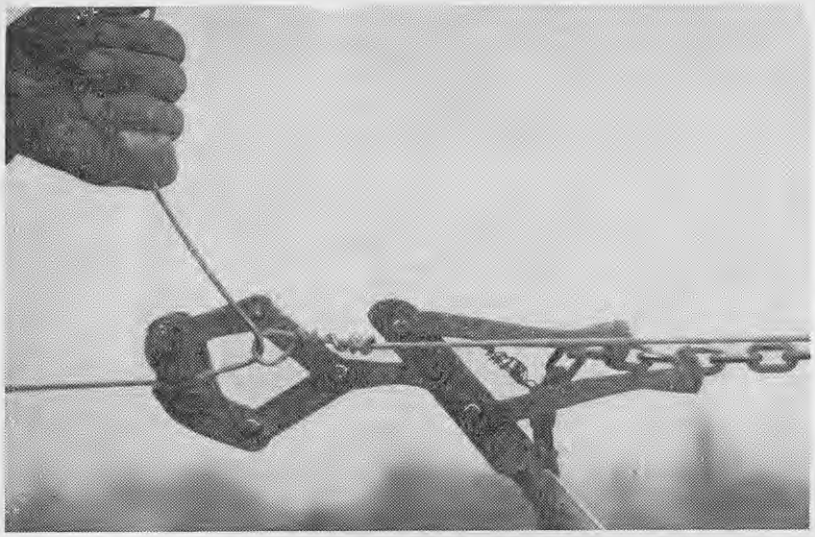

Fig. 19—Method of straining a wire in the centre of a length of fence, or a broken wire. First of all a loop is made in the right hand piece of wire as shown and the wire strainer grips applied to each piece of wire, allowing sufficient wire on the left hand piece to pass through the loop as shown.

Fig. 20—When sufficient strain has been placed on the wire by operating the handle of the wire strainer, the wire through the loop is tapped up as tight as possible to the grip and twisted as shown to form the second loop.

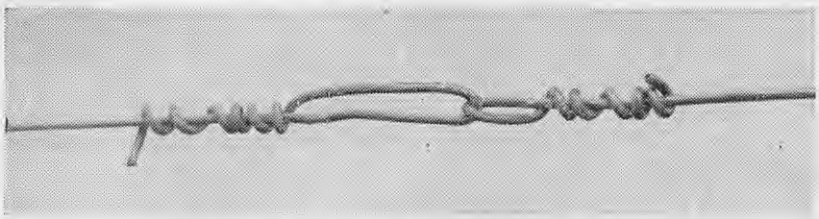

Fig. 21—The completed double loop splice.

the most satisfactory way of splicing is to use the double loop as follows: Take one end of the broken wire and on to it with a figure 8 knot join a piece of fresh wire; attach the wire strainer to the other end of the broken wire about 6in. from the end; attach the travelling grip of the strainer to the fresh piece of wire and work the handle until the wire is sufficiently strained; cut the fresh piece of wire off with sufficient spare wire to make a loop when turned back on itself and twist securely. The free end of wire close up to the stationary grip of the strainer is then passed through the loop and bent back on itself and hammered up to take up the slack and twisted around itself at the back of the grip. The tying of this double loop splice is illustrated and described in Figs. 19, 20, and 21.

Flood Gates

Where a fence line crosses a creek or watercourse that is dry or semi-dry for most of the year, but may develop into a torrent during heavy rains, it may be necessary to erect a flood gate to prevent stock getting under. This is usually constructed by running two or three strands of No. 8 wire just about ground level and securely fastening each end to a substantial post on either side of the creek, but well enough away from the edges to ensure good holding. Twist the wire strands with a stick to ensure tightness. From split timber make a frame board large enough to reach from bank to bank and from wire level to just above creek bottom. With wire and staples fasten to this frame other pieces of split timber to form a barricade, which is suspended by hinges or loops made of 2 strands of No. 8 wire passed over the wire cable at normal ground level and fastened to the top rail. It will act as a stock block during dry periods, will open by swinging downstream during floods, and return to its normal position afterwards, provided no logs or boulders have lodged under it.