

No. 834,804.

PATENTED OCT. 30, 1906.

A. J. HENINGER.
FENCE POST.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 7, 1905.

Fig. 1.

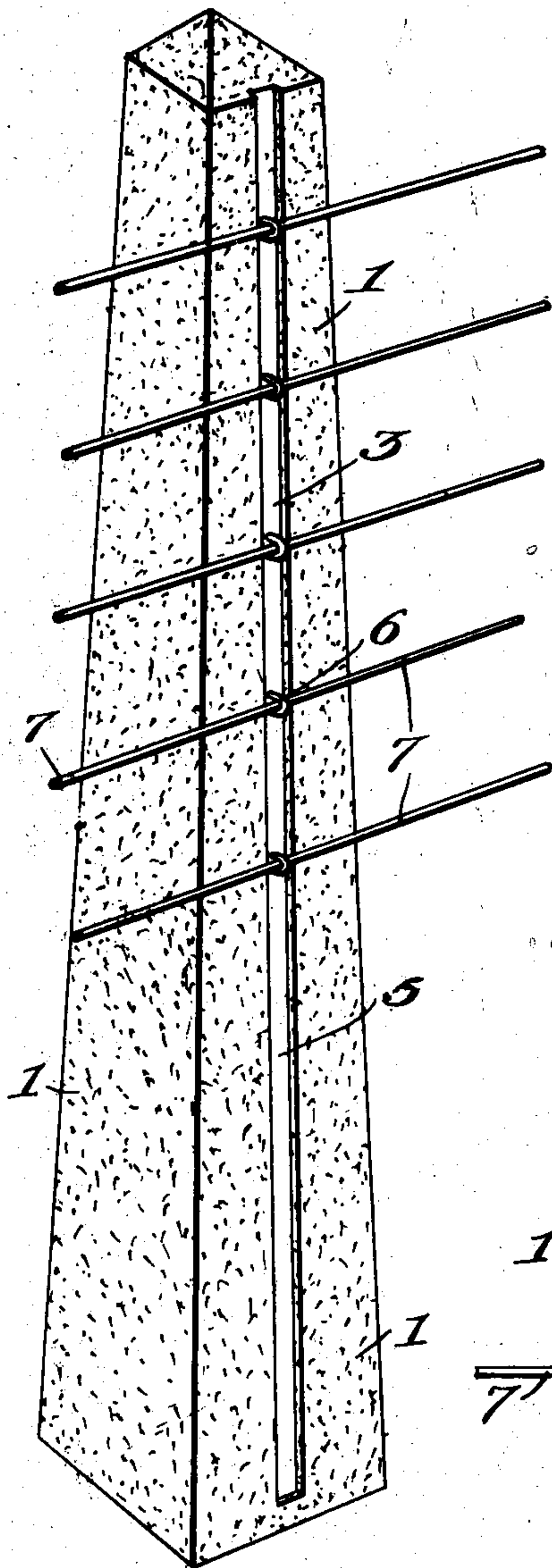


Fig. 2.

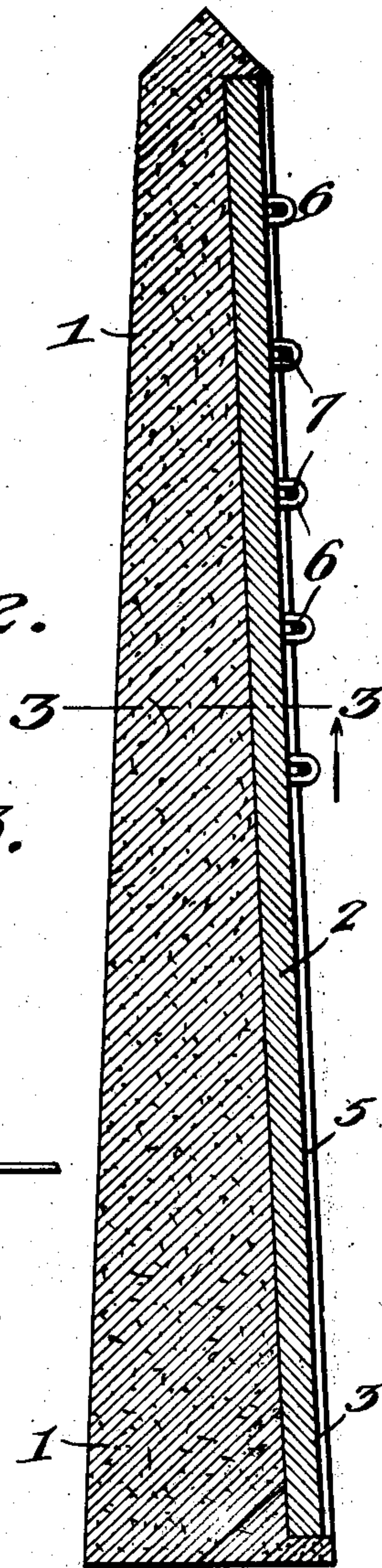


Fig. 3.

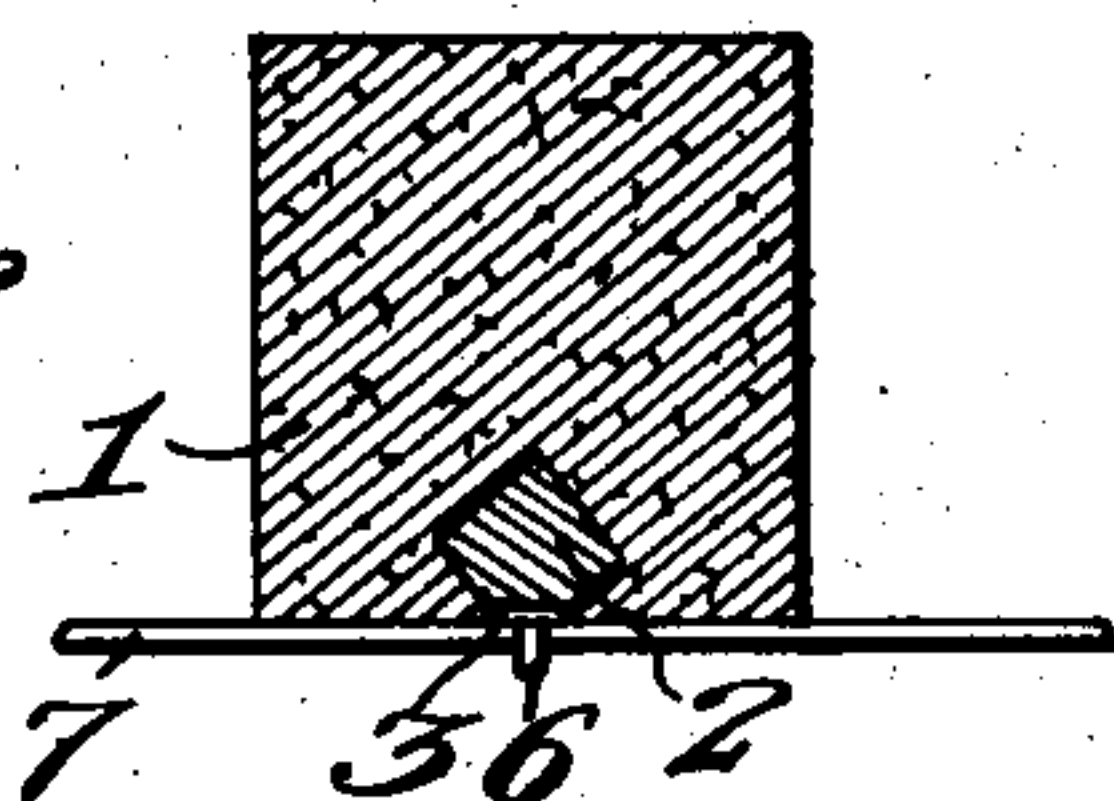


Fig. 4.

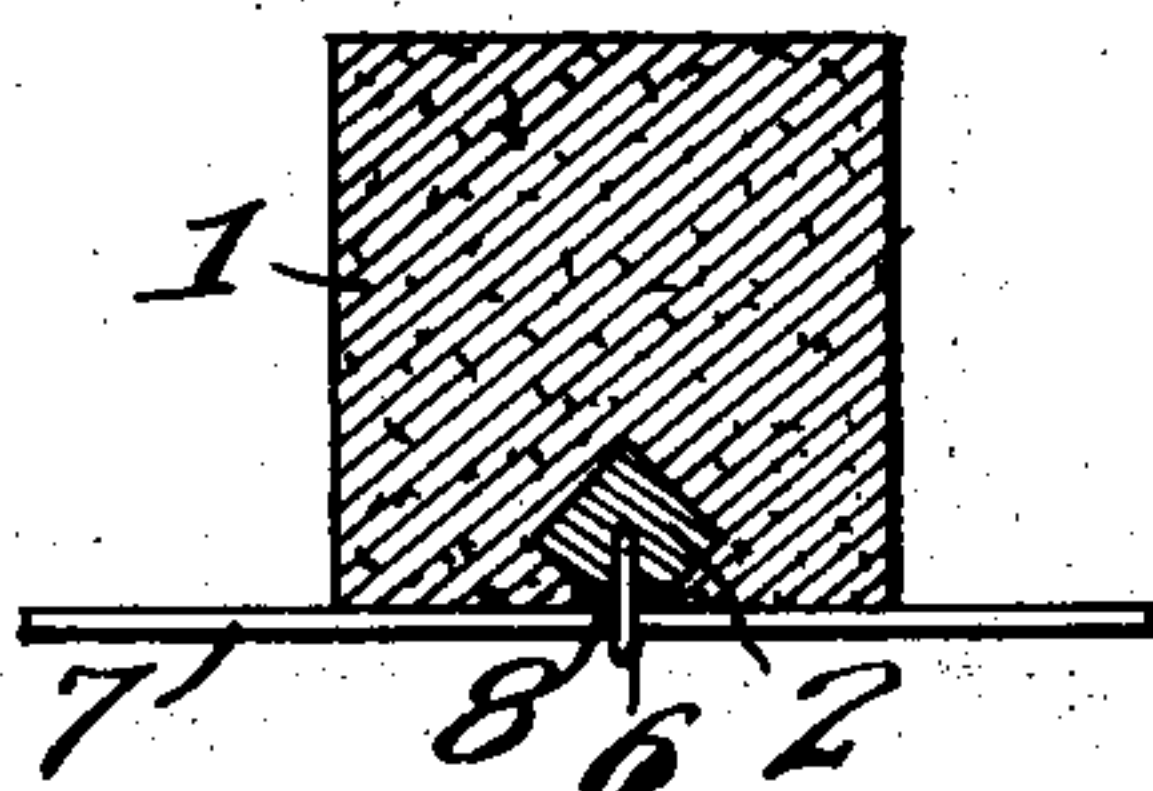
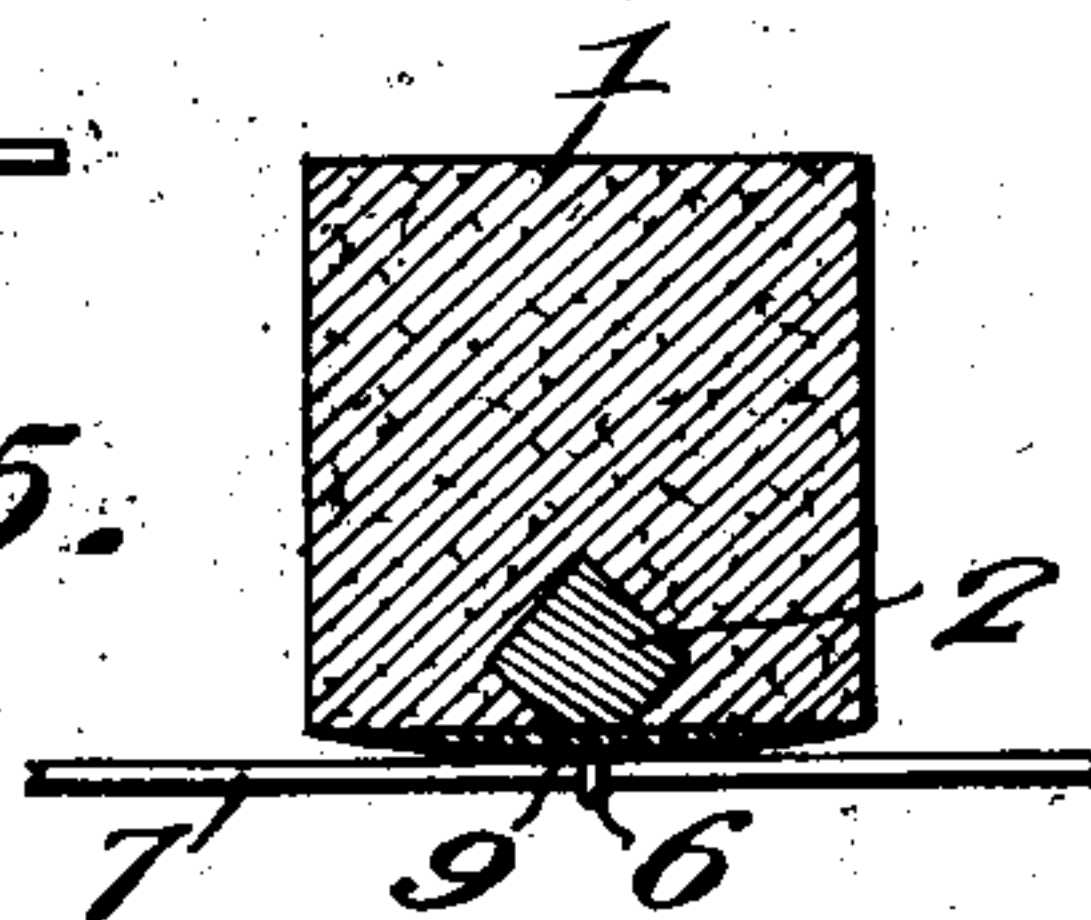


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. HENINGER, OF TAZEWELL, VIRGINIA.

FENCE-POST.

No. 834,804.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. HENINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tazewell, in the county of Tazewell and State of Virginia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to an improvement in fence-posts, and particularly a plastic post having an embedded staple-receiving strip.

I am aware that it has been heretofore proposed to provide a fence-post of plastic material with an embedded wooden or other strip and that in order to protect said strip from the elements it has been inclosed in a metallic casing. While it is absolutely essential that the wooden strip be protected against the elements, the use of a metallic casing for the purpose is objectionable for the reason that it is required to be connected with the strip prior to the insertion of the latter within the post. Again, the metallic strip must be provided with suitable openings through which the wire-supporting staples or the like may be passed for driving into the wood. Again, the metallic strip is an expensive, and therefore practically prohibitive, addition to the ordinarily inexpensive plastic post. The main objection, however, to the use of a metallic casing as a protective medium for the wooden strip is that its ratio of expansibility and contractibility differs from that of the material of the post with the result that under extremes of temperature the post is liable to become cracked or broken.

It is the object of the present invention to provide the wooden strip within the post with a protecting medium of a nature to avoid all of the objections above noted, thereby materially increasing the life of the post and gaining all the advantages from the use of the embedded strip without any of the disadvantages incidental to all similar constructions with which I am familiar.

The invention in the preferred construction will be described in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence-post constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical central section of the same. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the application of the protecting medium; and Fig. 5 is a transverse section through a post,

illustrating a slightly-modified form of the invention.

Referring to the drawings, my improved fence-post 1 is constructed of plastic material, being preferably molded square in cross-section and gradually tapering from the bottom toward the top, whereby the cost of the post is reduced and the greatest thickness and resultant strength are provided adjacent the ground, as is necessary.

The form of the post, though preferably as described, is, however, immaterial so far as the present invention is concerned.

The wooden strip 2 to be inserted in the post is practically square in cross-section, with one edge truncated to provide a face 3 parallel with a line diagonally of the post. The strip is inserted during the process of molding the post, being either inserted within the mold and the plastic material of the post tamped therearound, or the post is primarily molded, and while in comparatively soft condition the strip 2 is forced into the post from the face side thereof. Under either operation the strip is positioned within the post adjacent the face 4 thereof, with the face 3 of the strip directly parallel with the face 4 of the post. In this position the strip is angularly disposed within the post—that is, the diagonals of the strip are parallel with the sides of the post. By this arrangement the strip-receiving opening within the post is approximately diamond shape in cross-section, with its line of greatest width some distance in rear of the face of the post, the walls of the opening converging from the line of greatest width toward the face and rear wall of the post, respectively, whereby the strip is securely held within the post, as will be obvious. The strip 2 is preferably of a length slightly less than that of the post, so that the ends thereof are concealed from above and below by the material of the post. The strip 2 is so positioned within the post relative to the face 4 thereof as to position the face of the strip slightly in rear of the face 4 of the post, thus providing a longitudinal channel 5, extending lengthwise the post co-extensive with and exposing the face 3 of the strip.

In use the staples 6 for supporting the line-wires 7 of the post are suitably driven into the face 3 of the strip, after which the channel 5 is filled flush with the face of the post with the same material as that used to construct the post.

It is to be understood that the filler for the channel 5, as 8, is to be so applied as to thoroughly cover all exposed area of the face 3 of the strip, whereby said strip is wholly inclosed and sealed within the post.

If preferred, the walls of the channel 5 may be undercut to provide for a more effective holding of the filler. In the form illustrated in Fig. 5 the strip 2 is shown as positioned within the post to aline its face 3 with the face 4 of the post. In this event the filler, as 9, will comprise a layer of material practically coextensive with the face of the post and preferably thickest at that point overlying the strip.

By the construction described it will be noted that the strip is wholly inclosed and sealed within the post, whereby it is protected against the elements and rendered practically indestructible.

The characteristic feature of the present invention, however, is the use of a filler for sealing the strip within the post after its necessary exposure to receive the staples, which filler is of the same material as that composing the post. This materially cheapens the cost of the post, while at the same time providing for the complete sealing of the strip therein against the action of the elements. Furthermore and most important, the use of a filler of the same material as that of the post provides for a uniform expansion and contraction and guards against any tend-

ency to crack the post under extremes of temperature, as would be incidental to a protecting medium of a different substance than that of the post.

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

1. A fence-post, a strip embedded therein during the molding of the post and having a portion thereof exposed, wire-receiving means secured to the exposed portion of the post, and a filler of the same material as the post to cover said exposed portion after the application of the wire-receiving means, said filler exposing the wire-receiving means.

2. A fence-post molded of plastic material, a strip having a face portion embedded in the post during its manufacture to expose said face portion, the material of the post projecting beyond the face portion of the strip to provide a channel extending longitudinally of the post, wire-receiving means secured to the strip in said face portion, and a filler of the same material as the post to be applied to the face portion of the strip after the insertion of the wire-receiving means, said filler closing the channel in the post on a level with the contiguous surfaces of the post.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW J. HENINGER.

Witnesses:

JOHN L. FLETCHER,
DAVID W. GOULD.