May 29, 1934. J. W. MAAS 1,960,541

FENCE HOOK

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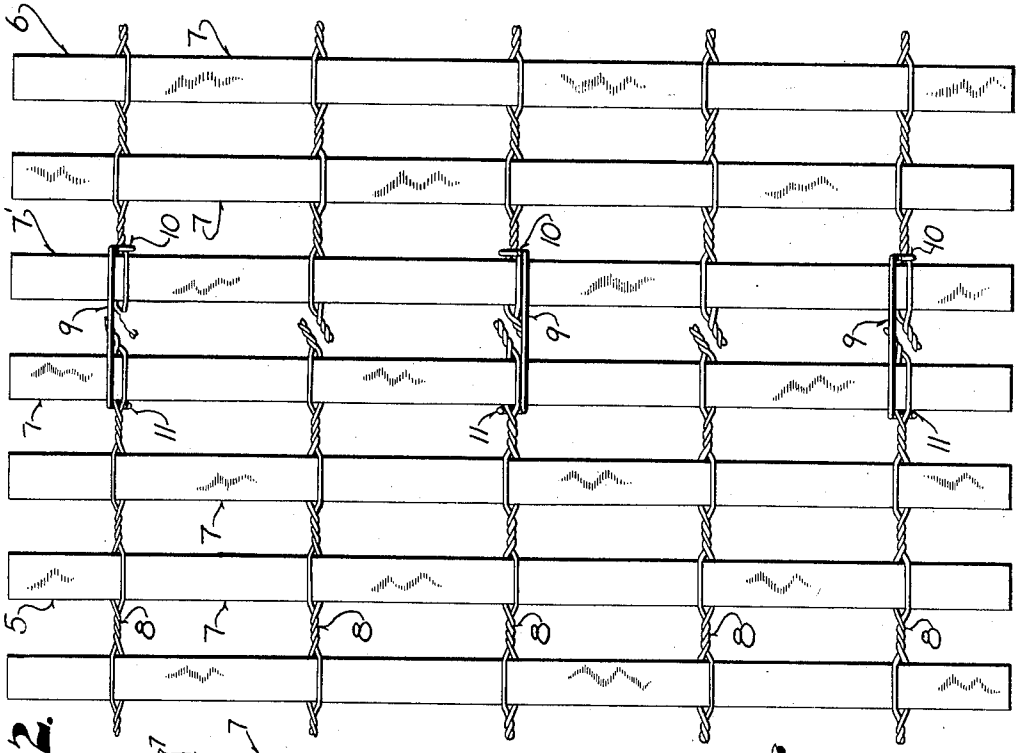


Fig. 2.

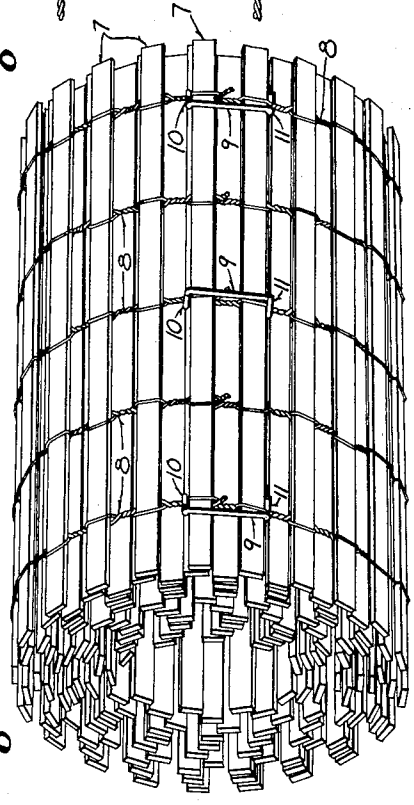


Fig. 1.

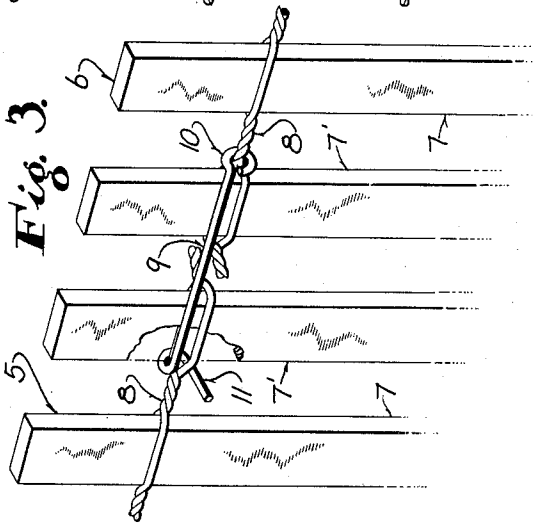


Fig. 3.

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FENCE HOOK

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3 Claims. (Cl. 256—1)

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in fences and refers particularly to snow fences.

These fences are put up along highways during the winter season as a protection against excessive drifts, and as they are usually placed upon the fields of farmers and of necessity, at a substantial distance from the highway, they cannot be permanent structures, but must be set up and taken down each season. For this reason, they must be light in construction and capable of being rolled up to permit them to be conveniently stored during the period of year when not in use.

The most practical construction for fences of this nature has been found to consist of spaced vertical slats tied together by wire links.

The fences are usually in sections of convenient lengths, which when the fence is set up for use, are placed end to end.

Heretofore, the adjacent ends of fence sections have been tied together by wire or cords which at best is but a makeshift and impractical arrangement. In the first place, it requires considerable time, both in making the connection and in taking it off, and when the wire is removed at the time the fence is taken down, it is usually thrown away onto the field of the farmer where it is apt to be caught in reaping machines and other farm machinery.

After the fences are taken down and the sections are rolled up, it is then also necessary to provide some means for tying down the outer end of the roll. This has also been done merely by tying a wire about the endmost slat and an adjacent slat, which obviously is an impractical and time consuming operation.

With these objections to the existing manner of connecting the adjacent sections of snow fences in mind, it is an object of this invention to provide a simple convenient connecting member permanently attached to one end of each section and readily detachably engageable with the adjacent end of another section.

With the above and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, my invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts substantially as hereinafter described and more particularly defined by the appended claims, it being understood that such changes in the precise embodiment of the herein disclosed invention may be made as come within the scope of the claims.

In the accompanying drawing, I have illustrated one complete example of the physical embodiment of my invention constructed according to the best mode I have so far devised for the practical application of the principles thereof, and in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a section of a conventional snow fence rolled up for storage and illustrating the manner in which the outer end is held in place;

Figure 2 is a side view showing the adjacent end portions of two connected sections of fence; and

Figure 3 is an enlarged detail perspective view illustrating the specific construction of the connecting member.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawing in which like numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views, the numerals 5 and 6 indicate two sections of a snow fence which, when in use, are set up end to end, as illustrated in Figures 2 and 3.

Each section comprises a series of spaced vertical slats 7, tied together by wire links 8. The slats 7 are usually formed of wood impregnated with some suitable preservative and the wire links 8 are formed by weaving two lengths of wire about the slats as illustrated.

As stated, when the fence sections are set up for use, they are disposed in end to end relationship with their endmost slats 7' spaced and parallel, to be held against separation by connecting members 9. The connecting members 9 are preferably formed of stiff wire, and the opposite ends thereof are bent at substantially right angles. One of the angularly directed end portions 10 is curled or looped about one of the connecting links 8 at the end of one of the fence sections so that the connecting member is thereby permanently and freely movably connected to the said fence section.

The other angularly directed end 11 of the connecting member, is formed as an open hook to be readily detachably engageable over the adjacent wire tie link 8 at the end of the other fence section. When in use, the angularly directed ends of the connecting link bear against the edges of their respective end slats 7' and securely hold these slats against separation.

If desired, a connecting member may be provided for each row of wire ties 8 or the connecting members may be mounted at only certain of the rows of wire ties as illustrated in the present instance.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains, that the con-

necting members 9 afford convenient and simple means for quickly connecting the adjacent ends of snow fence sections, and that by reason of the shape and construction of the connecting members, accidental detachment is impossible as it requires a definite movement together of the ends of the sections and a positive turning of the connecting members to disengage their hooks 11 from the ties about which they are engaged.

It is observed that in the present instance, three connecting members are employed and that the central link is inverted with respect to the other links; that is, its open hook 11 points upwardly, whereas the hooks of the other two links point downwardly. This guards against possible disengagement of all of the hooks in the event of vertical shifting between the adjacent ends of the fence sections.

It is also readily apparent that the connecting members 9 not only afford convenient and simple means for readily detachably connecting the adjacent ends of snow fence sections, but that they also provide convenient means to tie down the free end of the sections when they are rolled up for storage.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. In combination with a fence comprising end to end sections, each consisting of spaced slats tied together by wire links, means to readily detachably connect the sections comprising a formed wire hook member having a loop at one end permanently engaged over a wire tie link at the end portion of one section and having an open hook at its other end bent laterally to engage over an edge of a slat and about an adjacent wire tie link on the end portion of the other section.

2. In combination with a fence comprising end to end sections, each consisting of spaced slats tied together by wire links, means to readily detachably connect the sections comprising a formed wire connecting member having its end portions directed angularly to be substantially perpendicular to the connecting member, one of said angularly directed end portions being curled about a wire tie link at the end of one section to permanently connect said member to said section and the other angularly directed end of the connecting member being formed as an open hook for readily detachable engagement over a wire tie link on the end portion of the other section, said angularly directed end portions of the connecting member being engageable over the endmost slats of the sections to retain the same against spreading.

3. A hook for readily detachably connecting adjacent sections of a snow fence having parallel slats connected by wire tie links, said hook comprising a length of wire having its end portions bent at substantially right angles to the major medial portion to engage over the opposite edges of end slats of each section, one of said right angularly bent end portions being looped for permanent connection to one of the wire tie links of one of the fence sections and the other right angularly bent end portion being formed as an open hook to be readily detachably engageable with a wire tie link of the other section.

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