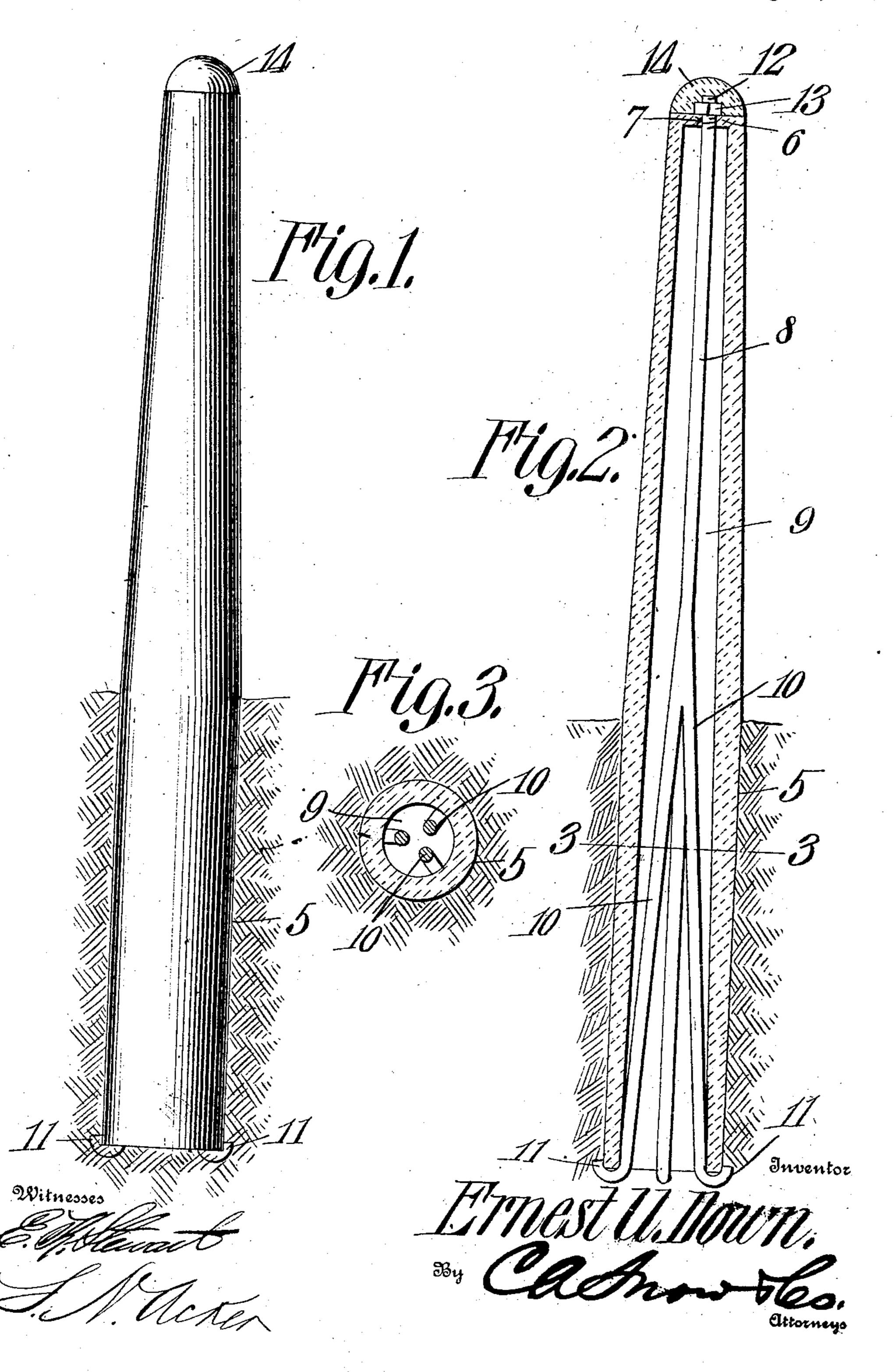
E. U. DOWN.

CONCRETE POST,

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1908.

931,396.

Patented Aug. 17, 1909.



## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST U. DOWN, OF WATERVILLE, OHIO.

CONCRETE POST.

No. 931,396.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 17, 1909.

Application filed June 8, 1908. Serial No. 437,402.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Ernest U. Down, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterville, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Concrete-Post, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to fence posts and more particularly to that class of posts

o known as plastic posts.

The object of the invention is to provide a concrete fence post having an interior core or chamber for the reception of a reinforcing rod, which latter serves to strengthen the post and prevent the concrete from dis-

integrating.

A further object of the invention is to provide a reinforcing rod, the lower end of which is formed with a plurality of diverging arms having hooked terminals adapted to engage the base of the post, the opposite end of the rod being threaded for engagement with a clamping nut so that by adjusting the nut the tension of the rod may be regulated to firmly clamp the post.

A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and

efficiency.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of

35 the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a concrete fence post constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of

45 the drawings.

The improved fence post forming the subject matter of the present invention comprises a hollow body portion preferably molded or otherwise formed of cement, concrete or other plastic material, said post being provided with a cylindrical base 5 adapted to be embedded in the ground, the upper portion of the post being inclined or tapered in the direction of the top thereof, as shown.

55 The lower end of the post is open while the

upper end thereof is closed by a transverse diaphragm 6, the latter having a central perforation 7 formed therein for the reception of a longitudinally disposed reinforcing rod 8. The rod 8 is disposed within the core or 60 chamber 9 of the post and is provided with a plurality of radiating arms 10 preferably formed integral with the body of the rod and having their lower ends provided with terminal hooks 11 which engage the periph- 65 eral edge of the post at the base thereof. The upper end of the reinforcing rod 8 extends through the perforation 7 and is threaded at 12 for engagement with a clamping nut 13, which latter bears against the 70 diaphragm 6 and serves to regulate the tension of the reinforcing rod. A cap piece 14 is preferably molded or otherwise formed on the upper or free end of the post, said cap piece forming a housing for the nut 13 75 and also serving to give the post a neat and attractive appearance.

Attention is here called to the fact that the upper end of the rod 8 is centered within the chamber 9 by the diaphragm 6, while the 80 lower end of the rod is retained in proper position by means of the hooks 11. It will also be noted that the rod 8 not only serves to reinforce and strengthen the post but also serves to prevent disintegration or crumbling 85 of the cement constituting the body of the

post.

While the device is particularly designed for use as a fence post it is obvious that the same may be used with equally good results 90 as a column, pillar, hitching post or wherever a device of this character is found desirable.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that there is provided an extremely 95 simple, inexpensive and efficient device admirably adapted for the attainment of the ends in view.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

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A fence post comprising a hollow concrete body portion having its lower end open and its upper end provided with a transverse diaphragm having a central perforation formed therein, a vertically disposed reinforcing rod centered within the body portion and having its upper end threaded and extended through the perforation in the diaphragm and its intermediate portion split to produce a plurality of outwardly inclined the

arms, the free ends of which are arranged to bear against the interior walls of the body portion, said arms terminating in laterally and upwardly curved hooks spaced an equal distance apart and extended beneath and bearing against the lower edge of the body portion, a nut engaging the threaded end of the reinforcing rod and bearing against the diaphragm, and a cap forming a housing

for the diaphragm and clamping nut, re- 10 spectively.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ERNEST U. DOWN.

Witnesses:

Lydia E. Cunningham, Robert F. Muir.

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