

April 8, 1930.

C. E. MARTIN

1,753,798

FIRE ESCAPE

Filed April 2, 1928

Fig. 2.

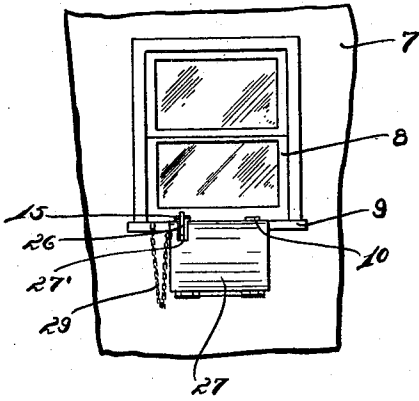


Fig. 1.

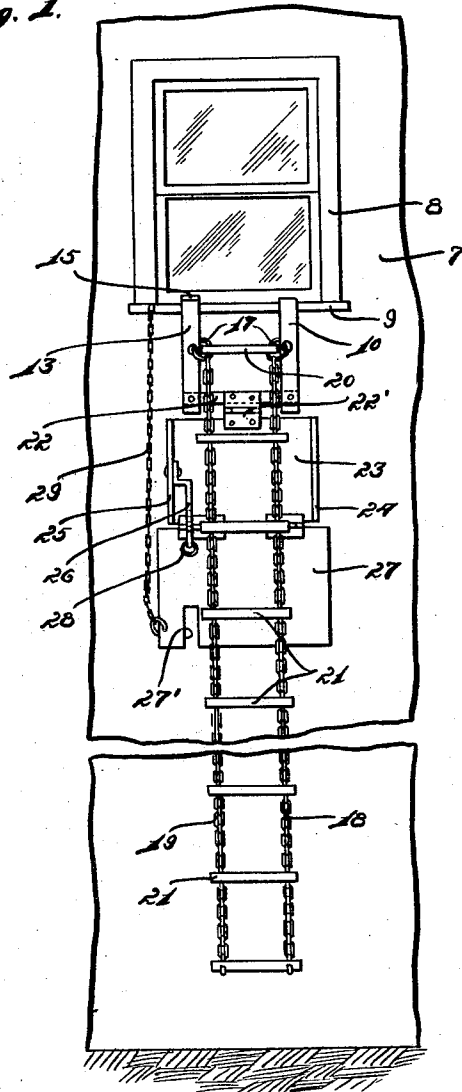


Fig. 3.

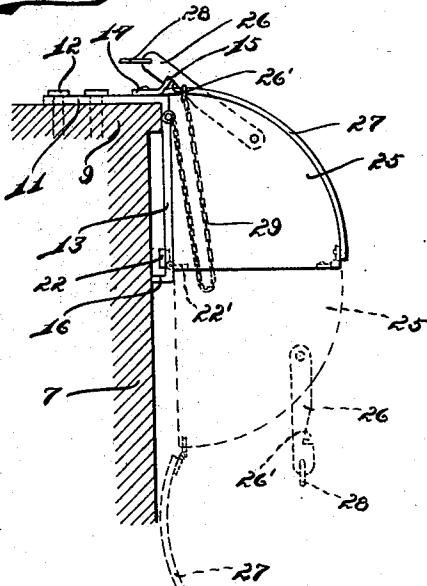
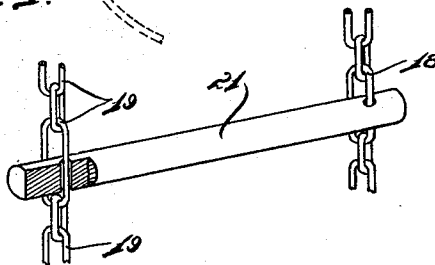


Fig. 4.



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FIRE ESCAPE

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My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in a fire escape adapted for mounting particularly on buildings which are not provided with a fire escape which accommodates several rooms, and has for its object the provision of a fire escape of this class which will be simple in structure, economical of manufacture, highly efficient in use, and one which is so arranged and constructed that, when mounted on the building, it will not mar or affect, to any great extent, the appearance of the building.

It is another object of the invention to provide in a fire escape of this class a hopper or container for containing a flexible ladder and to provide means on the device whereby the hopper or container may be held in its normal or containing position and easily released to permit the dropping of the ladder to operative position.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by a reference to the accompanying drawings which form a part of this specification and in which,

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of the invention applied to a building, showing the hopper released.

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of the invention applied to a building showing the hopper in operative position.

Fig. 3 is a side elevational view of the invention applied to a building.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of the flexible ladder.

In the drawings I have illustrated the invention used on a building wall 7 in which is formed a window 8 having the window sill 9. Supports 10 and 13 are mounted on the window sill 9, each of these supports having an angularly turned portion 11, which engages the upper surface of the window sill 9 and is attached thereto by suitable fastening means, such as nails 12. Mounted on the upper surface of the angularly disposed portion 11 and projecting outwardly therefrom is a clip 14 having the upwardly turned por-

tion 15. The lower end of the members 10 and 13 are each provided with the inwardly turned portion 16 which is adapted to engage the surface of the wall 7, so as to compensate for the overlapping of the sill 9, so that when strain is put on the supporting members 10 and 13, they will not be bent inwardly. Secured to each of the supporting members 10 and 13, intermediate their ends, are rings 17, connected to which and depending therefrom are chains 18 and 19. Connecting the ring 17 is a rung 20 and connecting the chains 18 and 19 at spaced intervals are rungs 21 which are secured to these chains as shown in Fig. 4. The chains and the rungs thus afford a flexible ladder.

A cross bar 22 serves to connect the supports 10 and 13, adjacent their lower ends. A hinge 22' serves to connect to the cross bar 22 the plate 23, having outwardly projecting sides 24 and 25, this plate with the flange forming sides 24 and 25 forming part of a container or hopper. Mounted on the inner surface of the side 25 and inwardly offset therefrom is an arm 26 provided with a notch 26' adjacent its free end. A ring 28 is secured to the free end. Hingedly connected to the lower edge of the plate 23 is the closure or cover 27, which is provided on its free edge with the notch 27'. Attached at one end to the sill 9 and at its opposite edge to the plate 27' adjacent its free edge, is a flexible cord or chain 29.

When the device is in operative position to afford an escape or a means of egress by a person from the building through the window 8, the various parts are in the relation shown in Fig. 1.

In order to fold the device into the position shown in Fig. 2 the occupant of the room could, by grasping the chain 29, swing the various parts upwardly, the plate 23 swinging on its hinge until the notch 26' and the arm 26 engaged the edge of the clip 14, the notch 27' serving to accommodate the arm 26. At the same time, the closure or cover 27 would engage beneath the upturned portion 15 so that the device would be securely locked in position. Prior to this movement, however, the flexible ladder would be folded in posi-

tion, or drawn upwardly out of the way until the arm 26 had engaged the portion 15, after which it may be deposited on the plate 23, and the cover 27 further swung closed to engage beneath the portion 15.

5 In this way there is provided a container for the flexible ladder which is of a minimum number of parts and of such material that it can be cheaply and economically manufactured, the plates 23 and 27 being preferably
10 formed of light sheet metal.

The device is adaptable for use on private homes and other buildings which are not of sufficient height to warrant the erection of
15 expensive fire escapes.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of my invention, I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details of structure shown, but desire to avail myself of such
20 variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

25 1. A fire escape of the class described adapted for use in connection with a building having a supporting portion, comprising: supporting members secured to said supporting portion and projecting downwardly
30 therefrom in spaced relation; a bar connecting said supporting members adjacent their lower ends; a plate swingably mounted at one edge on said bar; side members projecting outwardly from one face of said plate
35 at its opposite ends, the outer edges of said side members being curved; a curved cover plate swingably mounted on the free edge of said first mentioned plate and adapted for swinging into engagement with the curved
40 edges of said side members; a flexible ladder mounted on said supporting members, said first mentioned plate being swingable into horizontal position and adapted for supporting said flexible ladder; an engagement member secured to and projecting upwardly and
45 outwardly from the upper end of said supporting members; a notch bearing arm mounted on one of said side members and engageable with said engagement member for releasably locking said first mentioned
50 plate in horizontal position.

2. A fire escape of the class described adapted for use in connection with a building having a supporting portion, comprising:
55 supporting members secured to said supporting portion and projecting downwardly therefrom in spaced relation; a bar connecting said supporting members adjacent their lower ends; a plate swingably mounted at one
60 edge on said bar; side members projecting outwardly from one face of said plate at its opposite ends, the outer edges of said side members being curved; a curved cover plate swingably mounted on the free edge of said
65 first mentioned plate and adapted for swing-

ing into engagement with the curved edges of said side members; a flexible ladder mounted on said supporting members, said first mentioned plate being swingable into horizontal position and adapted for supporting
70 said flexible ladder; an engagement member secured to and projecting upwardly and outwardly from the upper end of said supporting members; a notch bearing arm mounted on one of said side members and engageable
75 with said engagement member for releasably locking said first mentioned plate in horizontal position, said cover plate having a notch formed in its free edge for accommodating said notch bearing arm, the edge of said
80 cover plate being swingable upon movement of said first mentioned plate to horizontal position into engagement at its free edge with the under surface of said engagement member.
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In testimony whereof I have signed the foregoing specification.

CECIL E. MARTIN.

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