

ABSTRACT

In an electronic timepiece, in which electric power generated by a solar cell (101) is accumulated in an accumulator device (104) and a time keeping means (105) is driven with the accumulated electric power, an electrically on-off controllable switch (102) is provided in a circuit for charging the accumulator device (104) by the solar cell (101), a voltage comparison means (103) intermittently brings the switch (102) into the off-state at predetermined intervals and compares the generated voltage (V_s) by the solar cell and the accumulated voltage (V_b) in the accumulator device (104), and keeps the switch (102) in the off-state as it is when $V_s \leq V_b$ and brings the switch (102) into the on-state when $V_s > V_b$ in accordance with the comparison result. Thereby, a reverse flow of an electric current from the accumulator device (104) can be prevented and a voltage drop on charging is eliminated, resulting in enhancement in charging efficiency.