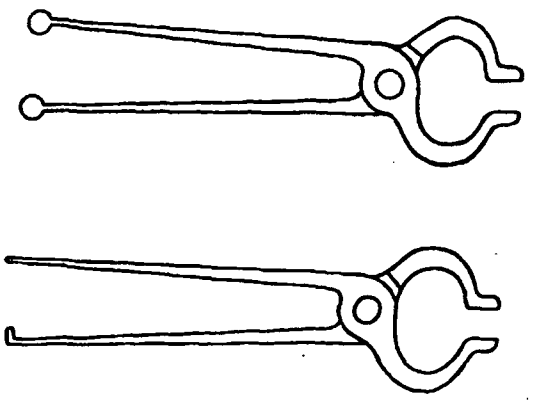

FIG 32-14 —Ends of tongs can be upended, or projections can be welded on them to give clearance for user's hands

Tongs usually are bought, but some companies make their own to perform specific jobs Often they are designed in such a way that the hands are pinched when the tongs are closed

To prevent pinching, the end of one handle should be up-ended toward the other handle, to act as a stop It is also possible to braze, weld, or bolt bumpers on the handles a short distance behind the pivot point so that the handles cannot close against the fingers (Fig 32-14)

Pliers Side-cutting pliers sometimes cause injuries when short ends of wire are cut A guard over the cutting edge (Fig 32-15) and the use of safety goggles will prevent flying short ends from causing injuries

The handles of electricians' pliers should be insulated In addition, the men should wear electricians' gloves, if company policy requires them to

Because pliers do not hold the work securely, they should not be used as a substitute for a wrench

Special cutters for heavy wire, reinforcing wire, and bolts are safer than makeshift tools It is important that the cutting edges apply force at right angles to the wire or other work being cut (Fig 32-16) The cutter should not be used near live electrical circuits and should be used only for the rated capacity specified by the manufacturer Eye protection should be worn

Special cutters include those for cutting banding wire and strap Claw hammers and pry bars should not be used to snap metal banding material Only cutters designed for the work provide safe and effective results

Nail band crimpers make it possible to keep the top band on kegs and wood barrels after nails or staples have been removed Use of these tools eliminates injury caused by reaching into kegs or barrels that have projecting nails and staples

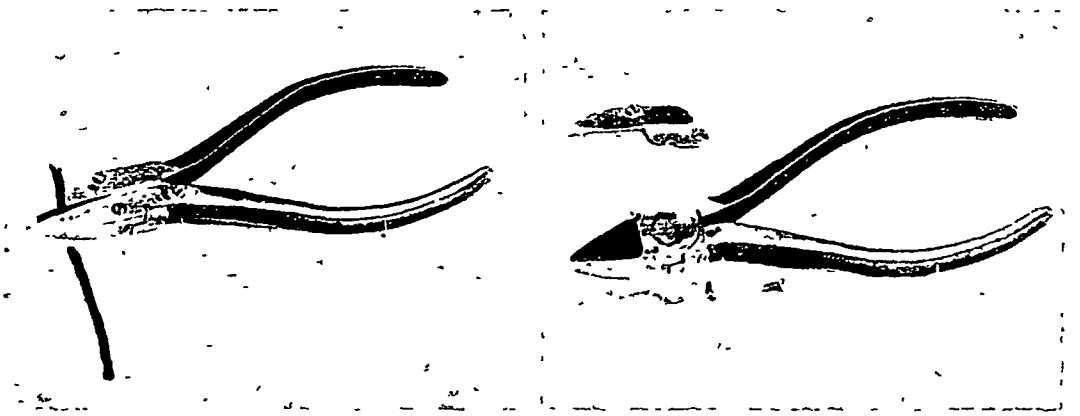

FIG 32-15 —*At left*, the guard on a pair of pliers holds a wire end after it has been cut, thus preventing it from flying *At right*, a disassembled view of the same pliers

Courtesy Capco Co , Ottumwa, Iowa