

No. 627,172.

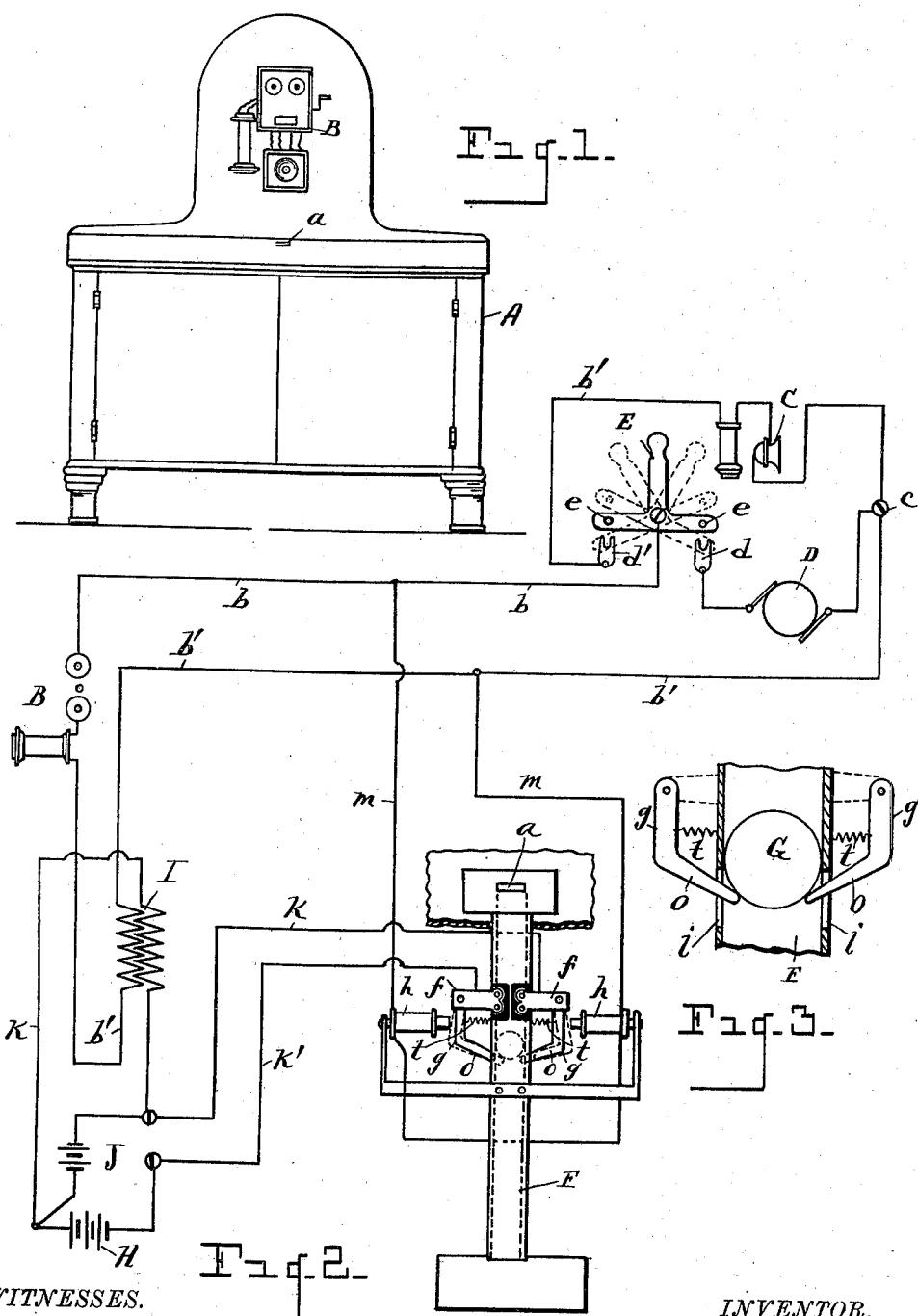
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J. T. BELANGER.

TELEPHONE TOLL APPARATUS.

(Application filed Apr. 3, 1899.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. BELANGER, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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TELEPHONE TOLL APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 627,172, dated June 20, 1899.

Application filed April 3, 1899. Serial No. 711,517. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN T. BELANGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone Toll Apparatus; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to toll apparatus for telephone pay-stations; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of parts herein-after fully set forth, and pointed out particularly in the claims.

The object of the invention is to provide means for connection with an ordinary subscriber's telephone or the instrument at a public pay-station, whereby the operator at the central station may know that a person at a telephone or substation wishing to talk with a person at a second substation has deposited in the apparatus a coin in payment for the services before connection between said parties is made, and a further arrangement whereby the operator at the central station may readily discharge the coin after receiving the signal caused by its insertion in the apparatus so as to leave the signal-circuit open and the parts in position for a succeeding operation and at the same time relieve the talking-circuit of all disturbance from said signaling-circuit while the talking-circuit is in use. This object is attained by the association and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a general view of a cabinet containing an ordinary telephone and my improved coin-actuated signaling apparatus. Fig. 2 is a diagrammatical view of the ordinary telephone-circuit with which my improved signaling-circuit is connected by means of an induction-coil, together with the operator's instrument, and an auxiliary circuit bridged onto the main line through which a generator-current may be passed for the purpose of actuating electrically mechanism to discharge

the coin after the signal, caused by the insertion of said coin, has been conveyed to the operator. Fig. 3 is a large detail in section of a portion of the coin-chute and of the pivoted contact-armatures which project into said chute and are adapted to arrest and support a coin between their opposed ends to complete a circuit therethrough and maintain said coin in contact therewith until discharged by a movement of said armatures produced by the energizing of their respective magnets.

Referring to the letters of reference, A designates a cabinet, which may be of any suitable construction and upon which is mounted the ordinary telephone instrument B. In the inclined top of said cabinet is a slot a, which communicates with the coin-chute within the cabinet, said cabinet also containing the necessary wiring and the signaling mechanism, as hereinafter explained.

The diagram in Fig. 2 illustrates the ordinary telephone instrument B, provided with the usual line-circuit b b', connected with the operator's instrument C. It will also be understood that there is connected with the telephone-line the usual annunciator-circuit. (Not shown.)

D designates a generator whose line at one end is connected at c with the telephone-line 80 and at the other end is provided with a contact-terminal d. The line b' after passing through the operator's instrument is provided with a contact-terminal d'.

E designates a switch having at its ends 85 contact-pins e, adapted to close the circuit between the contact-terminals d and d' of the respective lines. The closing of the circuit at d throws the generator onto the telephone-line, while the closing of the circuit at d' places 90 the operator in circuit with the subscriber's instrument or station B.

F designates the coin-chute, which consists of a vertical way communicating with the slot a in the top of the cabinet, through which the 95 coin is adapted to be passed. Attached to said chute are the insulated brackets f. Pivoted to said brackets are the armatures g of the electromagnets h. These armatures are provided with angle end portions o, which 100 project inwardly through slots i in the opposite sides of the chute F into the coinway

therein, so as to arrest said coin in its passage down said chute and hold it in contact with the opposed ends thereof, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, in which view G designates the coin.

5 As will be seen, said coin bridges between the points of said armatures and closes the circuit between them, the complementary portion of which circuit is formed by the lines k k' , in which is located a battery H, and 10 which forms the primary side of the induction-coil I, the secondary side of said coil being formed by line b' of the telephone-circuit.

Bridged onto the main line is an auxiliary circuit m , in which are included the electro- 15 magnets h .

In the operation of this device the subscriber B calls the operator in the usual manner, when the operator throws the switch E to the answering or listening position, thereby 20 closing the telephone-circuit at d' , the talking-current in said line being supplied by the battery J through the primary side of the induction-coil I. The operator ascertains the substation called, and when connections have 25 been properly made subscriber at B is requested to place the required coin in the slot a . Upon the insertion of said coin it travels down the chute F and bridges between the inwardly-projecting ends of the armatures g , 30 thereby closing the circuit formed by the lines k k' and inducing a current in the lines b and b' , which causes a click or sound in the operator's instrument and serves as a signal to advise her that a subscriber or patron at instrument B has inserted the coin as requested. 35 The operator then moves the switch so as to close the generator-circuit at d , thereby throwing the generator-current onto the lines b b' and the bridged line m , energizing the electromagnets h , and attracting the armatures g , as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2, permitting the coin G, which had closed the circuit between them, to drop into the box K at the bottom of said chute. The generator-circuit 40 is then opened by returning the switch to its normal position, when the retracting-springs t return said armatures so as to cause their ends to project into the chute in position for a succeeding operation. Connection is then 45 properly made between the subscriber and the station called by means not shown, but in a manner well understood in the art.

It will be understood that a number of signaling-circuits may be arranged containing 50 varying signals to denote various denominations of coin placed in the apparatus; but all of such signaling-circuits will be closed in the

manner herein specified and need not therefore be particularly set forth.

Having thus fully set forth this invention, 60 what is claimed is—

1. In a telephone toll apparatus, the combination of the telephone-circuit, the signaling-circuit including a movable contact, a circuit bridged onto the telephone-circuit independent of said signaling-circuit and containing an electromagnet adapted to actuate said movable contact of the signaling-circuit and means for energizing said electromagnet, substantially as set forth.

2. In a telephone toll apparatus, the combination with the telephone-circuit, of a coin-chute, two pivoted armatures having end portions projecting into said chute from opposite sides, said armatures forming the open terminals of a signaling-circuit, two electromagnets included in a circuit bridged onto the telephone-circuit, and a switch for connecting a source of electricity with the circuit of said electromagnets to energize said magnets and attract said armatures.

3. In a telephone toll apparatus, the combination with a telephone-circuit, the pivoted armatures projecting into the coin-chute from opposite sides and forming the terminals of a normally open signaling-circuit, two electromagnets adapted to attract said armatures included in a line bridged onto the telephone-line, a source of electricity in the limb of the telephone-line, and a switch for closing a circuit including said source of electricity and the bridged line containing said electromagnets.

4. In a telephone toll apparatus, the combination with a telephone-line, a coin-chute, 95 two pivoted armatures projecting into said chute from opposite sides so as to arrest a coin in its passage through said chute, a signaling-circuit of which said armatures form the terminals, electromagnets adapted to actuate 100 said armatures to withdraw their ends from said chute, said armatures being included with a source of electricity in a normally open circuit of which said telephone-line forms a complementary portion, and a switch for closing said circuit through said source of electricity and said electromagnets.

In testimony whereof I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN T. BELANGER.

Witnesses:

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