Feb. 17, 1970 O. C. BRODEN 3,495,683

ROLLER PAN HOLDER FOR LADDERS

Filed Dec. 26, 1968

Fig. 1

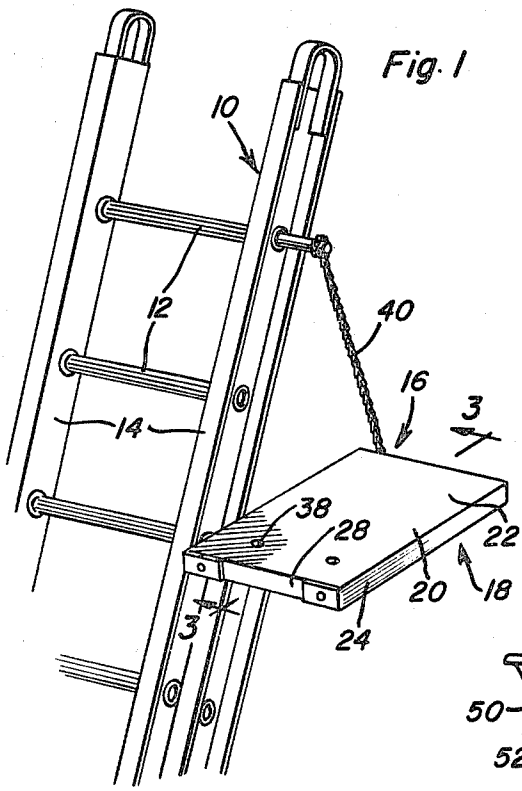


Fig. 2

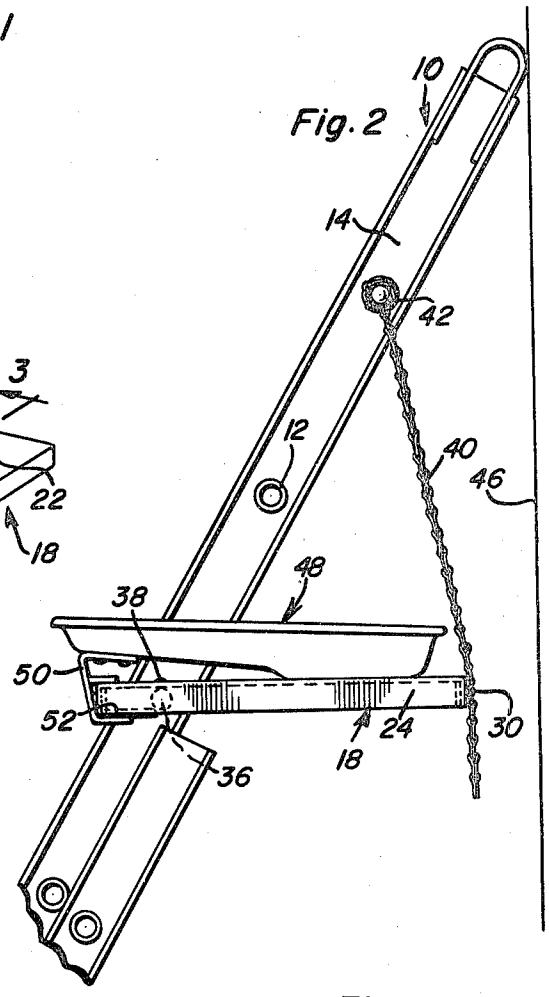


Fig. 4

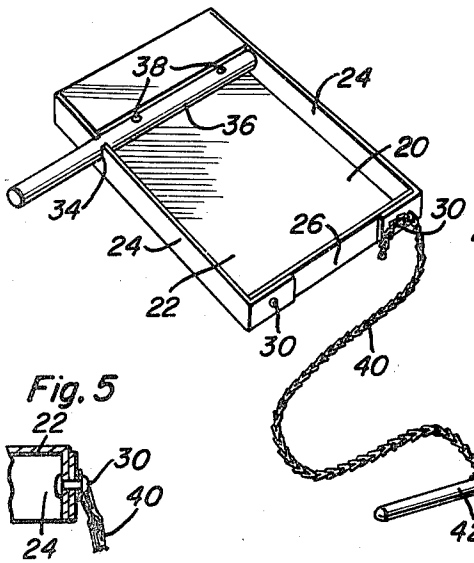


Fig. 3

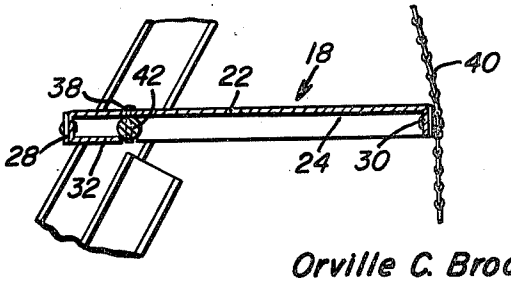


Fig. 5

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United States Patent Office 3,495,683 Patented Feb. 17, 1970

3,495,683

ROLLER PAN HOLDER FOR LADDERS

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Filed Dec. 26, 1968, Ser. No. 787,095
Int. Cl. E06c 7/16
U.S. Cl. 182—116 7 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A tray-like support including opposite edge portions and a third edge portion extending between corresponding ends of its opposite edge portions. A shaft member is carried by the tray and projects outwardly from the third edge portion thereof adjacent one of the opposite edge portions for reception in one end of a tubular ladder rung. The other of the opposite edge portions of the tray has one end of a tension member secured thereto and one end of a shaft or peg is secured to the other end of the tension member. The other end of the shaft or peg may be inserted in the end of a tubular ladder rung above the ladder rung in which the shaft portion projecting outwardly from the tray is inserted with the length of the tension member being adjusted so as to support the tray in a horizontal position even though the ladder of which the tubular rungs comprise parts is inclined against a wall or building.

The roller pan holder of the instant invention has been designed primarily for the purpose of supporting a pan in which paint to be applied to a paint roller may be placed. However, the roller pan holder may be constructed so as to provide a suitable support shelf or any other type of support needed at the elevated end portion of an inclined ladder.

In its most simplified form the holder or support of the instant invention includes an elongated panel from one side of which projects a support shaft adjacent one end of the panel for insertion into a lower tubular rung of a ladder. The other end of the panel has one end of any suitable tension member secured thereto and the other end of the tension member has a second shaft or peg secured thereto for insertion into the corresponding end of an upper tubular rung of the same ladder with the length of the tension member being such that the panel is supported in a horizontal position while the ladder is inclined as desired.

The main object of this invention is to provide a suitable support for attachment to the upper end of an extension ladder inclined against a suitable support.

Another object of this invention is to provide a suitable support which may be supported from an extension ladder in a manner so as to be adjustable for defining a horizontal support surface in different angular positioning of the associated ladder.

Another important object of this invention is to provide a support in accordance with the preceding objects from which a paint pan for applying paint to a paint roller may be stationarily supported.

A final object of this invention to be specifically enumerated herein is to provide a support in accordance with the preceding objects which will conform to conventional forms of manufacture, be of simple construction and easy to use so as to provide a device that will be economically feasible, long lasting and relatively trouble-free in operation.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter

described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of the upper portion of a conventional form of metal extension ladder with the support of the instant invention operatively associated with the ladder;

FIGURE 2 is a side elevational view of the assemblage illustrated in FIGURE 1 as seen from the right side thereof;

FIGURE 3 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 3—3 of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 4 is a perspective view of the support of the instant invention with the supporting panel portion thereof illustrated in inverted position; and

FIGURE 5 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the manner in which one end of the tension member portion of the support is secured to the support tray portion of the support.

Referring now more specifically to the drawings, the numeral **10** generally designates a conventional form of extension ladder of the metallic type and including tubular rungs **12** spaced along and extending between the side rails **14** of the ladder **10**.

The support of the instant invention is referred to in general by the reference numeral **16** and includes a support tray portion referred to in general by the reference numeral **18**. The tray portion **18** comprises a panel **20** of any suitable material such as plastic or metal bent to form a top **22**, downturned longitudinal flanges **24** and downturned opposite end flanges **26** and **28**. The ends of the longitudinal flanges **24** adjacent the end flange **26** extend beyond the latter and are bent inwardly toward each other and over the outer surface of the end flange **26**. A pair of rivets **30** are utilized to secure the inturned end portions of the longitudinal flanges **24** over the outer surface of the end flange **26**. The downturned flange **28** terminates downwardly in a backturned flange portion **32** which underlies and generally parallels the top **22**.

One of the flanges **24** has a partial circular opening **34** formed therethrough adjacent the free edge of the backturned flange **32** and one end portion of a shaft or rod **36** is secured within the confines of the longitudinal flanges **24** by means of a pair of fasteners **38** secured through the shaft or rod **36** and the top **22**. The other end of the shaft or rod **36** projects outwardly through the opening **34**.

One end of an elongated flexible tension member **40** is anchored to one of the fasteners or rivets **30** and the other end of the tension member **40** is secured about one end portion of a second shaft or rod **42** in a manner such that any desired portion of the tension member **40** may be wrapped about or wound upon the shaft **42**. Any suitable fastener **44** may be utilized to secure the tension member to the rod or shaft **42**.

The support **16** may be supported from the ladder **10** by first inserting the extended end of the rod or shaft **36** into the open end of one of the rungs **12**. Then, after the tension member **40** has been adjusted to the desired length, the free end of the shaft or rod **42** may be inserted in the open end of a ladder rung **12** above the ladder rung **12** in which the extended end of the shaft or rod **36** is received. Of course, the effective length of the tension member **40** is adjusted so as to maintain the top **22** in a substantially horizontal position even though the ladder **10** is leaning against a support such as support wall **46**.

A roller pan is referred to in general by the reference numeral **48** and is of conventional design and adapted to have paint disposed therein for the purpose of applying the paint to a paint roller. One end of the roller pan **48**

includes a depending foot or leg **50** which defines a horizontally opening channel **52**. The roller pan **48** may be disposed on the top **22** with the marginal edge of the support tray portion **18** remote from the tension member **40** snugly received within the channel **52**. In this manner, the pan **48** need not be held with one hand while a painter rolls a paint roller in the pan **48** to apply paint thereto.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A support for mounting on a ladder of the type including at least two tubular rungs with corresponding ends opening endwise outwardly through one side rail of the ladder, said support including a support member defining a longitudinal dimension, a support rod projecting outwardly from one side of said support member at one end portion thereof, a tension member having one end secured to the other end portion of said support member, the other end of said tension member having a second support rod secured thereto, the outer end of the first mentioned rod and one end portion of the second mentioned rod being adapted to be inserted within said corresponding ends.

2. The combination of claim **1** wherein at least one of the end portions of said tension member is secured to the corresponding support rod by means enabling the effective length of said tension member to be adjusted.

3. The combination of claim **1** wherein said tension member is flexible.

4. The combination of claim **1** wherein said support member defines an inverted tray-like member including depending peripheral flange portions, the flange portion extending from said one side of said support member including an opening therethrough through which the first mentioned support rod projects.

5. The combination of claim **1** wherein said one end of said tension member is secured to said other end portion of said support member adjacent said one side of said support member.

6. The combination of claim **1** wherein at least one of the end portions of said tension member is secured to the corresponding support rod by means enabling the effective length of said tension member to be adjusted, said tension member being flexible.

7. The combination of claim **6** wherein said one end of said tension member is secured to said other end portion of said support member adjacent said one side of said support member.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

182—129; 248—210