May 23, 1944. H. M. REEVES 2,349,307

ACCESSORY MOUNTING FOR COOKING RANGES

Filed Jan. 6, 1940

Fig. 1

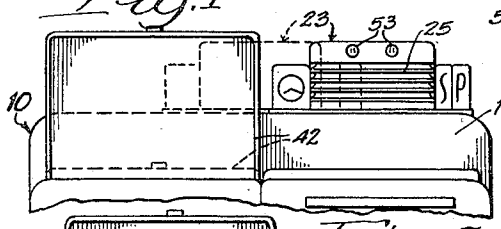


Fig. 3

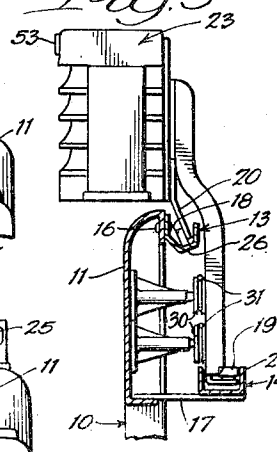


Fig. 4

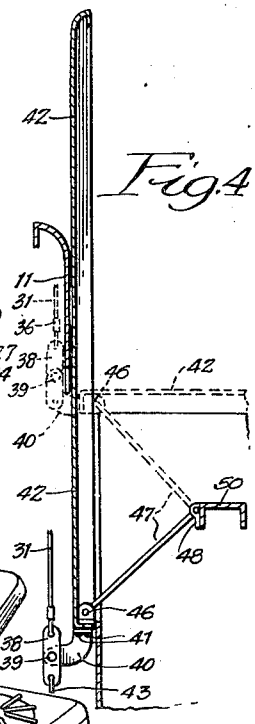


Fig. 5

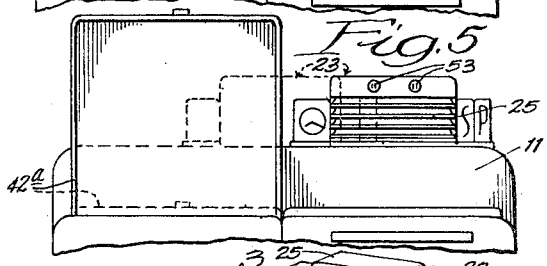


Fig. 2

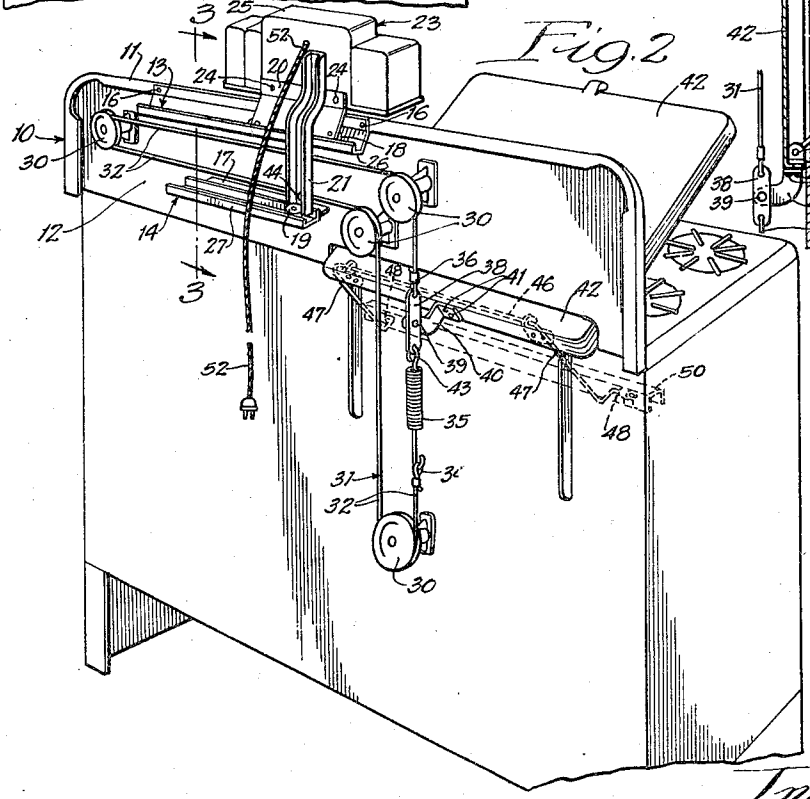
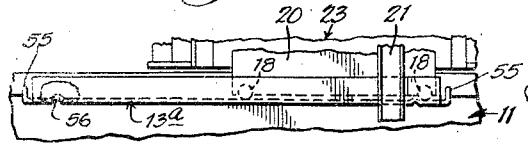


Fig. 6



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2,349,307

ACCESSORY MOUNTING FOR COOKING RANGES

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Application January 6, 1940, Serial No. 312,661

11 Claims. (Cl. 126—214)

This invention has to do with accessory units and top covers for cooking ranges.

The usual accessory unit is mounted on the background or other fixed part of a cooking range substantially at the center. In the type of range employing a cover for a portion of the top, it has been found disadvantageous to mount the accessory unit in a fixed position because when the cover is swung to an elevated position to allow the heating elements to be used, the unit interferes with the cover and/or the cover shields at least a portion of the unit.

It is accordingly an object of this invention to provide a mounting for such a unit, permitting the unit to travel to a position where the same is entirely visible and accessible from the front, notwithstanding the location of the heating element cover in a raised position.

It is another object to provide means for yieldably retaining the unit in the desired position of adjustment.

It is a further object to locate the mounting means where the same is hidden from view.

It is a further object to provide an adjustable accessory unit support of this character enabling the unit to be moved in response to only slight exertion by the user.

It is another object of the invention to provide a combined top cover and traveling accessory unit, the accessory unit moving automatically in response to raising and lowering of the cover.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will appear as the description proceeds.

The invention will be better understood upon reference to the following description and the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary front elevation showing in dotted lines and in full lines the extreme positions adapted to be occupied by the top cover and accessory unit.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary rear perspective and somewhat diagrammatic view of a range, showing mechanism linking the accessory unit to the table top.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view taken as indicated by the line 3—3 in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view showing the relation of the top cover and support therefor when the cover is in its extreme positions.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary front elevation of a range on which the traveling accessory unit and top cover are independent of each other.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary rear elevation of a modified support for the accessory unit of Fig. 5.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, there is shown at 10 a cooking range having a backguard 11, to the rear wall 12 of which channels 13 and 14 are fastened, as at 16 and 17, respectively. These channels provide tracks for rollers 18 and 19 or other suitable track follower means (not shown), carried by brackets 20 and 21, respectively, secured preferably to the back of any suitable accessory unit 23 in any suitable manner as shown at 24. The unit 23 may include a lamp 25 to illuminate the top of the range. The portion 26 of the channel 13 forming a track for the rollers 18 is preferably inclined rearwardly and upwardly, and the plane of the roller 18 is accordingly similarly inclined forwardly and upwardly, so that the unit 23 tends to lean forward, causing the roller 19 to be urged against the rear web 27 of the lower channel 14, so that said web functions as a track for the roller 19 and retains the unit in the fore-and-aft position shown in Fig. 3.

Provision may be made for automatic adjustment of the accessory unit in response to movements of the tabletop cover. To this end there may be provided sheaves 30, mounted preferably on the back guard, and a composite cable shown generally at 31 trained about said sheaves. The cable 31 comprises a run 32 of cord or other suitable material connected at one end 34 to a spring 35 and at its other end 36 to a link 38 pivoted at 39 to a bracket 40 mounted as at 41 on a depending flange or other suitable part of the rear of the cover 42, the other end of the link being connected as at 43 to the spring 35. The run 32 is fastened as at 44 to the bracket 21. The rear portion of the cover 42 may be pivoted as at 46 to hinge links 47 pivotally anchored as at 48 to the frame or other fixed part 50 of the range.

It is evident from this description that all movements of the top cover 42 are communicated to the traveling accessory unit 23 by virtue of the connection at 44. It is accordingly apparent that when the cover 42 is in its lowermost position the unit is centrally located (dotted lines, Fig. 1), and when the cover is in its vertical position the accessory unit occupies an out-of-the-way position such as that shown in full lines in Fig. 1. The channels 13 and 14 are made sufficiently long to accommodate the rollers in their extreme positions, which are determined by the extremes of the movement of the top cover 42.

It is to be noted that by this arrangement the resistance offered by the accessory unit and

the operating mechanism to the movement of the cover affords a counter-balancing effect for the cover to assist in preventing the latter from stopping with violence when reaching its extreme positions.

It will be appreciated that the mechanism here disclosed for effecting the automatic movement of the accessory unit is merely illustrative, since other means may be employed for accomplishing this result.

An outlet plug and cord 52 may be secured to the back side of the unit 23 for connection to the house current, sufficient slack being provided to avoid interference with the movements of the unit. The unit may have one or more plug-in sockets 53 which render it convenient for the use of electric toasters and other appliances.

It is thus evident that when the tabletop cover 42 is in the position shown in dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 4, where it covers the burners or other heating elements of the range, the accessory unit 23 will occupy a central position as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, where it not only has utility but lends an improved appearance to the range as a whole, and when the tabletop cover is in its inoperative position as shown in full lines in Figs. 1 and 4, allowing the gas burners or other heating elements to be used, the accessory unit will occupy the position shown in full lines in Fig. 1, where it is fully accessible without interference from and with the tabletop cover and adds to the appearance of the range.

When the accessory is not to be linked to the cover, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the cover 42*a* may be hinged to the rear portion of the range top adjacent the backguard 11 in any suitable manner (not shown), and a channel 13*a* may have upturned ends or other suitable abutments 55 (Fig. 6) to prevent the rollers 18 from running off the ends of the track afforded by the web of the channel, and in such event the track may have upwardly projected knobs or humps 56 near the ends thereof but spaced from the abutments 55 sufficiently to accommodate one of the rollers 18 between an abutment 55 and the adjacent knob 56. These knobs offer slight obstructions to the rollers 18, so that when any roller 18 is between one of the knobs and the adjacent abutment 55, the unit will not drift away. However, a light shove of the unit will enable the retained roller to pass over the adjacent hump and the other roller to pass over the other hump, whereby the unit is moved to another position. The knobs or humps are so located that the unit is adapted yieldably to be retained selectively in a central position as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, when the cover 42*a* is in burner-covering position, and in an end position as shown in full lines in Fig. 5, when the cover 42*a* may repose in its upstanding position without interference, exposing the burners for service.

Although any suitable mounting may be provided for the traveling accessory unit, that disclosed is particularly advantageous because there is no danger of the unit's falling, and the arrangement is such that pressure is exerted at all times by the followers on their respective tracks so that there can be no rattling. Moreover, the entire accessory unit with its associated followers may be lifted free and, with the same simple motion, may be replaced in the supported position shown.

The invention is not limited to the use of rollers since obviously drawer slides or other suitable means may be used for this purpose.

Various modifications may suggest themselves to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of my invention, and, hence, I do not wish to be restricted to the specific form shown or uses mentioned.

I claim:

1. A range having heating means at a portion of the top thereof, a cover for said means when the latter is not in use, means pivotally supporting said cover at the rear portion thereof whereby the front of said cover may be swung upward from its horizontal position to render said heating means usable, an outside accessory unit shiftably mounted on said range, and means operatively connecting said cover to said unit so that said unit is shifted automatically in response to movement of said cover.

2. A range having heating means at a portion of the top thereof, a movable cover for said portion, said cover being movable to a position allowing said means to be used, an accessory unit for said range, means shiftably supporting said unit, and means shielded from the front and operatively connecting said cover to said unit so that said unit is shifted in response to movements of said cover.

3. A range having heating means at a portion of the top thereof, a movable cover for said portion, said cover being movable to a position allowing said means to be used, an outside accessory unit for said range, mechanism comprising cooperating track and follower means on said range and unit for enabling said unit to travel to occupy different positions relative to said range, and means operatively connecting said cover to said unit, said connecting means being operative to impart to said unit movement in one direction in response to movement of said cover in another direction.

4. A range, a cover movably mounted thereon, and counter-balancing means for said cover, said means comprising an accessory unit movably mounted on said range and operatively connected to said cover to yieldably resist movements of the latter, said unit being disposed at all times in a convenient accessible position.

5. A range having a backguard, an accessory unit therefor, and means movably mounting said accessory unit on said range, whereby said unit may be shifted to and used in different positions as convenience demands, said unit projecting upward from the top of said backguard in all such positions so as to be accessible to the user from the front of the range for use in all such positions.

6. A range having a backguard, an accessory unit therefor at the rear of said range, and means for supporting said unit in forwardly projecting position over and relative to said backguard and in different positions relative to said range, said means comprising two parallel tracks disposed rearwardly of the center of gravity of said unit, said means also including elements movable along said tracks, said tracks being spaced apart whereby one of said tracks serves as a fulcrum and the other track prevents forward swing of said unit.

7. A range having a portion of its top provided with heating means, a cover for said means, an accessory unit including a lamp, and means mounting said accessory unit at the upper rear part of said range, said lamp being adapted to over-lie a portion of said cover and illuminate said cover when said cover over-lies said heating means, and means drivably connecting said cover with said unit in a manner such that said unit is shifted out of over-lying relation to said cover

when said cover is elevated to permit use of said heating means, said mounting means being operative to support said unit in the shifted position of the latter.

8. A cooking range having heating element means extending throughout a portion of the top thereof, a cover for said means, said cover being movable from covering position to an upright rear position where it serves as a backguard for the products of combustion from said means, an accessory unit shiftably mounted on said range at the rear thereof and including a lamp over at least a portion of said cover when said cover is in covering position and being shiftable to a position over the remainder of said top and clear of said cover when said cover is raised, to illuminate said means, and a connection between said cover and said unit for shifting said unit in response to raising of said cover.

9. A cooking range having heating element means extending throughout a portion of the top thereof, a cover for said means, said cover being movable from covering position to an upright rear position where it serves as a backguard for the products of combustion from said means, an accessory unit shiftably mounted on said range at the rear thereof and in a position for ready access by the cook from the front of the range, said unit being disposed over at least a portion of said cover when said cover is in covering position and being shiftable to a position over another part of said top and clear of said cover when said cover is raised, and a connection between said cover and said unit for shifting said unit in response to raising and lowering of said cover, the mounting means for said accessory unit comprising roller and track means, said track means having means projecting slightly in the path of the roller means to prevent said roller means from drifting from a selected position toward another selected position but allowing said roller means to be pushed past said projecting means when it is desired to shift said roller means to the other selected position.

10. In a cooking range having heating element means extending throughout a portion of the top thereof, an accessory unit shiftably mounted on said range at the rear thereof and in a position for ready access by the cook from the front of the range, said unit being disposable over said heating element means and being shiftable to a position over another part of said top, the mounting means for said accessory unit comprising roller and track means, said track means having means projecting slightly in the path of the roller means to prevent said roller means from dirifting from a selected position toward another selected position but allowing said roller means to be pushed past said projecting means when it is desired to shift said roller means to the other selected position.

11. A range having a movable top cover, an outside traveling accessory unit mounted on said range, and means operatively connecting said cover to said unit, said unit comprising a lamp overlying said cover when said cover is in a horizontal position, said connecting means being operative to shift said unit sufficiently so that said lamp will not interfere with the upraising of said cover and to return said unit to its original position when said cover is returned to its horizontal position.

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