United States Patent

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[54] **LIBRARY HELPER AND BOOK STORAGE**
1 Claim, 1 Drawing Fig.

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[50] **Field of Search** 182/129, 116, 33

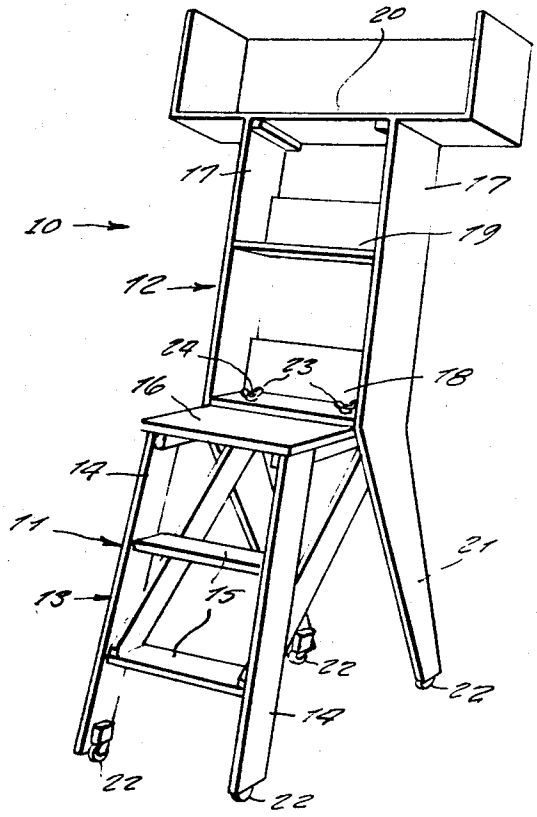
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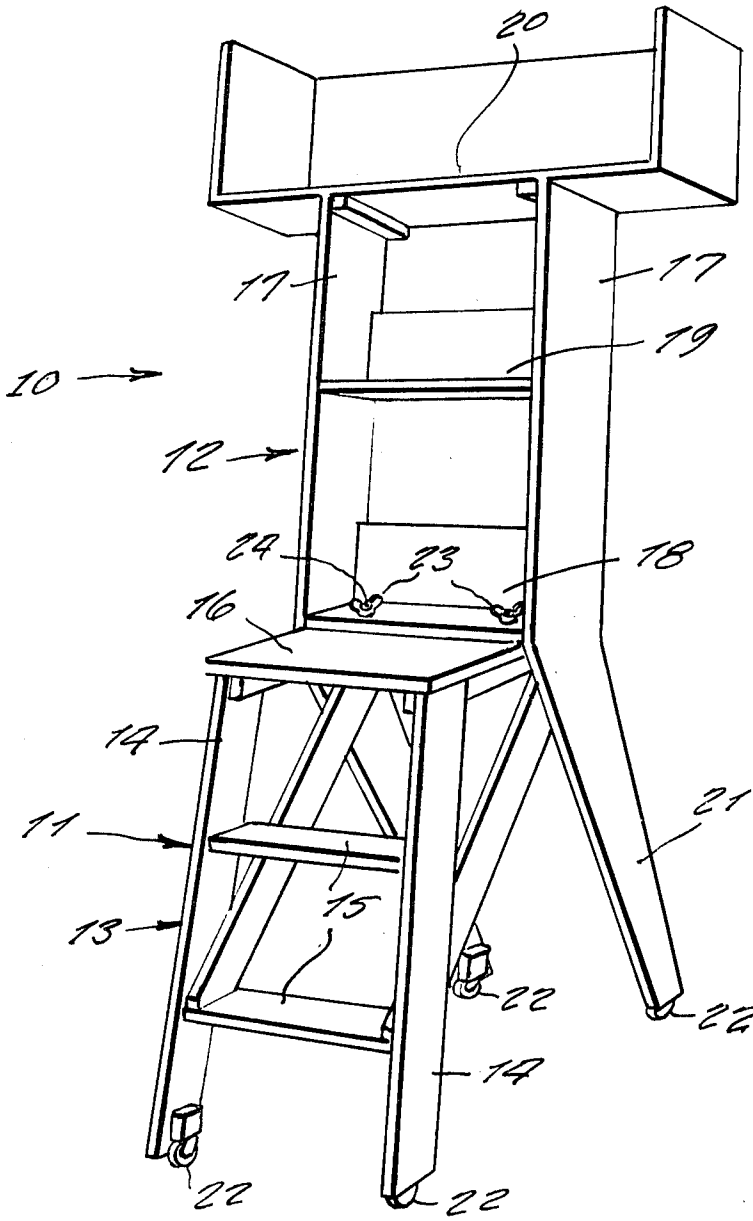
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ABSTRACT: An item of furniture for a library, the device comprising a ladder for gaining access to the upper shelves of a library, the upper portion of the ladder including several shelves upon which books may be transported and from which the books may be transferred into the library bookcases, and the lower end of the ladder being mounted upon casters so as to be readily movable in front of the library bookcases.



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LIBRARY HELPER AND BOOK STORAGE

This invention relates generally to library furniture.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide an improved library ladder having having self-contained means to support a number of volumes of books in a convenient manner so that the same may be transferred therefrom and the upper shelves of a library bookcase.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a library helper and a book storage which incorporates a stepladder mounted upon casters so that the same may be moved along the front of the library bookcase so to gain access to different portions thereof.

Yet another object of the present invention serves to provide a library helper and book storage which includes a plurality of shelves on top of the ladder so as to support in a convenient manner a large quantity of the books.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide a library helper and a book storage which is simple in design, inexpensive to manufacture, rugged in construction, easy to use and efficient in operation.

These and other objects will be readily evident upon a study of the following specification and the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is the sole FIGURE of the invention and is a perspective view of the present invention.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the reference numeral **10** represents a library helper and book storage according to the present invention wherein there is a stepladder unit **11** at the lower end thereof, the stepladder unit being surmounted by a book shelf unit **12**.

The stepladder unit **11** is comprised of ladder **13** formed of vertical runners **14** between which there are a plurality of steps **15**, the upper end of the runners being surmounted by a platform **16**. The platform **16** is relatively broader in a forward direction so as to provide a convenient place upon which to stand while a person is working on the higher shelves of a library bookcase.

The shelf unit **12** is comprised of a pair of spaced-apart sidewalls **17** between which there are provided a lower bookshelf **18**, an intermediate bookshelf **19**, and upon the upper end of which there is removably mounted an upper bookshelf **20** of relatively greater length. The lower ends of the sidewalls **17** are integral with a pair of downwardly extending legs **21**, the lower end of the legs **21** and the lower end of the runners **14** having wheeled casters **22** secured thereto so as to allow the device to be easily pushed along a floor of a library.

It is to be noted that the sidewall **17** and the forward legs **21** of the device need not necessarily be made of a single part but may be made separate if so preferred by a manufacturer. If made separately, it will be obvious that the shelf unit **12** may be made removable from the ladder unit **11** such as by the removal of a wing nut **23** from bolts **24** that are used for engaging the two units together.

In operative use, the device may be pushed along the front of a library bookcase and a person may easily mount the ladder steps to the platform **16** where he may place books between the shelves **18**, **19** and **20** to the library bookcase shelves. The top shelf **20** may be readily removed when desired for easy portability and storage.

I claim:

1. In a library helper and book storage, the combination of a stepladder unit and a shelf unit, said shelf unit being surmounted upon said stepladder unit, and said shelf unit comprising a means for supporting a plurality of book volumes at a raised elevation for conveniently moving the same therebetween and the upper shelves of a library bookcase, said stepladder unit comprising a ladder formed by a pair of vertically extending runners between which there are a plurality of steps, the upper ends of said runners being surmounted by a platform, said platform being of relatively greater length forwardly to form a convenient storage upon which a person may stand while working on the upper said shelves of said bookcase, said shelf unit being comprised of a pair of vertically extending spaced-apart sidewalls between which there are a lower book shelf and an intermediate book shelf, the upper ends of said sidewalls being surmounted by a removable upper book shelf of relatively greater length mounted transversely upon said shelf unit and accordingly extending at each opposite end in overhanging relation over the sidewalls of said shelf unit, said upper book shelf accordingly comprising a widest member of said library helper and book storage, the lower ends of said sidewalls being integral with a pair of forward legs, the lower ends of said legs and the lower ends of said runners being provided with wheeled casters, a forward end of said platform being secured to a pair of forward legs, the lower ends of said legs and the lower ends of said runners being provided with wheeled casters, and said shelf unit being removably secured upon said platform by means of bolts and wing nuts.