Feb. 25, 1964 N. W. RICHARDSON 3,122,355

FENCE CONSTRUCTION

Filed May 8, 1961

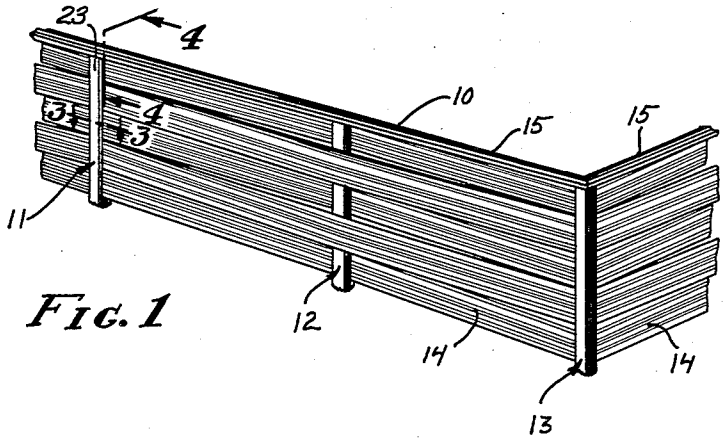
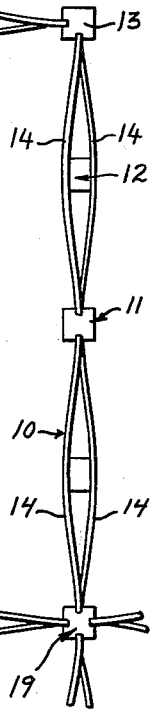


FIG. 1



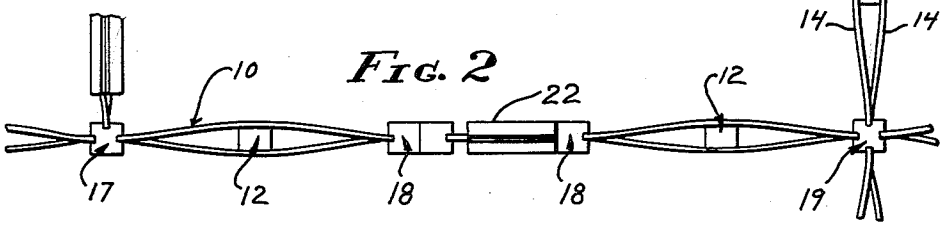


FIG. 2

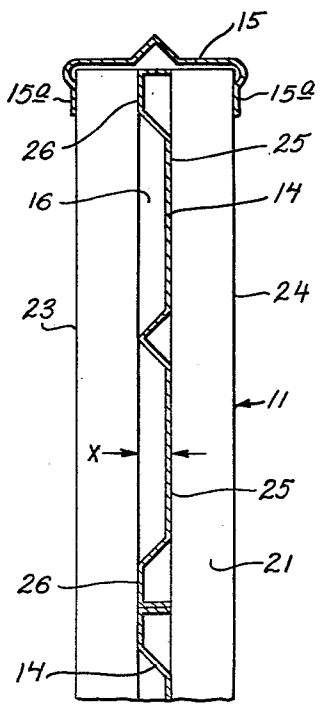


FIG. 3

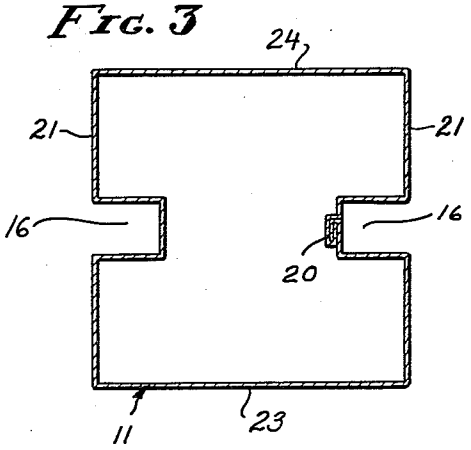


FIG. 4

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FENCE CONSTRUCTION

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1 Claim. (Cl. 256—72)

This invention relates to metal fences and is particularly directed to an improved form of fence which is constructed of a plurality of horizontal fence members extending between vertical fence posts. Both the horizontal fence members and the vertical fence posts preferably comprise sheet metal stock which has been roll-formed after painting. Present day painting techniques permit subsequent roll-forming of flat sheet to desired contours without causing cracking, chipping or other damage to the layer of paint. While the metal components of the fence assembly are particularly adapted to be made from painted aluminum strip stock, this is by way of illustration and not of limitation.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a light weight metal fence composed of novel components which may be readily assembled with a minimum of effort.

Another object is to provide a fence of this type having a plurality of horizontal fence members which are sufficiently flexible to bend laterally to pass on opposite sides of an intermediate post midway between end-posts. A more detailed object is to provide a fence construction of this type in which roll-formed metal posts are each provided with at least one longitudinal groove in a side face thereof, the grooves being proportioned to receive the ends of the horizontal fence members.

Another object is to provide a pre-painted fence construction of pleasing appearance and low cost which may readily be assembled by unskilled persons and without requiring any special tools.

Other and more detailed objects will appear hereinafter.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view showing fence construction embodying this invention.

FIGURE 2 is a top plan view on an enlarged scale, shown in diagrammatic form and partly broken away, and illustrating various parts of a fence construction embodying this invention, including the fence portion shown in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 3 is a transverse sectional view on an enlarged scale, shown of one of the fence posts.

FIGURE 4 is a sectional view, on an enlarged scale, shown partly broken away, taken substantially on the lines 4—4 as shown in FIGURE 1.

In the drawings:

The fence generally designated 10 includes a plurality of metal fence posts 11, 12 and 13 and a plurality of horizontal extending metal fence members 14. A cap rail 15 extends between the posts and receives the upper ends thereof.

Each of the posts is hollow and is rolled from aluminum alloy sheet metal stock, preferably after painting the stock. Each post, with the exception of the intermediate post 12, is provided with at least one longitudinal groove 16 formed in a side face 21 thereof. Thus the hollow post 11 is provided with longitudinal grooves 16 formed in opposite side faces thereof. The intermediate post 12 has no grooves. The corner post 13 has grooves on two adjacent sides. The posts are all of the same thickness measured between their parallel front and rear faces 23 and 24. In the diagrammatic illustration of FIGURE 2, the hollow post 17 has three grooves, the end posts 18 each have one groove and the partition post 19 has four grooves. The cap member 15 is omitted from FIGURE 2 for clarity of illustration. A gate 22 is shown between the end posts 18.

Each of the hollow posts is provided with a lock seam joint 20 which is formed at the time the post is rolled from flat metal strip stock. The lap seam joint 20 may be placed at any desirable location on the periphery of the post.

Each of the horizontal members 14 may be rolled to any suitable or desirable cross section having offset parallel surfaces 25 and 26 as shown, for example, in FIGURE 4. The overall transverse dimension X of the horizontal fence members 14 is such that the ends are snugly received in the grooves 16 of the fence posts, and the offset parallel surfaces 25 and 26 contact the front and rear faces 23 and 24 of the center post 12.

The fence posts are first set in concrete or other suitable material for maintaining them in upright position and at the proper spacing. The horizontal fence members 14 are then dropped one by one into the aligned grooves 16. The fence members 14 are sufficiently flexible to bend laterally so that adjacent fence members 14 pass on opposite sides of the intermediate post 12, and thereby hold the ends of the fence members 14 snugly in said groove 16. The cap member 15 is installed on the upper ends of the posts after all of the horizontal fence members 14 are in position, and the parallel depending flanges 15*a* thereof contact the front and rear surfaces 23 and 24 of all of the posts. If desired, threaded fastenings (not shown) may be employed for securing the cap rail 15 in position on the fence posts.

Having fully described my invention it is to be understood that I do not wish to be limited to the details set forth herein but my invention is of the full scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

In a fence construction, the combination of: a pair of upright posts each having parallel front and rear faces and each having a side face provided with a vertical groove, an intermediate upright post positioned midway between the first said posts and having parallel front and rear faces, all of said posts having the same thickness between said front and rear surfaces, a plurality of flexible fence members each rolled from sheet metal stock to form parallel offset surfaces spaced apart by a distance substantially equal to the width of said vertical grooves, whereby the opposite ends of each fence member are slidably received within said vertical grooves in the first said posts, with adjacent fence members flexed to contact opposite front and rear faces of said intermediate post, and a cap member extending between and receiving the upper ends of all of said posts, the cap member having parallel depending flanges engaging said front and rear faces of all of said posts.

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