May 8, 1923. 1,454,649

C. B. MURTON

METALLIC FENCEPOST

Filed Jan. 18, 1922

Fig. 1.

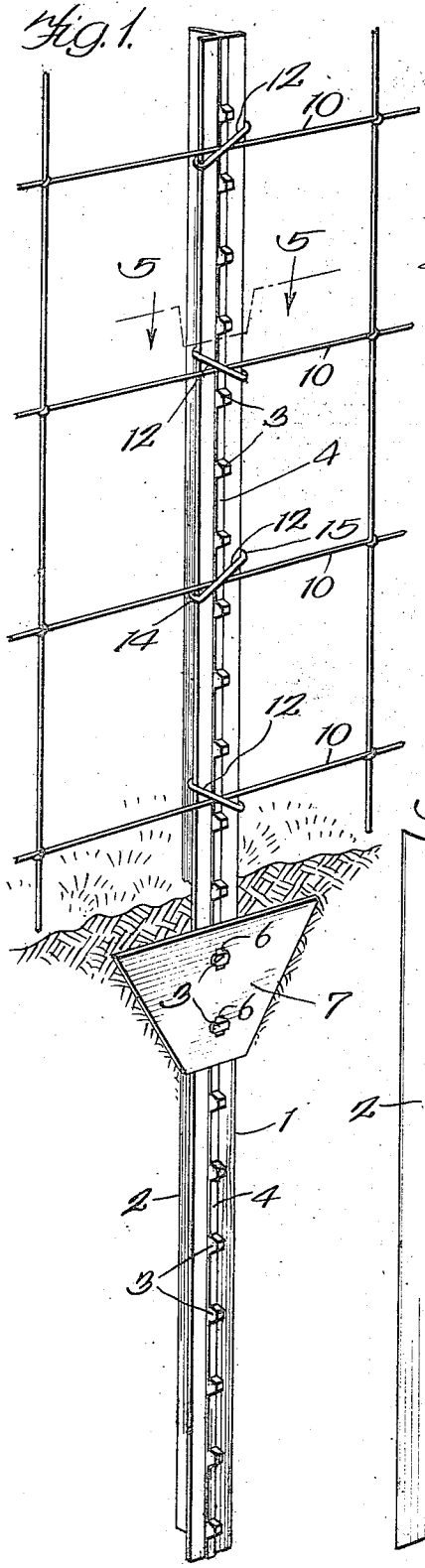


Fig. 2.

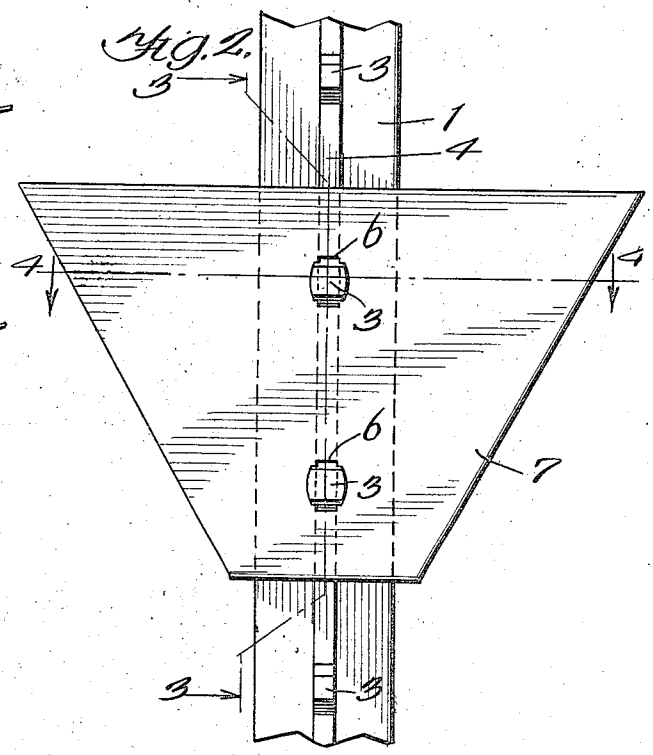


Fig. 3.

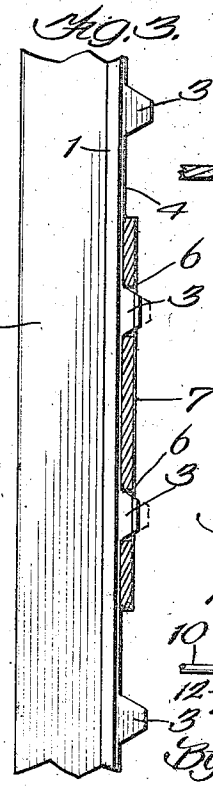


Fig. 4.

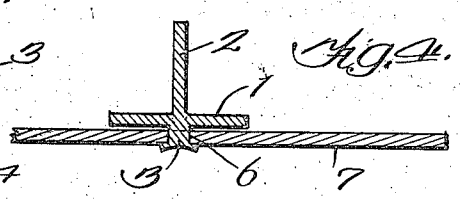


Fig. 6.

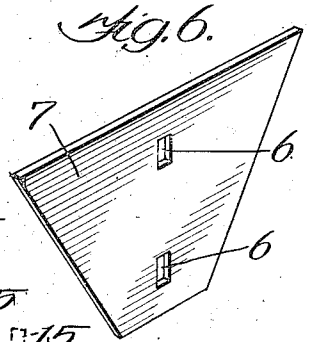
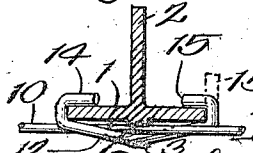


Fig. 5.



Inventor:
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By Cheever & Cox Attys.

Patented May 8, 1923. 1,454,649

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CRAWFORD B. MURTON, OF CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO INLAND STEEL COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE.

METALLIC FENCEPOST.

Application filed January 18, 1922. Serial No. 530,038.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CRAWFORD B. MURTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago Heights, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Metallic Fenceposts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to fence posts, more particularly those constructed of metal, and the object of the invention is to provide a post to which the ground anchor may be secured without puncturing the post and by elements integral with the post itself. My purpose is to provide a construction which avoids the need of a clip and extra perforations, and makes it possible for the elements on the post to hold, unaided, the ground anchor in position. Another object is to provide, in a post of this type, a construction such that the manufacturer may have a choice as to the position of the ground anchor, lengthwise of the post.

I accomplish my objects by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a general assembly view in perspective showing the post inserted in the ground, and the ground anchor and fence wires in position.

Figure 2 is a detail drawn on an increased scale showing a ground anchor secured to the post. The view shows the ends of the lugs riveted over onto the ground anchor.

Figure 3 is a vertical section on the line 3—3, Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a plan section on the line 4—4 Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a plan section on the line 5—5, Figure 1, and

Figure 6 is a perspective of the preferred form of ground anchor.

Like numerals denote like parts throughout the several views.

According to the design illustrated the post is a metallic T bar having a front or head 1 and a web or stem 2 extending rearward. A low rib 4 extends longitudinally along the front of the bar and at intervals there are lugs 3 adapted to penetrate the slots 6 in the ground anchor 7. By preference the sides of the lugs are parallel with the length of the bar and the sides of the slots are parallel and fit fairly closely to the sides of the lugs so as to prevent undue lateral movement of the anchor. While the form of the anchor may be varied, it is here illustrated in the form of a regular trapezium, the shortest side whereof is arranged at the bottom.

In general, the parts above mentioned are the same as in the aforesaid Jones application, but according to my invention the lugs project farther from the surface of the bar, thus affording sufficient metal for the projecting ends to be riveted over onto the front of the anchor for holding it in place. In other words, whereas in the form shown in the Jones invention the anchor has two sets of perforations, one set for the lugs and the other set for the fastening clips, I omit the second set and the clips and increase the height of the lugs and supply enough metal in them to form a head or rivet for holding the anchor in place. There are several advantages in this. In the first place, only a single set of perforations in the anchor is required, and in the second place I have dispensed with one of the elements, viz., the clip, also, by employing the metal of the post itself to hold the anchor in place, the construction is greatly simplified without sacrificing anything in the way of security or any of the other advantages obtained by the Jones post. While it is not essential that the anchor be fastened at the mill or place of manufacture, this is nevertheless, desirable, as machines are usually available there for the purpose. As pointed out in the Jones application, the advantage in forming the sides of the lugs parallel to the length of the bar and elongating the slots 6 and the anchor, is to enable the anchor to accommodate itself to variations in spacing of the lug. In rolling bars and angles it is practically impossible to form lugs on accurate spacing, as the spacing will vary somewhat in accordance with the temperature of the bar at the time it is rolled. By elongating the slots as described, the anchor will accommodate itself to variations in spacing of the lugs.

The manner of fastening the fence wires to the post is not part of my invention, and various methods may be employed. In the present case I have illustrated means similar to the one shown in the said Jones application. The fence wires 10 are held in place by clips 12 formed preferably of round rods bent in such manner as to pass over the front of the wires and engage the marginal

flanges of the bar. Usually one end, as 14, is sent from the factory, ready bent, while the other end 15 is left bent at right angles to the body of the bar, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 5. After the parts have been adjusted this end 15 can be set to final position by a hammer or other tool.

It is desirable to alternate the slant of the clips, as this seems to be a more effective manner of preventing any vertical displacement of the fencing. It is also desirable, although not necessary to cup the tops of the lugs, as best illustrated in Figure 4. This causes the metal of the lugs to flow more freely over onto the top of the anchor, and prevents the metal from spreading at a point between the inner surface of the anchor and the adjacent surface of the post.

My post also has an advantage from the manufacturer's standpoint in common with the Jones type of post in that the bars may be produced in continuous lengths and then cut off to form stock or special sizes. This results from the fact that the lugs extend at intervals along the entire post. Of course all of them will not be used in practice, and theoretically, certain of the lugs may be omitted, but it is advantageous, at least from the manufacturer's standpoint, to provide a continuous row from one end of the post to the other. The lugs which are not required in any given instance are no disadvantage; on the other hand there is much advantage in being able to roll the bars in indefinite or continuous lengths and then cut off such lengths as may be required for the individual posts.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A metallic fence post having a row of integral lugs projecting from the front for spacing the wires, and a ground anchor in the form of a plate having apertures for receiving said lugs, said lugs projecting sufficiently to penetrate the plate and leave sufficient metal to be riveted over on to the outer surface of the plate, said lugs thereby performing the additional functions of holding the ground anchor in proper location on the post and fastened to it.

2. A metallic fence post having a longitudinal row of lugs projecting from one surface and a ground anchor adjacent to said surface, the lugs having flat sides parallel to the sides of the post and the anchor having slots adapted to fit the lugs approximately at the sides, the slots being elongated for accommodating variations in the spacing of the lugs, and the lugs being appreciably higher than the thickness of the anchor, and the metal of the lugs being expanded over onto the outer surface of the lug for holding it in place.

3. A rolled metallic fence post in the form of a T bar having a row of integral lugs on its front and a ground anchor having slots for accommodating them, said lugs being of greater height than the thickness of the anchor end to facilitate riveting of the metal and a flowing of it onto the front of the anchor, said row of lugs extending approximately from end to end of the post whereby the ground anchor may be variously positioned and the upper lugs may serve to limit the vertical movement of the fence wires.

4. A rolled metallic fence post having a chiefly flat front surface having a low rib running lengthwise of it with lugs projecting forward from the rib and therefore being in alinement with each other, and a ground anchor having a plurality of apertures one above the other and adapted to accommodate the lugs, said lugs projecting forward further than the thickness of the ground anchor to thus afford sufficient metal to be riveted over against the front of the ground anchor to retain it.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name.

CRAWFORD B. MURTON.

Witnesses:
F. E. GREEN,
F. LORENZ.