LADDER LEG EQUALIZERS
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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE
A ladder leg equalizer for metal ladders rotatable about the end of a ladder leg and extendible generally parallel to the vertical surface against which the opposite end of the leg of the ladder is placed.

This invention relates to ladder leg equalizers and particularly to equalizers for metal ladder legs rotatable about the end of the leg and extendible generally parallel to the vertical surface against which the opposite end of the ladder leg is placed.

The problem of providing an extension for the leg of a ladder to permit its being used on a sloping surface is one that has faced the art for many years and to which a vast number of solutions has been proposed. Typical of these proposed solutions are those exemplified in Patents Nos. 224,462, 257,411, 279,543, 666,948, 742,288, 891,965, 1,346,831, 2,213,471, 2,306,797, 2,318,017, 2,914,135, 2,936,849. All of these patents provide an extension for a ladder leg extension which moves in a straight line and forms a straight line extension thereof. Such extensions are not satisfactory for a variety of reasons. First, such an extension throws a tremendous twisting beam load at the weakest point of the extension, its connection with the main ladder leg. Second, on a sloping hill side, the extension may never touch the hill side in any reasonable distance and finally such leg extensions tend to be unstable. There have been attempts to provide extensions which take an angular position with respect to a ladder leg for special purposes, e.g., to fit on the confining space of a stair well. Such patents are exemplified by Nos. 1,462,505 and 3,032,140. These patents are held in frictional engagement on the outside of a wooden ladder leg by a pair of spaced clamps of fixed spacing which limits the angular movement within the clamps to a very small angle.

I have invented a ladder leg extension which overcomes the problem of prior art leg extensions. The extension of my invention is usable on any slope, is free of bending or twisting beam movement and is very stable and firm under load.

In a preferred embodiment of my invention, I provide a ladder level comprising an elongated mounting member adapted for pivotal attachment at one end to the bottom end of a ladder side rail, means at the other end of said member engaging the side rail at points on an arc spaced from said pivotal attachment whereby the mounting member may be selectively positioned at an angle to the line of the side rail, an elongated extension member telescopically engaging said mounting member and latch means between said extension member and mounting member engaging and holding said extension member at selected relative positions. Preferably, the extension member is provided with evenly spaced holes along its length and the mounting member is provided with at least one hole cooperatively receiving a latch pin or bolt to hold the extension member and mounting member in position.

In the foregoing general description, I have set out certain objects, purposes and advantages of my invention. Other objects, purposes and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings in which:
3. An elongated extension member telescopingly engaging said mounting member and latch means between said extension member and mounting member engaging and holding said extension member at selected relative positions.

2. A ladder leveling apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the extension member is provided with a line of spaced holes adapted to be aligned with at least one hole in the mounting member and bolt means passing through said holes to maintain the two members in selected relative position.

References Cited

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