

**BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES**  
**Outside Plant Construction**  
**and Maintenance**

**SECTION G80.801.2**  
**Issue 2, July, 1957**  
**AT&T Co Standard**

**TOOLS**  
**LINEMEN'S CLIMBERS**  
**PRECAUTIONS**

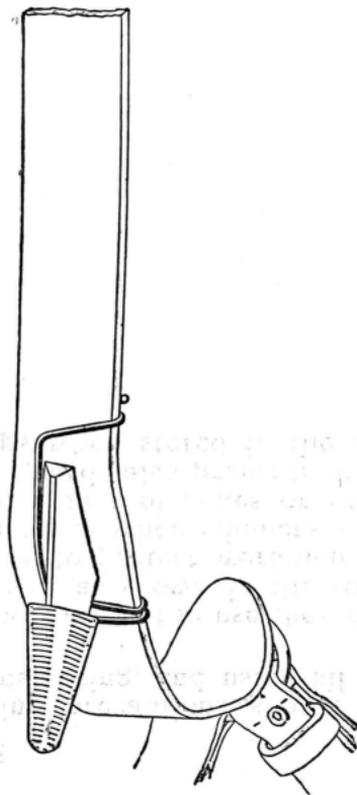
**1. GENERAL**

1.01 This section replaces Issue 1. It has been revised to cover Linemen's Climbers of all types and also C Gaff Guards. This section outlines precautions to be observed in the use of all types of Linemen's Climbers.

**2. PRECAUTIONS**

2.01 The following precautions should be observed when storing, transporting, and using all types of Linemen's Climbers.

- (a) When climbers are not in use they should be fitted with C Gaff Guards, as shown in the following illustration. Gaff guards serve to protect workmen as well as the gaff tips and cutting edges when climbers are carried by workmen or are stored in tool boxes or other storage spaces. The use of gaff guards also prevents damage to body belts and safety straps when stored in the same compartments with climbers.



(b) Use climbers of the correct size (see Section G80.801.1 for method of determining proper climber size).

(c) NEVER WEAR CLIMBERS ON WORK WHERE THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED as, for example, when working on the ground, on a ladder, on a stepped pole where the work can be performed safely from the steps, or while traveling in a motor vehicle or any other type of conveyance. Climbers should not be worn when walking in deep snow, over rough terrain, crossing fences or ditches, climbing or descending embankments, climbing trees, or under any other such conditions which might cause the employee to gaff himself or a fellow worker. Also, nicks and depressions in the gaff caused by impact against rocks or other hard surfaces may cause gaff breakage.

(d) Before putting the climbers on, examine the leg irons, straps, strap loops and rings to ascertain they are in good condition; inspect the gaffs to be sure they are sharp, and have the proper profile.

Furthermore upon receipt of the climbers and weekly thereafter inspect them in accordance with Section G80.801.3.

- (e) When climbing past another employee who has his safety strap in place around the pole, special care should be taken to avoid gaffing the other employee or his equipment.
- (f) Do not use the gaff as a pry.
- (g) When climbing, avoid placing the gaff in or near a crack, knot, nail or tack, etc. ↙