May 24, 1927. 1,629,719

R. B. LOUDEN

PANEL FOR ANIMAL PENS

Original Filed Oct. 17, 1924

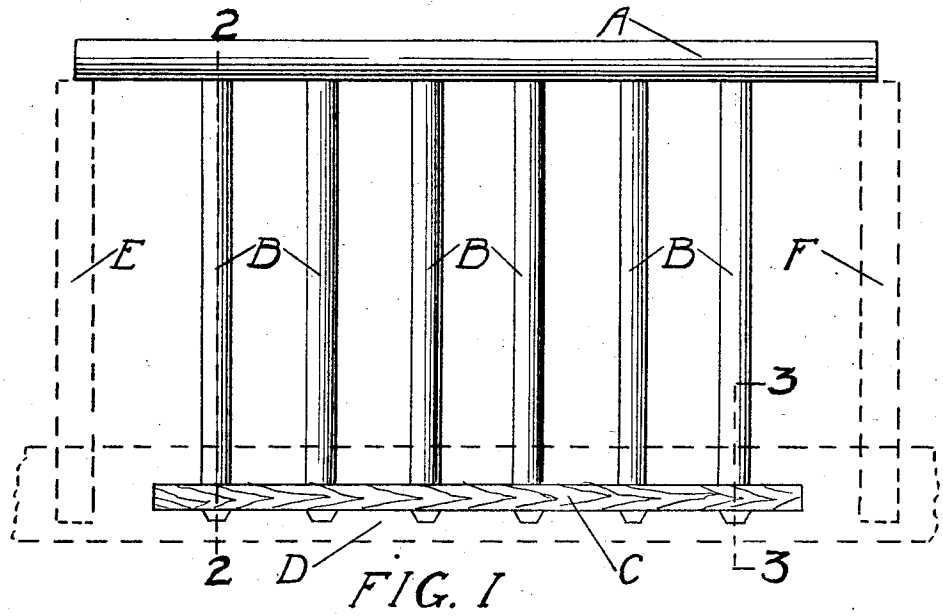


FIG. 1

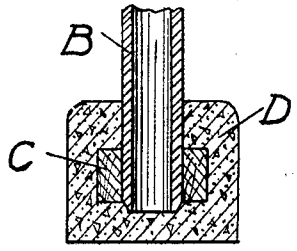


FIG. 3

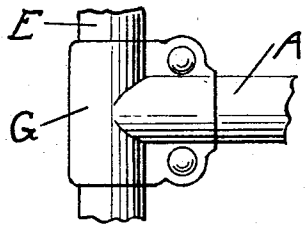


FIG. 4

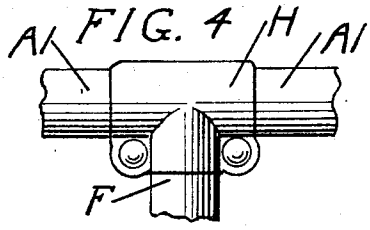


FIG. 5

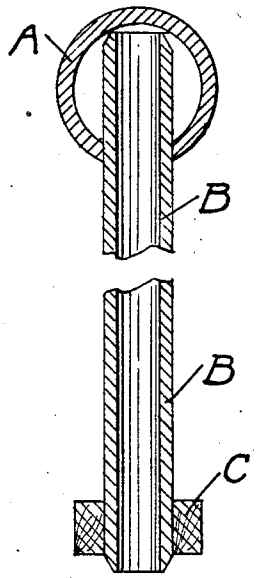


FIG. 2

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PANEL FOR ANIMAL PENS.

Original application filed October 17, 1924, Serial No. 744,142. Divided and this application filed February 28, 1927. Serial No. 171,484.

My invention relates to partially completed panels to be used in the construction of animal pens; and it consists of an upper horizontally disposed tubular member and a series of vertically disposed fillers having their upper ends pressed tightly into holes in the lower side of the member, and their lower ends pressed tightly into holes in a temporary supporting member adapted to be placed in the foundation for the panel when placed in position for the construction of a pen. Also, of other features which will be hereafter described and set forth in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a panel embodying my invention, the dotted lines representing a foundation supporting the panel, and also, some additions to be made thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, the central part of the figure being cut away to make it shorter. Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1 the foundation shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 being shown by full lines in this figure. Figs. 4 and 5 are detail views which will be hereafter explained.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the horizontally disposed tubular member, which is usually called the top rail, and in which the upper ends of the vertically disposed fillers B are inserted. C is the temporary supporting member for the lower ends of the fillers B, which, along with it, are placed in the foundation to support the panel in upright position. This foundation is preferably in the form of a concrete curb D shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1 and full lines in Fig. 3. E and F, in dotted lines, represent posts having their lower ends inserted in the foundation D, said posts having their upper ends connected to the ends of the member A when the panel is set in place, as will be explained later on.

The fillers B, which are preferably of tubular material, are cut the proper length to reach from the upper member A into the foundation D. The ends of the fillers are tapered or beveled on their outer edges, as shown in Fig. 2, for easy initial entrance into the holes in the top rail A, and also into the holes in the temporary supporting member C, which holes should be the exact size of the diameter of the fillers B, or a shade smaller.

To assemble the parts composing the panel, the members A and C are placed in a press the proper distance apart to permit the tapered ends of the fillers to enter the holes in the adjacent sides of the members A and C. When the press is operated the members A and C will be forced on to the ends of the fillers until their upper ends will be approximately in contact with the outer wall of the member A and their lower ends will pass entirely through the holes in the member C, as shown in Fig. 2.

When the parts A, B and C are pressed together in this manner, they will form a strong structure which can be transported from the place where it is made to the place where it is to be used in the construction of an animal pen with little or no liability of becoming disarranged in handling. To complete the panel for the construction of a pen, posts, shown by dotted lines E and F, are connected to the ends of the member A by couplings, such as those shown by Figs. 4 and 5.

The post E may be passed up through the coupling G, as shown in Fig. 4, or it may be arranged to stop below the member A as indicated in Fig. 1; in which case a coupling similar to that shown in Fig. 5 may be used, but in either case the coupling should be provided with a clamping portion on the inner side (not shown) set at right angles to the portion in which the end of the member A is inserted so as to connect the top rail of the panel (not shown), set at right angles to that shown in Fig. 1, to form that side of the pen.

When two or more pens are joined together with a partition between them, a coupling like H in Fig. 5 is generally used on the central post indicated by dotted lines F, and connecting the pens, the end of the top rail A of the panel in Fig. 1 being inserted in one end of the coupling and the end of the top rail A^1, of the adjoining panel, being inserted in the other end of the coupling. This coupling should also, like the coupling G, have a clamping member on its inner side, (not shown), set at right angles to connect the top rail of the partition panel, and preferably this clamping member should be centrally located on the coupling.

The couplings above mentioned are well known in the art and need not be further described. When the panel is set in place and the lower ends of the fillers B are inserted in the concrete curb D, or in whatever foundation is used to support the panel, there is no further need of the temporary support D. This support, however, is generally made of a light strip of lumber which if removed would be of no further value, and the easiest and safest way to dispose of it is to leave it on the ends of the fillers, and insert it also in the concrete foundation, as most plainly shown in Fig. 3.

The plan of pen herein described is known as "curb construction" because the lower ends of the fillers B, as well as the lower ends of the posts between the panel, have to be inserted in the foundation supporting the panel, which is generally a concrete curb like that shown in Fig. 3. The construction is extremely simple, is easily and cheaply made and the pen constructed in this way will be strong and durable.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. In partially completed panels for animal pens, the combination of a horizontally disposed tubular top member having a series of spaced apart holes in the wall of its lower side, a series of vertically disposed fillers corresponding with the number of holes in the top member, and a bottom temporary supporting member having a series of spaced apart holes corresponding with the holes in the top member, the holes in both members being the same size as the diameter of the fillers, or a shade smaller, the ends of the fillers being tapered or beveled for easy initial entrance into the holes in the members, and said top and bottom members being tightly pressed on to the ends of the fillers until their upper ends will come approximately in contact with the outer wall of the top member, and their lower ends will pass through the holes in the bottom member.

2. In partially completed panels for animal pens, the combination of a horizontally disposed tubular top member having a series of spaced apart holes in the wall of its lower side, a series of vertically disposed fillers corresponding with the number of holes in the top member, a bottom temporary supporting member having a series of spaced apart holes corresponding with the holes in the top member, the holes in both members being the same size as the diameter of the fillers, or a shade smaller, the ends of the fillers being tapered or beveled for easy initial entrance into the holes in the members, and said top and bottom members being tightly pressed on to the ends of the fillers until their upper ends will come approximately in contact with the outer wall of the top member, and their lower ends will pass through the holes in the bottom member, and means to connect the ends of the panel to the ends of adjoining panels to form an animal pen or pens.

ROBERT B. LOUDEN.