June 10, 1952 J. J. ZIMEL 2,599,967

PORTABLE FENCE

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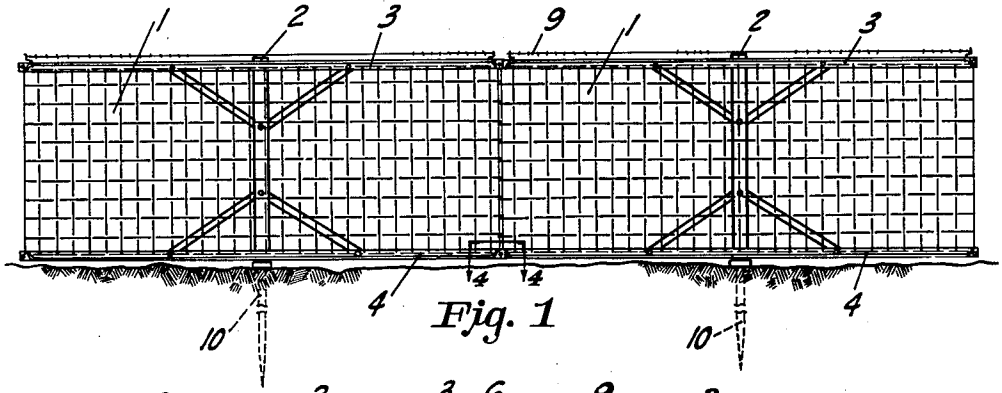


Fig. 1

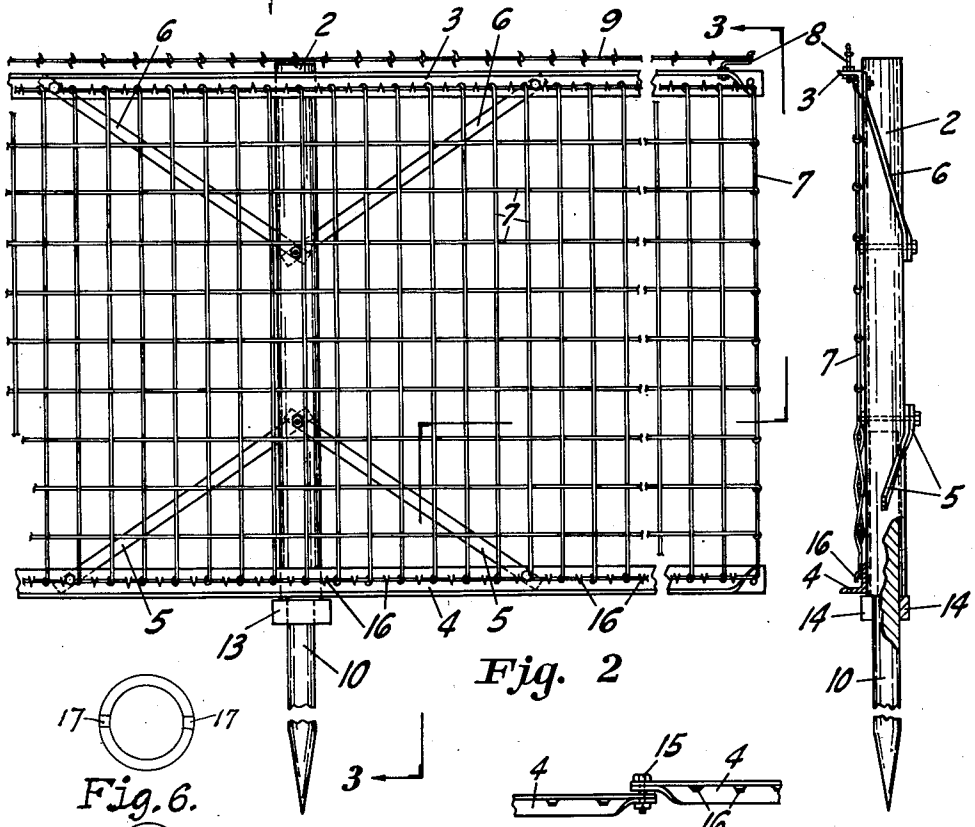


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 6.

Fig. 4

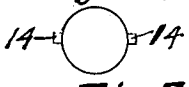


Fig. 7.

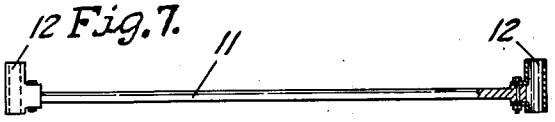


Fig. 5

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PORTABLE FENCE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 256—24)

1

My present invention relates to a portable fence and more particularly to a fence which is so constructed that a panel thereof, at any point in the length of the fence, can be used as a gate. Among the objects of this invention are the provision of a readily portable fence; the provision of a woven wire fence which can be readily set up at any desired place; the provision of a woven wire fence which is constructed from prefabricated units which can be easily set up and any unit thereof can be used as a gate; the provision of an improved means for positioning the posts of a fence; and such further objects, advantages, and capabilities as will hereafter appear and as are inherent in the construction disclosed herein. My invention further resides in the combination, construction, and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings and, while I have shown therein what is now regarded as the preferred embodiment of this invention, I desire the same to be understood as illustrative only and not to be interpreted in a limiting sense.

In the drawings annexed hereto and forming a part hereof,

Fig. 1 is an elevation of a part of a fence showing two sections of portable fencing material;

Fig. 2 is an elevation of a part of the structure shown in Fig. 1 on a larger scale;

Fig. 3 is a broken sectional elevation, approximately along the plane indicated by the broken line 3—3, Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary section taken along the plane indicated by the line 4—4, Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 represents an elevation, partly in section, of an instrumentality for the positioning of the fence posts;

Fig. 6 is a view of the bottom end of one form of post which may be utilized; and

Fig. 7 is a view looking down on the top end of a form of peg designed to cooperate with the post shown in Fig. 6.

Reference will now be made in greater detail to the annexed drawings for a more complete description of this invention. A fence, in accordance with this invention, is made by setting up a plurality of sections or panels 1 which are identical and are pre-fabricated in a factory. Each section or panel comprises a post 2, a top rail 3, a bottom rail 4, braces 5 and 6, and woven wire netting 7, the rails being fabricated from angle irons. A strand of barbed wire may, if desired, be added to the top of each panel, although this is not regarded as necessary and is to be furnished as optional construction, if requested. When this is to be done, the top rail 3 will have brackets 8, which can be added at the ends thereof, and then the wire 9 will be connected to these brackets, being drawn tight, as shown. The brackets 8 are attached to the horizontal web of the upper rails 3.

2

The braces 5 and 6 hold the framework rigid and prevent warping thereof during the addition of the netting and assist the latter in keeping the panel in rectangular form when in use, as well as helping to prevent sagging of the top rails and vertical bending of the lower rails, upwardly or downwardly.

The top and bottom rails may be passed through holes in the posts or may be spot welded thereto. It is also possible to bolt these rails to the posts but, in any event, they should be secured against longitudinal motion transversely of the posts when they have been put in place and arranged perpendicularly to the posts.

Pegs 10 are provided and are driven into the ground in the locations desired for the fence at suitable distances apart so that the ends of the fence panels will overlap approximately one and one-half inches (1½"). However, this overlap may be from one to two inches (1"–2"), as desired. In order to properly position these pegs 10, guides are provided which comprise rods, bars, or pipes 11 provided at each end with a T 12 adapted to fit very closely around the upper end portion of the pegs 10, assuring that the pegs will be driven into the ground at the exact distance apart desired. The pegs are provided intermediate their ends with collars 13 or lugs 14 to serve as stops and supports for the T's 12 when they are applied to the pegs. Any other suitable stops may be substituted for the collars 13 or lugs 14 which will serve to support the fence panels at any desired distance above the surface of the ground.

In Fig. 4 I have shown how the ends of the rails are shaped to permit the passage of pins or bolts therethrough to secure the panels against inadvertent turning about the tops of the pegs. In this figure, the ends of the rails 4 are shown as fastened together by means of a bolt 15 provided with a nut, intended to keep the bolt in place. It is obvious that a pin might be welded to one end of a rail 4 to remain permanently attached thereto, and the end of the adjacent rail provided with a hole for the reception of a pin. In this way, there would never be any danger of the securing means being lost. Another way to accomplish this would be by connecting the bolt by means of a short section

of chain to the rail so that the bolt would always be at hand for use when desired. If desired, the top rails **3**, as well as the bottom rails **4**, may be connected by bolts **15**.

In Figs. 2 and 3 is shown means for attaching the netting to the rails which comprises lugs punched and bent outwardly from the web of the angle iron, as shown at **16**. After the netting has been hooked on these lugs, they may be bent over to securely fasten the netting in place. It will be understood that, after the pegs have been driven into the ground a suitable distance, the positioning members **11**, **12** will be withdrawn before the panels are added.

Figs. 6 and 7 show one form of cooperating means on post and peg for preventing unintended rotation of either one relative to the other. This comprises notches **17** which interfit with the lugs **14** and hold the two against relative rotation. The notches may be formed on either post **2** or collar **13** and the lugs on the other.

It will of course be understood that various modifications and departures from the structure disclosed may be made without departing from the spirit of this invention or the scope of the annexed claims.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. In a portable fence, a panel construction comprising a vertical tubular post member, upper and lower bars, means connecting the intermediate portions of said bars to the upper and lower portions of said tubular post member at one side thereof, the lower bar-connecting means being connected only to the adjacent side of said tubular post member, whereby the latter provides a substantially unobstructed approximately cylindrical socket extending upwardly from the lower end of the tubular post member beyond the lower bar, brace means connecting each of said upper and lower bars at points laterally outwardly from said post member with said post member at points situated above the lower and below the upper bars, and means connecting the inner ends of said brace means to said post member at the other side thereof, said brace-connecting means extending entirely through the post member, and the lower brace-connecting means lying above the upper end of said cylindrical socket.

2. In a portable fence, the combination of a panel construction comprising a vertical tubular post member, upper and lower bars, means connecting the intermediate portions of said bars to the upper and lower portions of said tubular post member at one side thereof, the lower bar-connecting means being connected only to the adjacent side of said tubular post member, whereby the latter provides a substantially unobstructed approximately cylindrical socket extending upwardly from the lower end of the tubular post member beyond the lower bar, brace means connecting each of said upper and lower bars at points laterally outwardly from said post member, with said post member at points situated above the lower and below the upper bars, means connecting the inner ends of said brace means to said post member at the other side thereof, said brace-connecting means extending entirely through the post member, the lower brace-connecting means lying above the upper end of said cylindrical socket, a peg drivable into the ground having an upper portion substantially circular in cross-section and rotatably situated in said socket, and a collar affixed to said peg in a position thereon to receive the lower end of said tubular post member, said collar being in such position on said peg that when the tubular post member is in place over the peg, the upper end of the latter lies just below the lower end of said brace-connecting means.

JACK J. ZIMEL.

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