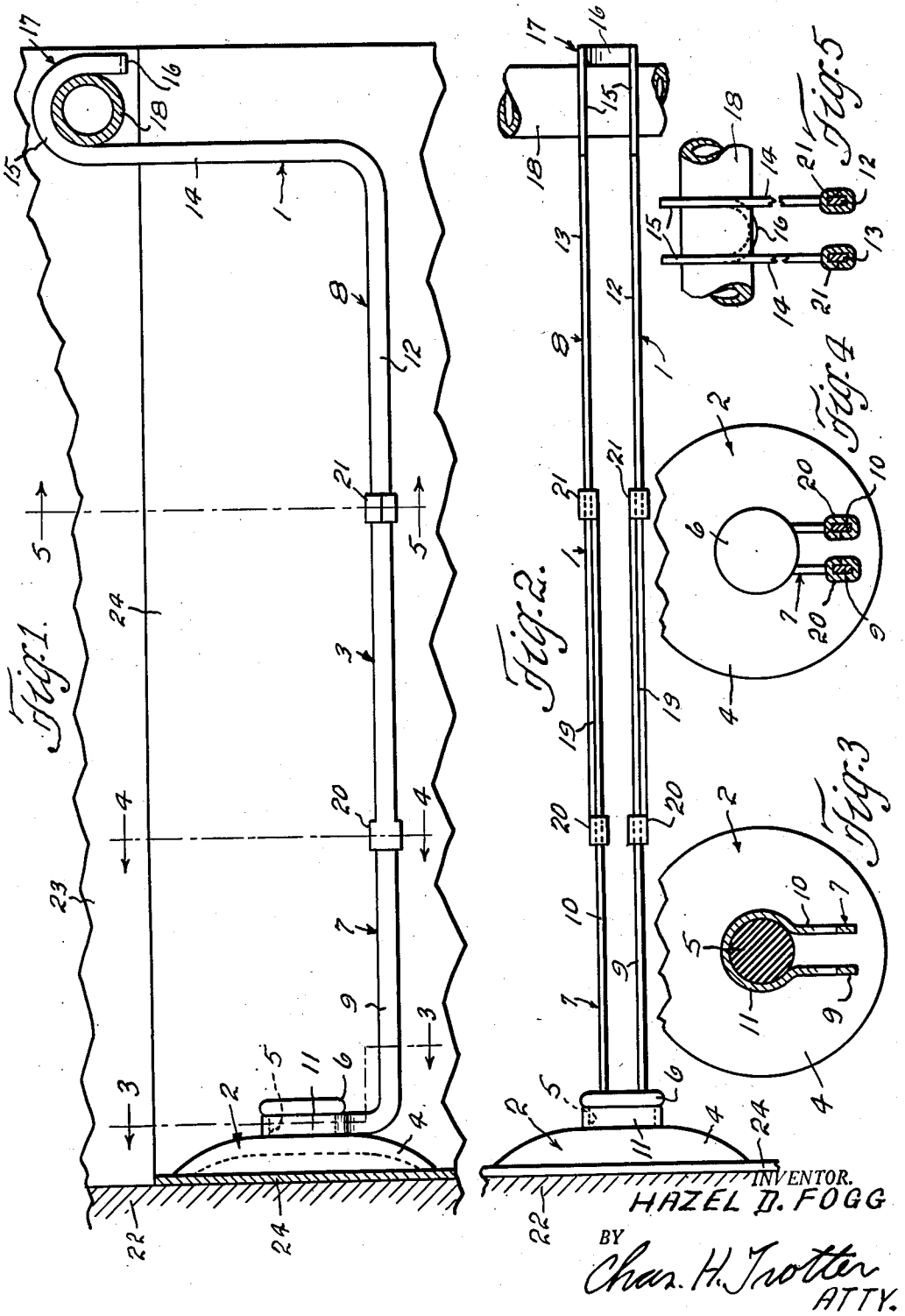
May 26, 1953 H. D. FOGG 2,639,816

CLOTHES DRYING RACK

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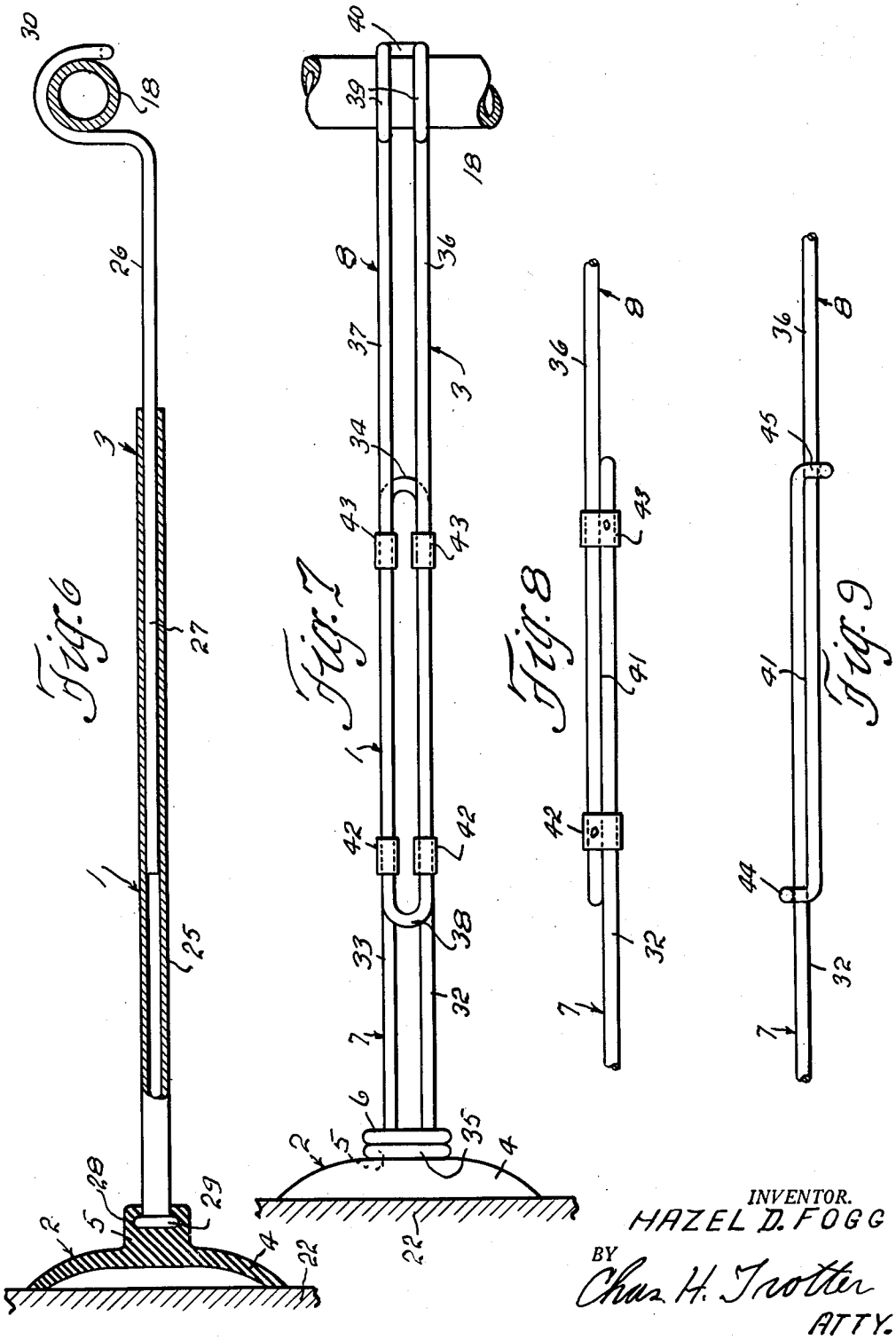



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## CLOTHES DRYING RACK

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3 Claims. (Cl. 211—86)

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This invention relates generally to racks or hangers. More specifically it relates to clothes drying racks for use indoors. It is especially designed and adapted for use over bath tubs having a shower associated therewith, but it can be used equally well in other places within doors.

It is well known that most women wash their hosiery and lingerie at home rather than send it to a laundry. Generally they do this every night instead of letting soiled garments accumulate until they have a large number of pieces to do. Women living in hotels, either as permanent or transient guests, have no place to do this washing except the bath room. This is also true of many apartments, especially the small utility apartments which are in such wide spread use in the larger cities today. Also in many apartment houses having larger housekeeping suites no facilities are provided for washing or drying clothes outside of each apartment or suite. After clothes are washed they must be hung up to dry, which is invariably in the bath room. The general procedure is to place the wet clothes on coat hangers and then hang the coat hanger on the shower curtain rod. When there are only one or two garments or a pair of hose, the coat hangers are usually dispensed with and the wet clothes hung directly on the shower curtain rod. With either of these two methods most of the water dripping from the wet clothes falls onto the floor and not into the bath tub. Also clothes hung this way make a very unsightly and untidy bath room.

With the foregoing in mind, I have designed a clothes drying rack which is adapted to extend transversely of a bath tub, from the shower curtain rod along the front of the bath tub to the wall along the rear of the tub. With this arrangement any water dripping from clothes supported by the rack will all fall into the tub. Also the rack and any clothes supported thereby can be hidden from view behind the shower curtain, so that the bath room will not have an unsightly and untidy appearance.

My improved rack comprises a supporting frame and a suction cup. The rear end of the frame is secured to the suction cup and the forward end of the frame is formed into a hook or has a hook secured thereto. When in use the suction cup is removably secured by suction to the wall along the rear of a bath tub and the forward end of the frame is hooked over the shower curtain rod along the front of the tub. In this way the frame by which the clothes are supported will be disposed entirely over the tub.

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After use the rack may be quickly and easily removed by disengaging the hook from the shower curtain rod and pulling the suction cup from the wall. The rack can then be stored in any convenient out of the way place. I preferably make the frame adjustable as to length so that it can be used over tubs of different widths. This also enables the rack to be considerably shortened when not in use so that one travelling can conveniently carry it in a suit case or other travelling bag.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a clothes drying rack for indoor use which can be easily and quickly mounted in place over a bath tub or other receptacle, and removed therefrom after use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a rack of this character which is of very simple construction and which can be easily and inexpensively manufactured.

Other and more limited objects of the invention will be apparent from the following specification and the accompanying drawings forming a part thereof wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of one embodiment of my invention showing it in operative position over a bath tub which is equipped with a shower curtain rod;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the embodiment of the invention shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal vertical section through another embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 7 is a plan view of still another embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary side elevation of a portion of the structure shown in Fig. 7; and

Fig. 9 is a view similar to Fig. 8 showing a slightly different method of slidably securing the two sections of the frame together.

Referring now to Figs. 1 to 5 of the drawings by reference characters, the numeral 1 indicates generally a clothes drying rack which comprises a suction cup 2 and an elongated adjustable supporting frame 3. The suction cup 2 is of the well known type which is adapted to adhere to a flat surface by suction. It is made of resilient pliable material, preferably rubber, and comprises a base 4 and an outwardly extending cylindrical boss 5 which terminates in an enlarged head or button 6.

When mounting it in place against a flat smooth surface it is first moistened and then pressed against the mounting surface which expels air from the cup and causes it to adhere to the surface by suction.

The supporting frame 3 consists of two sections 7 and 8, each of which is formed from a single strip of suitable material, preferably metal, which is rectangular in cross section. The rear section 7 comprises two spaced parallel arms 9 and 10 which are joined together at one end thereof by a loop 11 which is disposed above and is perpendicular to the arms 9 and 10. The boss 5 of the suction cup 2 is disposed in the loop 11 which tightly engages it throughout the major portion of its circumference, as is clearly shown in Fig. 3. In order to assemble the section 7 and the suction cup 2, it is only necessary to hold the arms 9 and 10 slightly further apart from each other, then insert the boss 5 into the loop 11 and then release the arms 9 and 10 which will spring back to their normal position and cause the loop 11 to tightly engage the boss 5. In order to remove the suction cup 2 from the section 7 it is only necessary to spread the arms 9 and 10 a sufficient distance to allow the boss 5 to be moved downwardly from the loop 11. The enlarged head on button 6 prevents the section 7 from being pulled away from the suction cup 2. The front section 8 of the frame 3 is likewise formed from a single strip of material which has the same cross section as the strip from which the rear section 7 is formed. The front section 8 comprises two spaced parallel arms 12 and 13, the forward ends of which are turned upwardly as indicated at 14 and terminate in identical hooks 15 which are tied together as shown at 16 to form in effect a single hook 17. The hook 17 is adapted to engage over a shower curtain rod 18 or other suitable fixed member. In assembling the sections 7 and 8 the free ends of the arms 9 and 10 and 12 and 13 are placed side by side with the inner faces of the arms 12 and 13 engaging the outer faces of the arms 9 and 10, respectively, as shown at 19. Oppositely extending ears formed on the ends of the arms 12 and 13 are then bent around the arms 9 and 10 as shown at 20; and similar ears formed on the ends of the arms 9 and 10 are bent around the arms 12 and 13 as shown at 21. This method of securing the sections 7 and 8 together provides a slidable connection between the two sections and permits adjustment of the frame 3 as to length in order to accommodate it for use in different locations.

In modern bath rooms the wall 22 behind the bath tub and the walls 23 at each end of the tub are generally covered with tile or some kind of waterproof composition board 24 up to a point just below the shower curtain rod 18. The upward extension 14 of the front section 8 is provided in order that the suction cup 2 can engage the tiles or board 24 when the hook 17 engages the rod 18.

In Fig. 6 I have shown a slightly different form of the invention. In this form the supporting frame 3 comprises a tubular section 25 and a rod 26 which is telescopically mounted in the tubular section 25 as shown at 27. The rear end of the tubular section 25 is inserted into a cavity 28 in the boss 5 of the suction cup 2. A bead 29 on the rear end of the tubular section 25 normally holds the cup 2 on the section 25. But the cup 2 can be pulled from the section 25 if desired. The forward end of the rod 26 is formed into a hook 30 which is adapted to engage the curtain rod 18.



While the tubular section 25 and the rod 26 are shown as circular in cross section, they may, if desired for the purpose of rigidity, be made rectangular in cross section. This form of the invention is mounted in place and functions in the same manner as the form shown in Figs. 1 to 5.

In Figs. 7 and 8 I have shown still another form of my invention. In this form the rear and front sections 7 and 8 of the frame 3 are both made from single pieces of stiff wire rod. The rear section 7 comprises two spaced parallel arms 32 and 33 which are joined together at the forward ends thereof, as shown at 34. The rear ends of the arms 32 and 33 are formed into a loop 35 which engages the boss 5 behind the button 6, in the same manner that the loop 11 engages the boss 5. The front section 8 comprises two spaced parallel arms 36 and 37 which are joined together at the rear ends thereof as shown at 38. The forward ends of the arms 36 and 37 are formed into hooks 39 which are tied together as shown at 40. The rear end of the section 8 engages the forward end of the section 7 as indicated at 41. The two sections are slidably tied together by clips 42 and 43. The clips 42 are fastened to the arms 36 and 37 so that they will slide upon the arms 32 and 33; and the clips 43 are fastened to the arms 32 and 33 so that they will slide upon the arms 36 and 37. In other respects this form of the invention is the same as that shown in Figs. 1 to 5.

In Fig. 9 I have shown still another form of the invention which is a slight modification of the structure shown in Figs. 7 and 8. In this form I dispense with the clips 42 and 43 and form the ends of the arms 36 and 37 into eyes 44 through which the arms 32 and 33 slide; and I form the ends of the arms 32 and 33 into eyes 45 through which the arms 36 and 37 slide. Otherwise this form is identical with that shown in Figs. 7 and 8.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that I have provided a very simple and efficient means for accomplishing the objects of my invention.

It is to be understood that I am not limited to the specific constructions shown and described herein as various modifications may be made thereto within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A hanger of the character described which comprises a rear section, a front section, and means slidably connecting said sections together; said rear section comprising two spaced parallel horizontal arms which are joined together at one end by a loop which is disposed above and is perpendicular to said arms; said front section comprising two spaced parallel horizontal arms which extend upwardly a substantial distance at one end thereof and terminate in identical downwardly opening hooks which are tied together by a connecting link; and a suction cup removably secured in said loop.

2. A hanger of the character described comprising a rear section and a front section, each of said sections being formed from a single strip of material and comprising a pair of spaced parallel horizontal arms and a connecting portion at one end thereof; the free ends of said arms having ears formed thereon, the ears of one pair of arms being bent around the other pair of arms to slidably connect said sections together; a suction cup secured to the connecting portion of said rear section, and the connecting portion of said front section being formed into a downwardly opening hook.

3. A hanger of the character described comprising two sections slidably secured together and each formed from a single strip of material, one of said sections comprising two spaced parallel horizontal supporting members which extend vertically upwardly a short distance at one end thereof and are connected together by a loop formed at the upper end of the vertical portion thereof in which is removably secured a suction cup, and the other of said sections comprising two spaced parallel horizontal supporting members which extend vertically upwardly a substantial distance and are connected together by a downwardly opening hook which is adapted to engage over a fixed support.

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