June 12, 1928. 1,673,729

N. E. BARNES

POLE, POST, AND TREE PROTECTOR

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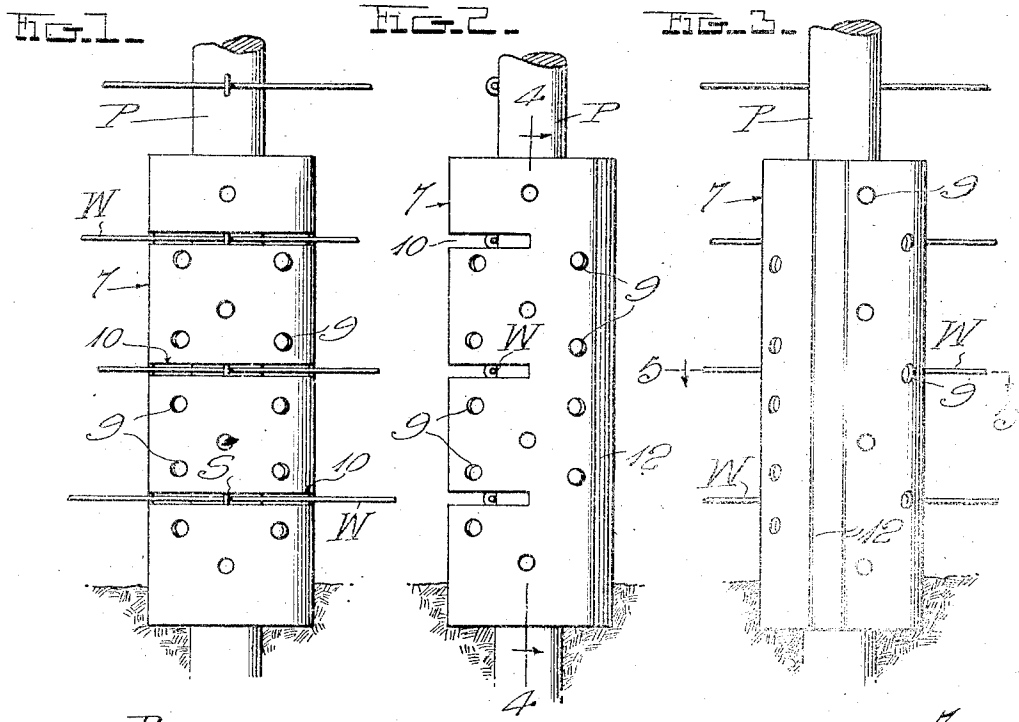

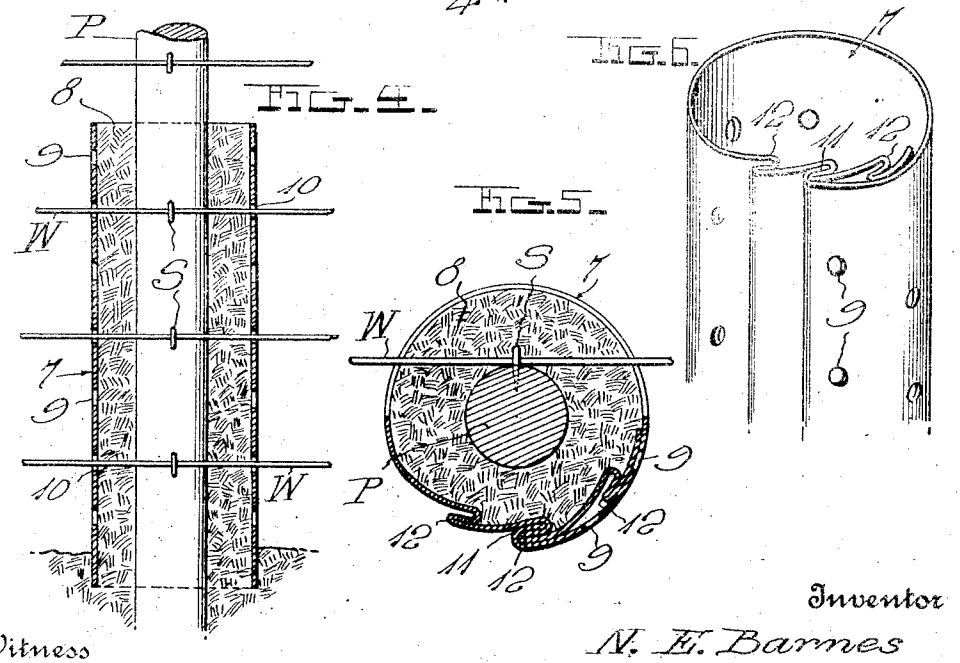

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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POLE, POST, AND TREE PROTECTOR.

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The invention relates to improvements in devices for protecting telephone or telegraph or similar poles, fence posts and trees against injury from grass and the like burning around them, and it is the object of the invention to provide a new and improved protector for this purpose, which protector may be easily and inexpensively manufactured, sold at small cost, easily installed and used to great advantage.

With the foregoing in view, the invention resides in the novel subject matter hereinafter described and claimed, the description being supplemented by the accompanying drawing.

Figs. 1, 2 and 3 are side elevations looking in different directions, showing the protector applied to a fence post.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section on line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a horizontal section on line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of a portion of the protector.

The form of construction selected for illustration in the present application, will be rather specifically described, with the understanding however that within the scope of the invention as claimed, slight variations may be made.

The numeral 7 designates a vertically elongated sleeve formed from galvanized metal or any other metal which will resist rust. This sleeve is adapted to encircle a pole, post or tree, in spaced relation therewith and is then packed with earth, gravel or any other fire-proof material, the sleeve being forced into the ground however before packing it. The perforations 9 shown in the numerous views are for drainage purposes.

When the sleeve is to be applied to fence-posts, as herein illustrated, or to poles or trees to which wires are secured, said sleeve will be formed with transverse slots 10 to receive the wires. In the present showing, the sleeve encircles a fence-post P to which wires W are secured by staples S. In order to apply the sleeve, these staples must of course be removed and the wires shifted laterally from the post. Then, the sleeve which is longitudinally split, may be passed around the post and the wires again stapled in place, said wires being secured however after the lower end of the sleeve has been forced into the earth. Thus, when these wires are secured and located in the slots 10, they hold the sleeve against possible upward movement out of the ground, so there is no danger of fire finding its way to the post or the like beneath said sleeve.

The sleeve 7 is bent from a single metal sheet, and one edge of this sheet is bent inwardly substantially upon itself to provide a hook flange 11 extending longitudinally of the sleeve. The other longitudinal edge portion of this sleeve is bent to provide transversely spaced, longitudinally extending formations 12 of S shape in transverse section, and the flange 11 may be hooked into any of these S-shaped formations, according to the size of the post, pole or tree, around which the sleeve is used. After the sleeve has been mounted in this manner around the post or the like, it is filled with the packing 8 and such packing serves to hold the sleeve against contraction, so that there is no danger of the hook flange 11 becoming disengaged from the selected formation 12, into which it has been hooked.

The formations 12 possess another important function, that is, they permit slight circumferential expansion of the sleeve 7, in case the packing 8 should freeze, and thus the danger of injuring the sleeve when the freezing expansion of the packing takes place, is reduced to the minimum.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the device is exceptionally simple and inexpensive, may therefore be easily and cheaply manufactured and sold at small cost, that it may be quickly and easily applied, and that when it is in use, it will effectively protect poles, posts, or trees against fire.

As excellent results are obtainable from the details disclosed, they are preferably followed. However, as above stated, variations may be made.

I claim:

1. An adjustable pole, post or tree protector comprising a longitudinally split sleeve bent from a single metal sheet, one longitudinal edge of said sheet being bent inwardly substantially upon itself to provide a hook flange, the other longitudinal edge portion of said sheet being bent to provide a plurality of transversely spaced longitudinally extending formations of substantially S-shape in transverse section, said hook flange being engageable with a selected one of said formations to hold the sleeve around and in spaced relation with a pole, post or tree, said sleeve being adapted to be

then packed with earth or other fireproof material to protect the pole, post or tree and to hold the sleeve expanded, preventing disengagement of the hook flange from the S-shaped formation into which it has been hooked, said S-shaped formations serving also to allow expansion of the sleeve without injury in case the packing should freeze.

2. A post, pole or tree protector comprising a sleeve to encircle the object to be protected, said sleeve being adapted to be forced a. short distance into the ground, a transverse slot being formed in said sleeve to receive a fence wire secured to the sleeve-encircled object, the wire and slot then holding the sleeve against movement out of the ground.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

NED E. BARNES.