This diagram is for the circuit to empty a tank, using two normally open float switches and a two pole changeover relay. The bottom switch will be closed provided the liquid is above that switch point. The liquid rises until the top float switch closes and energises the relay. One set of relay contacts connects the pump to the supply and the other maintains the relay on-state, while the level falls towards the bottom switch. The relay will be held in the energised state until the bottom float switch opens, so releasing the relay and cutting off the supply to the pump.

Contact protection measures are advisable to avoid back e.m.f. induced overvoltage transients, which can cause damage to the reed switch contacts.

AC Control - It is advisable to fit a 375V bi-directional Transil across the relay coil terminals, if the control voltage is 240Vac.

DC Control - A 1A Silicon diode (IN4006) should be connected across the coil terminals, if the control voltage is DC (see diagram below)

This circuit can also be used for controlling the filling of a tank, by using normally closed float switches and swapping the connections to the two float switches.