

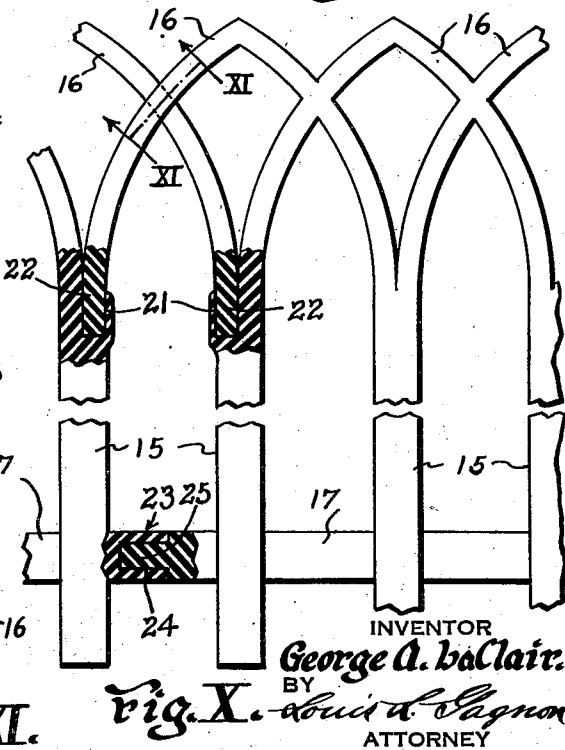
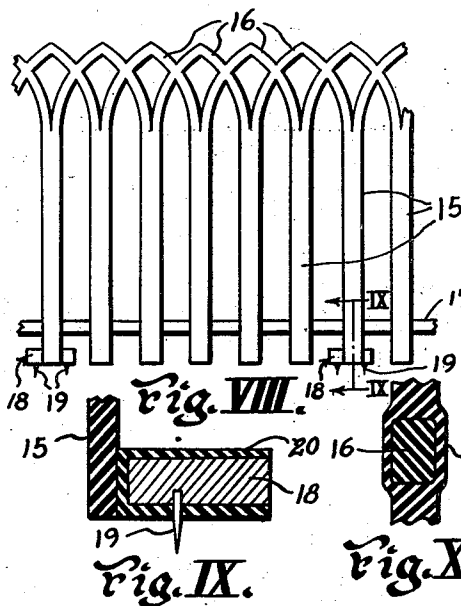
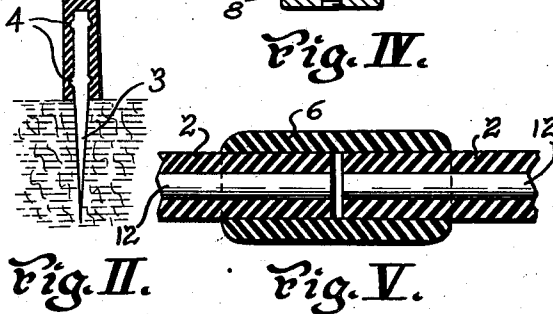
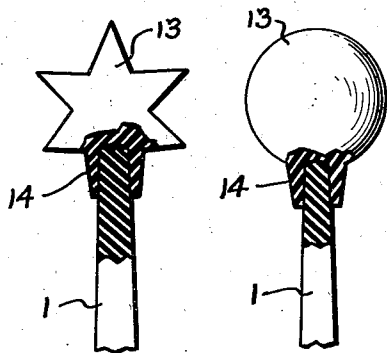
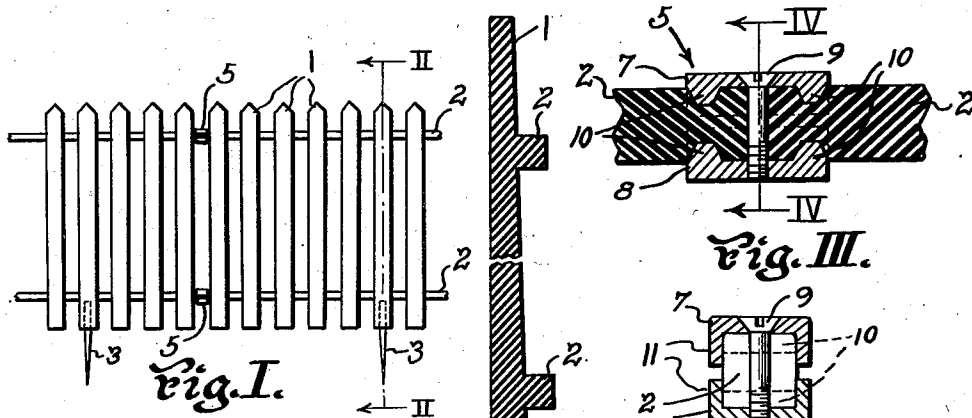
Dec. 25, 1934.

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1,985,322

FENCE

Filed June 21, 1933



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1,985,322

FENCE

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Application June 21, 1933, Serial No. 676,839

5 Claims. (Cl. 256—1)

This invention relates to improvements in barrier forming means and has particular reference to improved means and method of forming a yieldable fence.

One of the principal objects of this invention is to provide a fence construction which is normally stiff but yieldable and capable of being flexed if accidentally hit or run into and which will return to its initial set without injury to the person or vehicle by which it is struck and without injury to the fence itself.

Another important object of the invention is to provide decorative fencing means readily adaptable for use around flower gardens, lawns, and so forth, and for window display purposes.

Another object of the invention is to provide a fence which is readily adaptable for use out of doors or for use indoors and which is treated with means for prolonging its life and for durability.

Another object is to provide a fence which may be easily shaped to varying formations and having means for supporting it in said positions.

Another object is to provide means whereby the design portions of the fence may be quickly and easily changed.

Another object is to provide means whereby the fence may be varied in length as desired.

Another object is to provide means whereby the meeting ends of the fence may be quickly and easily united.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, and it will be apparent that many changes may be made in the details of construction, arrangement of parts, and methods shown and described without departing from the spirit of the invention as expressed in the accompanying claims. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the exact details and methods shown and described as the preferred forms only have been shown by way of illustration.

Referring to the drawing:

Fig. I is a front elevation of a section of one form of fence embodying the invention;

Fig. II is an enlarged sectional view taken on line II—II of Fig. I;

Fig. III is an enlarged sectional view taken through one of the connecting members shown in Fig. I;

Fig. IV is a sectional view taken on line IV—IV of Fig. III;

Fig. V is a view similar to Fig. III showing a modified form of connecting member;

Fig. VI is a fragmentary view partially in section showing a detachable decorating member;

Fig. VII is a view similar to Fig. VI showing a modified form of decorating member;

Fig. VIII is a view similar to Fig. I showing a modified form of fence;

Fig. IX is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on line IX—IX of Fig. VIII;

Fig. X is an enlarged view partially in section showing the connecting means for the meeting ends of the fence member shown in Fig. VIII; and

Fig. XI is an enlarged sectional view taken on line XI—XI of Fig. X.

It has been usual in the past in forming fences employed to surround lawns, flower gardens, and for decorative purposes, to form the fence of wood, metal, wire, or other rigid means. This type of fence, if accidentally hit or run into by a person or vehicle, not only injured the person or vehicle but also became broken or uprooted which necessitated costly repairs. Such fences were also very difficult to set up, particularly in instances wherein they were subject to being transferred from one location to another and had to be shaped to varying formations, as for example, shaped to fit a circular flower bed or the angled corners of a lawn.

It, therefore, is one of the primary objects of this invention to obviate the above mentioned difficulties by providing fence means which, if accidentally struck or run into by a person or vehicle, will not cause injury to said person or vehicle, and will not become broken or dislodged.

It also is an object of this invention to provide fence means which may be quickly and easily adjusted to varying contour shapes and formations and which may be quickly and easily set up and adjusted to the required length.

Referring more particularly to the drawing wherein like characters of reference designate like parts throughout the several views, the device as shown in Figs. I to VII inclusive comprises a plurality of uprights 1 connected by horizontally extending tie members 2. The uprights 1 at predetermined spaced intervals are provided with a spike or other suitable type of support means 3, which as shown in Fig. II, is anchored in the end of the upright 1. The spike 3 if desired may extend the full length of the member 1 or may be short, as illustrated, and is preferably provided with a plurality of projections 4 for aiding in retaining its connection with the upright 1. The uprights 1 and tie members 2 are preferably formed of rubber, gutta

percha, or other suitable flexible material which is readily bendable.

The uprights 1 having the spike members 3 therein may be formed more rigid than the intermediate uprights to aid in supporting the fence in an upright position. The uprights 1 and tie members 2 may be formed integral, as shown in Fig. II, or may be formed separate of each other and thereafter placed in secured relation with each other by any suitable means such as a mechanical clamp member or by cement.

It is apparent that during the formation of the uprights 1 and tie members 2, the material may be treated to render it weather-proof, and that the said material may be made in varying colors, such as is common practice in connection with materials of this nature.

The fence is formed in sections which are secured together at their meeting ends by a clamp member 5, such as shown in Figs. I and III, or by a tubular connecting member 6, such as shown in Fig. V. The connecting member 5, as shown in Figs. III and IV, comprises a pair of spaced clamp members 7 and 8 connected by a screw member or other suitable means 9. The clamp members 7 and 8 are provided on their inner faces with projections 10 which are adapted to engage with the ends of the tie members 2 and securely hold the said ends in aligned relation with each other. The clamp members 7 and 8 are provided at their sides with flanged lips 11 for engaging the sides of the tie members 2.

In Fig. V there is shown a modified form of connecting member 6 for uniting the meeting ends of the tie members 2. In this instance the connecting member 6 is in the form of a tube of a material substantially the same as that of the tie members 2 and is adapted to hold the meeting ends of said tie members in aligned relation with each other by friction or by cementing the said ends internally thereof. The tie members 2 in this instance are provided internally thereof with a flexible member such as a lead composition or cable formed of small strands of wire.

In Figs. VI and VII are shown detachable decorative end members 13 formed of a material similar to that of the uprights 1 and having recessed neck portions 14 which are adapted to fit over the upper ends of the uprights 1, particularly the main supporting upright. These decorative members 13 may be held on said uprights 1 by friction or by a cement or other suitable means.

In Figs. VIII to XI inclusive there is shown a further modification wherein the uprights 15 are formed with bifurcated upper portions which are joined to each other to form the tie members 16 between said uprights. The lower ends of the uprights 15 are connected by tie members 17. The fence in this instance is provided with a plurality of weights 18 at predetermined spaced intervals to support the fence in an upright position. The weight members 18, if desired, may be provided with small tack shaped projections 19 for increasing the holding action of the weight members 18. The weight members 18, as shown in Fig. IX, are formed preferably of a metal such as lead and are placed internally of a holding pocket 20 attached to the uprights 15. The pocket 20, uprights 15, and tie members 16 and 17 are formed preferably of a flexible material such as gutta percha, rubber, or other suitable means

of a flexible nature and are adapted to be readily yieldable and of such a nature as to return to their initial set if bent and released. The fence shown in Fig. VIII is also formed in sections of predetermined lengths and the meeting ends thereof are attached as shown in Figs. X and XI. The uprights 15 at the meeting ends of the fence are provided with a pocket portion 21 adapted to receive the end 22 of the tie members 16. The tie members 16, as shown in Fig. XI, are adapted to fit one within the other so that they may be crossed and securely held in said relation. The ends 22 may be held in the pockets 21 by friction or cement, as desired, or by any suitable connecting means. The lower tie members 17 at the meeting ends are provided with a telescoping connection 23 which is formed by making a pocket member 24 in one of the meeting ends of the tie members 17 and a reduced projection 25 on the other of said ends. The interrelated parts may be held in connected relation with each other by friction or by cement or other suitable means.

Although applicant has shown and described the weight means 18 as being applied only to the fence member shown in Fig. VIII and spike means 3 as applied only to the fence member shown in Fig. I, it is apparent that either of the fences may be provided with said spike or weight means. The spike 3 is adapted particularly for use out of doors and the weight member 18 and pin members 19 for use indoors, such as for window display work or other interior decoration. The fence members may be formed to any required size and may be formed with the parts integral or separate, as desired.

The tie members 2 and 17 may be formed more flexible than the uprights 1 and 15, depending upon the nature and requirements of the fence. It is also apparent that different sections of said uprights or tie members may be formed to varying degrees of resiliency or flexibility.

The uprights 1 and 15 and the tie members 2, 16 and 17 may be formed of solid material or may have a metal lining such as lead, wire, or other readily bendable means. It is apparent also that although applicant has described the said uprights and tie members as being formed of rubber or gutta percha, or a composition incorporating both of these materials, that the said members may be formed of a cellulose composition, resilient metal, such as spring steel, or other suitable means.

The parts may be provided with means for preventing deterioration at the time they are formed or may be treated or coated with said means after they are formed.

In instances wherein it is desired to provide a fence which may be rigidly supported in an upright position but which may be easily shaped to varying formations, the upright members 1 may be made of wood, metal or other suitable rigid material and the tie members 2, 16 and 17 may be formed of a relatively yieldable material. In instances of this kind the tie members 2, 16 and 17 may be made of a material which is expandable as well as yieldable and the main supporting uprights 1 having the spikes 3 or weight members 18 thereon may be formed of a rigid or yieldable material as desired. The portions of the spike members 3 which extend above the ground may be made yieldable or rigid as desired.

The fence when formed of rubber, gutta percha or a cellulose composition is preferably moulded and the degree of resiliency of the various parts or portions thereof may be controlled by the

thickness to which the said parts or portions are moulded. It is apparent also that the degree of resiliency may be controlled by the mixture of the composition from which the parts are moulded. The said parts may be moulded separate of each other but are preferably moulded integral. In instances when it is desired to use strips of spring metal the parts may be riveted or otherwise secured together by any suitable means.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have provided simple, efficient, and economical means and method of accomplishing all the objects and advantages of the invention, particularly that of providing a portable, yieldable fence which may be readily flexed and which will return to its initial set if released.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A fence construction comprising a plurality of sections each having a plurality of upright members in predetermined spaced relation with each other and transversely extending tie members adjacent the opposite ends of said upright members adapted to support the upright members in said spaced relation, said upright members and tie members being formed of a solid normally stiff but yieldable material and a plurality of said upright members in predetermined spaced relation with each other being provided with a projecting pointed support member.

2. A fence construction comprising a plurality of upright members in predetermined spaced relation with each other and transversely extending tie members adjacent the opposite ends of said upright members and connected to the sides of said members, said upright members and tie

members being formed of a yieldable material which if flexed and released will return to its initial set.

3. A fence construction comprising a plurality of spaced upright members and transversely extending tie members adjacent the opposite ends of said upright members and connected to said members, said upright members and tie members being of a yieldable nature and adapted to return to their initial set if flexed and released, and decorative means adapted to be interchangeably mounted adjacent the upper ends of previously selected upright members and being frictionally held on said members.

4. A fence construction comprising a plurality of upright members in predetermined spaced relation with each other and transversely extending tie members adjacent the opposite ends of said upright members and connected to said members, said upright members and tie members being formed of yieldable material which if flexed and released will return to its initial set.

5. A fence construction comprising sections formed of a plurality of upright members in predetermined spaced relation with each other and transversely extending tie members adjacent the opposite ends of said upright members and connected to said members, said upright members and tie members being formed of a yieldable material which if flexed and released will return to its initial set, and means associated with the ends of the transversely extending tie members of each section for securing the said ends together.

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