

Feb. 12, 1952

K. YOUNGBLOOD

2,585,715

CLOTHES HANGER GUARD

Filed June 26, 1950

Fig. 1.

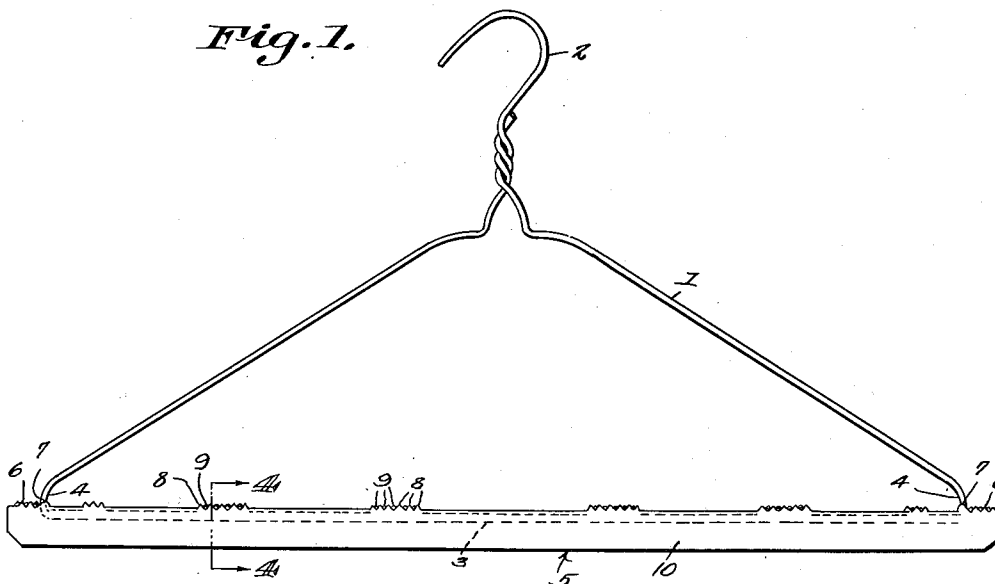


Fig. 2.

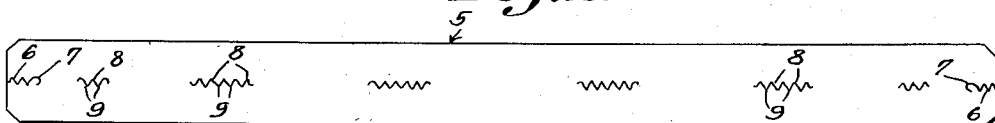


Fig. 3.

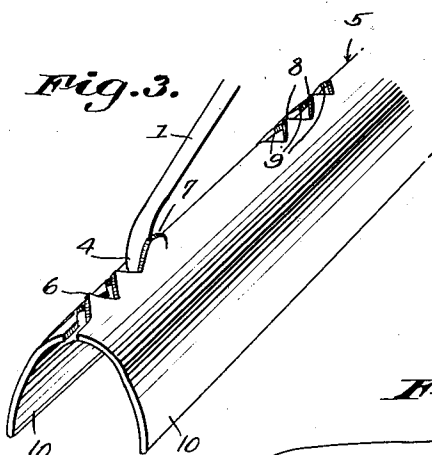


Fig. 4.

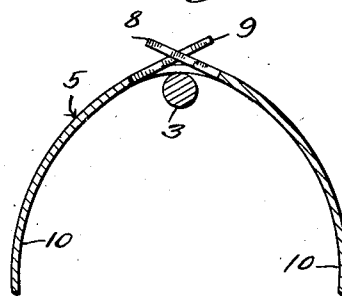


Fig. 5.



Knowles Youngblood
INVENTOR

BY *CA Knowles*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,585,715

CLOTHES HANGER GUARD

Knowles Youngblood, Atlanta, Ga.

Application June 26, 1950, Serial No. 170,296

1 Claim. (Cl. 223—98)

1

This invention relates to a trousers guard for clothes hangers.

It is of course customary for cleaning establishments, in returning to a customer a cleaned garment such as a suit, to use a wire clothes hanger integrally formed with a coat-supporting portion and a trousers rod. These wire hangers are, additionally widely used in the home. In this connection, it is well known that the small diameter wire trousers rod will cause a visible transverse crease in a pair of trousers hung thereon for any appreciable period of time, and this is undesirable in that it does not present a favorable appearance when the trousers are being worn.

Accordingly, many cleaning establishments utilize trousers guards formed from cardboard or similar material, these being slipped over the trousers rod so as to provide a wide diameter member on which the trousers are supported, thus to reduce appreciably the possibility of an undesirable transverse crease appearing in the trousers when worn. In some instances, this trousers guard takes the form of a tube, while in other instances an elongated strip of cardboard or the like is bent or curved transversely and fitted over the trousers rod.

Oftentimes, the trousers guard will, when made in the latter form, slip bodily from the rod, causing the trousers to fall. And, on other occasions, the smooth surface of the guard fails to provide a grip for the trousers, as a result of which the trousers slip from the guard, especially when carelessly hung in a manner to cause one side of the depending pair of trousers to overweight the other side. In either instance the accidental dropping of the trousers from the garment hanger is obviously a source of considerable annoyance, both to cleaning establishments and to others.

It is, accordingly, the broad object of the present invention to eliminate the difficulties which have heretofore persisted, by the provision of a trousers guard of novel construction, so designed as to remain in its appointed position upon the trousers rod without possibility of slippage therefrom, and which will additionally be so formed as to set up a gripping action upon the supported trousers, in a manner to eliminate to all intents and purposes the possibility of the trousers falling from the guard.

It is another object of importance to provide a trousers guard which will meet the purposes recited immediately above, and which will yet be capable of production at no increase in cost

2

above the cheapest form of trousers guard which has heretofore been devised, namely, the transversely bent cardboard strip.

Still another object is to provide a trousers guard which will meet the several purposes heretofore stated, but which will nevertheless be capable of application to a garment hanger with the same speed and ease as has heretofore been possible in respect to guards not having the desirable characteristics of the present invention.

Still another important object is to provide a trousers guard as described which will have the aforementioned desirable characteristics, and which will yet not be weakened in strength by the provision of said features in the guard.

Considering the objects of the invention more specifically, it is an object of the invention to provide a pants guard formed from a blank of ordinary cardboard or other fibrous stock, that will be readily capable of being curved or bent transversely so as to straddle a trousers rod of conventional design, and which will be formed with a plurality of spaced-apart longitudinal slits extending along the crest of the upwardly bowed guard, said slits being formed in such a manner as to define opposed series of teeth in which one series of teeth points in one direction and one series points in an opposite direction, said teeth being automatically provided by the weight of the trousers, that impart to the strip the transversely bowed formation thereof, and said teeth frictionally gripping the supported trousers in a manner to prevent slippage in either direction.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts, hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claim, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

Referring to the drawings

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a conventional clothes hanger equipped with a trousers guard formed in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the blank from which the trousers guard is formed.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of one end of the guard and associated portion of the hanger.

Fig. 4 is a view, still further enlarged taken transversely of the guard and trousers rod on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary detail top plan view of a portion of the guard in which its gripping teeth are formed.

Referring to the drawings in detail, a thoroughly conventional wire clothes hanger is illustrated including the generally elongated or flattened closed loop 1 having at its upper end the supporting hook 2, said loop being formed with the straight trousers rod 3, the rod being integral at its opposite ends with the coat supporting portion of the loop, with which the rod intersects to define acute-angled end portions 4 of the hanger.

This construction is conventional per se, and is merely illustrative of one form of clothes hanger to which the invention can be readily applied.

The trousers guard constituting the present invention is generally designated 5, and reference should first be had to Fig. 2, wherein is illustrated a blank from which the guard is formed. As seen from Fig. 2, this blank comprises an elongated narrow approximately rectangular or oblong piece of material, this material generally being cardboard or other fibrous stock having the desired qualities of low cost and adaptability for ready cutting and bending to final shape.

In accordance with the invention, there is formed in the guard, along a line extending longitudinally and centrally thereof, the end slits 6 opening at opposite ends of the guard, to receive the acute-angled corner portions 4 of the hanger, thus to hold the guard securely in place upon the hanger without possibility of slipping either laterally or longitudinally of the trousers rod. The slits 6 in the present instance, but not necessarily, are of a saw tooth design, and at the inner ends of said short slits 6, there can be formed ears 7 bendable upwardly to provide a space of sufficient size to permit the passage therethrough of the wire material from which the hanger is formed.

Formed in line with the end of slits 6, that is, along a line extended longitudinally and centrally of the guard, is a longitudinal series of spaced slits each of which is of saw toothed formation, so as to define along the opposite edges of each slit a row of teeth 8 pointing transversely of the guard in one direction, and a row of teeth 9 intervening between said teeth 8 and pointing transversely of the guard in the opposite direction. Each tooth of said opposite rows of teeth extends across the longitudinal center line of the guard, that is, the base of each tooth is disposed to one side of said center line, while the point of the same tooth is disposed at the other side of said center line. As seen from Figs. 2 or 5, each slit is so cut that portions thereof extend obliquely of the longitudinal center line of the guard in one direction, while other portions connect the first-named portions and are extended obliquely of said center line in reverse direction. As a result, the definition of each pair of adjacent teeth 9 results in the automatic formation, between the teeth of said pair, of a tooth 8. The reverse is also true, of course, that is, the formation of each pair of adjacent teeth 8 defines between them a tooth 9.

Assuming that the guard is to be applied to a garment hanger, the guard is applied while still more or less flat, so as to cause the acute-angled corner portions 7 of the hanger to be entered into the slits 6. Subsequently, the application of a pair of trousers to the guard causes said trousers to weight down the opposite sides of the guard, so as to impart to the guard a transversely bowed or arched formation having depending side portions 10 extending longitudinally of the guard, the guard straddling the trousers rod 3 as clearly shown in Fig. 4.

The weighting down of the side portions 10 disposed at opposite sides of the center line causes the teeth 8 and 9 to be inclined upwardly out of the normal flat plane of the trousers guard, and to cross as shown in Fig. 4. In other words, the weighted down side portion 10 seen at the right in Fig. 4 pulls downwardly upon the base of each tooth 8, and since there is nothing to hold down the point of the tooth disposed on the opposite side of the center line, the tooth 8 becomes inclined upwardly as seen in Fig. 4. The same action occurs with respect to the teeth 9.

The result of this action is to cause the teeth 8 and the teeth 9 to exert a frictional grip upon the trousers supported thereupon, so as to prevent the trousers from slipping from the guard. It is to be noted, that the frictional grip is exerted in opposite directions, and is in almost direct opposition to the line of movement of the supported trousers, regardless of the direction in which said trousers would tend to slip, that is, there are teeth opposing slippage of the trousers in one direction, and other teeth opposing slippage of the trousers in the other direction off the guard.

What is claimed is:

A trousers guard adapted to be supported on the trousers rod of a garment hanger having upwardly and inwardly extending coat supporting members, said trousers guard comprising an elongated blank of bendable material having relatively short slits midway between opposite sides thereof which open through opposite ends thereof to receive the coat supporting members of a garment hanger, said blank also having relatively short longitudinally spaced slits of serrated formation extending therethrough midway between opposite sides thereof, and said last named slits forming longitudinally spaced rows of upwardly inclined substantially V-shaped teeth when the blank is bent along its longitudinal axis with the points of the teeth of each row lying on the side of the longitudinal axis opposite their respective bases.

KNOWLES YOUNGBLOOD.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
2,306,254	Quackenbush	Dec. 22, 1942
2,534,081	Tomarin	Dec. 12, 1950