Feb. 11, 1941. L. B. BECKWITH 2,231,178

STAPLE

Filed Aug. 30, 1939

FIG. 1

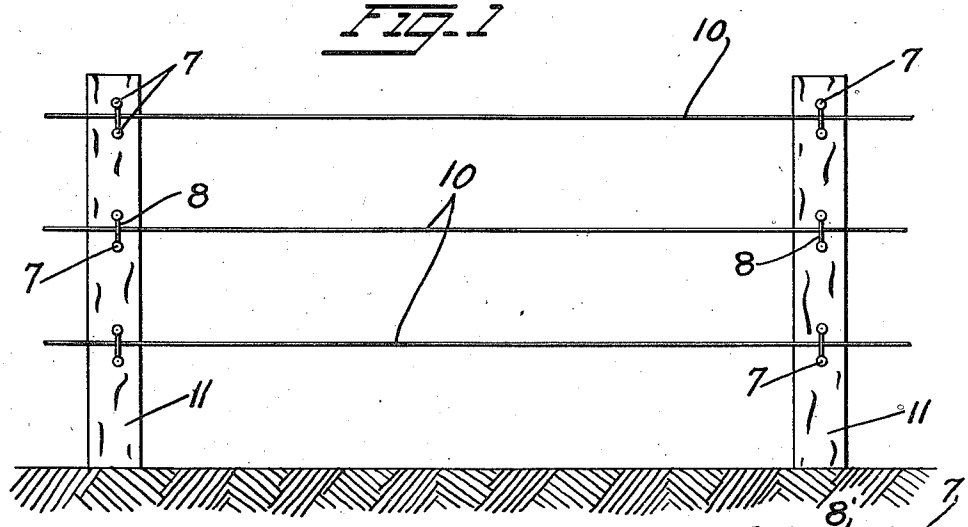


FIG. 2

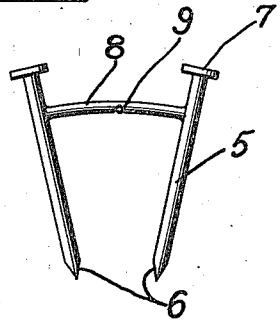


FIG. 3

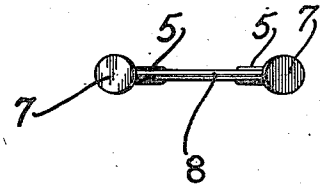
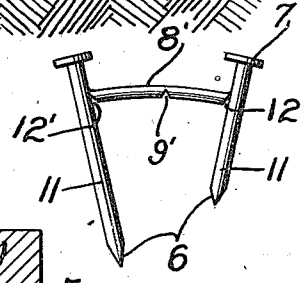


FIG. 5



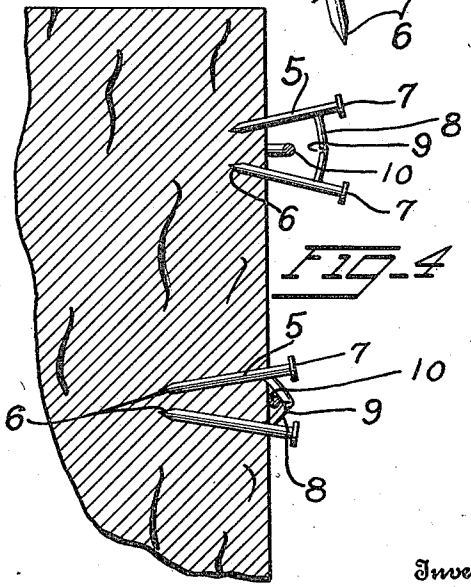


FIG. 4

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2,231,178

STAPLE

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Application August 30, 1939, Serial No. 292,722

4 Claims. (Cl. 85—49)

This invention relates to staples and more particularly to a staple especially designed for attaching wires to fence posts.

The object of the invention is to provide a staple of simple and inexpensive construction which will securely hold the line wires of a fence in position on the supporting posts thereof without danger of the staples working loose when the wood becomes dry or cracked and without the necessity of constantly redriving the staples into the posts in order to hold the line wires in position thereon.

A further object of the invention is to provide a staple comprising downwardly converging piercing members united at their diverging ends by a connecting yoke and each provided with a driving head spaced from the yoke, said yoke being provided on its under surface with a weakened portion so that, when said members are driven into a fence post, the piercing ends thereof will toe in while the weakened portion of the yoke will be bowed laterally thereby to firmly anchor the staple in the wood and prevent said staple from working loose under different climatic conditions.

A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a portion of a wire fence showing the improved staple in position on the fence posts thereof,

Figure 2 is a side elevation of one of the staples detached,

Figure 3 is a top plan view thereof,

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view, the upper staple showing the position of the converging driving elements when starting to drive the staple into the wood and the lower staple showing how the piercing points of the members are brought together or toed in when the yoke of the staple engages a line wire, and

Figure 5 is a side elevation illustrating a modified form of the invention.

The improved staple forming the subject-matter of the present invention comprises spaced converging driving members 5, each having its lower end provided with a piercing point 6 and its upper end formed with an enlarged driving head 7. The driving members 5 are preferably circular in cross section and uniting said members in spaced relation to the driving head 7 thereof is a connecting yoke 8, the lower edge of which is provided with a notch or intermediate weakened portion 9, as best shown in Figure 2 of the drawing.

In attaching the longitudinal wires 10 to a fence post 11, the staples are positioned over the line wires 10 and driven into the wood by a hammer or other suitable tool. As the driving members 5 enter the wood, the piercing points 6 thereof will toe in or approach each other and when the weakened portion 9 of the yoke contacts with the line wire 10, said yoke will be bowed laterally thereby firmly anchoring the staple on the fence post and preventing said staple from working loose should the wood of the fence post dry out or crack and consequently obviate the necessity of constantly redriving the staples into the wood in order to retain the line wires in position thereon.

In Figure 5 of the drawing, there is illustrated a modified form of the invention, in which one of the driving members or legs of the staple is longer than the other, as indicated at 11, to facilitate driving the staple into a fence post. In this form of the device, the connecting yoke 8' is preferably formed with auxiliary weakened portions 12 disposed at the junction of the yoke and driving members, as shown. It will be understood, however, that the weakened portions may be formed in either the opposite ends of the yoke or the center thereof or if desired said yoke may be weakened both in the center and on opposite sides of the central weakened portions.

It will further be understood that the staples may be made in different sizes and shapes and galvanized or otherwise plated or treated to protect the metal from the deleterious action of the elements.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A staple for holding line wires on fence posts comprising spaced converging driving members each having one end thereof sharpened to form a piercing point and its other end provided with an enlarged driving head, and a transverse yoke connecting the driving members in spaced relation to said heads and having its lower edge provided with a weakened portion whereby when the staple is driven into a fence post the piercing ends of the driving members will be forced together and the yoke pressed laterally by engagement with the line wire.

2. A staple for securing line wires to fence

posts comprising spaced converging driving members substantially circular in cross section and having their lower ends beveled to form piercing points, the upper ends of said driving members being flattened to form enlarged heads, and a laterally curved yoke connecting the driving members in spaced relation to said heads, the concave side of the yoke being provided with a weakened portion whereby when the staple is driven into a fence post the piercing points of the driving members will be forced inwardly and the connecting yoke pressed outwardly at said weakened portion by engagement with a line wire to cause the yoke to assume a substantially V-shaped contour.

3. A staple comprising spaced converging driving members one of which is longer than the other and provided with a piercing point, and a laterally bowed yoke connecting the upper portions of the driving members and having its concave face provided with a substantially V-shaped intermediate weakened portion and oppositely disposed auxiliary weakened portions disposed at the junction of the yoke with said driving members.

4. A staple for holding line wires on fence posts comprising converging driving members each having one end thereof sharpened to form a piercing point and its other end provided with a driving portion, and a transverse yoke connecting the driving members and having its lower edge provided with a weakened portion at its center whereby when the staple is driven into a fence post the piercing ends of the driving members will be forced together and the yoke bowed to form two converging portions each having tangential engagement with the wire.

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