Dec. 20, 1927. 1,653,308

J. PALTANI

FENCE STRUCTURE

Filed March 4, 1927

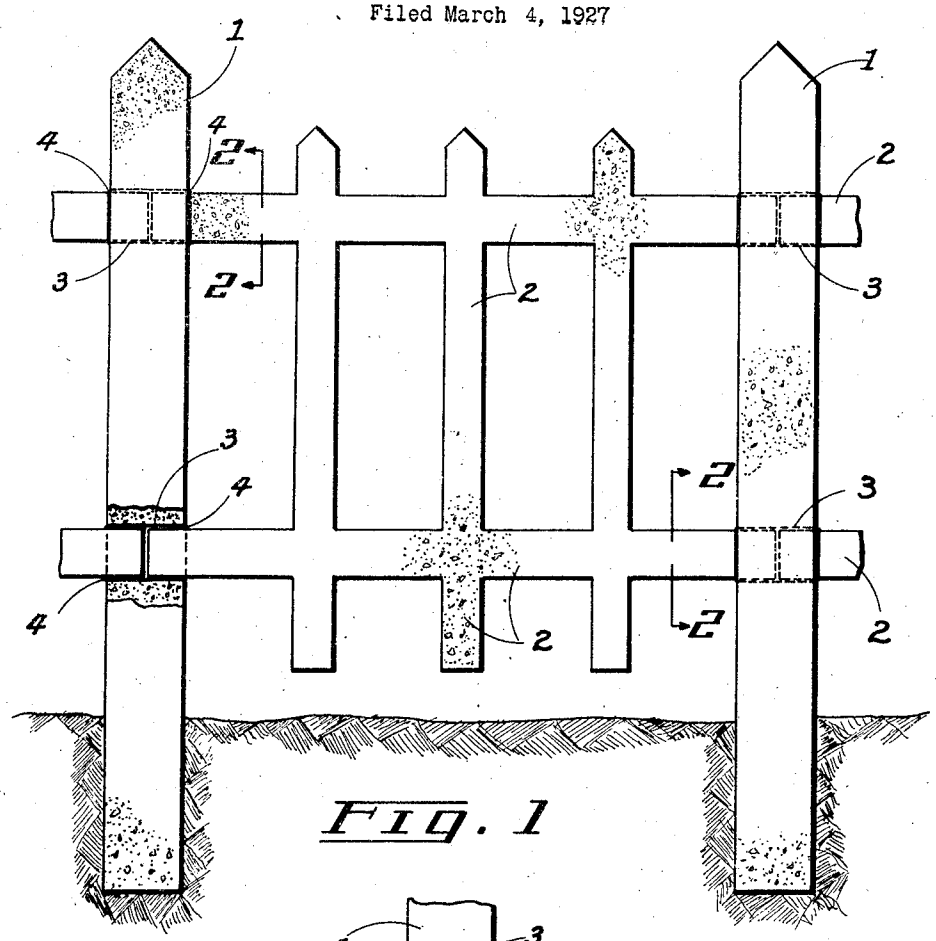


FIG. 1

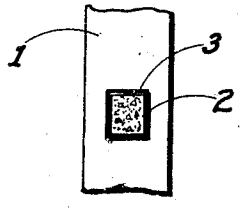


FIG. 2

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FENCE STRUCTURE.

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This invention relates to improvements in fences and the method of constructing the same.

The object of the present invention is to provide a fence constructed entirely of concrete and at the same time to devise such a structure so that it can be readily set up and, if so desired, taken down and removed to another location to be again set up.

More particularly, it is the object of my invention to mold the fence posts and panels in separate units and in such a manner that they are adapted for releasable, interlocking engagement with each other upon setting up the same.

Other objects will appear from the following description and claims when considered together with the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a portion of my improved fence structure; and Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

According to my invention, the fence posts 1 and panels 2 are formed entirely of concrete and are molded in frames of suitable form to produce the particular shape or design desired. The concrete may be reinforced to any suitable extent, as desired. Any number of posts of various designs can be kept in stock, and likewise the panels, or they can all be made up according to any special design or dimensions that may be desired for a particular fence structure. It will be observed that the panels comprise the familiar top and bottom rails and the pickets, all of which are here formed as an integral unit. That is, there are integral panel units extending between the posts. And as a means of interlocking the posts and panels together when in set up position, I have provided holes 3 through the upper and lower portions of the posts so as to snugly receive the abutting end portions of the top and bottom rails of the panel units, as indicated in the present drawings. As a means of further securing the posts and panels together, a plastic material such as cement may be applied at the joints between the same, as indicated by reference numeral 4. This cement may be chipped off whenever it is desired to move the fence.

The post and panel units may be formed at a central plant and shipped to the places of use, or they may be formed by the local contractor at the place and time desired for use. It will be seen that, for any given style of fence, only two forms of frames are required, one for the posts and the other for the panels. However, a plurality of duplicate forms or frames may be used for the purpose of speeding up the production of these units. It is to be understood that the panel units may be made of any length desired. In fact, the design and dimensions may be varied throughout without departing from the spirit of the present invention.

In setting up the fence, the post holes will be sufficiently large to permit the successive individual posts to be moved into interlocking engagement with the preceding panel. The post holes are then filled in with the earth in the same manner as in setting any other style of post.

It is to be understood that the holes 3 may be formed according to whether the post is intended for use in the manner here illustrated or at a corner. In the latter case, the hole 3 may be of a right-angular shape. And in case the post is to be used at an intersection, the hole may be in the form of a cross extending through the post in the two directions at right angle to each other. In the case of a post to be used at the end of a fence, a socket half way through the post may be used instead of a hole.

Besides being proof against the natural elements and hence destined for long life, the cost of my improved fence structure is comparatively low because of the material of which it is composed and also because of the manner or method of construction of the same. Futhermore, with my invention, it is not necessary to set the posts in moisture-proof material, because of the very nature of the material of which my improved post is composed. In other words, the lower end of each post is already provided with this protection. Thus there is precluded the additional labor and expense of setting the posts in such preservative or protective material. My invention has rendered practical the use of a material, namely concrete, which is hereby adapted for use in a fence structure and at the same time also as a means of preventing the deterioration thereof by the natural elements both above and below the ground.

As will be seen also, with my invention, no additional means is needed to connect the panels and posts together. Moreover,

with my fence constructed of concrete throughout, I am enabled to use cement as a further securing means at the joints, that is a binding material of the same nature as concrete and hence well adapted to provide an effective connection at this point. Thus the binding material, as here used, has the same general characteristics as concrete, as for instance with respect to expansion, and as a result of the method of construction herein set forth, the entire fence structure has the appearance of having been molded in place and in fact possesses even greater advantages as will be understood from the present disclosure.

Besides being comparatively inexpensive to construct as well as possessing great strength and of long life, my improved fence structure possesses an attractive appearance that is not lessened by the attack of the natural elements. By adopting various designs of posts and panels, my fence structure may be employed wherever desired and with a high degree of efficiency both as to appearance and endurance.

Because of the comparatively long projections on the panel members, as shown in Fig. 1, a broken panel can be replaced by removing the earth on one side of one adjacent post and then moving the same along the projections of the next adjacent panel. In this way there is afforded ample space for the insertion of a new panel without having to disassemble any other parts of the fence. Then, the post, which was moved laterally, is returned to its former set position and the earth returned so as to brace the post. Thus, the renewal of a panel unit is greatly facilitated.

What I claim is:

1. A fence structure comprising preliminarily and separate molded posts and panel units, said panel units comprising rails and pickets and having projections at the ends thereof, said posts having apertures therethrough to receive the end projections so as to form an interengagement, and said projections being at least as long as the length of the apertures through the posts, thereby facilitating renewal of the panel units.

2. The combination of molded posts having spaced openings therethrough, with a molded fence section having spaced projections at the ends thereof, said projections being at least as long as the length of the openings through the posts.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JAMES PALTANI.