circuit position.

The operation and use of the invention as well as various other features of construction, etc., will appear more fully as the specification proceeds.

Attention is directed to the accompanying drawing, wherein I have illustrated my invention embodied in one practical form, but I would have it understood that the invention is susceptible of various modifications without departure from the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter defined.

In said drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of one of my switches with a corner of the switch box broken away to disclose the manner in which the same is locked.

Fig. 2 is a side view, also partly broken away.

Fig. 3, is another side view showing the switch box locked open and the switch locked in open circuit position.

Fig. 4, is a broken end view of the switch box with the cover partly lifted.

The switch box disclosed consists of a body portion 5 and a cover 6, said cover being hingedly secured to the box body at 7.

The box body is provided with openings 8 in two of the adjacent side walls thereof at one corner of the box. The cover is made with a dependent flange 9 extending down over the edge of the box body when the cover is closed, and this flange is provided at one corner with openings 10 in the adjacent sides thereof registering when the cover is closed with the corner openings in the box body. This feature is clearly shown in Fig. 1, and from that view, it will be clear that when the cover is closed the hasp 11 of a padlock or similar fastening device may be passed through these corner openings to secure the cover firmly closed. This manner of fastening the cover in effect provides a double lock, since the cover and box body are secured together by means of two different angularly related walls. This serves to overcome twisting strains which might be applied to the cover in an effort to force the same open.

The switch which is illustrated generally at 12 is operated by an external switch handle 13, and this handle when thrown to the "off" position has a portion disposed in position to be embraced by the hasp of the padlock, as indicated in Fig. 1. Consequently, this padlock can be used either simply to lock the box closed or to lock both the box closed and the switch in the open circuit position.

The box body is further provided in the present disclosure with a series of openings 14 in line with the opening 8 disposed above the switch handle when said handle is in the open circuit position, and arranged when the cover is closed to be entirely covered by the dependent flange of said cover. In Fig. 3, I have shown how the switch may be controlled by a number of different linemen for instance working on the circuit controlled by the switch. This view illustrates the condition where say three linemen are working on a circuit. Each of these linemen is provided with a padlock 15, 16, 17, of which he holds the only key. Thus, when such a lineman begins work on the line, he secures his

padlock in one of the openings in the switch box. This prevents the switch being closed while he is working on the line. Other linemen are similarly protected each by their own lock, and all of said locks must be removed before the switch can again be restored to closed condition. Consequently, the switch cannot be closed until the last man has removed his lock. These additional locking openings are normally protected when the box is closed by the flange of the cover which prevents dust, etc., from entering the box.

I claim:

1. A switch box comprising a box body and a movable cover, said box body having openings in the adjacent side walls at one corner of the box, the cover having a dependent flange extending over the box walls when the cover is closed and provided with openings in adjacent sides thereof at one corner to register with the openings in the corner walls of the box body to receive a fastening device extending through the pairs of registering openings in the box flange and box walls.

2. A switch box comprising a box body and a movable cover, said box body having openings in the adjacent side walls at one corner of the box, the cover having a dependent flange extending over the box walls when the cover is closed and provided with openings in adjacent sides thereof at one corner to register with the openings in the corner walls of the box body to receive a fastening device extending through the pairs of registering openings in the box flange and box walls, said box body further having a series of locking openings therein disposed to be covered by the dependent flange of the cover when the cover is closed.

3. A switch box comprising a box body and a movable cover, said box body having openings in the adjacent side walls at one corner of the box, the cover having a dependent flange extending over the box walls when the cover is closed and provided with openings in adjacent sides thereof at one corner to register with the openings in the corner walls of the box body to receive a fastening device extending through the pairs of registering openings in the box flange and box walls, and a switch operating handle mounted in the box and having a portion disposed to be engaged and secured by the fastening device aforesaid.

4. A switch box comprising a box body and a movable cover, said box body and cover having registering openings to receive a fastening device provided with a hasp for engagement in said registering openings in the box body and cover, said box body further having a series of openings for receiving other different fastening devices, and a switch operating handle positioned to be engaged and locked by a fastening device engaged in any one of the aforesaid locking openings.

5. In an electric switch, a switch box having a movable cover, said cover having a dependent flange overlapping the edge of the box body, and said cover and box body having openings registering when the cover is closed to receive a locking device, said box body having another opening therein adjacent the first openings but concealed by the flange when the cover is closed, a switch operating handle mounted in the box and positioned to be locked by a fastening device inserted in either of the locking openings.

6. In an inclosed switch construction, a box having a body and a hinged cover, an external operating handle for the switch, said box body and cover having openings adjacent the handle when the handle is in the "open circuit" position which openings are adapted to receive a fastening device to lock the handle in "open circuit" position when the cover is closed and said box body having another opening adjacent the first mentioned opening in the body adapted to receive another fastening device to lock the handle in open circuit position when the cover is open.

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