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2,223,911

STEPLADDER

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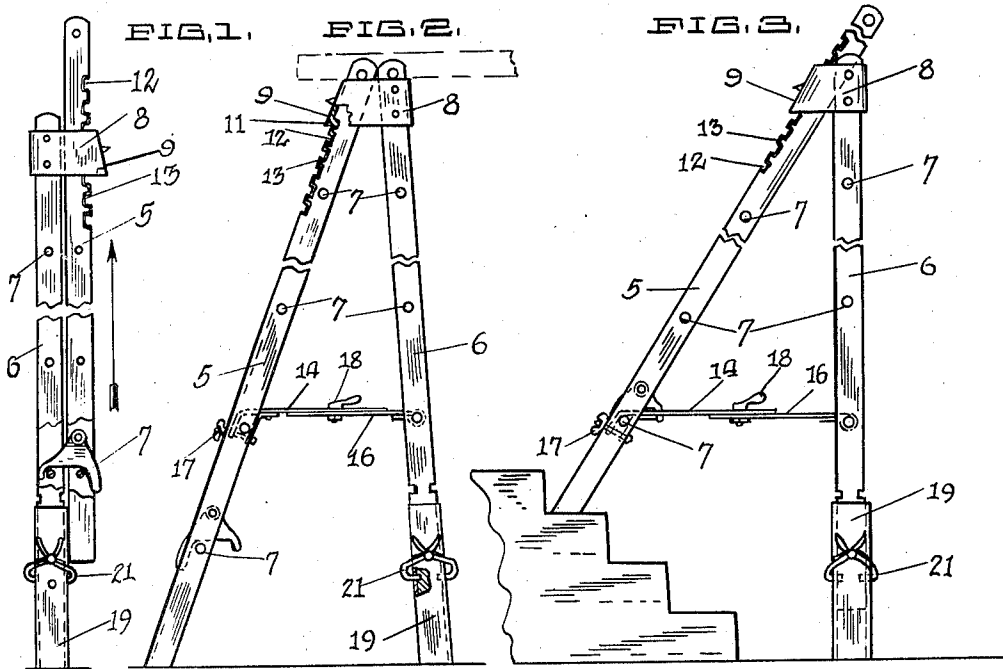


FIG. 4.

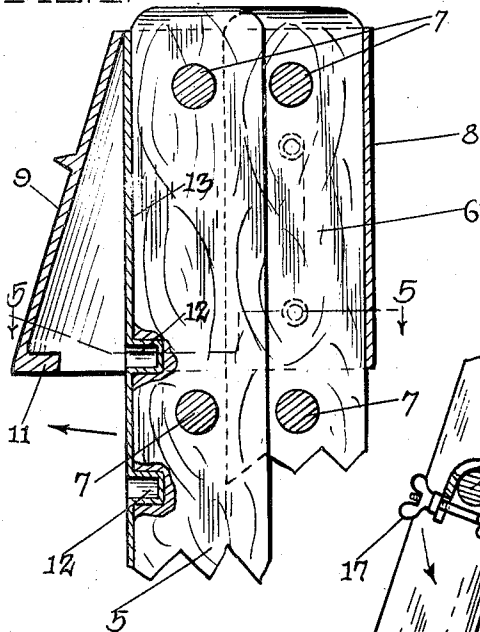


FIG. 5.

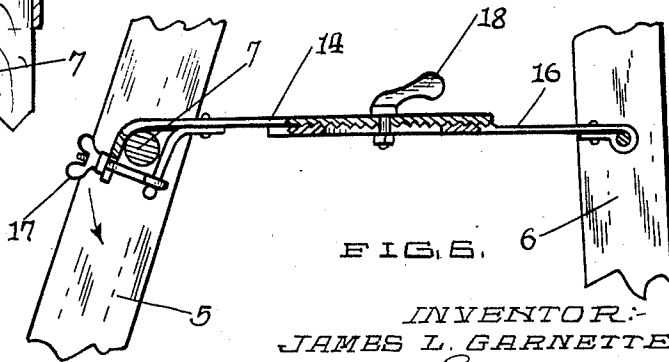
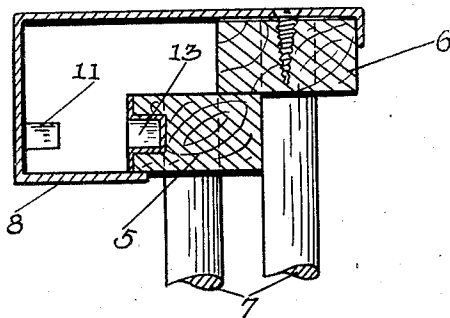


FIG. 6.

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STEPLADDER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 228—27)

This invention relates to improvements in stepladders and has particular reference to a means for adjusting the stepladder to meet various conditions.

5 The principal object of this invention is to produce a ladder which is sturdy in construction, one which may be readily locked in position against slippage, a ladder which is economical to manufacture, and one wherein the legs 10 may be adjusted to accommodate for uneven surfaces.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

15 In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

20 Fig. 1 is a side elevation of my ladder with the parts shown in closed position;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation, showing the parts in normal open position and standing on a flat surface;

25 Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing the ladder standing upon an uneven surface;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary side elevation, partly in cross section, of the upper end of the ladder;

Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4; and

30 Fig. 6 is a fragmentary detailed view, partly in cross section, showing the spacing brace.

The ordinary stepladder consists merely of a pair of hinged members which when separated from an angular structure, as the parts are 35 permanently hinged together it is difficult to erect the ladder with safety on uneven ground. I have, therefore, devised a simple ladder which will overcome this difficulty.

In the accompanying drawing wherein for the 40 purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, and referring to Fig. 1, the numerals 5 and 6 designate two brace portions which may have rungs 7 spaced at suitable intervals.

45 My invention consists essentially of providing a fitting 8 which is secured to one of the ladder sections, for instance, the section 6; and it is, of course, understood that there is one of these fittings for each side of the section. This fitting has an angularly disposed portion 9 and a projection 11 which may enter into any one of the openings 12 formed in a plate 13 secured to each side of the section 5. Consequently, when the 50 section is moved from the position of Fig. 1 to that of Fig. 2 or Fig. 3, the two sections will be held in adjusted position relative to slippage laterally with relation to each other.

In order to prevent the two sections from closing toward each other, I provide an adjusting 60 brace 14 which is illustrated in Fig. 6 and con-

sists of a member 16 pivoted to the section 6. The forward part of this brace is bifurcated and straddles one of the rungs in the section 5, and may be held thereto by a wing nut and bolt 17. The two sections of the brace may be adjusted 5 through the medium of a wing nut 18.

Slidably positioned on the lower ends of the section 6 are telescopic members 19 which are held in adjusted position by spring-pressed clamps 21 entering openings in the side sections, 10 with the result that should the ground be uneven, one of the telescopic members may be adjusted to compensate for this unevenness.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be 15 taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes relative to the material, size, shape and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined 20 claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A ladder comprising a pair of sections, the uprights of one section spaced at their upper ends to pass between the uprights of the other 25 section and engage the uppermost rung thereof, a broad loop secured to the upper ends of each side rail of the outer section and extending outwardly beyond the same at right angles thereto, the outer wall of each loop arranged obliquely 30 in respect to the uprights and having a projection carried by the inner face at its lower end, and the uprights of the inner section passing through the loops and provided with a series of recesses in the outer edges of the side rail there- 35 of, whereby the uppermost rung of the outer section forms a fulcrum for the side rails of the inner section, and the projection carried by the loop adapted to enter any of the said recesses.

2. A ladder comprising a pair of sections, the 40 uprights of one section spaced at their upper ends to pass between the uprights of the other section and engage the uppermost rung thereof, a broad loop secured to the outer face of the upper end of each side rail of the outer section 45 and extending outwardly beyond the same at right angles thereto and turned laterally and inwardly to engage the inner faces of the uprights of the inner section, the outer wall of each loop arranged obliquely in respect to the up- 50 rights, an integral inwardly extending projection carried by the lower end of the obliquely arranged wall of each loop and adapted to enter recesses in the side wall of the upper ends of the uprights of the inner section, whereby the up- 55 permost rung of the outer section forms a fulcrum for the side rails of the inner section and the projections entering the said recesses.