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L. W. PETERS

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FENCE POST CLAMP

Filed May 25, 1929

Fig. 1

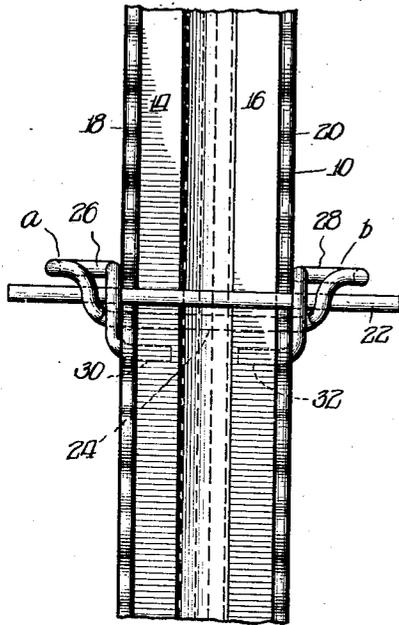


Fig. 2

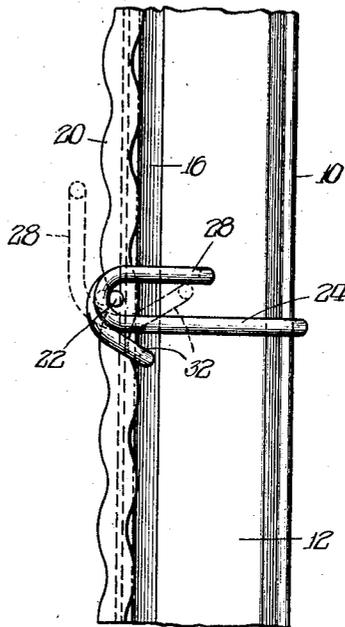


Fig. 3

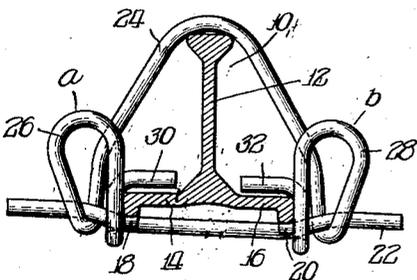
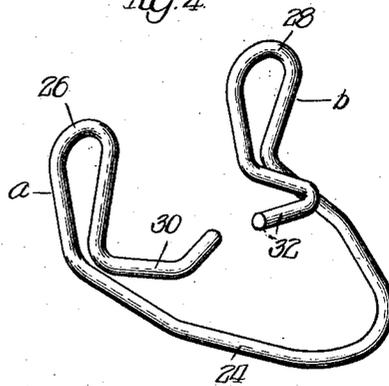


Fig. 4



Inventor:  
Leonard W. Peters,  
by *Usina & Fauber*  
attys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LEONARD W. PETERS, OF DULUTH, MINNESOTA

## FENCE POST CLAMP

Application filed May 25, 1929. Serial No. 365,927.

This invention relates to fence post clamps and the like, and is illustrated herein as embodied in a clamp made out of a piece of deformable wire and adapted to serve in connection with metallic fence posts.

5 Metallic fence posts are coming more and more into use, and owing to the fact that the ordinary fasteners, such as staples, nails, and the like, cannot be employed in connection with them, the importance of providing  
10 an inexpensive wire fence post clamp is becoming more and more pronounced daily. It is, accordingly, an important object of this invention under discussion that is simple in design  
15 and construction and very efficient in operation.

One of the disadvantages to which fence post clamps of this character are generally  
20 subject is that when the clamp is applied it is extremely difficult and in most instances impossible to draw the wire strands of the fence tightly into contact with the post. This is objectionable for the reason that the  
25 fence may sag at different points throughout its length and apart from presenting an unattractive appearance it may even fall or be otherwise rendered useless. It is accordingly an important feature of this invention  
30 to provide a deformable wire fence post clamp which may be applied with ease and facility and during its application will draw the wire strands of the fence closely and firmly into engagement with the post.

35 Other objects and features of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification in the light of the accompanying drawings, in which—

40 Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a section of a fence post and a section of a fence strand attached thereto by means of the novel clamp;

45 Figure 2 is a view in side elevation of the parts shown in Figure 1 showing in dotted lines the position occupied by the clamp before it is permanently applied;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the parts shown in Figures 1 and 2; and

50 Figure 4 is a view in perspective of the clamp that is shown in the remaining figures.

There is shown in the drawings a metallic fence post 10 of a type used to quite an extent today, comprising, as shown more clearly in Figure 3, a stem 12, and a plurality of  
55 outwardly extending flanges 14, 16 having corrugated portions 18, 20 formed on their outer edges. For the purpose of illustrating the present invention a single wire strand  
60 22 is illustrated as extended across the face of the post 10 and being seated, as shown in Figure 2, within oppositely aligned depressed portions of the corrugations 18 and 20.

To the end of holding, or maintaining, the wire strand 22 in firm engagement with the post 10 to prevent slippage between the  
65 two there is provided a novel fence post clamp which, as illustrated, comprises a body portion 24 of a shape conforming somewhat to the cross-sectional shape of the fence post and adapted to encircle the latter. A plurality  
70 of deformable extremities *a* and *b* are located at the opposite ends of the body portion 24 of the clamp and these deformable extremities comprise intermediate looped  
75 portions 26, 28 that ordinarily extend perpendicularly to the plane of the body portion 24 and a plurality of inwardly extending terminals 30, 32 that are adapted to lie in the rear of the oppositely extending flanges  
80 14, 16 of the fence post 10.

In applying the clamp to a fence post and wire strand the former is moved forwardly from the rear of the post to a position in which it encircles the latter and is disposed  
85 just below the horizontally extending wire strand. Thereupon the clamp is lifted vertically until it occupies the position shown in dotted lines in Figure 2, in which position and intermediate, deformable, wire engaging portions 26 and 28 extend upwardly  
90 parallel to the face of the fence post and slightly in front thereof. At this time, the inwardly extending terminal portions 30, 32 are, as shown in Figure 2, inclined upwardly and rearwardly away from the rear faces of  
95 the flanges 14 and 16. With the clamp in this position some suitable instrumentality, such, for example, as a nail, punch, screw-driver, etc., is employed to engage the deformable intermediate portions 26, 28 and  
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bend them rearwardly from the position shown in dotted lines in Figure 2 to that shown in full lines. During the course of this bending operation the terminal portion  
 5 32 will move downwardly toward the position shown in full lines until it engages the rear face of the flange 16 in which condition it resists further movement with the result that continued bending imparted to the de-  
 10 formable portion 28 results in that portion being drawn rearwardly pulling the wire strand firmly into engagement with the face of the post and drawing the body portion of the clamp tightly upon the stem thereof.  
 15 The rearward bending of the wire engaging portions 26, 28 is continued until they have assumed a horizontal position, as shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3, whereupon the applica-  
 20 tion of the clamp to the post is complete and the wire strand is gripped very tightly.

Although the invention has been disclosed herein with particular reference to T-shaped fence posts it is to be appreciated that the invention is not limited in its application to  
 25 posts of any particular type, but may be accommodated to practically any kind of post without constituting a departure from the invention, and it is also to be understood that  
 30 from time to time changes and modifications may be introduced into the illustrated embodiment of the invention without departing from the true scope thereof as set forth in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what  
 35 I claim as new and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent, is:

1. A fence post clamp having, in combination, a body and a plurality of unjoined extremities, one of said extremities comprising  
 40 a post engaging terminal and a wire engaging intermediate portion.

2. A fence post clamp having, in combination, a body and a plurality of unjoined extremities, one of said extremities comprising  
 45 a post engaging terminal and a wire engaging intermediate portion, said wire engaging portion being looped and adapted to be deformed when applying the clamp.

3. A fence post clamp having, in combination, a body and a deformable extremity, said  
 50 extremity comprising a U-shaped wire engaging portion extending substantially at right angles to the body of the clamp in the first instance and constructed and arranged  
 55 to be bent substantially parallel to the body of the clamp during application.

4. A fence post clamp having, in combination, a body and a deformable extremity comprising a wire engaging portion, said last  
 60 mentioned portion and a post engaging terminal portion adapted to serve as a lever during the operation of bending the wire engaging portion, whereby a tight joint is obtained between the wire and the wire engag-  
 65 ing portion.

5. A fence post clamp having, in combination, a body, and a plurality of deformable extremities, each of said extremities comprising a post engaging terminal, and a looped  
 70 wire engaging intermediate portion adapted to be deformed in applying the clamp.

6. A flanged fence post, having, in combination therewith, a wire engaging clamp comprising a body and a deformable ex-  
 75 tremity, said extremity comprising an intermediate wire engaging portion and a terminal portion, said last portion adapted to engage and press against a flange of the post to serve as a lever during the deforming of  
 80 the wire engaging portion.

7. A fence post clamp having, in combination, a body portion adapted to engage the rear of the post, a deformable extremity at each end thereof, comprising a portion bent  
 85 upon itself and terminating in a free end directed inward, said free end adapted to engage a flange of the post, the portion intermediate the free end and the body serving as a wire engaging portion.

8. A fence post clamp having in combination, a body portion adapted to engage the  
 90 rear of the post, a plurality of deformable extremities, each of said extremities comprising a portion bent upon itself forming a U-shaped wire engaging portion and a post engaging terminal, said terminal adapted to en-  
 95 gage a flange of the post, and said wire engaging portion adapted to be bent rearward in securing the clamp to the post.

Signed at Duluth, Minnesota, this 18 day  
 100 of May, 1929.

LEONARD W. PETERS.

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