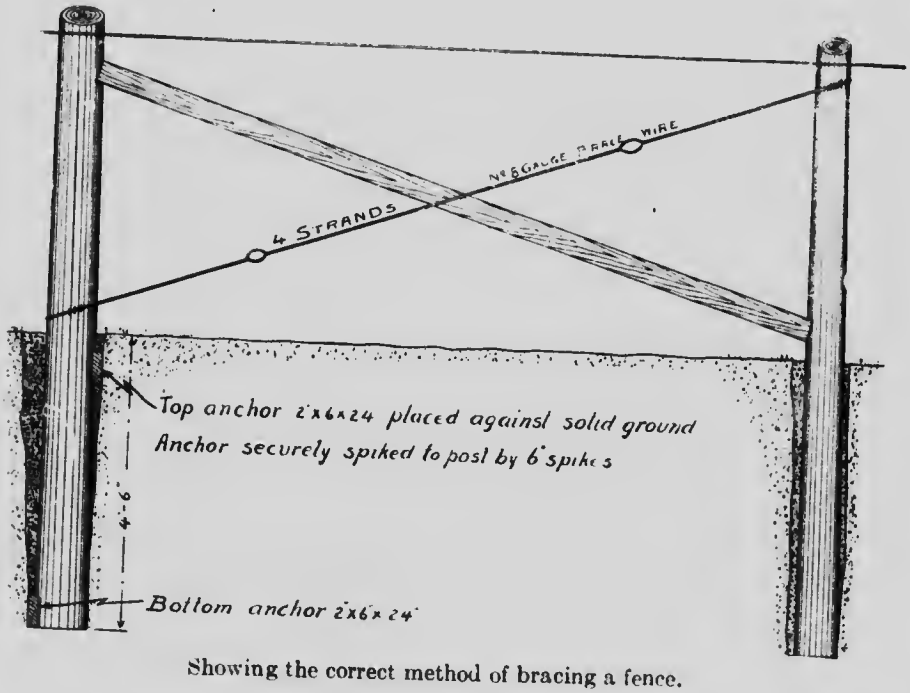
direction of which the wire is to be stretched and the other at the bottom on the opposite side. Stones at the bottom or better, concrete, then earth well tamped and concrete at the top will give satisfactory results. Brace posts are placed about 11 feet apart.

Wooden braces are made of clear, straight 4 inches by 4 inches about 12 feet long. The upper end of the brace is cut so as to fit flat against the first brace post about 10 inches from the top. The post is cut a little to admit it but not mortised enough to weaken the post. The brace is fitted to the other brace post in a similar manner at about 10 inches from the bottom and both ends should be securely spiked.

Wire Brace.

Wire bracing is made of No. 9 or larger soft wire. Fasten the free end about 4 inches from the bottom of the first post and carry wire around second brace post about 4 inches from the top and down to bottom of first post and again around to make double strand. Pull the wire tight with hand stretcher and make secure. Place a hammer handle or short smooth stick between the double strands of wire, twist a tight cable and the brace is complete.



Showing the correct method of bracing a fence.

Concrete corners, etc., are set in the same way or built in but must be properly braced to stand the strain of stretching the wire. Steel posts are not so large but are large enough and are braced according to method as per the accompanying diagram.

Intermediate brace posts should be set in the line every forty rods. These give stability and durability to the fence. See diagram. The intermediate line post may be set one rod or one and a quarter rods apart. Some set them two rods apart but this is a little too great a stretch.