

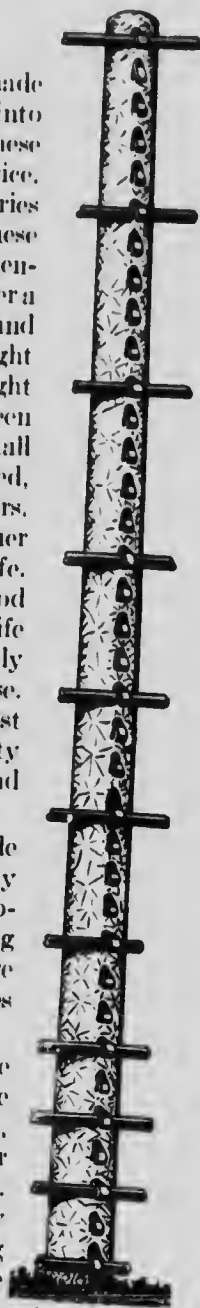
with close horizontal bars at the bottom will fill the requirements well. A very effective fence for all practical purposes except for turning coyotes and dogs is the eight strand 45 inch fabric with one barb wire placed 8 inches above. All these woven wire fabrics should be made of number 9 gauge horizontals and 11 or 12 gauge uprights, the latter being placed 12 to 16 inches apart. The larger wire is stronger and is better galvanized, which means longer life for the fence and less repairing.

POSTS.

There are three materials of which fence posts are made and when deciding upon which to use one must take into consideration the cost, strength and durability. Any of these materials can be obtained if one wishes to pay the price. Wooden posts are of many kinds. On parts of the prairies willow and poplar posts can be had for the cutting but these at best are short lived. They are, however, being used extensively where they are near at hand and easily obtained. Over a large area posts have to be obtained from a distance and then it is a matter of choosing a durable wood of the right size, length and soundness that has been cut at the right time, peeled and seasoned. In all the tests that have been made with wood, round cedar posts 4 to 6 inches at the small end, cut green in December or January, peeled and seasoned, are the most durable—the life being about 18 to 20 years. The less sapwood the longer lived will be the post, other things being right. Creosoting timber helps to prolong its life. Split cedar posts are cheaper and, if creosoted, give very good satisfaction. Tamarac and spruce are used but their life is not so long as cedar. Willow and poplar are constantly needing repairs and substitutions after three years of use. The cost for digging holes, setting, etc., adds much to the cost of wooden posts. A good workman can set only about fifty a day. The cost per post will vary according to wages and kind of soil.

Concrete posts reinforced with iron and steel can be made in moulds on the ground. They are durable when properly made. The expense will vary according to the cost of procuring gravel, sand and reinforcing. Holes have to be dug and posts set as with wood but when once in place they are there for life. Neither fire, weather nor fungous diseases do them harm.

A number of fence companies are now putting on the market steel posts that are proving very attractive to fence builders. These are made in different ways—angle, channel, round and trussed. They have been experimented with for a number of years and have proved strong and durable. The cost varies with the weight. The first cost is usually more than that of cedar but there are no holes to dig except for corners and brace posts. The intermediate posts are driven at the rate of about 300 per day. This materially cheapens the first cost of the fence.



Iron post showing clips for attaching wire.