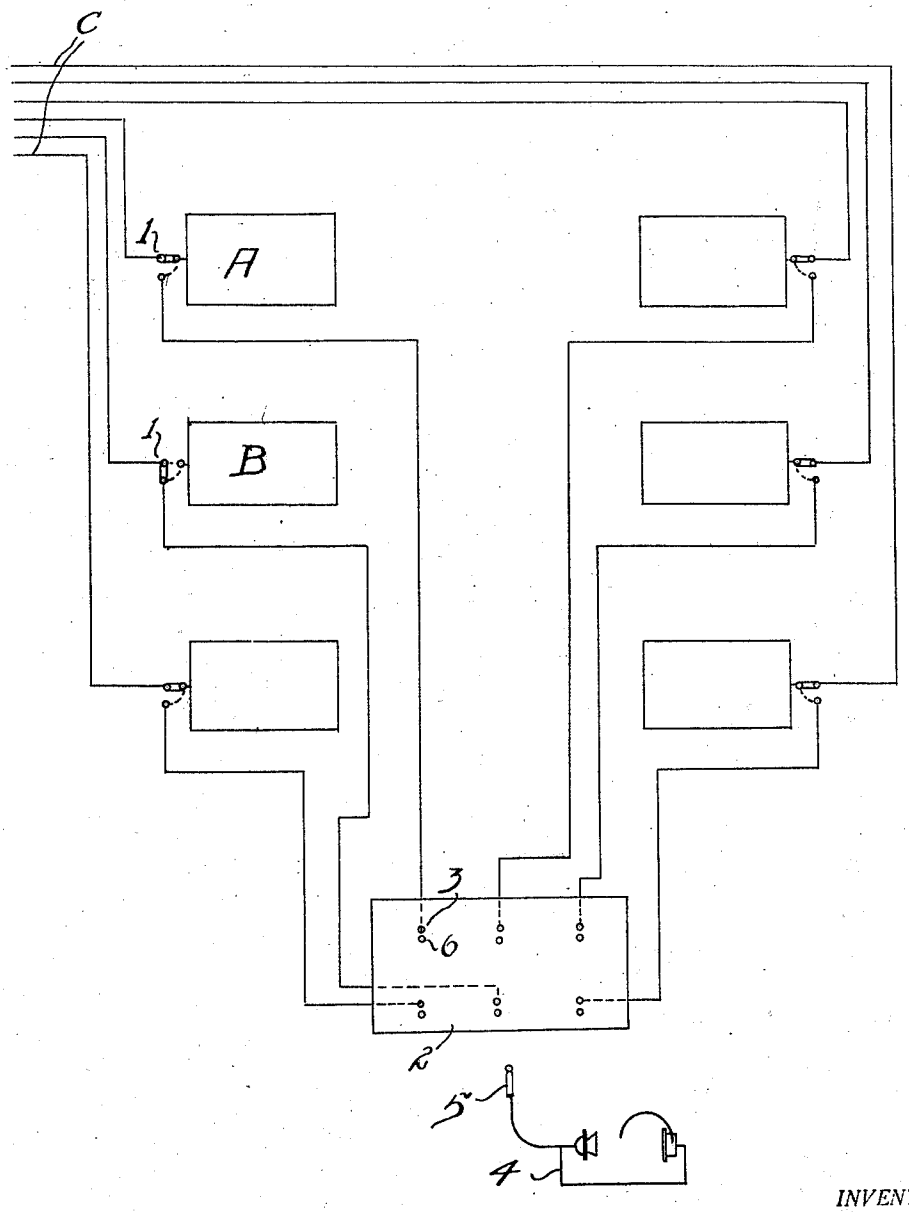
June 16, 1925. 1,541,926

W. F. DAVIDSON

TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Filed Aug. 6, 1924



INVENTOR.

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BY

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ATTORNEY

Patented June 16, 1925. 1,541,926

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. DAVIDSON, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

Application filed August 6, 1924. Serial No. 730,426.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. DAVIDSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone Systems, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a telephone system for office buildings.

In a great many of the large office buildings there are tenants who, owing to the nature of their business or profession, are frequently absent from their offices during business hours, and such offices are left, during such time, without an occupant to answer the telephone. When this occurs, and a customer or client calls an office by telephone and receives no answer, he may take his business elsewhere, thereby entailing a possible loss to the tenant.

An object of the present invention is to route calls coming to an office, when a tenant thereof is absent, to an outlet in a central switch board, which outlet shall be designated by the tenant's name or office number, so that an operator of the central switch board may answer the call as in the name of the office of the tenant. Thus, continuous telephone service is assured throughout the business day whether the tenant is in his office or not. Calls so received may be noted on a suitable memorandum and filed in a pigeon hole, or otherwise, in a manner to be available to the tenant when he returns to the building.

In the accompanying drawing, a schematic representation is shown of a telephone system made in accordance with the present invention.

Referring to the drawing, A and B represent subscribers' telephone sets located in different offices in an office building. Incoming lines C lead to subscribers' sets in said building. Two-way switches are indicated at 1. When a switch is in the position shown in the A set, an incoming call would be routed directly to the subscriber's set in his office and might be answered by the tenant of said office. When the switch is thrown to the position shown in the B set, such an incoming call would be routed directly to a central switch board 2 and would cause indicia 6, which may be an electric lamp adjacent a jack 3 in the switch board to be operated to indicate to an operator thereof that a call was awaiting on that line. The operator would note by means of a designation, not shown, adjacent thereto and previously referred to herein, that the jack 3 is connected to a line through the office in which subscriber's set B is installed. The operator might then connect her set 4 by means of a plug 5 to the jack 3, and answer as in the name of the office of the tenant. The operator might take any message or give any necessary information to the calling party and thereby render a beneficial service to the tenants in the building throughout the day.

Other subscribers' sets in the offices in the same building are indicated as being connected to the central board 2 in the same manner as sets A and B, and each of these offices is provided with apparatus similar to that of said sets and are designed to function in a similar manner.

What I claim is:

An office building telephone service system, comprising an incoming telephone line, a telephone set connected thereto in a tenant's office, a line from said telephone set to an outlet in a central switchboard, identifying means adjacent said outlet, and switch means operable from said tenant's office to route an incoming call directly to the central switchboard, or to the telephone set in the office of the tenant, at will.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM F. DAVIDSON.