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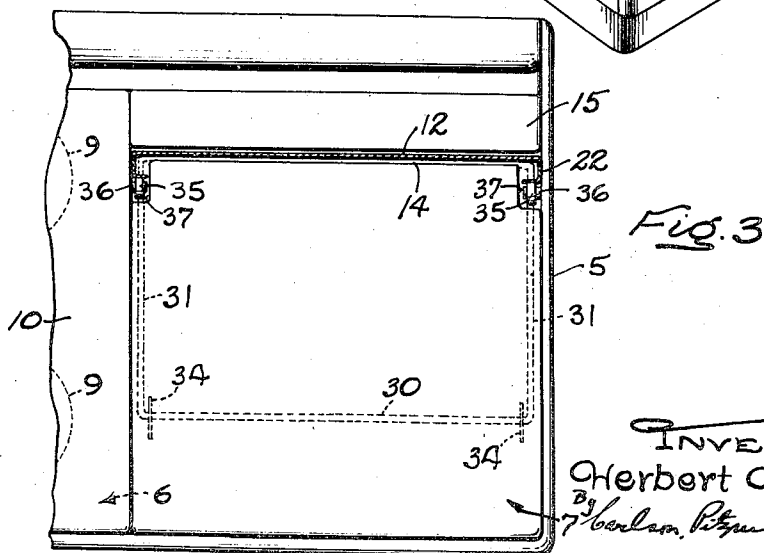
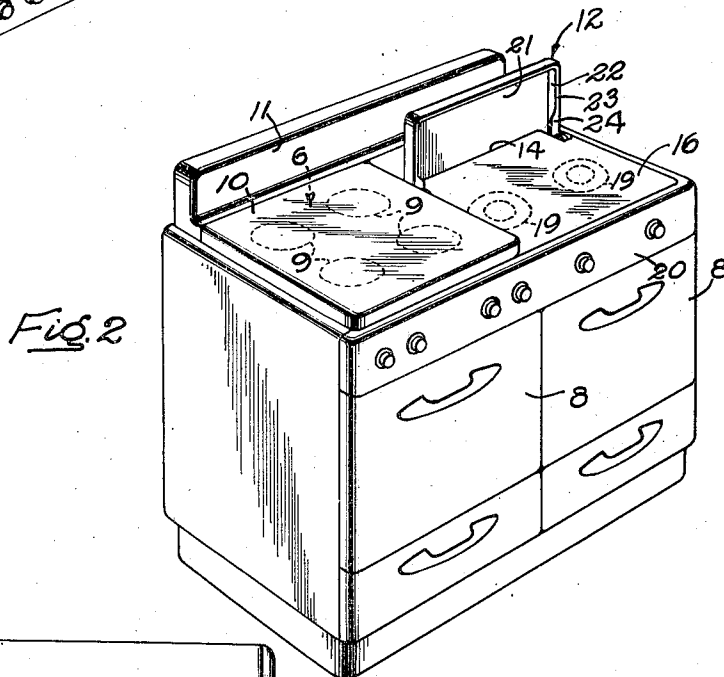
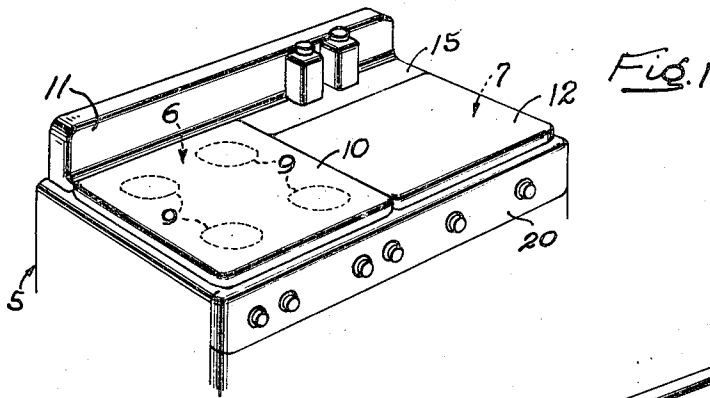
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2,483,562

GAS RANGE

Filed Aug. 22, 1945

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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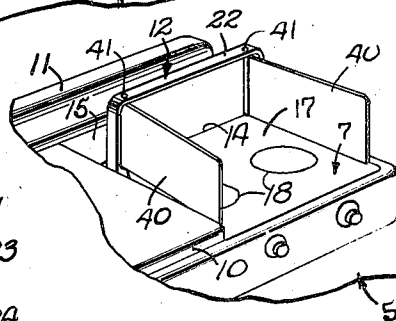
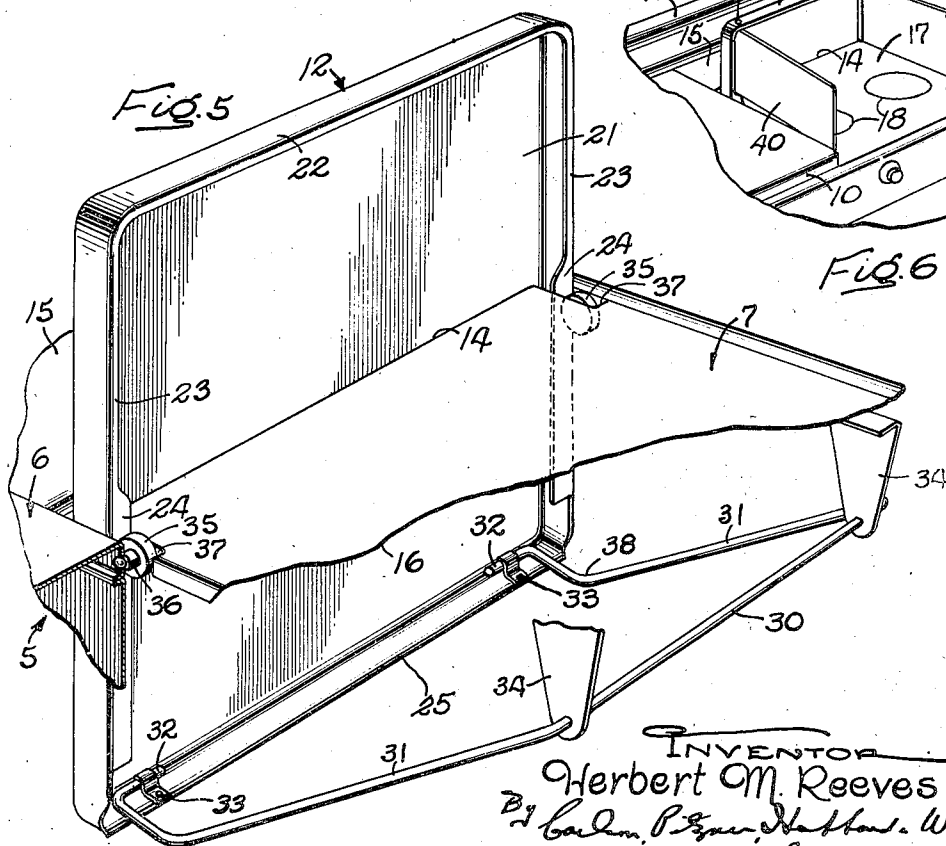
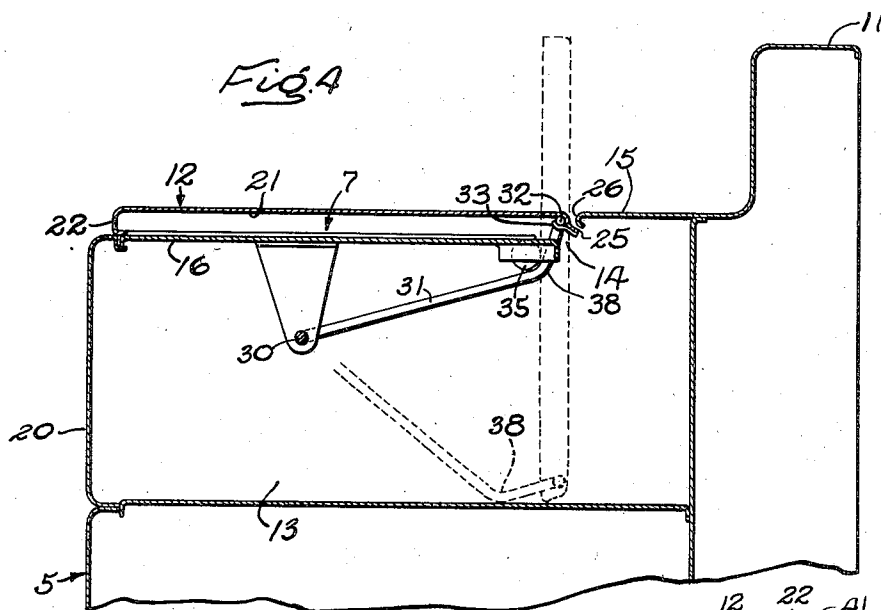
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GAS RANGE

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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2,483,562

GAS RANGE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 126—214)

1

The invention relates to gas ranges generally and more particularly to table top gas ranges.

Gas ranges of the above general character are usually provided with a cooking top which occupies approximately one-half of the top surface of the range. The cooking top may be located at one side of the range or it may be divided into two sections located at opposite sides of the range. In either case, the remaining portion of the range top is commonly called the working top. Oven and storage compartments customarily underlie the cooking and working tops in side-by-side relation.

In ranges of the above type as heretofore constructed, the working top is formed by the top member of the stove body which consists of a relatively thin sheet metal panel enameled to match the stove body. Such a working top provides a convenient place for resting pots and pans but has little utility otherwise as the enameled surface is frangible and easily marred.

With the above in view, the general object of the invention is to improve the top construction of table top ranges so as to utilize the working top to better advantage than has been possible heretofore.

Another object is to provide an improved range top construction including a practical and durable working top with a cover therefore so constructed and arranged as to permit the cover to be retracted into the body of the range without obscuring the view of accessories mounted adjacent the rear of the range.

A further object is to provide a range top construction adapted to accommodate a working top member, a griddle or an auxiliary burner as desired without requiring any substantial changes in the stove body and at a minimum cost.

My invention especially concerns table top ranges of the type in which both the cooking and working tops are spaced above the oven or storage compartments, thereby providing additional compartments one of which underlies the cooking top and constitutes the burner box; and the primary object of my invention is to provide an effectual working top surface together with a cover for such surface movable downwardly into an underlying compartment forwardly of the splash-back or guard rail and to an extent sufficient to expose the same to view while at the same time providing a conveniently accessible storage space for the usual cooking accessories located rearwardly of the working top.

Other objects and advantages of the invention

2

will become apparent from the following detailed description of the preferred embodiment illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of a gas range embodying the features of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the range showing the cover for the working top of the stove shifted to the open position.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the working top of the range.

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view of the range taken in a vertical plane.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the working top of the range with a portion of the range body broken away to show details of the cover guiding structure.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of a modified form of cover structure.

While the invention is susceptible of various modifications and alternative constructions, I have shown in the drawings and will herein describe in detail the preferred embodiment, but it is to be understood that I do not thereby intend to limit the invention to the specific form disclosed, but intend to cover all modifications and alternative constructions falling within the spirit and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

By way of illustration the invention has been shown and will be described herein as embodied in a table top gas range having a generally rectangular body 5 having a cooking top 6 at one side and a working top 7 at the other side. The body 5 of the range is provided with two compartments arranged in side-by-side relation and constituting oven or storage compartments, both being fitted with appropriate closure members 8. The cooking top is equipped with a plurality of top burners 9 assembled in a single compact group in the cooking top and the latter is arranged to be closed by a hinged cover 10. An up-standing backguard or splasher plate 11 extends along the rear edge of the range top.

To facilitate cleaning, the top portion of the range body is constructed so as to locate the working top 7 substantially in the same plane as the cooking top 6. A removable cover 12 serves to close the working top when not in use, the cover 12 being constructed to lie flush with the cover 10 when both are closed. The body 5 of the range is constructed to provide a compartment 13 (Fig. 4) of substantial depth between the top

3

of the range and an underlying oven or storage compartment.

In accordance with my invention, the working top 7 is limited in size and yet of ample dimensions to provide a practical working surface, and it is located forwardly above the compartment 13 and an opening provided immediately rearward of such area, permitting movement of the cover downwardly into the compartment. Since the cover is limited in depth or length in a front to rear direction, a substantial portion thereof is receivable into the compartment 13 notwithstanding the fact that this compartment is relatively shallow. As a result the cover 12 may be retracted within the compartment to expose the working top for use without obstructing the view of accessories on or in front of the backguard 11.

The opening through which the cover passes is in the form of a narrow slot formed in the range top along the rear edge of the working top, and preferably the cover is supported and guided for combined swinging and edgewise sliding movement through the opening from the horizontally closed position shown in full lines in Fig. 4 to the substantially vertical open position shown in broken lines in the same figure. The space rearwardly of the slot 14 is used to advantage through the provision of a shelf or ledge 15 upon which condiments or the like may be placed. In the exemplary embodiment, the shelf 15 is offset upwardly or raised with respect to the working top 7 to lie flush with the covers 10 and 12 when the latter are closed. Thus the stove presents a plane surface of attractive appearance and capable of serving effectively as a table or the like.

By reason of the novel construction and arrangement of the working top 7 and associated parts, the working top may be adapted for a variety of uses without requiring any substantial changes or modifications in the stove structure. Thus the working top may be formed by a smooth flat plate 16 of stainless steel or the like providing a durable and practical working surface, or it may serve as a griddle as shown in Fig. 2, or to provide a support for a separate griddle. Alternatively, the working top may be in the form of an auxiliary cooking top 17 adapted to accommodate one or more auxiliary burners 18 as shown in Fig. 6.

When the top is used as a griddle, one or more burners 19 are provided for heating it. The burners 18 and 19 when used and also the top burners 9 are mounted within the compartment 13 which thus serves as a burner box for the same. For service as a burner box, the compartment 13 may be closed at the front by a fixed panel 20 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The cover 12 in its preferred form comprises a flat generally rectangular sheet metal panel 21 having a depending flange 22 extending around its marginal edge. The lower edge of the flange may be turned in as at 23 (Fig. 5) to present a finished appearance. At opposite sides and adjacent the rear of the panel, the intumed edge 23 is increased substantially in width to provide a pair of relatively wide bearing surfaces 24 by which the cover is supported and guided as will appear presently. The rear section of the flange 23 may be turned outwardly to form a wing portion 25 (Figs. 4 and 5) adapted to fit under and cooperate with a bead 26 on the front edge of the shelf 15 to effectually close the gap between the shelf and the cover when the latter is in closed position.

Means is provided for securing the cover 12

4

to the range body and for guiding it between a closed or horizontal position overlying the working top 7 as shown in Figs. 1 and 4 through the slot 14 and into an open or substantially vertical position between the working top and the shelf 15 and with the major portion thereof disposed within the compartment 13 below the plane of the working top as shown in Figs. 2 and 5. The guiding means, as herein shown, includes a hinge member in the form of a generally U-shaped bail 30 having laterally spaced arms 31 terminating in inwardly turned end portions 32. The ends of the arms 31 are pivotally secured to the cover 12 adjacent its rear edge as by clamping elements 33 bolted or otherwise removably attached to the wing portion 25 of the cover and extending over the end portions 32 of the arms and in clamping engagement therewith. Brackets 34 rigidly mounted within the range body pivotally support the body of the bail 30.

Cooperating with the bail 30 in guiding cover 12 between open and closed positions are a pair of rollers 35 disposed forwardly of the opening 14 in the range top and at opposite sides of the working top 7 for engagement with the guide surfaces 24 of the cover. The rollers 35 are journaled on studs 36 carried respectively on the cooking top 6 and one side wall of the range and are disposed so as to project slightly above the surface of the working top 7 as shown in Fig. 4. Thus the rollers are effective to support the cover when in the closed position. As will be seen by reference to Fig. 5 of the drawings, the rear corner portions of the working top member 16 are notched as at 37 for the accommodation of the rollers 35 and the guide elements 24 when the cover is swung to open position. The arms 31 of the bail may be bent upwardly as at 38 (Figs. 4 and 5) adjacent their outer ends to clear the rollers 35.

Through the action of the guide means above described, the cover 12 may be swung from the closed position shown in full lines in Fig. 4 to the open position shown in Fig. 5 by lifting its front edge and sliding it bodily through the opening 14. In the opening movement, the cover pivots as well as slides over the rollers 35 under the guidance of the bail 30 which automatically tilts the cover at the correct angle and locates it in a substantially vertical plane when fully opened. In the closing of the cover the movements are simply reversed.

Fig. 6 shows a modified form of the cover having built-in shields or splash guards 40 for opposite sides of the working top 7. The guards 40, which may comprise elongated flat panels of sheet metal or other suitable material, are mounted on the cover 12 adjacent its front edge and are arranged to pivot about axes parallel to and closely adjacent the sides of the cover. In the particular embodiment illustrated, the guards are mounted on pivot pins 41 seated in the flange 22 of the cover.

The arrangement of the guards 40 is such that when the cover is to be closed, the guards may be folded up against the underside thereof within the space defined by the flange 22. Thus the guards are located in an out of the way position and the cover is permitted to lie flat against the working top of the range. Suitable detents may be provided for holding the guards in folded position. When the cover is moved to open position, the guards may be swung out to the positions shown in Fig. 6 thus effectively shielding the opposite sides of the working top 7.

5

It will be apparent from the foregoing that the invention provides a range top construction of novel and improved form. By limiting the area of the working top and locating it forwardly of the underlying compartment, a substantial portion of its cover may be received in such compartment, even though the latter is relatively shallow. At the same time, the portion which projects upwardly from the top is spaced forwardly from the backguard 11 so as to accommodate a shelf for accessories, and the latter are conveniently accessible because the extent of upward projection is not excessive.

I claim as my invention:

In a range having a body with laterally disposed compartments and a flat top with an upstanding backguard at its rear edge, said top including a cooking top section and a working top section arranged in side by side relation, a top plate providing a working surface disposed in the forward portion of said working top section with its rear edge spaced a substantial distance forwardly of said backguard, means forming a storage shelf between the backguard and said working surface disposed in a plane offset upwardly with respect to the plane of the working surface and the cooking top section, movable covers for covering said cooking top section and said working surface adapted when closed to lie flush with

6

said storage shelf, said working top section having an opening between said storage shelf and said working surface for receiving the working surface cover, the space between said working top section and the top of the underlying compartment being dimensioned to accommodate a substantial portion of said working surface cover below the plane of the working top section.

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