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2,325,795

COMBINED KITCHEN STOOL AND STEPLADDER

Filed May 13, 1942

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

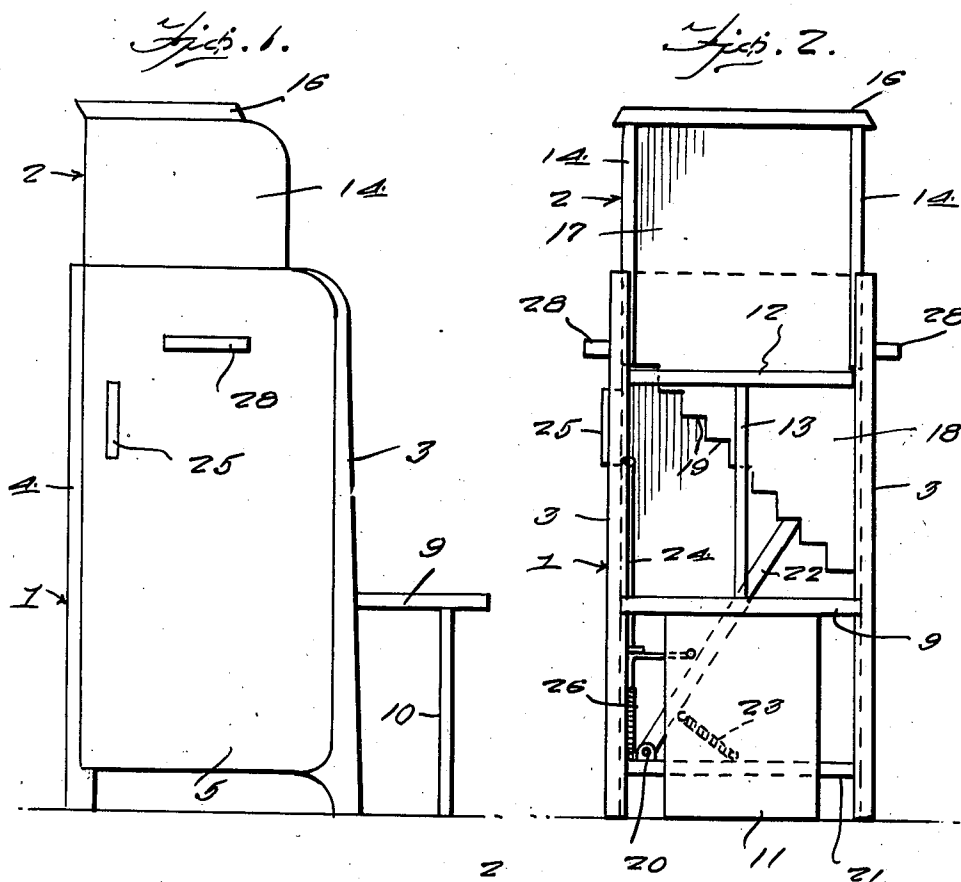
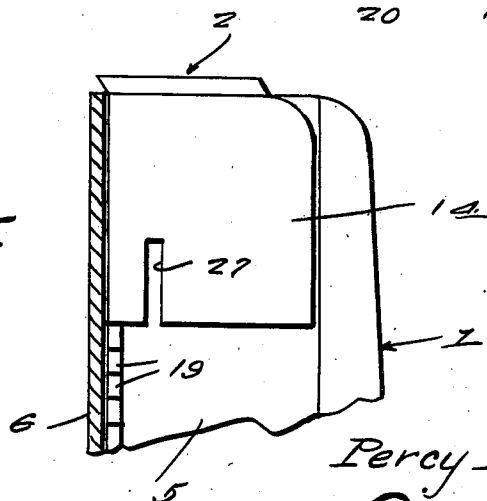


Fig. 5.



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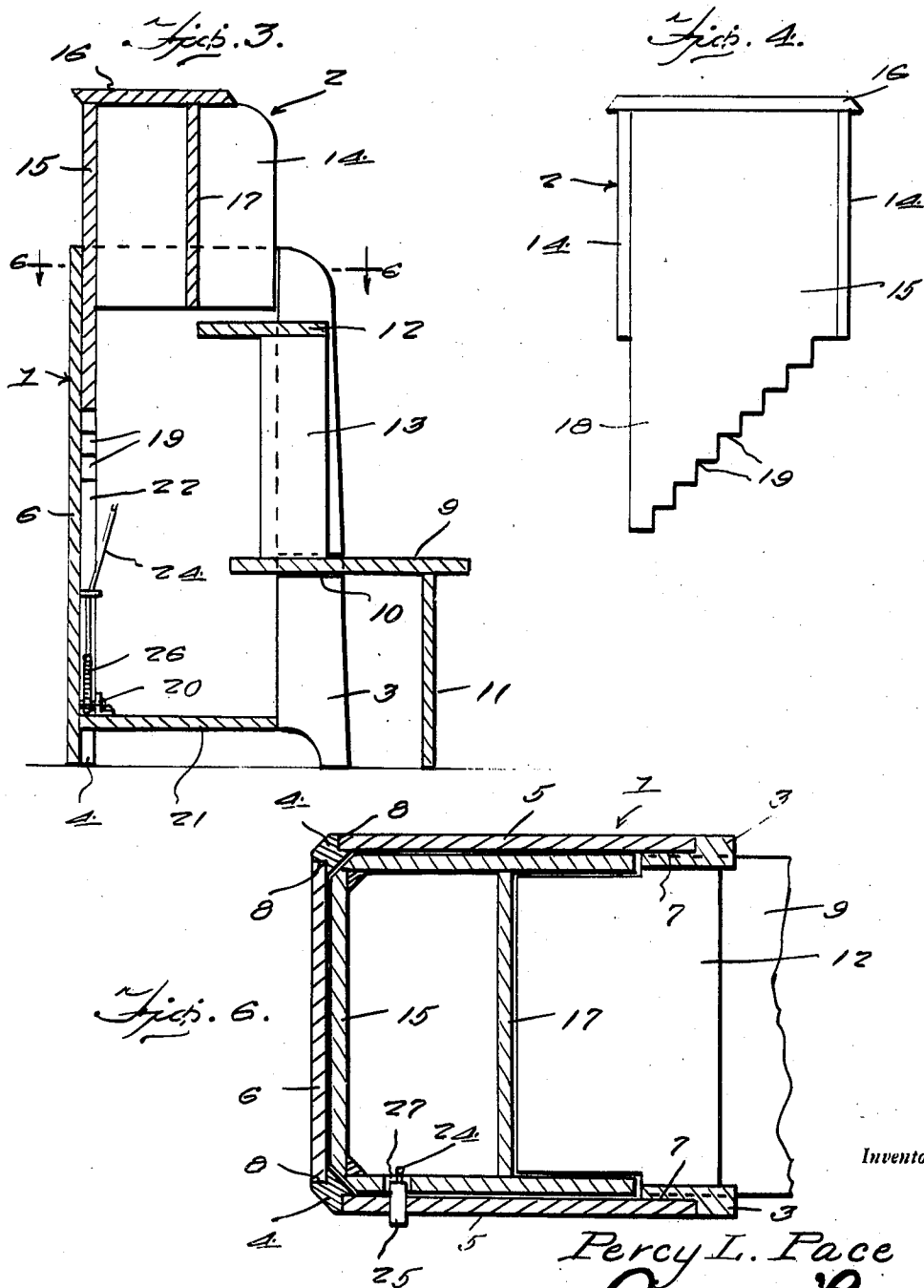
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED KITCHEN STOOL AND
STEPLADDER

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Application May 13, 1942, Serial No. 442,800

2 Claims. (Cl. 155-42)

The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in combined kitchen stools and step ladders, and has for its primary object to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a piece of kitchen furniture of this character comprising a seat which includes vertical adjusting means of a novel construction and arrangement.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a combined kitchen stool and step ladder which will be comparatively simple in construction, strong, durable, compact, light in weight, attractive in appearance, and which may be manufactured at low cost.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein like characters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a combined kitchen stool and step ladder constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a view in front elevation of the device.

Figure 3 is a view in vertical longitudinal section through the device.

Figure 4 is a view in rear elevation of the vertically adjustable seat unit.

Figure 5 is a vertical sectional view through the upper portion of the device, showing the seat unit in side elevation and in lowered position.

Figure 6 is a view in horizontal section, taken substantially on the line 6-6 of Figure 3.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that the embodiment of the invention which has been illustrated comprises a lower unit 1 constituting a base and an upper unit 2 which is mounted for vertical sliding adjustment in said lower unit.

The lower unit 1 includes pairs of front and back legs 3 and 4, respectively, side panels 5, a back panel 6, said panels being of plywood or other suitable material. As illustrated to advantage in Figure 6 of the drawings, the rear portions of the outer faces of the front legs 3 are rabbeted, as at 7, to accommodate the front vertical marginal portions of the side panels 5. The back legs 4 extend diagonally and are rabbeted, as at 8, for the reception of the adjacent vertical marginal portions of the panels 5 and 6. Thus, the legs 3 and 4 constitute guides for the vertically adjustable upper unit 2.

The lower unit 1 further includes a lower step 9 which is mounted for sliding movement in

horizontal grooves or channels 10 which are provided therefor in the inner faces of the front legs 3. A depending support 11 is provided beneath the front portion of the lower step 9. Fixed in the upper front portion of the lower unit 1 is an upper step 12. A brace 13 depends from the upper step 12.

The upper unit 2 is a box-like structure comprising sides 14, a back 15, a top constituting a seat 16 and a front panel 17. The front 17 is set back far enough between the sides 14 to clear the upper step 12 when the unit 2 is lowered. The back 15 comprises a depending extension 18 (see Fig. 4) which is provided with an inclined edge having a series of notches 19 therein.

Pivotaly mounted, as at 20, on the bottom 21 of the unit 1 for transverse swinging movement in a vertical plane adjacent the back panel 6 is a prop 22. The prop 22 is selectively engageable in the notches 19 for supporting the upper unit 2 in adjusted position. It will be observed that the prop 22 is mounted in the side portion of the unit 1 which is remote from the lower extremity of the extension 18. Thus, the prop 22 is positioned in opposed relation to the notches 19. A coil spring 23 swings the prop 22 toward the notches 19. A cord 24 swings the prop 22 in the opposite direction against the tension of the spring 23. The cord 24 passes through an opening which is provided therefor in the adjacent side panel 5 and has connected thereto an operating handle 25. A coil spring 26 is connected to the cord 24 for keeping slack out of said cord and for yieldingly maintaining the handle 25 against the adjacent side panel 5. A vertical slot 27 in one of the sides 14 of the upper unit 2 accommodates the cord 24 when said upper unit is lowered.

It is thought that the operation of the device will be readily apparent from a consideration of the foregoing. Briefly, to raise the seat 16, it is only necessary to elevate the slidable upper unit 2 in the stationary lower unit 1. The unit 2 is supported in its adjusted position by the engagement of the prop 22 in one of the notches 19, said prop being thus actuated by the spring 23. To lower the unit 2, the prop 22 is disengaged from the notches 19 against the tension of the coil spring 23 through the medium of the handle 25 and the cord 24. It will thus be seen that the seat 16 may be conveniently secured in any desired position. When it is not desired to use the lower step 9, said step may be readily pushed to an out-of-the-way position in the unit 1. Suit-

able handles 28 are provided on the upper portions of the side panels 5 to facilitate moving the device about.

It is believed that the many advantages of a combined adjustable kitchen stool and step ladder constructed in accordance with the present invention will be readily understood, and although a preferred embodiment of the device is as illustrated and described, it is to be understood that changes in the details of construction and in the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to which will fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed is:

1. A combined kitchen stool and step ladder comprising a stationary lower unit open at its top and including a plurality of vertical walls, an upper unit, including a seat, telescopically mounted in said lower unit for vertical sliding adjustment, said upper unit further including side and back members, said back member comprising a depending extension having an inclined series of notches therein, a prop pivotally mounted in the lower unit and engaged selectively in

the notches for releasably securing the upper unit in adjusted position, and means for actuating said prop.

2. A combined kitchen stool and step ladder comprising a stationary lower unit open at its top and including a plurality of vertical walls, an upper unit, including a seat, telescopically mounted in said lower unit for vertical sliding adjustment, said upper unit further including side and back members, said back member comprising a depending extension having an inclined series of notches therein, a prop pivotally mounted in the lower unit and engageable selectively in the notches for releasably securing the upper unit in adjusted position, and means for actuating said prop, said means including a spring connected to the prop for swinging said prop in one direction for engagement in the notches, and a manually operable flexible element connected to the prop for swinging said prop in the opposite direction and out of engagement with the notches.

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