Method of Preparing and Filling Moulds.

Cover the base-board with a sheet of plain galvanized iron, or with paper, or paint with any one of the following: (1) Waste oil (such as that from the crank-case of an engine); (2) clay and water made into a pasty solution; (3) whitewash. The portion of the mould coming in contact with the concrete must then be painted with any of these materials and placed in position on the base-board. Wet the mixture, and mix it thoroughly. Lay about 1 in. of concrete in the bottom of the mould, and tamp with a wooden rammer similar to that shown in Fig. 8. Next place two reinforcing-rods (previously prepared) with about 1 in. or 2 in. of their ends bent at right angles, and extending to within about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. of the ends of the mould, on the thin layer of concrete (for position of reinforcing-rods see Fig. 9—important). Now

FIG. 8. TYPE OF RAMMER RECOMMENDED FOR MAKING POSTS.

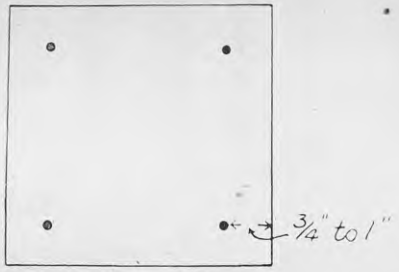

FIG. 9. TRANSVERSE SECTION OF POST, SHOWING POSITION OF REINFORCING-RODS.

fill the moulds to within about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. of the top, being careful to tamp thoroughly as the concrete is put in in thin layers. Place two other reinforcing-rods in position with the bent-over ends turned towards the centre of the post, fill in to the top of the mould, and finish the surface with a trowel.

The next operation is to fix in the wire staples shown in Fig. 10, so that the end with the double loop protrudes about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. This must be done immediately the concrete is in position, and fine material carefully tamped around the staples. A rod of wood marked with the required spacing will serve as a guide to the position of the staples.

In addition to the wire staples, holes through the post should be provided, because the life of the staples is limited, and when they rust away the post is likely to be better than ever. These holes may be made in the desired position by placing $\frac{1}{4}$ in. iron rods through the mould