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TOP COVER CONSTRUCTION FOR STOVES

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FIG. 1

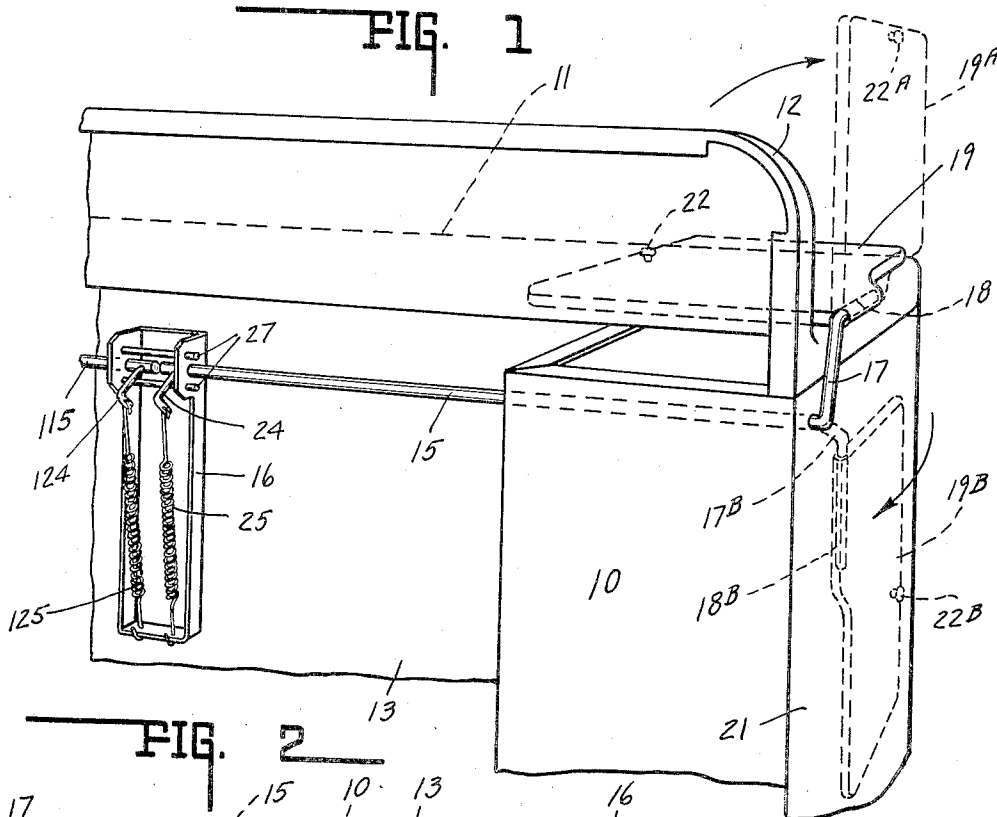


FIG. 2

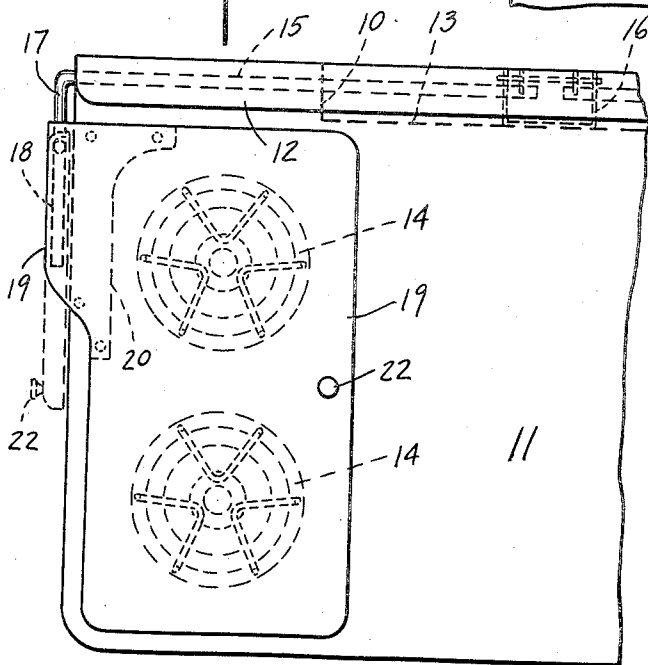
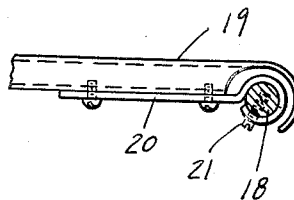


FIG. 3



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TOP COVER CONSTRUCTION FOR STOVES

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3 Claims. (Cl. 126—214)

This invention relates to a top cover construction for stoves.

In modern gas and electric ranges it is common practice to provide a top cover to cover the burners on the cooking top and to provide additional working space when the burners are not in use. When the burners are to be used, the top cover must be moved to a position where it does not interfere with the use of the burners and where it does not occupy valuable space.

One object of the present invention is to provide a construction for mounting a top cover on a stove such that the movements between the use and non-use positions may be made quickly and easily with a minimum of effort on the part of the housewife.

Another object of the invention is to provide an arrangement in which the housewife, in moving the top cover from one position to another, needs to lift only a portion of the weight.

Another object of the invention is to provide a construction in which the top cover in its non-use position is completely out of the way and preferably out of sight.

Other objects of the invention and the full nature thereof will be understood from the accompanying drawing and the following description and claims:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one end of a stove having the invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is an elevational view of a detail of construction with a part in section.

Referring now to Fig. 1, there is shown a portion of a stove having a side pontoon 10, a cooking top 11, a back rail 12 and a back plate 13 extending from the pontoon 10 to a similar pontoon on the opposite side of the stove (not shown). The cooking top is provided with burners 14 shown in Fig. 2. A top cover support member 15 is journaled in the pontoon 10 and in a bracket 16 secured to the back plate 13. Said member projects beyond the end of the stove and is provided with an arm having two portions indicated by reference numbers 17 and 18. In the position shown in solid lines in Fig. 1 the portion 17 extends forwardly and upwardly and the portion 18 extends forwardly adjacent to and substantially parallel with the edge of the cooking top 11. A cover plate 19 is mounted on the portion 18 of the arm, preferably by means of the construction shown in Fig. 3. Said construction consists of a hinge member 20 secured to the undersurface of the top cover 19 and hingedly mounted on the portion 18 of the support mem-

ber. A set screw 21 secured to the support member and operating in a suitable slotted opening in the hinged member 20 limits the pivotal movement of said members and prevents longitudinal movement thereof.

The normal position of the parts when the top cover is in use is shown in Fig. 2 and shown by solid lines in Fig. 1. In this position the cover plate 19 overlies the burners 14 and provides free working surface when the burners are not in use. When the cover plate is to be removed, it is first lifted to an intermediate position indicated by broken lines in Fig. 1, the suffix "A" being added to the corresponding reference numbers in the drawing to indicate the intermediate position of the several parts. In this position the cover plate 19 is clear of the edge of the cooking top. It may then be dropped downwardly to the out-of-use position shown in broken lines in Fig. 1 and indicated by the suffix "B" added to the reference numbers. In this position it hangs downwardly substantially parallel with the end plate 21 of the stove. Usually the end of a stove is placed in the kitchen close to a wall, sink, cabinet or other kitchen apparatus with but a small space between them. When the stove is so placed the cover plate 19 may occupy the space between the stove and the adjacent apparatus and so is completely out of the way and out of sight. The cover plate 19 is provided with a knob 22 which is easily reached from the front of the stove when the plate is in its non-use position and which may be used to return the cover plate to its position of use.

The end of the support member 15, which is journaled in bracket 16, is provided with an arm 24 to which there is secured a tension spring 25 anchored at its opposite end to the bracket 16. Said spring normally urges the support member 15 about its horizontal axis in opposition to the weight of the cover plate 19. By proper choice of the characteristics of the spring, it may be arranged so that the plate 19 may be freely dropped to its non-use position without shock or jar and may be raised from that position to the position 19A with a minimum of effort on the part of the housewife. Preferably the spring is relatively long so that the force exerted thereby does not change greatly between the upper and lower positions of the cover plate 19. In the lower position the spring preferably counterbalances the entire weight of the cover plate and in the upper position it then counterbalances all but a small portion of said weight. Stop pins 27

carried by the bracket 16 engage the arm 24 to limit rotation of the support member 15.

From the foregoing description it will be apparent that the invention provides a relatively simple top cover construction which may be readily put in position for use and returned to an out-of-the-way position with very little effort and which in its non-use position is hidden from view and does not detract from the appearance of the stove. Preferably a similar construction is provided for the opposite end of the stove, the single bracket 16 serving for both constructions. In Fig. 1 the reference numbers 115, 124 and 125 indicate parts for the opposite construction similar to parts 15, 24 and 25 previously described.

The invention has been described in one of its preferred forms, the details of which may be varied by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. In a stove having rear, top and side portions and a cover plate adapted to hang adjacent one side portion of the stove in a position of non-use and to overlie a part at least of the top portion in a position of use, a support for said plate comprising a rod having a portion pivotally mounted on the stove and extending horizontally adjacent the rear of said stove, and having a forwardly bent portion in a plane perpendicular to the axis of said horizontal portion, said forwardly bent

portion pivotally carrying said cover plate, an arm secured to said horizontally extending portion, and a tension spring connected to said arm and urging said support about the axis of said horizontally extending portion in a direction to bring said forwardly extending portion to a position parallel with said side portion of the stove and closely adjacent said side portion.

2. In a stove, a structure as defined by claim 1, with a bracket portion carried by the rear portion of the stove and apertured to receive and support said rod, and a pair of spaced members carried by said bracket portion and having stop portions extending parallel to the rod for engagement by said arm for limiting movement of the arm and the rod in opposite directions.

3. In a stove, a structure as defined by claim 1, with a second rod and arm and tension spring, the rods being longitudinally aligned and having ends terminating adjacent each other, a U-shaped bracket carried by the rear portion of the stove and provided with apertures to receive one end of each rod, a pair of spaced stop pins extending across and supported by the bracket, the tension spring for each arm being anchored at one end thereto and at the opposite end to the midportion of the U-shaped bracket, and the arms being secured to the rods at the ends thereof projecting through the apertures in the bracket.

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