

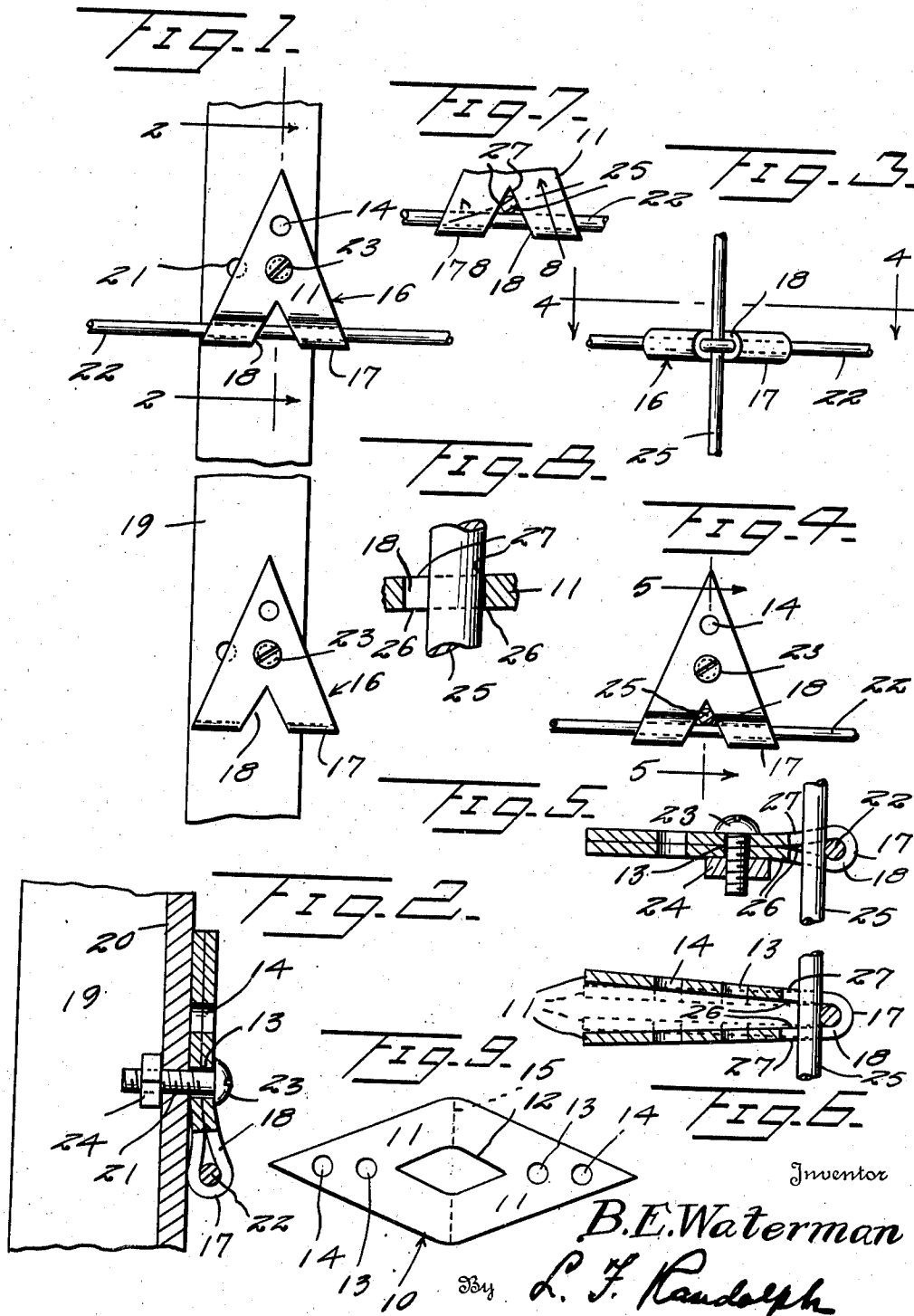
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FENCE WIRE CLAMP

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FENCE WIRE CLAMP

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3 Claims. (Cl. 256—54)

This invention relates to an improved construction of a clamp for attaching horizontal strands of fence wire to fence posts and which clamps are also intended and adapted for use in connecting the horizontal and vertical strands of wire forming a fence at the intersections thereof.

More particularly, it is an aim of the invention to provide a clamp for the above described purposes of simple construction and which can be quickly and easily applied or removed and by means of which adjustment may be readily made in the strands of wire, held by the clamp, by releasing the clamp to permit the strands of wire to be moved relatively thereto.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will hereinafter become more fully apparent from the following description of the drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment thereof, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view showing two of the clamps applied to a fence post,

Figure 2 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken substantially along the plane of the line 2—2 of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is an elevational view of another application of the clamp,

Figure 4 is a horizontal sectional view taken substantially along the plane of the line 4—4 of Figure 3,

Figure 5 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially along the plane of the line 5—5 of Figure 4,

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 5 showing the clamp in the position that it will assume when used without the fastening for clamping to the strands of fence wire,

Figure 7 is a fragmentary top plan view showing the clamp in its position of Figure 6,

Figure 8 is an enlarged sectional view taken substantially along the plane of the line 8—8 of Figure 7, and

Figure 9 is a plan view of the blank from which the clamp is formed.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts throughout the different views, and referring particularly to Figure 9, 10 designates generally an elongated strip of metal having corresponding end portions 7 the longitudinal edges of which converge to points from the intermediate portion of the strip 10. Strip 10 is relatively wide intermediate of its ends and is provided in its intermediate portion with an opening 12 which is elongated and disposed

lengthwise thereof, and which is preferably of the same shape substantially as the strip 10. Between ends of the opening 12 and the remote ends of the portions 11, said portions 11 are provided with longitudinally spaced, similarly disposed openings 13 and 14. Strip 10 is adapted to be folded upon itself intermediate of its ends and along the dotted line 15 to form a clamp, designated generally 16, having a relatively wide folded end 17 which is provided with a substantially V-shaped notch 18 which opens outwardly of the fold 17 and which is formed by the two corresponding end portions of the opening 12. When the strip 10 is thus folded, the openings 13 and 14 of the end portions 11 are disposed substantially in alignment, as best seen in Figure 2.

In Figures 1 and 2 the clamp 16 is shown applied to a conventional metal fence post 19 having a side 20 provided with spaced openings 21. To attach a horizontal strand of wire 22 to the fence post 19, a portion of the strand 22 is positioned in the fold 17, as best seen in Figure 2, after which either of the pair of openings 13 or 14 is positioned in alignment with one of the openings 21 and a bolt 23 is passed through said openings and a nut 24 is applied to the threaded end of the bolt for detachably fastening the clamp 16 to the fence post 19 and for drawing the end portions 11 together so that the strand of wire 22 will be frictionally clamped in the fold 17. In Figure 1 two of the clamps 16 are shown mounted one above the other on the post 19 and with the strand of wire 22 extending through one of the clamps while the other clamp is shown without a strand of wire extending therethrough.

In Figures 3, 4 and 5 the clamp 16 is shown applied for connecting a horizontal and vertical strand of wire forming a part of a fence and when thus employed the clamp 16 is disposed substantially in a horizontal position and with the horizontal strand of wire 22 extending through the fold 17 thereof in substantially the same manner as the strand is applied to the clamp in Figure 1. The strand 22 combines with the inner portion of the notch 18 to form an opening in the vertical strand of wire 25, as best seen in Figures 4 and 5. The strands of wire 22 and 25 are applied to the clamp 16 while its end portions 11 are disposed substantially parallel. A nut bolt fastening 23, 24 is then applied, preferably to the openings 13 for drawing the end portions 11 together, as seen in Figure 5, so that the vertical strand 25 will frictionally engage the inner edges 26 of the notch 18 and the strand 22, and so that

the strand 22 will also frictionally engage the inner side of the folded portion 17 to hold the two strands clamped in the clamp 16.

As illustrated in Figures 6, 7 and 8, clamp 16 can also be utilized for holding the strands 22 and 25 without the fastening 23, 24. If thus employed, the strands 22 and 25 are applied in the same manner as previously described and while end portions 11 are held substantially parallel, as indicated by the dotted lines in Figure 6. End portions 11 are then released and due to the resiliency of the clamp will spring away from one another to their full line position of Figure 6. This will cause the outer edges 27 of the notch 18 to frictionally engage the strand 25 and to retain it in frictional engagement with the strand 22 so as to hold the strand 22 in frictional engagement with the inner side of the fold 17 for effectively holding both of the strands in the clamp 16.

Various modifications and changes are contemplated and may obviously be resorted to, provided they fall within the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter defined by the appended claims, as only a preferred embodiment of the invention has been disclosed.

I claim as my invention:

1. A fence wire clamp comprising an elongated

plate of relatively resilient material, said plate having an elongated opening, disposed longitudinally of the plate and intermediate of its ends, the walls of the ends of said opening acutely disposed, said plate being folded upon itself, intermediate of its ends, said opening forming a notch which opens outwardly of the folded part of the plate, said fold being adapted to have a strand of wire extending therethrough, the strand of wire combining with the notch to form an opening adapted to receive a second strand of wire, said second strand of wire frictionally engaging edges of the notch and the first mentioned strand to frictionally retain the strands in the clamp.

2. A clamp as in claim 1, the ends of the plate being normally disposed in diverging relationship so that the outer edges of the notch will frictionally engage the second mentioned strand, and said ends being movable to parallel positions for releasing the strands from frictional engagement.

3. A clamp as in claim 1, the end portions of the plate having aligned openings to receive fastening means for clamping the end portions together so that the strands will be frictionally engaged by the clamp.

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