Feb. 28, 1939. M. R. MYERS 2,148,958

STEP ATTACHMENT FOR LADDERS

Filed April 5, 1938

Fig. 1.

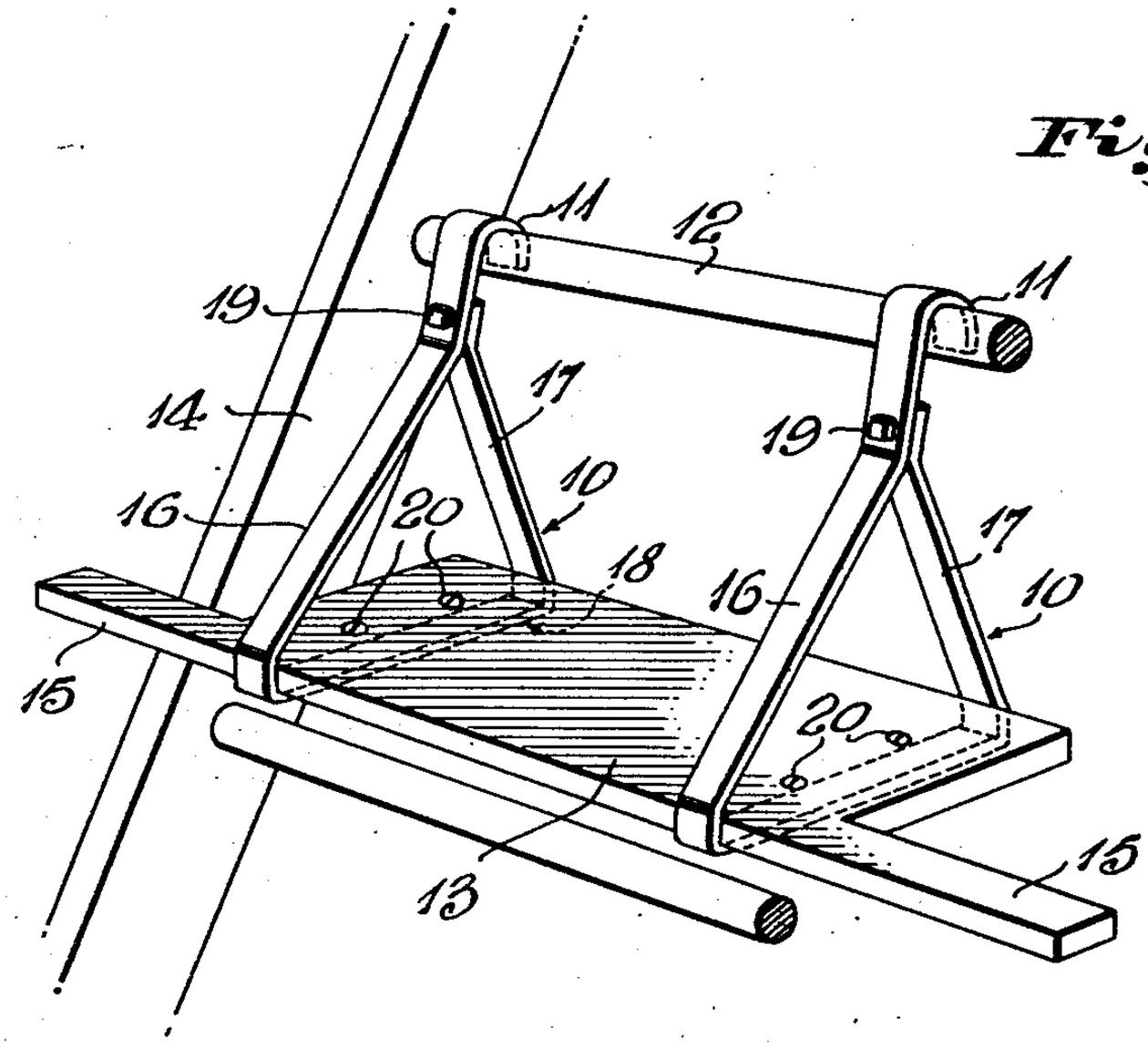
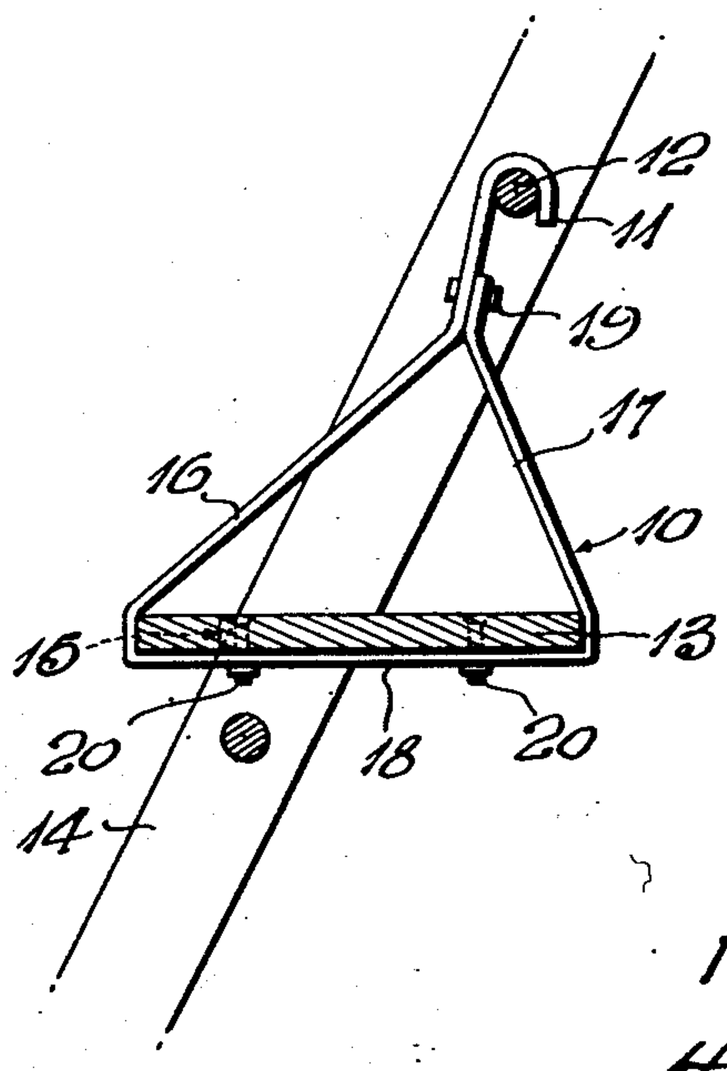


Fig. 2.



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STEP ATTACHMENT FOR LADDERS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 304—10)

The invention relates to a new and improved step attachment for extension ladders and other ladders having rungs, permitting painters, fruit pickers and other workmen to stand comfortably on the step, thereby averting excessive tiring of the feet and other parts of the body now commonly occasioned by standing on ladder rungs.

The principal object of the invention is to provide an attachment of extremely simple and inexpensive form which may be quickly and easily applied, moved to any desired position with ease, will not support the user's weight sufficiently in front of the stiles to cause danger of the ladder rolling over, will permit the user to lean against the rungs above the step for stability, and will not be in the user's way when ascending and descending the ladder or when stepping onto and from the step.

A further object is to provide a novel attachment which is useable to equal advantage on narrow or wide ladders or upon the relatively narrow and wide upper and lower sections of exsion ladders.

With the foregoing in view, the invention resides in the novel subject matter hereinafter described and claimed, description being accomplished by reference to the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing a portion of a ladder with the improved step connected with one of the rungs thereof.

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view.

In the drawing above briefly described, a preferred construction has been illustrated, and while this construction will be rather specifically explained, it is to be understood that variations may be made within the scope of the invention as claimed.

Two metal hanger frames 10 are provided, the upper end of each frame being provided with a hook 11 to engage a ladder rung 12. Secured to the hanger frames 10, is a step 13 to extend between the ladder stiles 14. This step is provided with two stile-abutting arms 15 which are relatively long and narrow and project endwise from the front corners of said step. These arms abut the front edges of the stiles 14 and prevent the step from passing rearwardly entirely through the latter, while permitting said step to occupy a sufficiently rearward position to be out of the way when ascending and descending the ladder, and when stepping onto and from the step. Preferably, the step 13 is of a width for reception between the stiles of a very narrow ladder, but the arms 15 are of such length that they may abut the stiles of much wider ladders when the step attachment is used thereon. Thus, the attachment manufactured in one standard size will be useable in connection with various widths of ladders, and in all instances, the step will not interfere with the workman when ascending or descending the ladder, or when stepping onto and from the step, the user's weight will not be supported in front of the stiles in such manner as to cause danger of the ladder rolling over, the user may lean against the rungs above the step for stability which is of particular advantage in wind, and the attachment may be quickly and easily moved to any desired height and engaged with a selected rung without the necessity of releasing any clamping devices or the like.

In the preferred construction, each hanger frame 10 is in the form of an open triangle, the front and rear bars 16 and 17 of which are at acute angles to the base bar 18, said rear bar 17 being somewhat shorter than the front bar 16 in order that the step may be about level with the ladder supported in a normal inclined position. Each frame 10 and its hook 11 may well be formed from a single metal bar bent in the manner shown, one end of the bar being bent rearwardly and downwardly to provide the hook 11 and the other end of the bar being secured by a bolt, rivet or the like 19 to the shank of the hook. The step 13 passes through the two triangular frames 10 and is secured by bolts or rivets 20 to the base bars 18.

From the foregoing taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be seen that novel and advantageous provision has been made for carrying out the objects of the invention, and while preferred details have been shown, attention may again be invited to the possibility of making variations within the scope of the invention as claimed. The invention is highly desirable from numerous standpoints and is absolutely safe. In this connection, attention is invited to the fact that if the rung 12 should break near one of the stiles 14, the rung underlying the step 13 would catch the latter and thus prevent a serious accident.

I claim:

A step attachment for a ladder, comprising two laterally spaced hanger frames of open triangular form and each having a rigid hook at its apex to engage a ladder rung, both the front and rear side bars of each frame being disposed at an acute angle to the base bar thereof, a step whose ends pass through said frames and are secured upon said base bars thereof, said step being

sufficiently short for reception between the stiles of a narrow ladder, and relatively long and narrow stile-abutting arms rigidly connected with said step and projecting endwise from the front corners thereof to prevent the step from passing rearwardly entirely through the ladder while permitting said step to occupy a sufficiently rearward position to be out of the way when ascending and descending the ladder, said arms being sufficiently long to abut the stiles of wider ladders also when the attachment is used thereon.

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