No. 612,681

Patented Oct. 18, 1898.

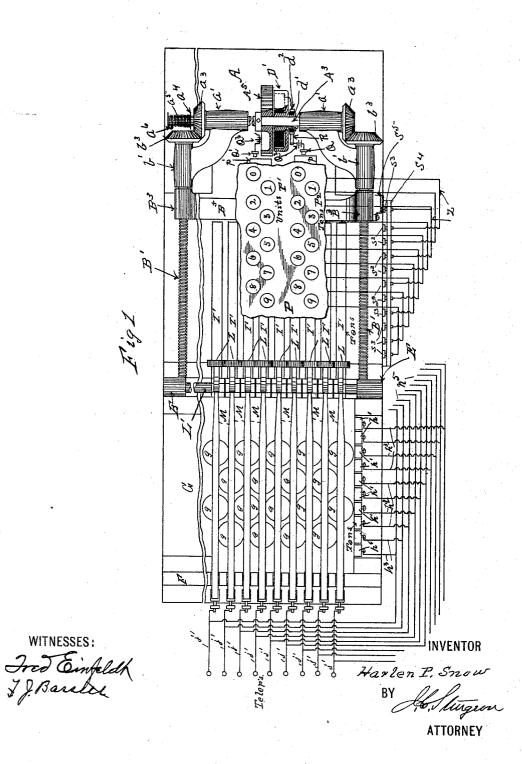
H. P. SNOW.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE MECHANISM.

(Application filed Nov. 1, 1897.)

(No Model.)

4 Sheets-Sheet I.



No. 612,681

Patented Oct. 18, 1898.

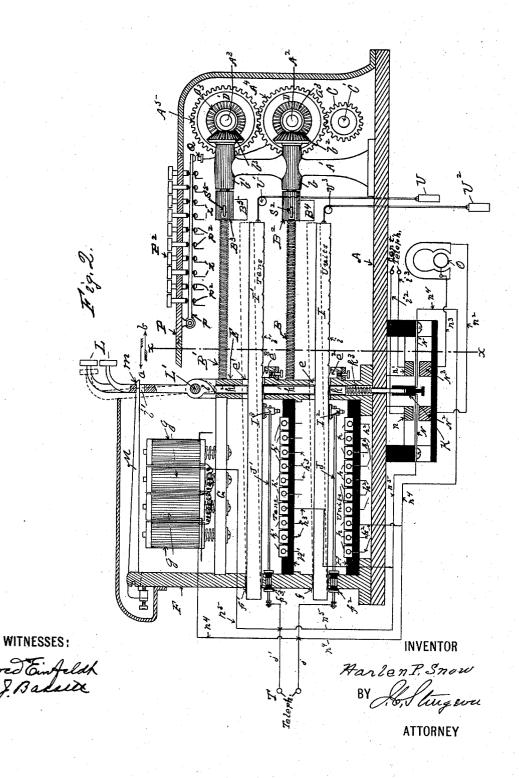
H. P. SNOW.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE MECHANISM.

(Application filed Nov. 1, 1897.)

(No Model.)

4 Sheets-Sheet 2.



No. 612,681.

Patented Oct. 18, 1898.

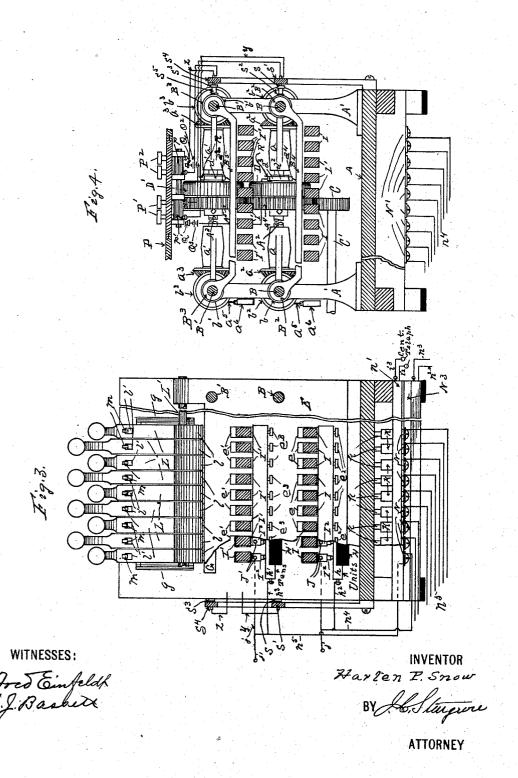
H. P. SNOW.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE MECHANISM.

(Application filed Nov. 1, 1897.)

(No Model.)

4 Sheets-Sheet 3.



No. 612,681.

Patented Oct. 18, 1898.

H. P. SNOW.

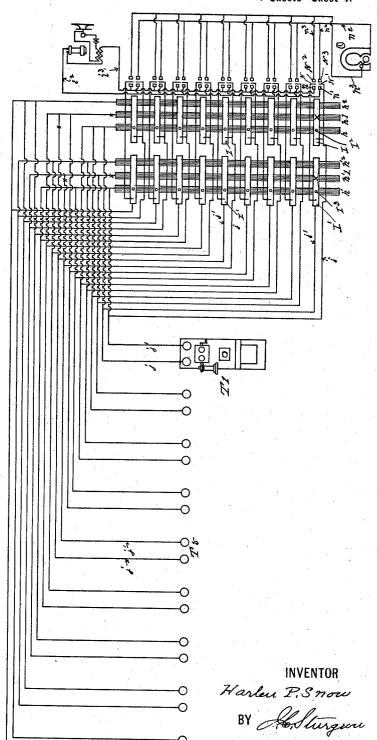
TELEPHONE EXCHANGE MECHANISM.

(Application filed Nov. 1, 1897.)

(No Model.)

4 Sheets-Sheet 4.

ATTORNEY



WITNESSES: Fred Einfeldh F. J. Barrier

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARLEN P. SNOW, OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO FREDERICK C. JARECKI, OF SAME PLACE.

TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE MECHANISM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 612,681, dated October 18, 1898.

Application filed November 1, 1897. Serial No. 657,033. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:
Beitknown that I, HARLEN P. SNOW, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Erie, in the county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone-Exchange Mechanism; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable 10 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 and numerals of reference marked thereon, forming part of this specifi-

15 cation. This invention relates to improvements in telephone-exchange mechanism; and it consists substantially in the mechanism for automatically connecting telephone-circuits illus-20 trated by the accompanying drawings, the several views embodying portions only of a complete exchange mechanism, which ordinarily comprises sufficient drops and circuit connections for one hundred telephones. The 25 drawings, however, show the two sets of keys of ten each complete, and the connections are made by the combined use of the keys in each series, which are hereinafter designated as "units-keys" and "tens-keys," one of the 30 units and one of the tens keys being used to complete each circuit, which admits of one hundred combinations therewith. There are, however, only a limited number of the sliding bars and drops shown; but in a complete 35 machine there would be one hundred drops and one hundred sliding bars in each series. Each of the latter connects to one side of a telephone-circuit, while the insulated crossbars with which the sliding bars connect are 40 shown complete, as there are only ten in each series, designated as "units" and "tens" series, each of these cross-bars in a complete machine being connected with one side of ten circuits, (though in the drawings these insu-45 lated cross-bars are only shown as connected with one circuit each,) as it is through these bars that the combinations are formed for connecting the different circuits.

The invention is hereinafter fully set forth 50 and explained, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which-

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of a section of my improved telephone-exchange mechanism, parts thereof being broken away. Fig. 2 is a side view, partially in elevation and 55 partially in section, of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the same on the line xxin Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow a. Fig. 4 is a transverse section of the same on the line x x, looking in the direction 60 of the arrow b. Fig. 5 is a diagrammatic view of the connections of a series of telephones therewith.

In the construction of my invention thus illustrated, A is the base-plate of the frame 65 of the machine, upon one end of which are secured standards A', which support bearings a a' of transverse shafts A² and A³ and bearings b b' of screws B B B' B'. (See Figs. 1, 2, and 4.) On the shafts A² and A³ are loose gear- 70 wheels A^4 and A^5 , which intermesh with each other and are driven by a pinion C on a shaft C', driven by any convenient motive power, which intermeshes with the gear-wheel A^4 . These gear-wheels A^4 and A^5 are connected 75 with the shafts A² and A³ by means of electrically-operated friction-clutches D and D', hereinafter described, connected with the shafts A^2 and A^3 . The ends of the shafts A^2 and A³ are provided with bevel-gears a^2 a^2 80 and a^3 a^3 , which intermesh with bevel-gears b^2 b^2 and b^3 b^3 on the ends of the screws B B and B' B'. The screws B B are right and left hand screws and have traveling nuts B2 B2 thereon, connected together by a transverse 85 bar B4, and the screws B' B' are right and left hand screws and have traveling nuts B3 B3 thereon, connected together by a transverse bar B⁵, so that the screws B² B² and B³ B³ when rotated by the gearing move the nuts go thereon and their connecting-bars forward as the screws are rotated. On one end of each of the shafts A^2 and A^3 are spools a^4 , around which cords a⁵ pass and connect with weights a⁶ a⁶, which operate to reverse the motion of 95 the shafts A² and A³ when the clutches D and D'are released, and thereby rotate the screws B B and B' B' in the opposite direction, so as to move the nuts B2 B2 and B3 B3 back to their normal position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

On the central portion of the base A there is secured an upright bearing E, and on the 612,681

rear end of the base A is secured an upright bearing F. Extending between the upper portions of these bearings E and F there is a board or platform G, upon which is secured a series 5 of upright magnets g, as and for the purpose hereinafter set forth, and below this platform G there are two platforms H and H' of non-conducting material, to the upper surfaces of each of which are secured ten transverse to bars h, indicating units, and ten transverse bars h', indicating tens, insulated from each other, and wires h^2 and h^3 connect one of each of said bars with the wires n^4 and n^5 , connecting with the lines to subscribers' tele-These connections, as shown, are merely illustrative of the connections which can be made, as each of the units-bars h and each of the tens-bars h' represent one side of ten telephone-circuits, as through these two 20 series of bars connections are made through series of bars I I' and the sliding brushes I² and I³ for a hundred circuits. Äbove each of these rows of transverse bars h and h' are rows of longitudinal bars I, indicating units, 25 and I' indicating tens, there being a unitsbar and a tens-bar for each subscriber. These bars pass through slots e and e' in the upright E and slots f and f' in the upright F, and on the front of the upright E are small spring-30 dogs e^2 and e^3 , adapted to engage notches iand i' in the under sides of the longitudinal bars I and I', as and for the purpose hereinafter set forth. The slots e and e' in the upright E, it will be observed, extend both 35 above and below the bars I and I', so as to permit the front ends of these bars to be raised and lowered, as and for the purpose hereinafter set forth. Secured to the under side of each of the longitudinal bars I and I' 40 and insulated therefrom, just in the rear of the upright E, are brushes I² and I³, adapted to contact with the upper surfaces of the transverse bars h and \bar{h}' as the bars I and I' are moved rearwardly, and passing through insulated supports f^2 and f^3 in the rear upright F are rods J and J', one for each brush I^2 and I^3 , on which said brushes slide freely, and from the rear end of each of said rods J a wire j extends to and forms one side of a tele-50 phone-circuit, and from the rear ends of each of said rods J'a wire j' extends to and forms the other side of a telephone-circuit, so that each pair of rods J J' and the wires j j' therefrom form two sides of an open circuit to one tele-55 phone, as illustrated in Fig. 2, which circuit is adapted to be connected to any other like circuit by means of the sliding brushes I2 and I3 being moved into engagement with the insulated cross-bars h h', ends of which bars 6c each connect through wires h^2 and h^3 , through lines n^4 and n^5 , with the wires j and j' of ten telephones, as is hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the upright E, in line with each of the longitudinal bars I and I', are vertical recesses in which short rods $k \ k' \ k^2$ operate, the upper end of the rod k connecting with

the under surfaces of the bars I and extending down through openings in the base, as and for the purpose hereinafter set forth, spi- 70 ral springs k^3 being placed thereon, as and for the purpose hereinafter set forth. lower end of each of the rods k there is an insulated block K, which engages with a pair of contact-strips N N', and above these con- 75 tact-strips N N' are contacts n n', with which each pair of said contact-strips is adapted to contact when raised, and from these strips wires i^2 and i^3 connect with the central office operator's telephone, and below the contact- 80 strips N N' are contacts N2 and N3, with which each pair of said contact-strips is adapted to contact when depressed, and from these contacts N^2 and N^3 wires n^2 and n^3 extend to an office-magneto O, and from each pair of the 85 contact-strips N N' wires n^4 and n^5 extend to and connect with the telephone-wires j and j', as well as with wires h^2 and h^3 from the insulated bars h h', and also with a pair of the magnets g, as illustrated in Fig. 2. The 90 rods k' extend from the upper sides of the longitudinal bars I upward and contact with the under sides of the longitudinal bars I', and the upper sections k^2 thereof extend from the upper surfaces of the bars I'upward until 95 they contact with cam-surfaces l on the lower ends of vertical drop-bars L, (only a portion of which are shown in the drawings,) pivoted on a rod L', there being one of these drops for each subscriber. Pivoted at the top of the 100 upright F are a series of bars M. These bars M extend forward through slots l' in the vertical drops L, where they are provided with hooks m on their upper surfaces adapted to engage the slots l' and retain the drops L in 105 their normal upright position. Each of these bars M forms the armature for a pair of the magnets g, and when such pair of magnets is excited by the admission of an electrical current thereto the armature M is drawn down- 110 ward, so as to release the drop L from the hook m, which allows the drop so released to fall forward, relieving the pressure of the cam-surface l thereon from the top of the rod k^2 . The spring k^3 now operates to raise the 115 rods k, k', and k^2 and at the same time raises the front ends of the longitudinal bars I and I', with which said rods contact, into the position illustrated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, and at the same time raises the pair of 120 contact-strips N N' into contact with the conductors $n n^7$, putting the central operator's telephone into circuit with the calling tele-

On a plate P are located two series of pushbuttons, one series P' designated as "units" and the other series P^2 as "tens." Hinged to the under side of the plate P are two bars p and p'. (See Figs. 1, 2, and 4.) The pushbuttons P' pass through the bar p' and are normally insulated therefrom, and the pushbuttons P^2 pass through the bar p and are normally insulated therefrom. On the lower end of each of these push-buttons there is a

contact-surface p2, adapted to form an electrical connection with the bars p or p', as the case may be, when such bar is depressed. Under the outer end of the bar p there is a 5 contact Q, with which the end of said bar engages when depressed. Under the outer end of the bar p' there is a contact Q', with which the end of said bar engages when depressed. From the contact Q a wire extends to a battery Q2 and thence to a brush R, which contacts with an insulated ring d' on the hub of the clutch D', another brush d2 forming the connection between said ring d' and the magnet in said clutch, the other end of the wire 15 from said magnet being grounded in the hub of said clutch, and from the contact Q' a wire extends to a battery Q3 and thence to a brush R', which contacts with an insulated ring d^3 on the hub of the clutch D, another brush d^4 20 forming the connection between said ring d^3 and the magnet (not shown) in said clutch, the other wire from said magnet being grounded in the hub of said clutch.

From the contact-surfaces p^2 of the push-25 buttons P' wires y extend to insulated contact-surfaces S on a horizontal bar S' at one side of the machine, parallel with and adjacent to one of the screws B, and on the nut B2, operating thereon, there is a contact-brush 30 S2, adapted to travel over the contact-surfaces S and form a connection between them and the frame of the machine, and from the contact-surfaces p^2 of the push-buttons P^2 wires z extend to insulated contact-surfaces S^3 on a 35 horizontal bar S4 at one side of the machine, parallel with and adjacent to one of the screws B', and on the nut B³, operating thereon, there is a contact-brush S5, adapted to travel over the contact-surfaces S3 and form 40 a connection between them and the frame of These figures are shown in the machine. Figs. 1, 2, and 4.

In operation it will be seen that when the operator depresses one of the push-buttons in 45 either series—say, for example, 5 in the ten series, the bar p will be depressed until it contacts with all of the contacts p^2 on said buttons except the one depressed, and also with the contact Q. A circuit will then be 50 set up through the battery Q² and the magnet in the clutch D' to the frame of the machine, and thence through the brush S5 to the first of the contact-surfaces S3, upon which it is normally at rest, and back through the 55 wire z to the bar p, which being a complete circuit will energize the magnet in the clutch D', attract the gear-wheel A5, acting as an armature therefor, and set the shaft A3 in motion, which will rotate the screws B' B' and 60 move the nuts B⁸ B³ forward. This movement will continue until the brush S5 reaches contact-surface S3, corresponding with the button 5 depressed, when the circuit will be broken and the clutch then ceasing to be op-65 erative the mechanism stops. Now if during this operation any of the horizontal bars I are raised into the position shown by the dot- I shown a section of my apparatus embodying

ted lines in Fig. 2 they will be pushed back by the cross-bar B5, connecting the nuts B3 B³, until the brush I' thereon is in contact 70 with the insulated cross-bar h', corresponding to the key depressed, and if one pushbutton in each series is depressed both sets of screws will be revolved and the brushes on the bars moved back in each series and will 75 contact with the cross-bar in each of the series h and h', as indicated by the numbers of the buttons in each series so depressed. It will be observed that the subscriber's telephone T is connected through the wires jj' and rods 80 J and J' with the brushes I^2 and I^3 , and also through the lines $j\,j'$ and wires n^4 and n^5 and h^2 and h^3 with one pair of the insulated bars h and h', and each subscriber's telephone is connected up with one pair of said rods, 85 brushes, and bars in like manner. Now if a subscriber rings up the central office the wires n^4 and n^5 , connecting with two of the magnets g, convey the current from his magneto to said magnets and causes the drop L corre- 90 sponding to his number to fall. This releases the spring k^3 and raises the rods k, k', and k^2 , also raises the front ends of the longitudinal bars I and I', as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, and also raises therewith the 95 contact-strips N N' into contact with the conductors n n', from which the wires i^2 and i^3 lead to the central telephone. The operator then asks the number desired, and when informed the buttons P' P2, indicating the num- 100 ber called for, are depressed, and bars II', corresponding to the number of the caller, are moved back by the operation of the mechanism hereinbefore described until the brushes ${
m I^2}$ and ${
m I^3}$ thereon contact with the bars h and 105 $h^\prime,$ corresponding with the numbers of the buttons depressed, where the push-buttons corresponding to the bars moved being replaced they are retained by the cross-bars B^4 and B^5 and the two telephones—the caller and called 110 for-are by this movement connected up ready for conversation. The caller's drop L is then raised into place, which depresses the bars I I' until they engage the spring-dogs e^2 and e3, after which the called drop L is pushed 115 back, as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, and this movement of the drop causes the cam-surface l on the drop to depress the rods k^2 , k', and k of the number called for, which forces the contact-strips N N $^\prime$ of that number 120 into contact with the conductors N2 and N3, from which wires n^2 and n^3 connect the officemagneto O into circuit with the person called for and rings his bell. Conversation can then be carried on between the caller and called 125 until the party calling rings off, which causes his drop to fall. This releases the bars I I' of the caller, which has been moved back to connect him with the called, and the weights U U² instantly return them to their normal 130 positions, disconnecting the caller and party In the drawings Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4 I have

only a portion of the parts of a complete telephone-exchange mechanism adapted to operate a hundred telephone-circuits, and which fully illustrates the invention and its opera-

5 tion. In Fig. 5 I have shown a diagrammatic drawing illustrating the connections of telephones by means of the mechanism of my device. This diagram, however, does not illus-10 trate a full apparatus, as only a small portion of the bars and connections of a complete exchange mechanism are shown, the object of the diagram being only illustrative and explanatory of the mechanism hereinbefore de-15 scribed. In this drawing the dark bars h and h' are the insulated bars, h and h' indicating units and tens bars, (shown in Figs. 1 and 2,) and the light bars I and I' are the longitudinally-moving bars indicating the units and tens bars I I', (illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4,) and the small dots I² and I³ thereon indicate the brushes I² and I³. (Shown in Figs. 1 The office-telephone and its connecting-wires i^2 and i^3 , connecting with the con-25 tacts N N', are the same as shown in Fig. 2. The office-magneto and its connections n^2 and n^3 , with the contacts $N^2 N^3$, illustrate the connections shown in Fig. 2, while the parts N N' indicate the contact-strips_operated by the 30 drop mechanism shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4. The wires connecting the several telephones T T with the bars $h \ \check{h}'$ and the bars $I \ \check{I}'$ illustrate, diagrammatically, the connections of the telephones therewith, as shown in the pre-35 ceding figures. Referring to diagrammatic Fig. 5, suppose telephone T' calls up the central. His drop falling connects the officephone with him, as hereinbefore described. The operator, ascertaining that he desires to talk with telephone T⁵, moves the bars I and I' so that the brushes I² and I³ thereon contact with the central bars h h', as indicated by x x. The telephones T' and T⁵ are then connected and the operator calls T5, and the 45 parties then are in communication with each other, and in like manner any two of any number of telephones so arranged can be con-

I have thus shown convenient mechanism 50 for carrying out my invention. I am aware, however, that many parts thereof can be modified in their construction without departing from the spirit of my invention; therefore

nected.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure 55 by Letters Patent of the United States, is-1. In a telephone-exchange mechanism, two series of bars, one series of which represents units and the other series tens, each of which connects with wires forming one side of tele-60 phone-circuits, two other series of bars, one series of which represents units and the other tens, each of which is adapted to be moved transversely across the corresponding firstnamed series, each of which second two se-65 ries of bars also connects with wires forming the other side of such telephone - circuits,

two series adapted to connect with bars in the first-named corresponding series, and means for moving said second two series of 70 bars longitudinally across said first-named two series of bars, substantially as set forth.

2. In a telephone-exchange mechanism, two series of bars, one series of which represents units and the other tens, each of which bars 75 is connected with wires forming one side of telephone-circuits, two other series of bars, one series of which represents units and the other tens, each of which bars connects with wires forming the other side of such tele- 80 phone-circuits each of said last-named two series being adapted to be moved longitudinally across the one of the first-named two series corresponding therewith, brushes on the bars of the last-named two series adapted 85 to contact with the bars in the corresponding first-named series when moved across them as above described, signaling and drop mechanism connected in circuit with the lines to and from the telephones connected with said 90 lines, and mechanism for moving the bars in said second-named two series across the firstnamed two series, substantially as set forth.

3. In a telephone-exchange mechanism, an office-telephone normally out of connection 95 with all of the subscribers' telephones, drop mechanism comprising means adapted to be operated by the caller's ring and automatically connect such calling telephone with the operator's office-telephone, and mechan- 100 ism connected with said drops adapted when a drop is pushed back to ring up a telephone called for, substantially as set forth.

4. In a telephone - exchange mechanism, bars I I'connected in telephone-circuits, tele- 105 phone drop mechanism comprising means for engaging said bars, so constructed as to raise the bars communicating with the caller's telephone when the drop falls in response to the caller's ring and means released by the 110 drop for automatically connecting the caller's telephone with the operator's telephone, substantially as set forth.

5. In a telephone-exchange mechanism, a set of longitudinally-movable bars, having 115 contact-brushes thereon connected with wires forming one side of telephone-circuits, and adapted to be moved longitudinally across a set of transverse bars connected with wires forming the other side of said telephone-cir- 120 cuits, so that said brushes will contact therewith, drop mechanism for automatically raising each of said longitudinally-movable bars when the drop connected therewith is operated, mechanism for moving the longitudinal 125 bars in one direction when so raised, pushbutton, contact and battery mechanism for starting, keeping in motion and stopping said actuating mechanism, dog mechanism for retaining the bars in the positions to which they 130 are so moved, and weight mechanism for reversing and moving back said actuating mechanism, mechanism connected with the drop brushes on each of the bars of said last-named | for releasing the bar so moved forward, and

612,681

weight mechanism for returning the bars when so released to their normal position, substan-

tially as set forth.

6. In a telephone-exchange mechanism, two 5 sets of longitudinally-movable bars, each set of which have brushes connected with wires forming one side of telephone-circuits and adapted to contact with corresponding sets of transverse bars connected with wires forming 10 the other sides of said telephone-circuits, drop mechanism for automatically raising the longitudinal bars in both sets thereof corresponding with each drop, actuating mechanism for simultaneously moving the bars in both sets 15 when so raised longitudinally in one direction, push-button, contact, battery and clutch mechanism for starting, keeping in motion and stopping said actuating mechanism, dog mechanism for retaining said bars in the po-20 sitions to which they are so moved, weight mechanism for moving the actuating mechanism in the reverse direction, mechanism connecting the drops with the bars corresponding thereto for simultaneously releasing the 25 bars so moved forward from the dogs, and weight mechanism connected with the bars for simultaneously moving them back when so released to their normal positions, substantially as set forth.

7. In a telephone-exchange mechanism, units transverse bars h, tens transverse bars h', wires h^2 and h^3 connecting with telephonecircuits, units longitudinally-movable bars I, tens longitudinally-movable bars I', brushes

35 I2 and I3 on said movable bars I I', and rods J and J' and wires j j' connecting said brushes with telephone-circuits, drops L and rods k^2 k' k connecting with the bars I I' and operated by the cam-surfaces on said drops for 40 moving said rods in one direction, and a spring k^3 operating said rods in an opposite

direction, lever-catches M and magnets g for releasing said drops L, an insulated block K on the lower end of the rod k and contactstrips N N' actuated thereby, substantially 45

as and for the purpose set forth.

8. In a telephone - exchange mechanism, lines n^4 and n^5 connecting the subscriber's telephone with magnets g g and with transverse bars h h', conductors n n' connected by 50 wires i^2 and i^3 with the operator's office-telephone, conductors N2 and N3 connected by wires n^2 and n^3 with the office-magneto O, contact-strips N N' connected with the lines n^4 and n^5 adapted to contact with the con- 55 ductors n n' or the conductors N^2 and N^3 and the rods k k' and k^2 and the drop L and spring k^3 for operating said contact-strips N N', substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

9. In a telephone - exchange mechanism, 60 gear and clutch mechanism and screws operated thereby, nuts on said screws connected by transverse bars, two series of push-buttons P' P2, contact-points p^2 on said pushbuttons, wires y and z from said contact- 65 points to contacts S and S3, brushes S2 and S5 on the nuts B² and B³ adapted to contact with said contacts S and S³, contact-plates p and p' adapted to be actuated by said push-buttons P' and P2 and contact with the contact- 70 points p^2 thereon and with contacts Q and Q' connecting with batteries Q² and Q³, and thence to and through the magnets in the clutches D and D', and thence to the machine-frame, substantially as and for the pur- 75 pose set forth.

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

HARLEN P. SNOW.

Witnesses:

FRED. EINFELDT, A. L. Jackson.