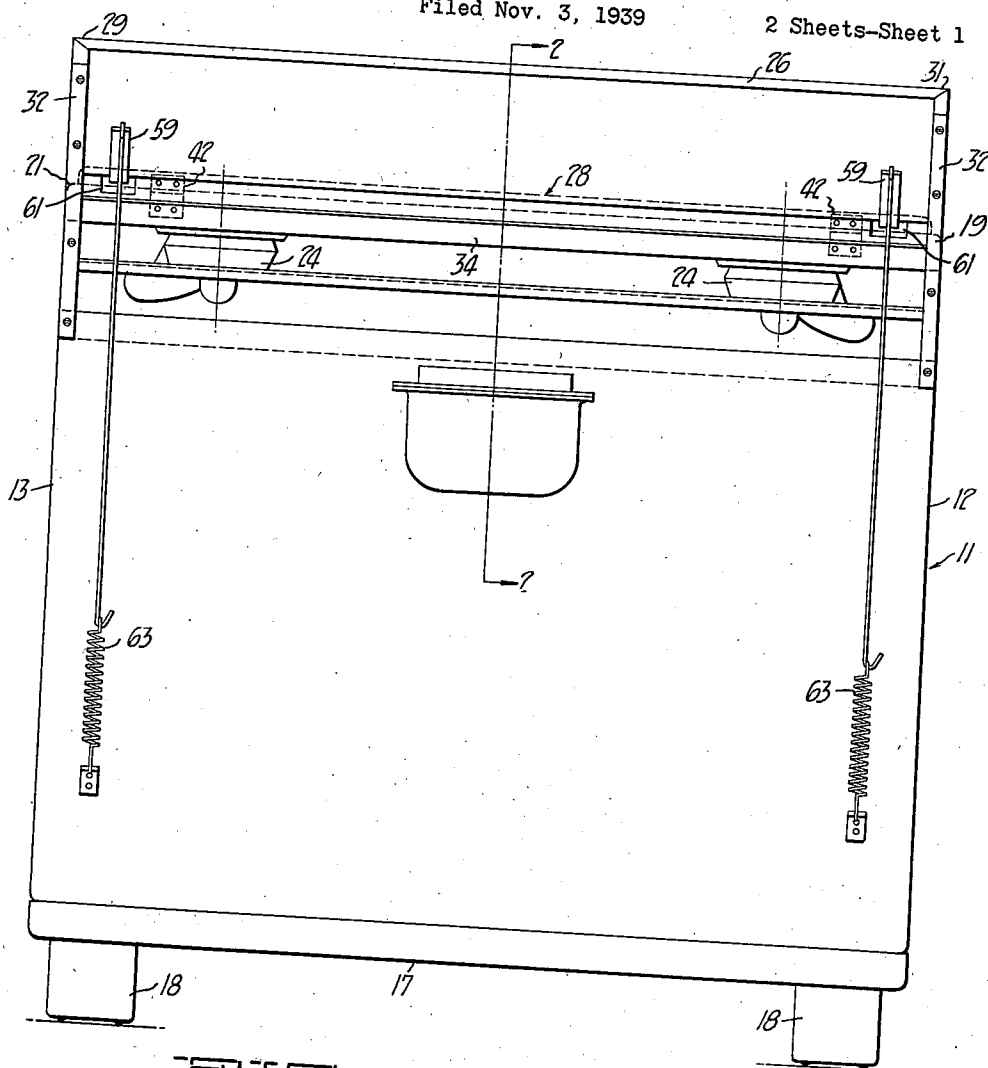


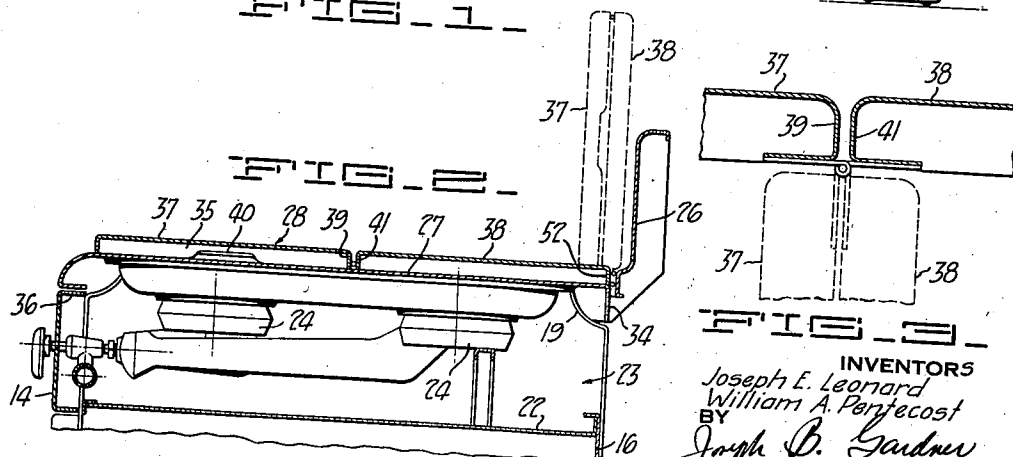
J. E. LEONARD ET AL
GAS RANGE CONSTRUCTION

Filed Nov. 3, 1939

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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INVENTORS
Joseph E. Leonard
William A. Perfecost
BY
Joseph B. Gardner
ATTORNEY

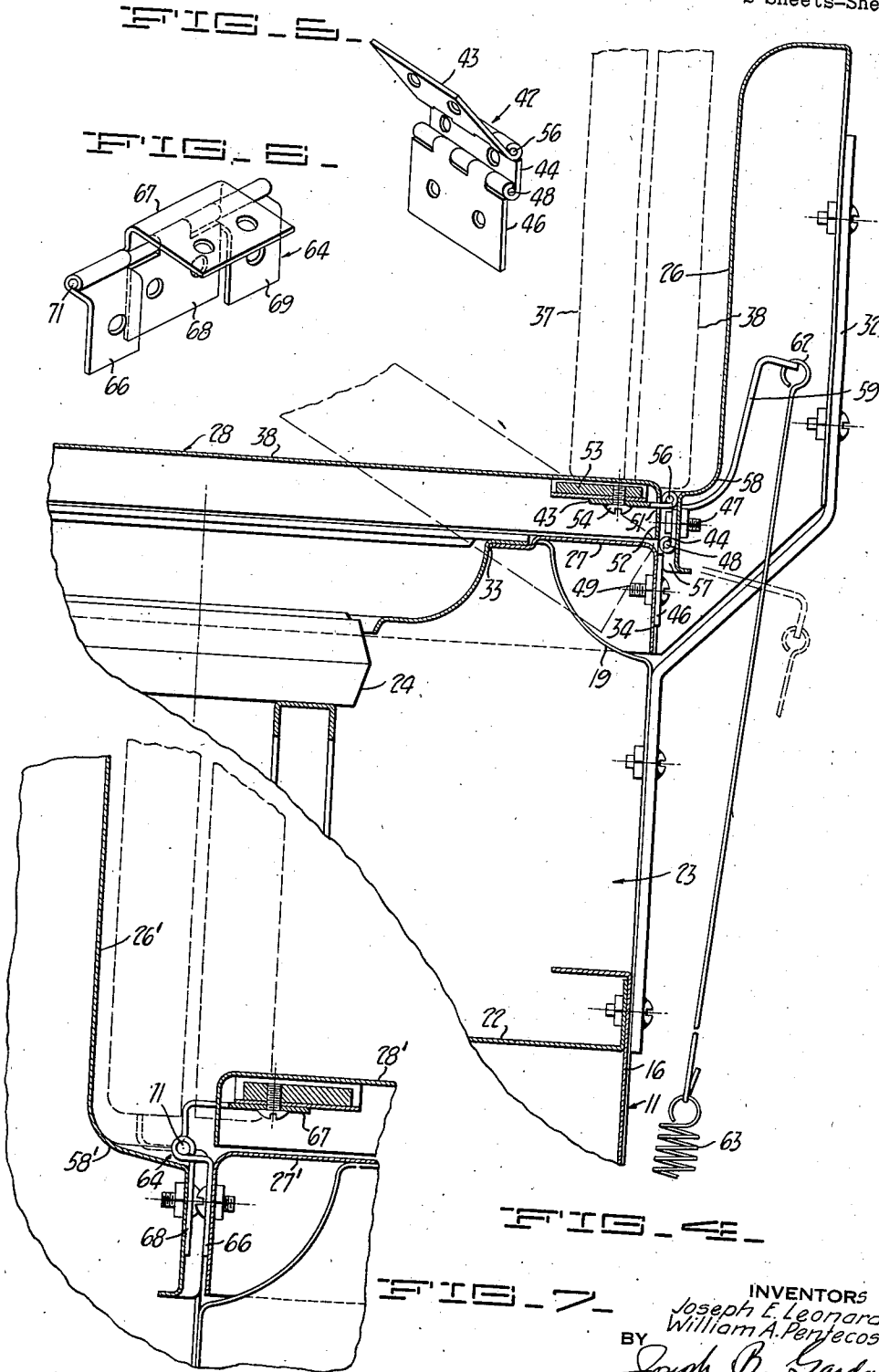
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



INVENTORS
Joseph E. Leonard
William A. Perfecost
BY
Joseph B. Gardner
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,262,016

GAS RANGE CONSTRUCTION

Joseph E. Leonard, Berkeley, and William A. Pentecost, Oakland, Calif., assignors to Hammer-Bray Company, Ltd., Oakland, Calif., a corporation of Nevada

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5 Claims. (Cl. 126—214)

The invention relates to gas cooking ranges and more particularly to the construction of the top portions of the range body.

An object of the present invention is to provide a gas cooking range of the character described wherein the cooking top of the range is movably supported on the range body to permit raising of the cooking top to afford ready access into the top gas burner compartment of the range for removal, cleaning or inspection of the burners and for cleaning out of the compartment.

Another object of the invention is to provide a gas cooking range of the character above having foldable lift cover members overlying the cooking top and which may be quickly and readily moved from a coplanar position over the cooking top to a retracted folded position at the rear of the cooking top.

A further object of the invention is to provide a range of the character described wherein the lift cover for the cooking top may be retracted from the cooking top to permit raising of the cooking top without interference with the lift cover and without requiring a simultaneous raising of the lift cover.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a range of the character above wherein the cooking top and the lift cover and the splashers back for the range are constructed as a unitary hinged assembly which may be added to or removed from the stove as a unit, and wherein the pivotal support of the cooking top and the lift cover is derived exclusively from the splashers back whereby the latter is put to a beneficial supporting use and the top supporting structure of the range body may be greatly simplified with the complete elimination of the usual rigid cooking top supporting frame.

The invention possesses other features of advantage, some of which with the foregoing, will be set forth in the following description of the preferred form of the invention which is illustrated in the drawings accompanying and forming part of the specification. It is to be understood, however, that variations in the showing made by the said drawings and description may be adopted within the scope of the invention as set forth in the claims.

Referring to said drawings:

Figure 1 is a rear elevation of a range constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken substantially on the plane of line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view of the hinge construction of the range top covers.

Figure 4 is an enlarged vertical sectional view similar to Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a hinge used in the present construction.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a hinge used in a modified form of the construction.

Figure 7 is a vertical sectional view similar to Figure 4 but showing a modified form of the invention.

The range of the present invention consists briefly of a range body and a movable cooking top for the range body and a movable lift cover for the cooking top which are pivotally supported for separate and independent pivotal movement, whereby the lift cover may be moved to and from a position overlying the cooking top and the cooking top may be raised and lowered relative to the stove body. Of particular importance in the present design, the pivotal support for the cooking top and the lift cover is removed entirely from the stove body. The usual splashers back which normally has no beneficial supporting value insofar as the stove structure is concerned, is here utilized to provide an exclusive pivotal support for the cooking top and the lift cover. By reason of this construction the customary heavy reinforcing frame used around the top of the range body may be completely dispensed with and the supporting structure substantially simplified notwithstanding the improved features above enumerated.

With reference more particularly to the accompanying drawings, the range therein depicted in Figures 1 and 2, comprises a range body 11, including end walls 12 and 13, front and rear walls 14 and 16 together with a bottom wall 17 supported on feet 18. The rear wall 16 is preferably terminated short of the upper ends 19 and 21 of the end walls 12 and 13 and mounted transversely across the space between the end walls 12 and 13 adjacent the top of the rear wall 16 is a bottom plate 22 for the top gas burner compartment 23 of the stove. A plurality of gas burners 24 may be mounted in the compartment with any desired spacing or arrangement. The stove body including the several stove walls aforementioned, in combination with the various interior walls used for forming the oven and broiler compartments, etc., provides a sturdy, rigid stove body construction.

To the stove structure aforementioned we add a unitary hinged assembly, including a splashers

back 26, a cooking top 27 for the range body and a lift cover 28 for the cooking top. The splasher back is of generally elongated form and is secured adjacent its opposite ends 29 and 31 to the end walls 11 and 13 by means of upright braces 32, so as to dispose the splasher back generally horizontally across the rear of the stove body adjacent to the upper ends 19 and 21 of the end walls. The cooking top is here formed of a rectangular plate of metal fashioned with a plurality of openings 33 which overlie and register with the burners 24. Preferably, the cooking top is provided with a peripheral depending flange 34 which fits over and around the upper ends 19 and 21 of the end walls and rests upon the upper edge 36 of the front wall 14. The lift cover 28 is here composed of a pair of sections 37 and 38 which are disposed across the front and rear portions of the cooking top and which are hinged together at their abutting transverse sides 39 and 41 (see Figure 3) to permit folding of the sections into a back-to-back position at the rear of the cooking top. In order to facilitate the handling of the lift cover sections in their movement to and from a folded position, the opposite ends 35 of the forward section 37 are indented to provide hand grips 40, as shown in Figure 2, which may be readily engaged by the user to lift and move the forward cover section.

In both forms of the invention the cooking top and the lift cover are each pivotally connected to the splasher back and rely for their pivotal support exclusively on the splasher back. Means for pivotally connecting these members is arranged to provide separate and independent movement of the cooking top and the lift cover so that in the normal use of the stove the lift cover sections may be easily and readily moved to and from a position overlying the cooking top and when desired to open the cooking top, the lift cover sections may be retracted to permit easy raising of the cooking top without interference with the lift covers, or the lift covers and the cooking top may be raised together as a unit. The hinge means best illustrated in Figures 4 and 5 of the drawing includes a pair of double-jointed hinges 42 having three pivotally attached leaves or sections 43, 44 and 46. As here shown, the intermediate leaf or section 44 is fastened directly to the splasher back, as by means of stove bolts 47 at a position disposing the lower hinge pivot 48 in substantially coplanar position with the upper surface of the cooking top and the lower hinge leaf or section 46 is secured to rear depending flange 34 of the cooking top as by means of stove bolts 49, whereby the latter may be raised at its forward edge and swung upwardly about the pivotal joint 48. The upper hinge leaf or section 43 is extended through an opening 51 in a rear depending flange 52 of the cover section 38 and is secured to a reinforcing plate 53 on the under side of the section 38 as by means of screws 54. The length of the intermediate hinge section 44 between the lower pivotal joint 48 and the upper pivotal joint 56 for the cover section 38 is preferably such as to position the upper hinge section 43 in substantially horizontal position in the lowered position of the lift cover. Preferably, the hinge leaf 44 is set into a hinge depression or recess 57 formed in the splasher back so as to enable a close fitting of the rear flanges 34 and 52 of the cooking top and lift cover against the splasher back with the flanges in vertically aligned position, whereby a neat close fitting structure is obtained. Also, preferably,

the splasher back is offset, as at 58, above the pivotal joint 56 so as to receive the cover section 38 when raised to an elevated position, thereby allowing a substantially full retraction of the cover sections to the rear of the cooking top.

Preferably, resilient means is provided for assisting the raising and lowering of the cover sections and as here shown, a pair of rearwardly extending arms 59 are fixed to the rear cover section and extend through slots 61 in the splasher back and are connected at their outer ends 62 by a spring 63 anchored at its lower end to the rear wall of the stove. The arms 59 are preferably formed entirely separate from the hinges but may be secured as here shown to the reinforcing plates 53 at the under-side of the rear cover section.

A modified form of the invention is illustrated in Figures 6 and 7, wherein the cooking top 27' and the lift cover 28' are pivoted to the splasher back 26' about coincident axes by means of a hinge 64 having a plurality of leaves or sections 66, 67, 68 and 69 mounted on a common hinge pin 71. The section 68 is here connected to the splasher back 26', the sections 66 and 69 are connected to the cooking top, while section 67 is connected to the lift cover. To effect this joint pivotal arrangement of the several parts about a single axis, the position of the axis relative to the several parts must be carefully selected. As here shown, the hinge is mounted so as to dispose the pivotal pin 71 in substantially the plane of the top surface of the cooking top, whereby the cooking top will pivot around an axis adjacent its upper rear edge while the lift cover will pivot about an axis adjacent its rear lower edge. Preferably the splasher back is offset, as at 58', similar to that shown in the first embodiment but preferably deeper, so as to completely accommodate the full depth of one of the lift cover sections.

We claim:

1. A range comprising a range body including end, front, and rear range walls, a splasher back secured to and supported on the end walls, a cooking top overlying said range body and hinged at its rear edge to said splasher back, and a lift cover overlying said cooking top and hinged to said splasher back, whereby said cooking top and said lift cover may be swung upwardly at their forward edges away from the range body and the cooking top respectively and during such movement are supported exclusively by said splasher back.

2. In combination with a range including end, front, and rear range walls, a unitary hinged assembly including a splasher back secured to and supported by said end walls, a cooking top overlying said walls, and a lift cover overlying said cooking top, whereby said cooking top and lift cover may be swung upwardly about their pivotal connection to the splasher back and away from the range walls and the cooking top respectively.

3. A gas range comprising a range body including end, front, and rear range walls, a splasher back fixedly secured to and supported on said end walls and extending across the rear of said body, a double-jointed hinge having one section thereof secured to said splasher back, a cooking top overlying said body and secured to another of said hinge sections to permit raising and lowering of said cooking top relative to said body, and a lift cover overlying said cooking top and secured to another of said hinge sections to per-

mit raising and lowering of said cover relative to said cooking top.

4. A gas range comprising, a range body including end, front, and rear range walls, a splashers back secured to and extending generally across the rear of the body, a cooking top over-
5 lying said body, a lift cover overlying said cooking top, and means pivotally securing said cooking top and lift cover adjacent the rear edges thereof to said splashers back and about coincident axes to permit raising and lowering of said
10 cooking top and lift cover relative to said range body and cooking top respectively.

5. A gas range comprising, a range body including end, front, and rear range walls, a splashers back secured to and extending generally
15 across the rear of the body, a cooking top over-

lying said body, a lift cover overlying said cooking top, and means pivotally securing said cooking top and lift cover adjacent the rear edges thereof to said splashers back and about coincident axes to permit raising and lowering of said cooking top and lift cover relative to said range body and cooking top respectively, said splashers back being offset at approximately the plane of said cooking top and by a distance at least equal to the thickness of said lift cover, and said pivotal means being mounted to dispose the coincident axes of rotation of said cooking top and lift cover approximately in the plane of said cooking top.

JOSEPH E. LEONARD.

WILLIAM A. PENTECOST.