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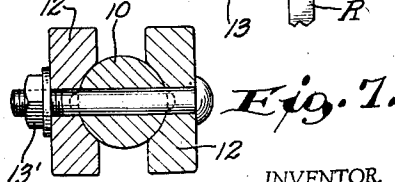
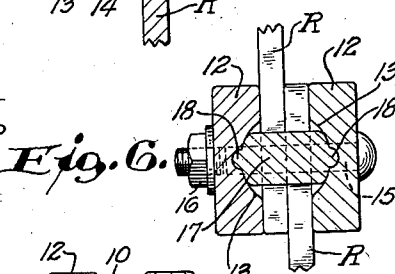
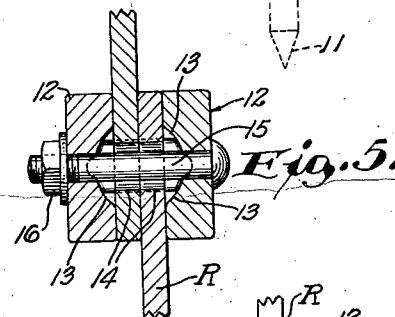
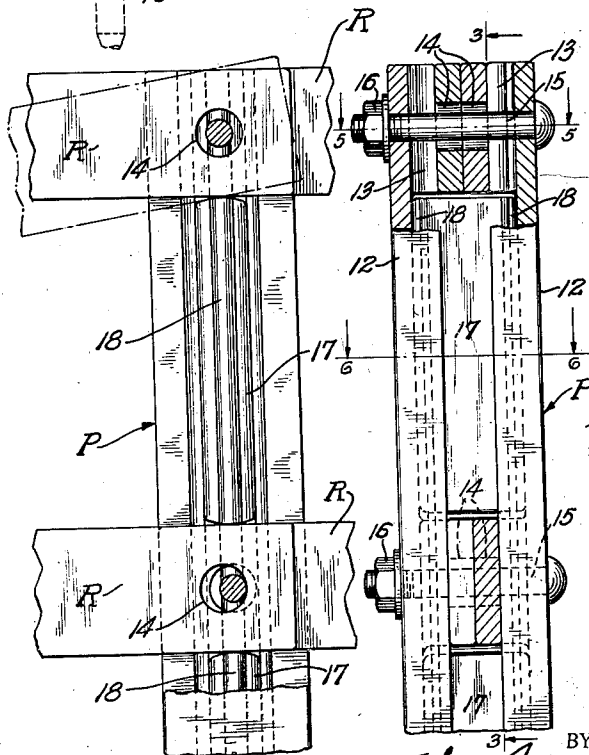
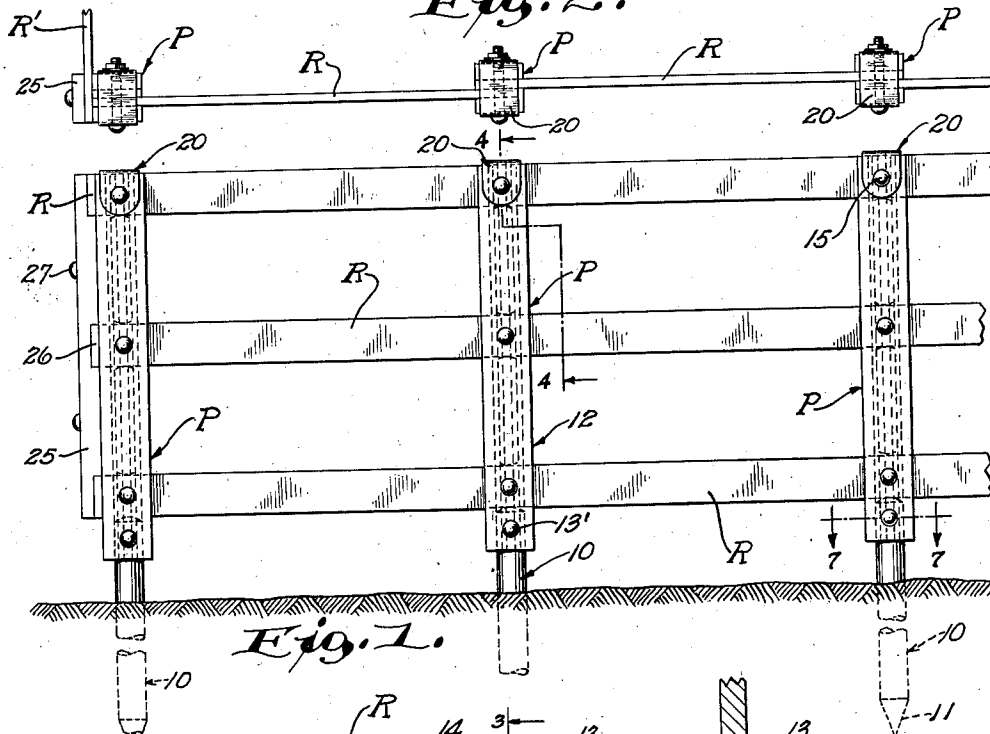
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2,240,689

FENCE.

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Fig. 2.



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3 Claims. (Cl. 256—59)

This invention relates to an improvement in prefabricated fences.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a fence, the component parts of which may be cut and fashioned at the factory and conveniently and compactly packaged for shipment to the point of erection and then readily and easily and economically erected.

Another object of the invention is to provide a prefabricated fence of this character which may be constituted mainly of lumber unsuitable for ordinary purposes and at present largely scrapped.

Another object of the invention is to provide a fence which is so constructed that the rails will not warp or split under the influence of the weather or for other reasons as, for example, as a consequence of persons stepping on the rails when climbing over the fence.

A further object is to provide a fence in which the rails may be disposed horizontally or angled from the horizontal without requiring any structural changes in the elements of the fence.

A still further object is to provide a fence which is strong, durable and weather resisting.

Other objects and advantages reside in certain novel features of the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, and in which:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary view in side elevation showing a fence constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a view in top plan of the structure shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a view in longitudinal vertical cross section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 4, parts being shown in elevation for the sake of illustration;

Figure 4 is a view partly in transverse vertical cross section and partly in elevation taken on line 4—4 of Figure 1, the metal cap being omitted;

Figures 5 and 6 are views in horizontal cross section taken on line 5—5 and 6—6 respectively of Figure 4; and

Figure 7 is a similar view taken on line 7—7 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawing and more particularly to Figure 1, it will be seen that the fence embodying the present invention comprises generally posts designated generally at P and rails designated generally at R.

The posts P are of similar construction and each comprises a short metal base section 10, the

lower end of which is pointed as at 11 so as to adapt the base section to be driven into the ground. Combined with each base section 10 is a pair of upright wooden post members 12 of similar construction and disposed in spaced parallel relation. The confronting faces of the upright post members 12 are formed with longitudinally extending grooves 13. The lower ends of the uprights 12 overlap the upper ends of the base section 10 and are fastened thereto by a suitable fastening device such as a bolt and nut 13'.

The rails R which are ordinarily horizontally disposed have their ends positioned between the uprights 12 of the posts and at each rail level the adjacent ends of the rails overlap, as shown to advantage in Figure 5. The overlapping end portions of the rails are provided with registering or aligned bolt holes 14 which are considerably larger in their diameter than the diameter of the cooperable bolts 15 which pass through bolt holes provided therefor in the uprights 12 and through the bolt holes 14, and are secured in position by a nut and washer 16. By having the ends of the rails overlapped and clamped between the uprights, the rail is effectively held against warping or twisting and yet due to the clearance between the bolt holes 14 and the bolts 15 the rails may expand or contract as they sometimes do under the influence of the weather.

In order to support the rails at their proper horizontal level and relieve them of splitting or other destructive strains, wooden spacers 17 are provided between the rails at the different levels. Each spacer 17 consists of a wooden strip having beads 18 along opposite edges which are received in corresponding formations in the floors of the grooves 13. When the bolts and nuts 15 and 16 are tightened up not only the rails but also the spacers are clamped in position between the uprights. The ends of the spacers engage the rails and provide a positive support for them independently of the bolts 15.

Each post is provided with a metal cap 20 of inverted U-shape extending over the top of the uprights and down along the sides thereof and held in position by the bolts 15 and nuts 16 cooperating with the upper ends of each post. These caps protect the posts from the weather and in the summertime become heated up and tend to prevent birds from lighting on the top of the posts.

The post construction also lends itself to the formation of corners by the simple provision of a corner piece 25 notched to receive rails 26 and

held in position on a corner post P by means of screws 27 which pass through the corner pieces and then thread into the spacers of the adjacent post P. The screws frictionally clamp the rails R' in position. If desired they may be held in position by bolts similar to the bolts 15 and which pass through corresponding bolt holes 14 in the rails, the bolts being also extended through bolt holes in the spacers.

As illustrated in Figure 3, this type of construction also lends itself to angling of the rails R from the horizontal as is sometimes necessary.

While I have shown and described one construction in which the invention may be advantageously embodied, it is to be understood that the construction shown has been selected merely for the purpose of illustration or example and that various changes in the size, shape and arrangement of the parts may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A pre-cut fence of the character described comprising spaced posts and rails extending between the posts, each post including a base member adapted to be driven into the ground, a pair of upright wooden post members having their confronting faces formed with longitudinally extending grooves, said members having their lower ends overlapping and fastened to the upper end of the base section with said grooves engaging said upper end, the ends of the rails at the same level being overlapped and disposed between the upright post members, spacers disposed between the post members and having their ends engaged with the rails to positively support the same vertically, said spacers having portions fitting within said grooves, and fastening devices extending transversely between each pair of upright wooden

post members and forcing the post members toward each other and into clamping engagement with the overlapped end portions of the rails and also into clamping engagement with the interposed spacers.

2. A pre-cut fence of the character described comprising spaced posts and rails extending between the posts, each post including a base member adapted to be driven into the ground, a pair of upright wooden post members having their confronting faces formed with longitudinally extending grooves, said members having their lower ends fastened to the upper end of the base section with said grooves engaging said upper end, the ends of the rails at the same level being overlapped and disposed between upright post members, spacers disposed between the post members and having their ends rounded and engaged with the rails to positively support the same vertically and allow angling of the rails relative to the horizontal, said spacers having portions fitting with said grooves, and fastening devices forcing the post members toward each other and into clamping engagement with the overlapped end portions of the rails and also into clamping engagement with the spacers.

3. A fence comprising posts including short, pointed, metal base sections, a pair of upright wooden post members having confronting faces formed with longitudinally extending grooves, said members having their lower ends overlapping and fastened to said sections with said grooves engaging said sections, rails extending between said posts and having their ends disposed between said members in overlapping side-by-side relationship, said rails being secured to said members by a single fastening permitting pivoting movement thereof relative to said posts.

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