A PORTABLE PANEL FENCE

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The portable fence herein described and illustrated was planned primarily for swine, but may also be used for sheep and calves. The convenience of having a considerable quantity of portable fence on the farm is generally recognized. This circular has been prepared with the thought that it will simplify the construction of such a fence. Absence of a definite and practical plan often prevents its more general use.

Construct a table four feet wide and seventeen feet long. (With a little more care and inconvenience a barn floor may be substituted for the table.) At one end of the table and at right angles with the same, nail a piece of straight board, C, Fig. A in the above cut. At the front side of the table, or the side of the workman, nail two blocks d, made of two-inch lumber so that they are at right angles with C, to form supports for the lower board of the panel and the lower ends of the two end crossbars. Then take two-inch blocks, f, e, g, that are about two inches wide and nail them on the table so that their outside ends are 11 inches from the proposed ends of the panel and arrange them so that it is 9 inches from the upper side of d, to the upper side of f, 11 inches from the upper side of f to the upper side of e, and 14 inches from the upper side of e to the upper side of g. Next place six-inch boards 16 feet long (the length of the panel) so that they lie firmly against the upper side of blocks f, e, g, and butt against C.
This may easily be accomplished by raising the further side of the table so that the boards will keep their position against the blocks. Also incline the table toward c. The cross-bars which have been sawed 40 inches long are now nailed one across each end and one in the middle as shown in the cut above. These are to be 6 inches wide and only on one side of the panel and nailed with 8d wire nails which should be clinched. The two end cross-bars can rest against the ends of blocks f, e, and g with their sides, and against d with the ends. Saw out one inch deep from the upper edge of each end of the lower board outside of the cross-bar. This will make a fence that is 40 inches high when the lower boards rests on the ground. By following the method outlined above the panels will all be of the same dimension and will thus fit the triangles without difficulty.

To construct the triangle represented in B and B' and used to support the panel, saw three pieces of board 6 inches wide and 4 feet long. Nail a one inch board at the front side of the table for a straight edge and use this as a base line. Take a point 1 on the base line and point o so that it is 27½ inches above 1 and at right angles to the base line at 1. Now take two of the boards 4 feet long and lay the lower and inside corners 21 inches from 1 on the base line and allow the inside of the two boards to cross at point o. Nail the boards lightly in this position and lay out r and s which are notches sawed out for the ends of the boards of the panel to fit into. These notches are 2½ inches wide and the upper end of r is 28½ inches from the base line. The lower end of notch s is 7½ inches above r. Now draw out the nails, saw out r and s and use the two pieces i and j for patterns. For h take a six-inch board 4 feet long and at the middle of each side saw out a notch 1 inch deep and 2½ inches wide.

After having sawed out a sufficient number of pieces according to Fig. B, then proceed to put them together as in Fig B'. Saw out a piece, x, 17½ inches long, 2 inches thick and 2½ inches wide. Nail this on the table so that its median line is perpendicular to the base line at l and so that the upper end is 28½ inches from the base line. Now prepare two blocks y and z of one-inch lumber and nail them to the table so that the outside lower points as in Fig. B', are each 21 inches from the point l. Place i, j, and h in the position as in Fig.B' so that the inside notches of i and j will rest firmly against the upper end of x and that the notch on
the upper side of h will rest firmly against the lower end of x and that h is parallel to the base line. Nail firmly and saw the corners of h so that it is flush with i and j. The upper ends of y and z have nothing to do with determining the lower line of h. Use 8d wire nails and clinch.

Both the triangles and panels should be made of common rough fencing and the number of triangles should equal the number of panels plus one. In placing the panels and triangles to make a fence, reverse every alternate panel so that the cross-bars are on opposite sides and set a triangle at every juncture of the panels and at the ends of the fence.