

## **DROP AND BLOCK WIRE**

### **WIRE GUARDS**

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#### **1. GENERAL**

1.01 This section replaces Section G32.161, Issue 1. It covers the description of wire guards and their use as protection for drop wire against abrasion.

1.02 The best protection against abrasion is obtained by stringing drop wire clear of obstructions in a span. This should be done where practicable even though it means longer wire runs.

#### **2. PROTECTING DROP WIRE AGAINST ABRASION**

2.01 Protect Drop Wire with wire guards where it is impracticable to avoid contact with:

- (1) Tree limbs or branches larger than 1/2 inch in diameter.
- (2) Obstructions in the span such as garages, guys, signs, street lighting standards, etc.
- (3) Suspension strand of ring supported cable at span clamps in drop wire run between pole and span clamp.
- (4) Small branches (less than 1/2 inch in diameter) twigs and foliage, if it is impracticable to obtain clearance for about two or three years. Refer to the section covering Tree Pruning—Methods for a list of fast and slow growing trees.

### 3. DESCRIPTION OF WIRE GUARDS

3.01 **P Wire Guard**—This is a slotted guard of black plastic which can be spiralled on the drop wire or the drop wire pulled through it. P guards are furnished in 3-foot lengths.

3.02 **S Wire Guard**—This is a black plastic tubing also furnished in 3-foot lengths. It has no slot, therefore, it can be installed only by threading the drop wire through it.

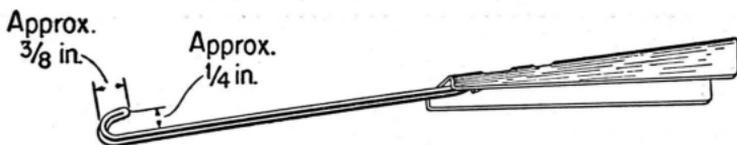
### 4. INSTALLING WIRE GUARDS

#### General

- 4.01 Center wire guard on a drop with respect to the point of contact with tree limbs or other obstructions.
- 4.02 Extend the wire protection at least 3 feet beyond each side of the tree exposure in order to provide for subsequent tree growth.
- 4.03 Use a B Clip Crimper for sliding guards to the proper position on the drop wire and for placing Wire Clips to hold guards in place.
- 4.04 Hold wire guards in position by placing wire clips on the drop against the ends of the protection. Where more than three guard lengths are used, place intermediate wire clips not more than three guard lengths apart.

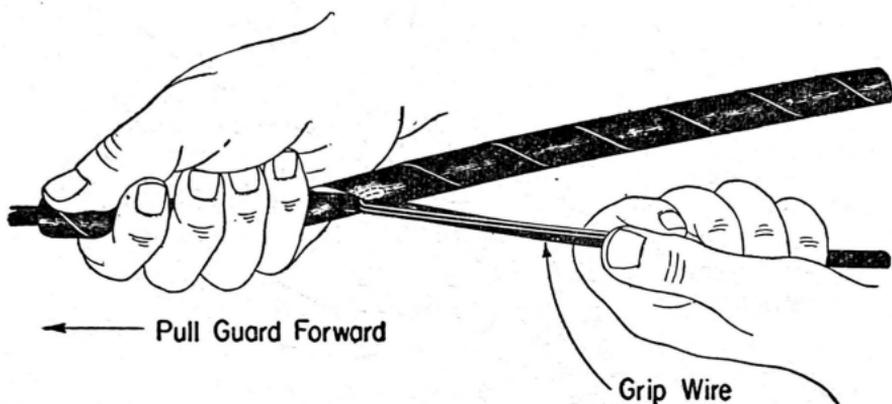
#### Placing Wire Guards

4.05 **P Wire Guard**—These guards can be placed on drop wire by means of a hook tool fashioned from the tail wire of a drop wire clamp, or by using a screwdriver as a guide.

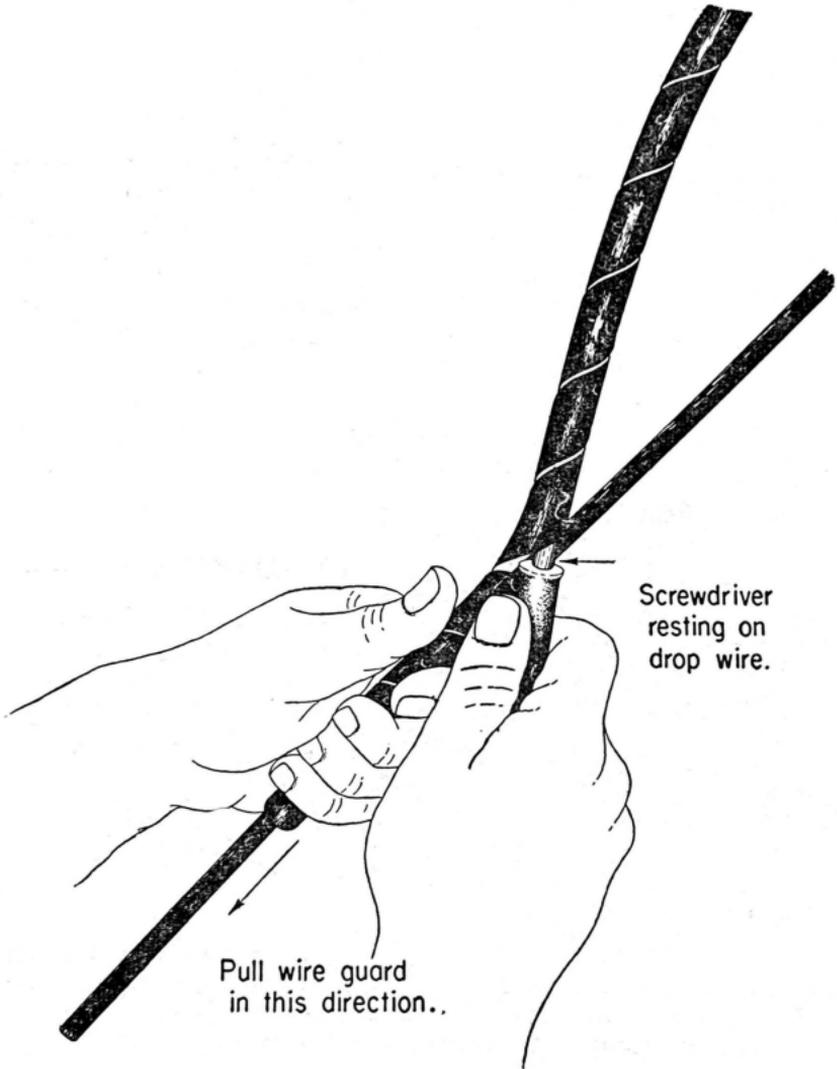


4.06 **Place P Wire Guard on drop wire as outlined below.**

- (1) Spiral one end of the wire guard on the drop wire for a length of about 4 inches.
- (2) **When using the hook**—Insert the hook in the slit of the guard and hold it close to the drop wire. Grip the part of the guard already on the wire and pull guard away from the hook as shown.



(3) **When using screwdriver**—After inserting the screwdriver blade into the part of the guard not on the wire and holding it in position shown, grip the part of the guard already on the wire and pull guard away from the screwdriver.

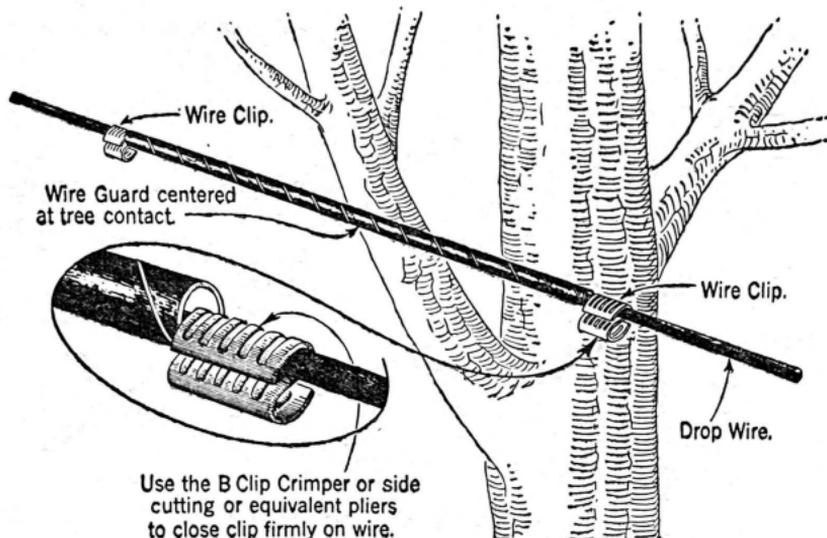


4.07 Place S Wire Guards on drop wire when a free wire end is available for threading through the guard.

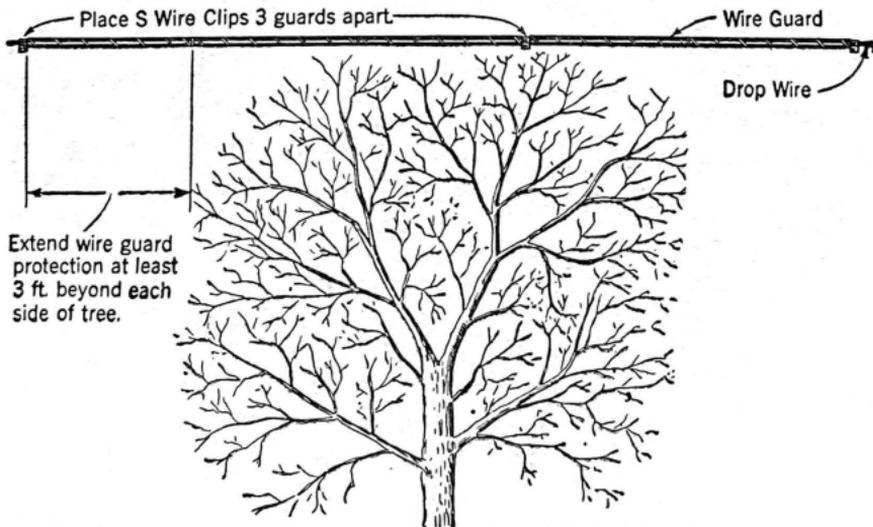
## Typical Installations of Wire Guards

4.08 Methods of protecting drop wire against abrasion are illustrated below.

### PROTECTING DROP WIRE FROM TREE CONTACT LARGER THAN 1/2 INCH IN DIAMETER



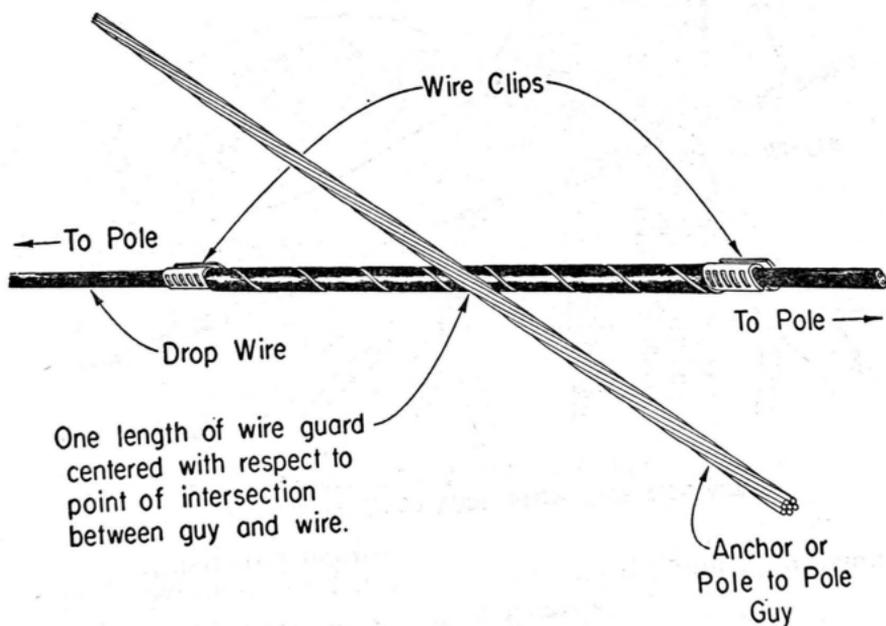
### PROTECTING DROP WIRE RUN OVER A TREE



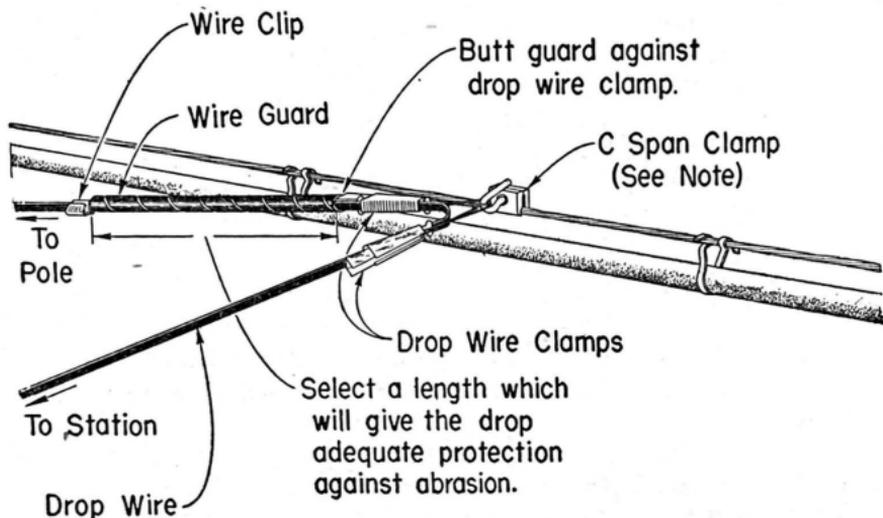
### PROTECTING DROP WIRE RUN THROUGH EXTENDED TREE CONDITION



### PROTECTING DROP WIRE FROM CONTACT WITH GUY IN A SPAN



PROTECTING DROP WIRE AGAINST  
ABRASION AT C SPAN CLAMP  
ON RING SUPPORTED CABLE



Note:

Wire guard protection  
not required with old  
Span Clamps.