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LADDER JACK

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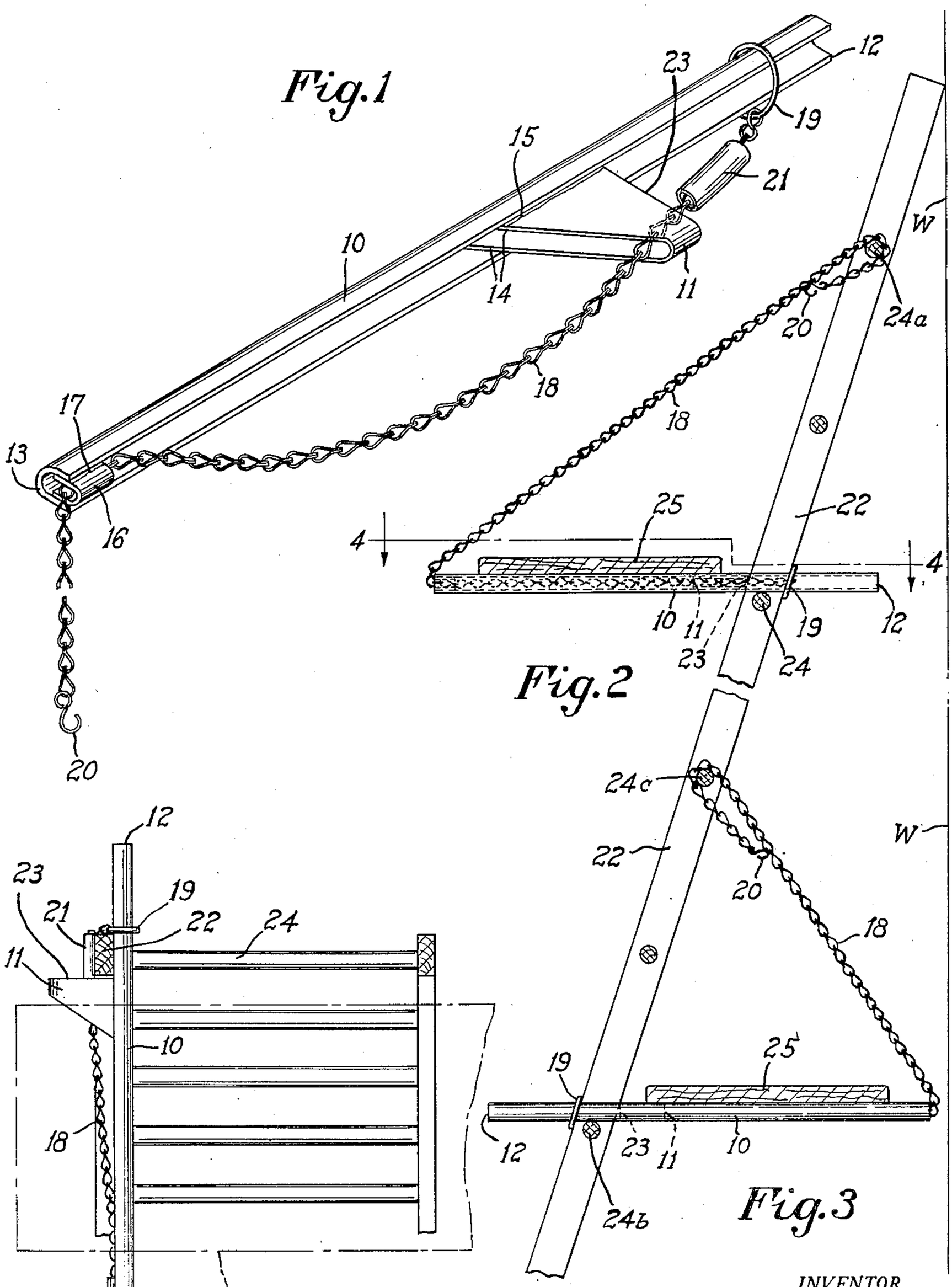

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

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LADDER JACK

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1 Claim. (Cl. 248—238)

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The invention relates to ladder jacks for supporting a scaffold or platform upon ladders for use by painters, carpenters or other workmen.

The object of the improvement is to provide a simple, inexpensive and durable jack which may be easily and readily attached to an ordinary ladder in such a manner as to form a support for a platform or scaffold upon which workmen may stand or sit.

Another object is to provide such a jack in the form of a bar, with means for supporting one end portion thereof upon a rung of a ladder, and a chain or the like for supporting the other end of the bar from a higher rung of the ladder.

Still another object is to provide a jack of this character comprising a bar having a lug formed near one end thereof for contact with a side rail of the ladder when the adjacent end of the bar is supported upon a rung of the ladder, a chain or the like slidably connected to said end of the bar and adapted to be located around said side rail and through an opening in the lug for securing the bar in position upon said rung of the ladder, and an eye in the other end of the bar through which the chain is passed and connected to a higher rung on the ladder for supporting the bar in horizontal position.

A further object is to provide such a jack formed from a bar of U-shape cross section, the lug being also of U-shape cross section so that the chain may slide through the same.

A still further object is to provide a ladder jack of the character referred to which may be used upon either single or double ladders and which may be adjusted to any desired height on a wall or building.

Another object is the provision of a ladder jack of this character which securely locks itself to the ladder in the desired position to form a rigid, horizontal support, directed either inwardly or outwardly from the ladder.

The above objects, together with others which will be apparent from the drawing and following description, or which may be later referred to, may be attained by constructing the improved ladder jack in the manner hereinafter described in detail and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a ladder jack embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 a vertical sectional view of a ladder with the jack secured thereon to support a plank on the side of the ladder opposite the side thereof which rests against the building or wall supporting it;

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Fig. 3 a view similar to Fig. 2 but with the jack and plank on the opposite side of the ladder; and

Fig. 4 a horizontal sectional view taken as on the line 4—4, Fig. 2.

Referring now more particularly to the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views, the improved ladder jack is shown as formed from a straight bar 10, of U-shape cross section, having a lug 11, also of U-shape cross section, rigidly connected to the bar 10 at a point spaced from one end thereof, as indicated at 12, and spaced a considerably greater distance from the other end 13 of the bar.

The U-shape lug 11 is preferably rigidly attached to the bar by inserting the open end 14 thereof into the open side of the U-shape bar 10 and securing it thereto as by welding indicated at 15.

A loop or eye 16 is formed at the end 13 of the bar, being preferably in the form of a U-shape metal strip having its open end inserted into the open side of the U-shape bar 10 and welded thereto as indicated at 17.

A chain 18, or the like, is slidably located through the U-shape lug 11, and through the loop or eye 16 and one end thereof is connected to a ring 19 which is slidably mounted upon the bar 10, between the lug 11 and the end 12 of the bar, while the other end of the chain, which is located through the eye or loop 16, is provided with a hook 20.

A short length of rubber tubing or the like, as indicated at 21, is preferably located over the chain, between the ring 19 and the lug 11, so as to prevent this end of the chain from pulling through the lug when the ring 19 is removed from the adjacent end of the bar 10.

In mounting the jack upon a ladder, the bar 10 may be placed in horizontal position, with its open side toward and in contact with the adjacent side rail 22 of the ladder, and the perpendicular edge 23 of the lug 11 in contact with the front or outer side of said side rail, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4.

The ring 19, upon one end of the chain, is located over the end 12 of the bar and the chain is pulled through the lug 11 and loop or eye 16 so that the ring 19 is pulled into contact with the rear side of the side rail 22 of the ladder, the bar being of course supported upon one rung, as indicated at 24 in Figs. 2 and 4, in horizontal position.

The chain is passed around an upper rung of

the ladder, as shown at 24*a*, and the hook 20 is hooked into a convenient link of the chain to hold the same taut with the bar 10 supported in horizontal position as best shown in Fig. 2.

The ladder is of course supported against a building or wall, as indicated at W, and another ladder is supported against the wall in the same manner at the desired distance therefrom, so that a plank, as indicated at 25, may rest upon the jacks upon both ladders, forming a platform or scaffold upon which workmen may stand or sit for working upon the wall W.

In Fig. 3 is shown the manner in which the jack may be mounted so as to support a plank or scaffold upon the rear or inner side of the ladder. The jack is positioned reversely from the manner above described, the bar 10 being horizontally disposed and resting upon a rung of the ladder, as indicated at 24*b*, with the perpendicular edge 23 of the lug 11 in contact with the rear or inner side of the adjacent side rail 22 of the ladder, and the ring 19 upon one end of the chain being in contact with the front or outer side of said side rail.

The chain is drawn taut, as above described, and passed around an upper rung, as indicated at 24*c*, and the hook 20 is hooked into a convenient link of the chain, holding the jack supported in horizontal position upon the rear or inner side of the ladder so that a plank 25 may be located thereon in the manner above described.

From the above it will be obvious that a simple, inexpensive and durable ladder jack is provided which may be quickly and easily mounted upon a ladder in desired adjusted position for supporting a plank or scaffold, and which is applicable to either a single or double ladder, since the bar merely rests upon a rung of the ladder and is held securely in position by connecting the chain to a higher rung.

I claim:

A ladder jack for use upon a ladder having side rails and rungs, said ladder jack comprising a straight bar for support upon a rung of the ladder, a perforate lug upon one side of the bar near one end thereof for contact with one side of a side rail of the ladder, a chain having one end connected to the bar on the other side of said side rail of the ladder, an eye at the other end of the bar, the chain being located around said side rail, through the perforate lug and through said eye, and a hook upon the other end of the chain for attaching said other end of the chain to a higher rung of the ladder.

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