

H. J. BYRNES.
WIRE NETTING STRETCHER.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 11, 1909.

936,600.

Patented Oct. 12, 1909.

Fig. 1.

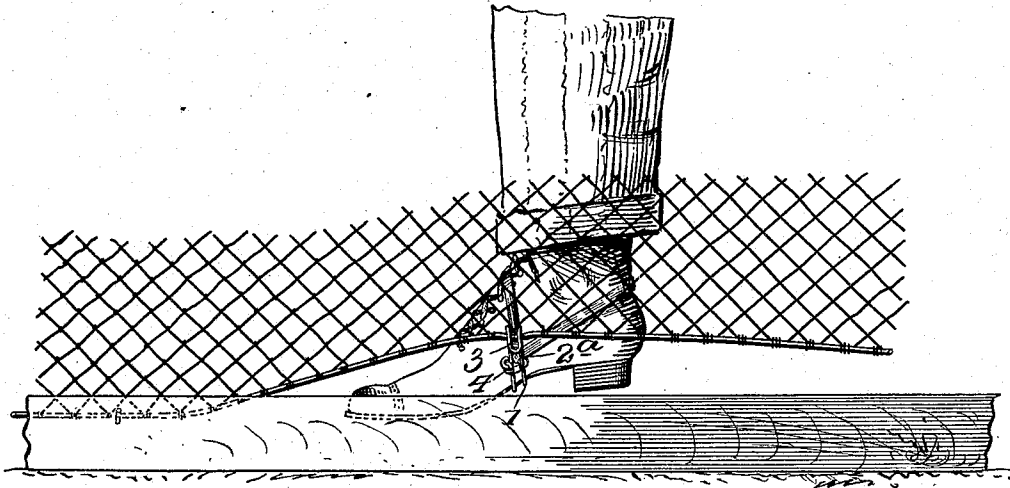


Fig. 2.

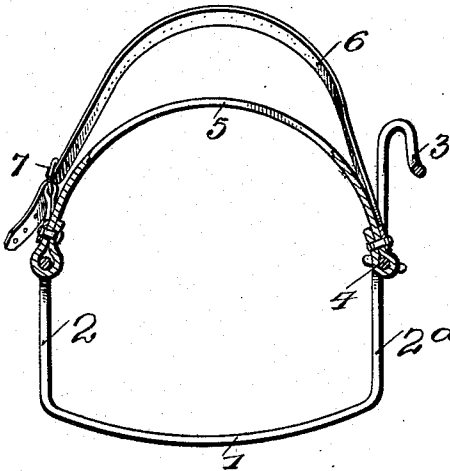
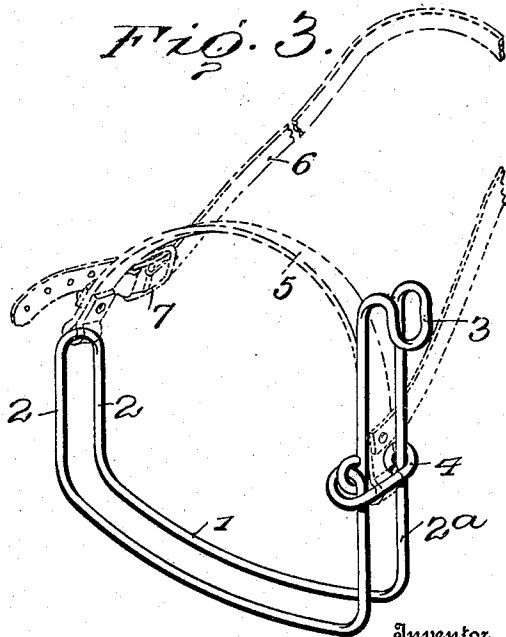


Fig. 3.



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HENRY J. BYRNES, OF NEW DENVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA.

WIRE-NETTING STRETCHER.

936,600.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 12, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY J. BYRNES, subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at New Denver, in the Province of British Columbia, Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Netting Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprehends certain new and useful improvements in stretchers for wire netting, and the object of the invention is an improved device of this character which is designed to be applied to the shoe of a workman constructing a wire fence, and is arranged for engagement with the netting to permit the same to be conveniently stretched and held in proper relation to the base board, while at the same time affording the workman the use of both hands in securing the netting to such base board, and thus effecting a material economy in the time required for the completion of the fence, and rendering the same capable of being accomplished with unusual facility. And a further object of the invention is an improved stretching device which is susceptible of being readily applied to boots and shoes of different sizes, and rigidly sustained in position thereon, and which may be quickly detached with little effort, when not desired for use.

With these and other objects in view that will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in certain constructions and arrangements of the parts that I shall hereinafter fully describe, and then point out the novel features thereof in the appended claims.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof, and to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the application of my improved device; Fig. 2 is a view in elevation thereof, with parts in section; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the device detached.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description, and indicated in all the views of the drawing, by the same reference characters.

My improved device consists essentially of a U-shaped clip that is preferably constructed of an integral strip of suitable stout wire, bent to form a base member 1 which

is designed to extend transversely beneath the sole or shank of a shoe, and the ends of which are substantially perpendicularly disposed to form spaced side members 2 and 2^a designed to extend upwardly on opposite sides of the shoe to hold the device in position against lateral displacement, the base member and side members being frame-like in construction, as shown, and the side member 2^a being longer than the other side member, so as to project upwardly a considerable distance beyond the top of the shoe, and being returned outwardly on itself to form a downwardly facing hook 3. The ends of the wire are secured together at one edge of the frame-like side member 2^a below the hook 3 thereof, and one of such ends of the wire extends across the side member and is wrapped around or otherwise secured to the wire defining the opposite edge thereof, so as to constitute a bar 4 to which one end of a cross strap 5 is permanently secured, the latter extending across the instep of the shoe and having its other end permanently secured to the end bar of the frame-like side member 2 to secure the device in position upon the shoe. In order to further attach the device to the shoe and effectually prevent it from slipping thereon to possibly abrade or otherwise injure the same, I provide an ankle strap 6 that is riveted at one end to the cross strap 5 near that end of the latter secured to the bar 4, and which then passes rearwardly around the ankle, as shown, with its other or free end arranged for adjustable connection or engagement with a buckle 7 carried at the opposite end of the cross strap.

In the practical use of my improved wire netting stretcher, when the netting has been secured to its upper support and is designed to be secured to the base board to complete the construction of the fence, the workman equips one shoe with the device above described, and engages the downwardly facing hook with the lower portion of the netting, and then bears a part of his weight upon such foot to stretch the netting downwardly and hold the same in proper relation to the base board. The workman thus has both hands free to nail or otherwise secure the netting to the base board. As the side member 2^a projects upwardly a considerable distance beyond the shoe, a clearance is provided which practically eliminates the possibility of the workman striking his foot with a hammer while securing the netting to the

base board. The above operation is continued until all of the netting has been secured in position to complete the construction of the fence.

- 5 From the above description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be apparent that I have provided an improved wire stretcher which embodies lightness, simplicity and durability of construction, 10 which is very efficient in operation, and renders a workman equipped therewith capable of accomplishing a considerable amount of work in a minimum amount of time, and which may be easily and cheaply manufactured, so as to be placed on the market at a 15 price not too great to prevent its general adoption.

Having thus described the invention what I claim is:

- 20 1. A stretching device of the character described, comprising a base member designed to extend transversely beneath the sole of a shoe and having its ends upwardly disposed to constitute spaced side members, 25 one of the side members projecting upwardly above the opposite side member and being doubled upon itself to form a downwardly facing hook, a cross strap secured at one end to the longer side member below the 30 hook and arranged to extend across the instep of the shoe with its other end secured to the opposite side member, an ankle strap secured at one end to the cross strap near one end of the latter, and a buckle carried at 35 the other end of the cross strap and arranged to engage the free end of the ankle strap, as and for the purpose specified.

- 40 2. A stretching device of the character described, constructed of an integral strip of metal bent to form a base member de-

signed to extend transversely beneath the sole of a shoe and having its ends upwardly disposed to constitute spaced side members, the base and side members being frame-like in structure and one of the side members 45 being longer than the other and being returned upon itself to form a downwardly facing hook, the longer side member being formed below the hook with a cross bar, a cross strap secured at one end to the cross 50 bar and having its other end secured to the opposite side member, an ankle strap secured at one end to the cross strap near the end of the latter that is secured to the cross bar, and a buckle carried at the opposite end of 55 the cross strap and arranged to engage the other or free end of the ankle strap.

3. A stretching device of the character described, comprising a base member, upwardly disposed spaced side members carried by the base member and one of which 60 is formed with a downwardly facing hook, and straps connected to the side members and arranged to attach the device to a shoe.

4. A stretching device of the character 65 described, comprising a base member, upwardly disposed spaced side members carried by the base member and one of which is formed with a downwardly facing hook, a cross or instep strap secured to the side 70 members, and an ankle strap cooperating with the instep strap, as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY J. BYRNES. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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A. OWENS.