



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## FENCE STRUCTURE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 256—32)

The invention relates to improvements in fence structure with more particular reference to supporting means therefor.

An object of the invention is to provide a fence of distinctive character which can be built in a variety of designs to suit individual tastes and which will have utility wherever a protective fence of unique decorative character is desired.

Accordingly the invention contemplates fence structure including a chain-link wire fabric having a decorative top portion running longitudinally thereof and formed by combining with the chain link fence a section of ornamental iron fencing. The design of the latter can be made according to specification while the chain-link may be one of several standard designs either the diamond mesh, parallelogram mesh or triangular mesh fabric. By combining the two types of fencing the resulting structure has the advantage of cheapness compared to that of an ornamental iron fence, although retaining the decorative features to relieve the monotonous appearance of the chain-link fabric.

A further object is the provision of supporting means for the fence structure described which will provide a strong rigid support for the top section of ornamental iron fence while permitting uninterrupted passage of the chain-link fabric.

A further object is to provide a supporting post of simple construction, which will enhance the appearance of the combination fence, and a post which can be used for securing the ends of the chain-link fabric or for supporting intermediate sections of the fabric, the particular function of the post depending on its relative position in the fence structure.

With these and various other objects in view, the invention may consist of certain novel features of construction and operation as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the specification, drawing and claims appended hereto.

In the drawing which illustrates an embodiment of the device and wherein like reference characters are used to designate like parts—

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a section of fence constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken vertically of the structure showing an end post;

Figure 3 is an enlarged detail sectional view taken along line 3—3 of Figure 1; and

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view taken along line 4—4 of Figure 1.

The bottom section of fence is formed of a length of chain-link wire fabric 10 including a plurality of wire strands 12, 14, etc., which extend transversely or height-wise of the fence and are so shaped as to interlock with one another, adjacent strands at their ends being twisted as at 16. The top section of the fence structure includes a length of ornamental iron fence formed of spaced members running longitudinally of the structure. The lower member 18 is of angle shape in cross section, having one leg disposed substantially horizontally and the other leg depending to improve the appearance of the front elevation of the fence by providing a shield for the terminal ends 16 of the chain-link fabric. The upper member 20 is channel-shaped and positioned so that the channel is directed downwardly, the member being joined to its companion lower member by vertically extending pickets 22 which project a distance above chamber 20 for decorative purposes. Scrolls indicated 24 are located between the spaced members and are secured at one end to each other and at their opposite end to the pickets 22 by links 26. Any decorative design of scroll may be employed, the particular design shown having been selected merely for illustrative purposes.

The supporting posts for the combined fence structure are formed of spaced channel members 28, the legs of the members being directed toward each other to position the channels in facing relation. Secured in any suitable manner to the top of the post is a decorative unit 30, while intermediate the ends are located securing bars 32 and 34, respectively. The upper bar 32 projects from the sides of the post for securement by rivets 36 or other means to the upper channel bar 20 on the respective sides of the post and the lower bar 34 also projects from the sides of the post for securement by rivets 36 to the lower angle member 18 on the respective sides thereof. Each bar is located between the channel members 28 of the post and is engaged by the legs of the members, being held in position vertically of the post by means of the joining bolts 38 which extend through the members, receiving locking nut 40, drawing the members tightly together into engagement with the spaced bars 32 and 34, respectively. In the illustrated embodiment it will be observed that the joining bolts are located to the outside of their adjacent securing bar, which makes for a secure and

rigid construction since the bars when joined to the longitudinal members of the ornamental section of fence are thus held against vertical movement, while lateral movement is limited by the joining bolts and the abutting ends of the longitudinal members.

The spacing of the channel members 28 forming the post provides for uninterrupted passage of the chain-link fabric as more particularly shown in Figure 4 and which is necessary at those supporting points located intermediate the length of the fence. In addition to the supporting post permitting passage of the chain link fabric, while providing an adequate support for the decorative top section, it also helps to support the chain link fabric to prevent sagging of the intermediate portions of the fence. The width between the inner edges of the spaced members 28 has been designed so that the members may engage with the chain link fabric, applying a slight pressure thereto sufficient to retain the fabric in its proper position.

The end supporting posts are the same construction with the exception that the securing bars 32 and 34 project from only the inner side of the post. These end posts are also employed as supports for the chain link fabric and for this purpose are provided with a plurality of sectional collars 40 disposed in spaced relation vertically of the post, each collar encircling the post to engage with a section of the end wire strand and being secured in position vertically of the post by the locking bolt 42.

The fence of the present invention has all the protective features of the chain link fabric with the added quality of distinctiveness in design. The form of supporting post has been particularly selected for this type of fence since it is desirable that the chain-link fabric consist of an uninterrupted length from end to end as is usual in fence of this character, and that the ornamental fence consist of sections interrupted by the posts to add to their decorative designs. Although the bottom member of the iron fence is shown of angle cross-section it is obvious that a member of channel cross-section could be used as is the case with the upper member and which would shield the ends of the chain-link fabric when viewed from the front of the fence as well as from the rear.

It is to be understood that I do not wish to be limited by the exact embodiment of the device shown, which is merely by way of illustration and not limitation, as various and other forms of the device will of course be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the claims.

I claim:

1. Fence structure consisting of a bottom portion formed of a length of chain-link wire fabric, a decorative top portion therefor formed of ornamental metal fencing, and supporting posts having means for supporting the metal fencing and for engaging with the wire fabric, respectively, said metal fencing providing a depending flange to shield the upper edge of the wire fabric.

2. Fence structure consisting of a bottom portion formed of a length of chain-link wire fabric, a decorative top portion therefor formed of ornamental metal fencing, and supporting posts including spaced channel-shaped members providing means for securing the metal fencing to said posts, said wire fabric having passage between the members, the legs of said channel-shaped members engaging the fabric to support the same.

3. Fence structure consisting of a bottom portion formed of a continuous length of chain-link wire fabric, a decorative top portion formed of ornamental fencing consisting of an upper and lower horizontal member having decorative elements disposed therebetween, and supporting posts for supporting the chain-link wire fabric and also the ornamental fencing, said posts comprising channel-shaped members secured together with their channels facing each other and spaced by laterally extending securing bars, said chain link wire fabric passing between the spaced channel-shaped members and said securing bars being secured to the upper and lower members respectively of the ornamental fencing.

4. Fence structure consisting of a bottom portion formed of a length of chain-link wire fabric, a decorative top portion consisting of upper and lower members having decorative elements disposed therebetween, and supporting posts for supporting the chain-link wire fabric and also the decorative top portion, said posts comprising facing channel-shaped members maintained in spaced relation by securing bars extending laterally from the posts, the upper of said securing bars having its ends united to the respective upper members of the ornamental fencing and said lower bar having its end secured to the respective lower members of said fencing, said chain-link fabric being secured to the end posts of the fence structure and passing between and being held by the members of the intermediate posts, and said bottom member of the ornamental fencing having a depending flange to shield the upper edge of the wire fabric.

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