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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SWITCH FOR CONTROLLING ELECTRIC CIRCUITS.

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My present invention has reference to a switch for controlling electric circuits, such for instance as the lamps in the different transparent compartments in a direction signal housing for automobiles, and the improvement resides in the construction, combination and operative association of parts, a satisfactory embodiment of which is illustrated by the accompanying drawings.

The figure illustrates a side elevation of my improved switch, the parts being in section.

I have not deemed it necessary to illustrate the electric wire, but it is understood that one wire of the different circuits is connected directly to the switch proper, and the other wires are connected to binding posts which are associated with the contacts that are engageable by the switch.

The switch comprises a frame having a flat face 18, upstanding rightangular sides 19 and an arcuate top 20 connecting the sides. The top has an elongated centrally arranged slot 21 therethrough. The top is preferably of insulating material, but, as a matter of fact, the frame for the switch may be of light material. Passing through the slot 21 of the frame there is a push rod 22 having an outer headed end 23. Pivotally secured to the push rod 22 there are laterally extending arms 24 and 25 respectively. Surrounding each rod there is a helical spring 26. The push rod 22 is influenced in an upward direction from the frame by a spring 27, suitable stop means being provided for limiting the push rod in such direction. The outer end of the push rod is of insulating material, but the inner portions thereof are in the nature of electric conductors. The arms 24 and 25 as well as the lower portion of the push rod are in the nature of circuit closures, each being movable to engage the contacts 28, 29 and 30 respectively. The contacts provide binding posts for the positive wires from the plate to the bulbs in the several compartments in a signal casing, while a ground wire is connected between the switch and the frame of the automobile.

The push rod is provided with an elongated opening 32 that receives therethrough a guide pin 33 so that free lateral movement of the said push rod will be prevented.

Having described the invention, I claim:

A switch for controlling the electric circuits as herein described, comprising a casing of insulating material having contacts at the sides and on the bottom thereof, a slotted metal rod received in the casing having one end passing through the top of the casing, a pin passing through the slot of the rod, and the inner end of said rod being disposed directly above the contact on the bottom of the casing, spring means influencing the rod outward of the casing to bring the same normally out of engagement with the mentioned contact, said rod having laterally extending arms whose ends are disposed in alignment with the side contacts in the casing, and springs surrounding the arms and exerting a pressure against the rod to hold said arms normally out of engagement with said last mentioned contacts.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

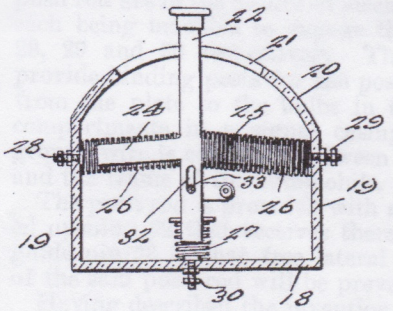
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