Aug. 28, 1956 M. M. PITZ 2,760,760

CORNER POST HAVING WIRE TENSIONING MEANS

Filed July 8, 1954

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

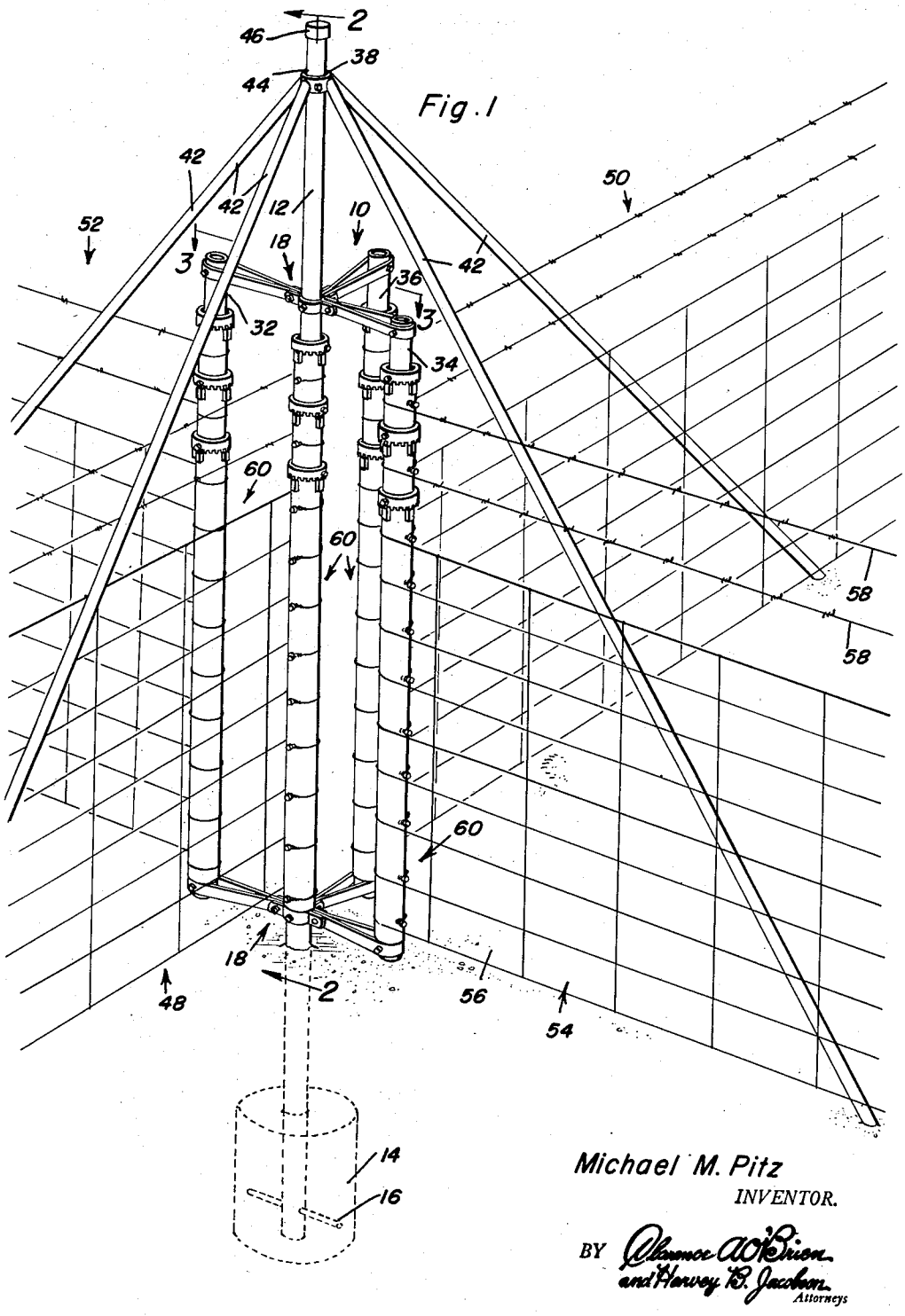


Fig. 1

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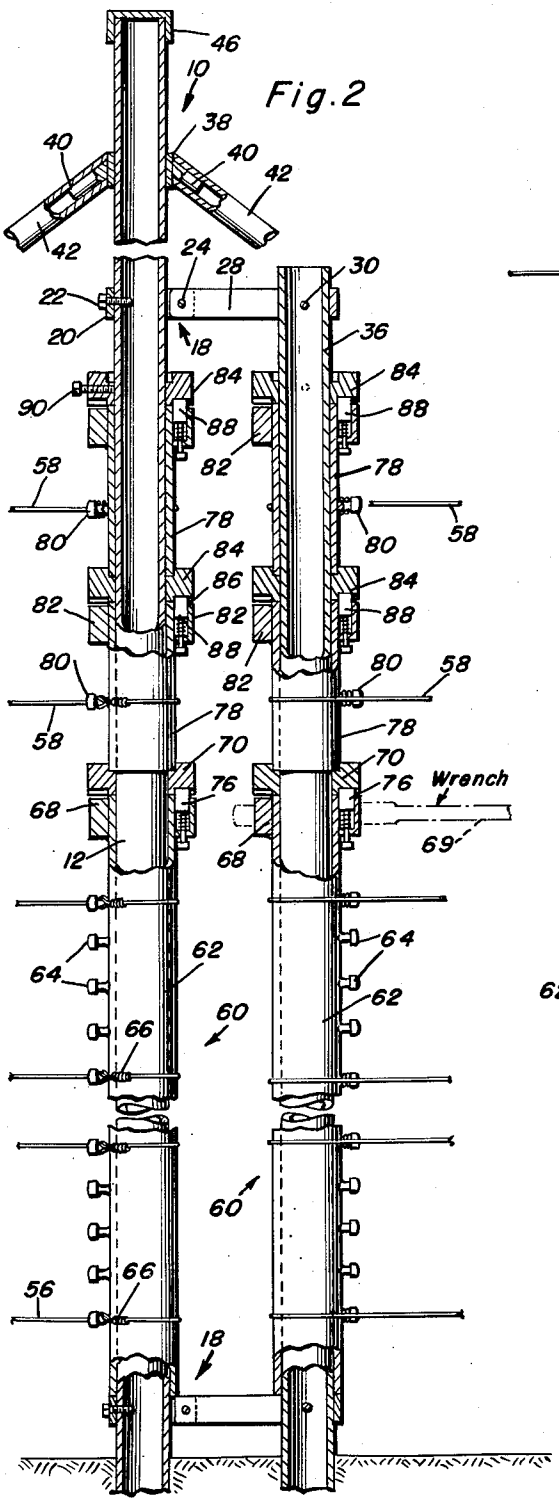


Fig. 2

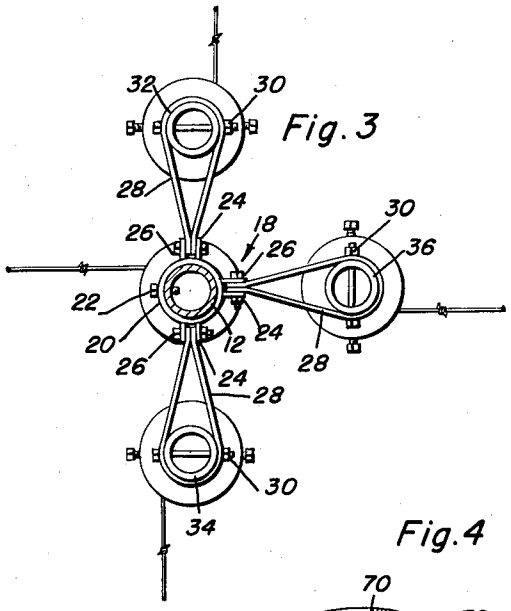


Fig. 3

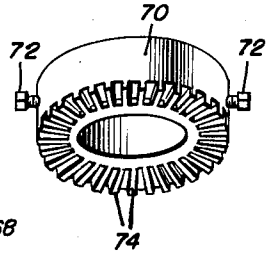


Fig. 4

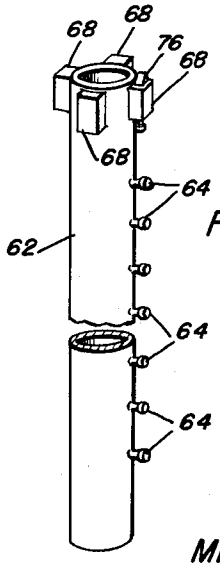


Fig. 5

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CORNER POST HAVING WIRE TENSIONING MEANS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 256—41)

This invention relates in general to improvements in fencing, and more specifically to an improved corner post for fences.

The primary object of this invention is to provide an improved corner post construction for fences which is of such a nature whereby fences attached thereto may be conveniently tensioned as desired.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved corner post arrangement intended to be placed in a center of a plurality of lots, the corner post construction including individual fence support members to which the various fence sections which come together at the center of a plurality of lots may be conveniently attached.

A further object of this invention is to provide a novel fence stretching device for fence posts, the fence stretching device including a sleeve carried by a support member of the fence post, the sleeve being rotatably mounted and being provided with locking means for retaining the same in an adjusted rotated position.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the corner post which is the subject of this invention and shows the same in position retaining four separate and independent fence sections in stretched relation;

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 2—2 of Figure 1, portions of the corner post being broken away and shown in section in order to clearly illustrate the details thereof;

Figure 3 is an enlarged transverse horizontal sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 3—3 of Figure 1 and shows the general arrangement of the support members of the corner posts and the manner in which the support members are connected to a central support member by support brackets;

Figure 4 is an enlarged bottom perspective view of a cog wheel intended to be carried by a support member of the center post for locking a fence stretching sleeve in an adjusted rotating position; and

Figure 5 is an enlarged perspective view of a fence stretching sleeve and shows the general details thereof, an intermediate portion of the fence stretching sleeve being omitted.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that there is best illustrated in Figure 1, the corner post which is the subject of this invention, the corner post being referred to in general by the reference numeral **10**. The corner post **10** includes an elongated central support member **12** which has a lower end portion thereof passed into and embedded in the ground. The lower end of the central support member **12** is embedded in a suitable concrete block **14** and is retained against rotation by a transverse pin **16** carried by the lower end part of the central support member **12** and being embedded in the concrete block **14** transversely of the central support member **12**.

Carried by the central support member **12** adjacent the upper and lower ends thereof are identical support bracket assemblies **18**. Each of the support bracket assemblies **18** includes a sleeve **20** secured to the central support member **12** by a suitable fastener **22**, as is best illustrated in Figure 3. The sleeve **20** is provided with a plurality of pairs of ears **24**. Secured between each pair of ears **24** by a fastener **26** is a support strap **28**. The support strap **28** has a bight portion thereof encircling other supporting members to be described in more detail. The straps **28** are secured to the other support member by suitable fasteners **30**.

Referring once again to Figures 1 and 3 in particular, it will be seen that there is provided a first support member **32** and a second support member **34**, the support members **32** and **34** being disposed in alignment with the central support member **12** on opposite sides thereof. Disposed in rectangular relation with respect to the support members **32** and **34** and in alignment with the central support member **12** is a third support member **36**.

In order to properly brace the upper portion of the central support member **12**, there is secured thereto a ring **38**. The ring **38** is provided with downwardly and outwardly projecting pins **40** which are circumferentially spaced. The pins **40** are received in upper ends of tubular brace members **42**. The brace members **42** pass down into the ground and are suitably anchored. The ring **38** is retained in an adjusted position on the upper part of the central support member **12** by a set screw **44**. The upper end of the central support member **12** is closed by a cap **46**.

From the foregoing description of the arrangement of the support members **12**, **32**, **34** and **36**, it will be seen that the corner post **10** is intended to be utilized at the intersection of four adjacent lots. In order that the four lots may be properly divided from each other, there is provided four separate and independent fence sections. There is a fence section which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **48** which is secured to the central support member **12**. A fence section **50** is secured to the third support member **36**, a fence section **52** is secured to the first support member **32** and a fence section **54** is secured to the second support member **34**. The fence sections **48**, **50**, **52** and **54** are identical and each of the fence sections includes a lower wire fencing **56** and a pair of strands of barb wire **58**.

Carried by each of the support members **12**, **32**, **34** and **36** are fence stretching means which are referred to in general by the reference numeral **60**. Inasmuch as the fence stretching means **60** are identical, only the fence stretching means carried by the central support member **12** will be set forth in detail.

Each of the fence stretching means **60** includes an elongated sleeve **62** which is rotatably carried by its associated support member, which for purposes of description will be the central support member **12**. The sleeve **62** is prevented against downward movement by engagement of the lower end thereof with an associated portion of the support bracket assembly **18** at the lower end of the central support member **12**. In order that the sleeve **62** may be suitably connected to the fencing **56**, it is provided with a plurality of vertically spaced pins **64**. The pins **64** are intended to have secured thereto individual horizontal wires of the fencing **56**. The wires of the fencing **56** are passed around the sleeve **62** and secured to the pin **64** by twisting as at **66**.

In order to facilitate the rotation of the sleeve **62** to

stretch the fencing 56, the upper portion of the sleeve 62 is provided with a plurality of circumferentially spaced blocks 68. The blocks 68 are so arranged whereby they may be engaged by a suitable wrench or spanner 69 to rotate the sleeve 62.

In order that the sleeve 62 may be locked in an adjusted rotated position, there is secured to the central support member 12 in overlaying relation to the upper end of the sleeve 62 a cog wheel 70. The cog wheel 70 is retained in place by a setscrew 72. The cog wheel 70 has the teeth thereof disposed on the undersurface thereof, the teeth being referred to by the reference numeral 74.

In order that the sleeve 62 may be selectively interlocked with the cog wheel 70, it is carried by one of the blocks for vertical movement therethrough a dog 76. The dog 76 is spring urged upwardly and is engageable between adjacent teeth 74 to prevent rotation of the sleeve 62. If desired, the dog 76 may be provided with a sloping face so as to produce a ratchet action when the sleeve 62 is being rotated to a fence tightening or stretching position.

In order that the lowermost barb wire 58 may be tensioned, there is provided an auxiliary sleeve 78, the auxiliary sleeve 78 being identical with the sleeve 62 with the exception of its length and the fact that it is provided with only one pin which is referred to by the reference numeral 80. The upper end of the auxiliary sleeve 78 is provided with circumferentially spaced blocks 82 for engagement by a wrench. The auxiliary sleeve 78 rests upon the cog wheel 70 and is overlain by an auxiliary cog wheel 84. The cog wheel 84 has teeth 86 thereof engaged by a dog 88 which is slidably mounted for vertical movement through one of the blocks 82.

Overlying and resting upon the auxiliary cog wheel 84 is a second auxiliary sleeve 78. The second auxiliary sleeve 78 has associated therewith a second auxiliary cog wheel 84 for retaining it in an adjusted rotated position. The cog wheels 84 are adjustably locked on the central support member 12 by set screws 90.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that there has been illustrated and described a very rigid corner post for fences which is so constructed whereby a plurality of fences may be individually stretched as desired.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A corner fence post assembly including a central support member adapted to have a lower end thereof embedded in the ground, vertically spaced support brackets including a collar secured on said central support member adjacent opposite ends thereof, first and second support straps extending radially from said support brackets on diametrically opposite sides of said central support members, the central support brackets and first and second support straps being in linear alignment, a third support strap extending radially from said support brackets and disposed at ninety degrees relative to said first and second support straps, each of said support straps including a bight portion secured to a vertical support member, said central and vertical support members each including rotatable tension means journaled thereon for attachment to a fence to be tensioned, said rotatable tensioning means including an elongated sleeve concentrically disposed and rotatably journalled on said support members, vertically spaced fence engaging fasteners carried by each of said sleeves, an annular collar including a plurality of radial teeth on a lower surface thereof secured on each of said support members above an upper end of said sleeve, a plurality of radially disposed lugs on the outer periphery of each of said sleeves for engagement by means for rotating said sleeves, and a spring urged vertically disposed dog element carried on the upper end of each of said sleeves for engagement with the radial teeth on said annular collar and retaining said sleeve in a rotated fence tensioning position.

2. A corner fence post assembly as set forth in claim 1 including an auxiliary sleeve concentrically disposed and rotatably journalled on said support members above said annular collar, a wire receiving fastener carried on each of said auxiliary sleeves, second annular collars including a plurality of radial teeth on a lower surface secured to said support members above said auxiliary sleeve, a plurality of lug elements on the outer periphery of said auxiliary sleeve for engagement by means for rotating said auxiliary sleeves, and a spring urged vertical dog element carried on an upper end of said auxiliary sleeve for engagement with said teeth on said annular collar and retaining said auxiliary sleeve in a rotated fence tensioning position.

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