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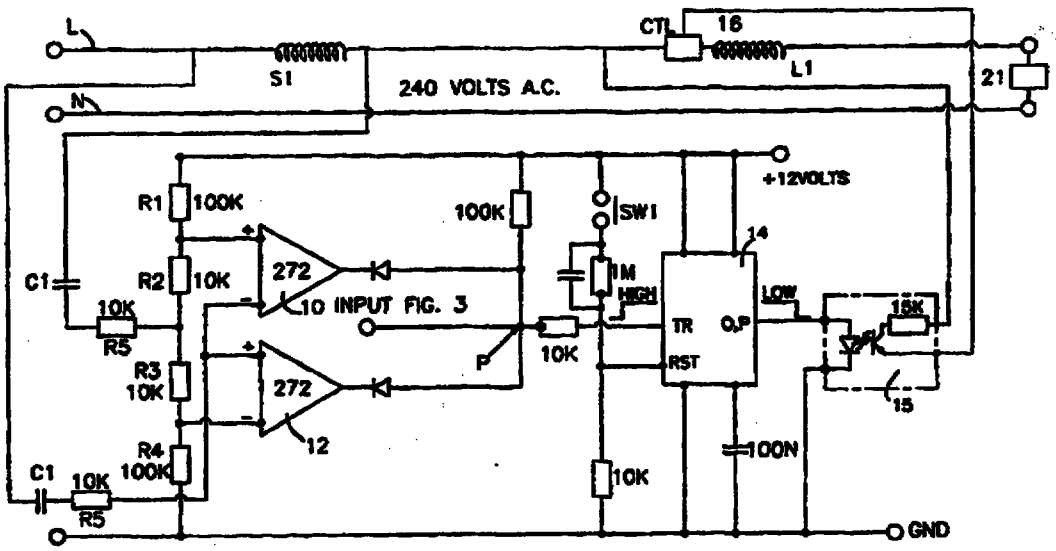
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(57) Abstract

A power cut-off device for an a.c. mains having live and neutral conductors comprises a pair of comparators (10, 12) for comparing the voltage drop across an impedence (S1) in the live conductor (L) with a threshold value, and a photorelay (15) responsive to the comparators for turning off a triac (16) to disconnect the live conductor from a load (Z1) if the threshold is exceeded.