### FIGURE 2.5.
The automaton of Figure 2.4 recognizes several tokens. The symbol $|$ indicates the input position at each successive call to the lexical analyzer, the symbol $\bot$ indicates the current position of the automaton, and $\top$ indicates the most recent position in which the recognizer was in a final state.

## 2.4 NONDETERMINISTIC FINITE AUTOMATA

A nondeterministic finite automaton (NFA) is one that has a choice of edges – labeled with the same symbol – to follow out of a state. Or it may have special edges labeled with $\epsilon$ (the Greek letter epsilon) that can be followed without eating any symbol from the input.

Here is an example of an NFA: