

LUNAR WHITE

"What use is being made of lunar white by itself, or in combination with red, green or yellow, to provide additional or distinctive signal aspects?"

For Restricting and Permissive Aspects

By W. W. WELSH

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LUNAR white is an integral part of the color-position-light signal. The main cluster consists of two greens for Clear, two yellows for Approach, two reds for Stop and two lunar white lights for Restricting. In manual block territory, the lunar white lights denote Permissive for following freight trains.

We also use lunar white roundels in one, two and three-arm high semaphore signals and in dwarf semaphore signals, to indicate Restricting or Permissive as required. Inoperative approach signals, where used, have an upper-quadrant blade and lunar white light.

If you have a question, answer or Kink you think would be of interest and help to others in the field, please write. Your comments will be welcomed—
Editor.

Yellow Over Lunar White

By C. A. BUTTS

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WE use lunar white below yellow to provide an additional aspect in normal-danger signal territory, where it is desired to control the speed for some reason. The yellow-over-lunar white aspect on a signal is used in approach of a normal-danger signal, and conveys the indication that the normal-danger signal will clear if the posted speed is observed, that is, the block control of the normal-danger signal is clear of trains. If the lunar white aspect is not displayed on a signal in approach of the normal-danger signal, the yellow alone indicates that the train must be operated, preparing to stop at the normal-danger signal, that is, the block control of the normal-danger signal is not clear of trains.

KINKS

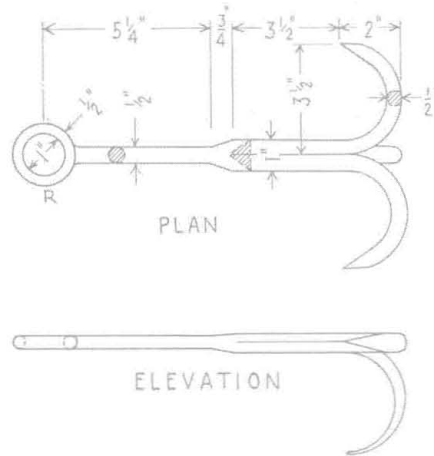
Grappling Iron for Tree Trimming

By J. R. BEAMER

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ANYONE who has ever maintained signals during the spring and summer months, knows what a task it is to keep the signal transmission



Trees may be roped without being climbed

line free from undergrowth and over-hanging trees. Many employees will recall the hours spent, with the aid of the section force, in climbing and roping trees, prior to cutting them, to make sure they do not fall into the signal line while they are being cut. The labor spent in climbing trees in order to rope them, is often greater than the labor required to cut them. In some instances, these trees cannot be climbed without the aid of climbers and, again, some are too small to climb safely, while others which are dead are unsafe to climb.

With the aid of the wrought-iron grappling device shown in the accompanying figure, trees may be roped without being climbed. A 5/8-in. rope about 50 ft. long is fastened through the ring "R". When a tree is to be roped, the device is suspended by about 3 ft. of rope and, from this position, it is cast up into the tree at any desired height. After a few trial throws, one becomes as good at casting a fisherman becomes in casting a plug. After the rope has become enmeshed in the tree, by pulling on the rope and snubbing it around an adjacent tree, the tree to be cut

is pulled away from the signal transmission line at the proper angle, and the axe applied. As the cutting proceeds, the tension on the rope is increased, so when the tree is ready to fall, it is easily pulled away from the pole line.

After several attempts to make this device, the weight and dimensions shown in the sketch have proven to be most satisfactory, as the weight is just right for casting, and the hooks are just large enough to become caught in the rope after the rope has wrapped around the part of the tree desired to be pulled over. The hook can be made by any blacksmith, and I know of no labor-saving device that yields a greater monetary saving on the investment. This year, by using two of them, I found that while the men were cutting a tree which I had just roped, that I could go ahead and rope the next tree, so as to always have a tree roped and ready to be cut by the time that the last tree was cut. The hook has proven to be so valuable that each maintainer should have one.

Drilling Panels for Small Instrument Cases

By D. F. MORRISON

Signal Helper

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SINCE plywood panels for small junction boxes often come without predrilled mounting holes, signalmen frequently must drill these holes in the field. To accurately locate the holes, I use the following device:

First, cut the head from a machine screw of the same size as the screws that will permanently hold the panel. Then, grind the cut end to a sharp point and insert the screw in the hole already tapped in the box's back or angle bars. The board may be pressed against the screw's pointed end, and then drilled at the resulting mark. On larger cases, undrilled boards may be marked in a similar manner, except that a larger screw fitted with two nuts for use on untapped angle irons must be used. This arrangement of two nuts must be used, because it is difficult to pass nuts over the thread near the ground end.