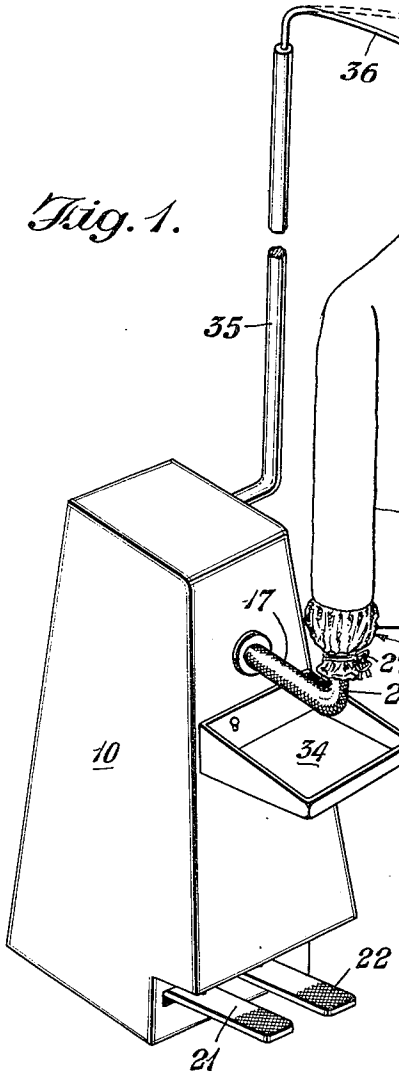
Oct. 29, 1957 L. L. LEVINSON, JR 2,811,291

ROLLED SLEEVE FINISHING MACHINE

Filed July 6, 1956

Fig. 1.



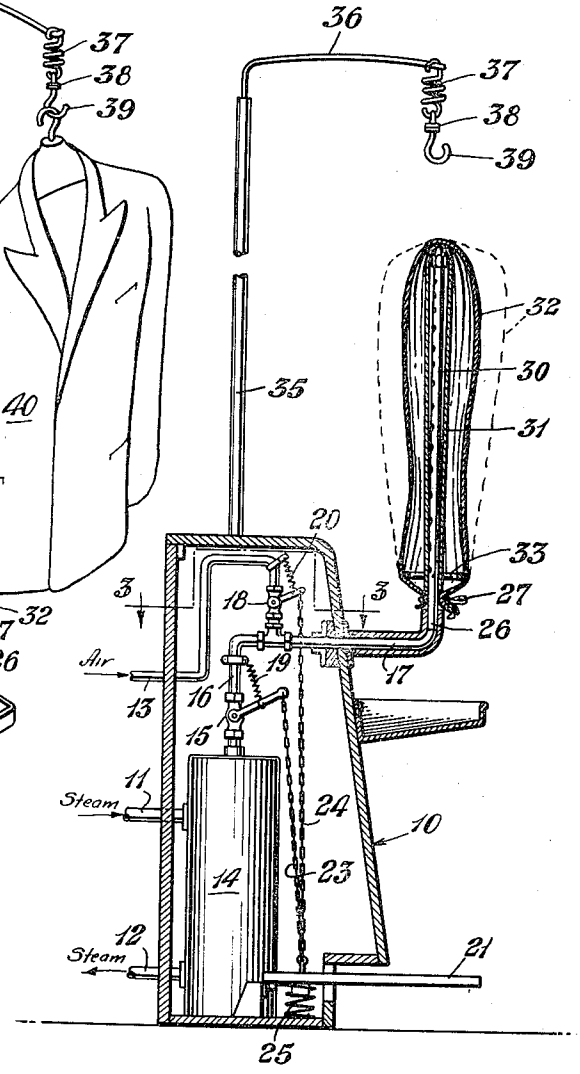




Fig. 2.

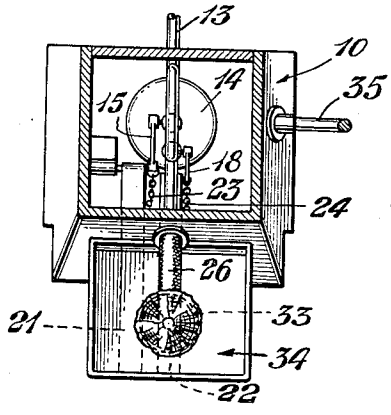



Fig. 3.

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# ROLLED SLEEVE FINISHING MACHINE

Louis Lavalle Levinson, Jr., Benson, N. C.

Application July 6, 1956, Serial No. 596,305

3 Claims. (Cl. 223—73)

This invention relates to a new and efficient machine for the finishing of the sleeves of garments during the procedure of pressing or ironing the entire garment. The device according to the invention may be more precisely termed a rolled sleeve finishing machine, in other words, a machine which, when applied to the wrinkled sleeve of any garment of any type of material, renders the sleeves thereof into smooth tubular form, in contrast to the other method of finishing garment sleeves by pressing or ironing them flat with longitudinal creases.

Among the objects and advantages of the invention are the ease and rapidity with which even an unskilled operator may finish the sleeves of a considerable volume of garments in succession. The apparatus eliminates any hand ironing or finishing of garment sleeves or shining of material. It raises the nap of velvet, corduroy or like materials to their original appearance. The apparatus according to the invention is cheap to fabricate, simple to operate and occupies a minimum of space in a cleaning and pressing establishment. The device is operable when connected to suitable sources of steam and compressed air, there being no electrical parts or connections required.

The apparatus according to the invention is characterized by a housing or body member into which are led supply pipes of steam and compressed air, valved through foot controls for both, the steam and air being fed to an upstanding perforated mandrel surrounded by an expansible bag-like member. The steam bag, as it is termed, when in expanded condition exceeds the tubular dimensions of the garment sleeve to be finished.

Cooperating with the steam bag is a flexible, resilient, rotatable suspension hook suitably located with respect to the bag, upon which may be hung a garment on a coat hanger whose sleeves are to be finished. When a garment is placed on the suspension hook of the invention, it is suspended above the steam bag with one sleeve directly over it. The operator may then draw the first sleeve of the garment down over the steam bag, finish it by applying steam and air, reverse the garment and finish the other sleeve without having to handle or crease the body of the garment which can have been previously cleaned or pressed. The resiliency of the suspension hook and its location tends to suspend the garment with sleeve above the steam bag. This resiliency is overcome by the operator of the machine who may easily draw one sleeve and then the other down over the bag against the pressure of the suspension hook, using the upward force exerted by the hook to withdraw the garment sleeve after finishing it. It therefore becomes a quick operation to attach successive hangered garments on the suspension hook and to finish both sleeves.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be noted in connection with the foregoing description of the drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the invention, showing



a garment with a sleeve thereon in position for rolled finishing;

Fig. 2 is a transverse section with parts in elevation; and

Fig. 3 is a section on lines 3—3 of Fig. 2.

In these views the cabinet or housing of the device is indicated at **10**. This cabinet may be tapered, as shown, toward its top and is designed to fit near the wall of a garment pressing room. The rear panel of cabinet **10** is pierced for the entry of steam inlet and outlet pipes **11—12** and compressed air inlet pipe **13**, pipes **11** and **13** being supplied from suitable sources not illustrated. Pipes **11** and **12** connect with steam tank **14** wherein is maintained a supply of steam vapor. Steam from tank **14** is ducted through a valve **15** and pipe **16** to a connecting pipe **17** forming a junction with pipe **13**, the latter likewise being passed through an air valve **18**. Valves **15** and **18** are held in closed positions by the action of springs **19** and **20** but may be selectively opened by foot pressure of the operator exerted on foot treadles or pedals **21** and **22** mounted near the front base of cabinet **10** and respectively connected by chains **23** and **24** to valves **15** and **18**. Pedals **21** and **22** are pivotally mounted inside the cabinet **10** and are maintained in inoperative position by a pair of springs such as spring **25**, Fig. 2.

Pipe **17** extends through the upper front of cabinet **10** substantially horizontally and terminates at the vertical arm **26**. The part of pipe **17** outside the cabinet is provided with suitable insulation to protect the operator.

Extending substantially vertically and threaded to the end of pipe **17** is a hollow perforated mandrel **30**, which from the connections above described is capable of delivering through its perforations an emission of steam or of dry air. Mandrel **30** has a length slightly in excess of the longest garment sleeve-length usually encountered.

Over mandrel **30** is fitted a cloth moisture absorber **31**. Externally of absorber **31** is loosely fitted an expansible steam bag **32**, the bottom end of which is passed over a spreader ring **33** carried on the base of mandrel **30** and secured by a suitable lace **27**. A drip pan **34** may be attached to cabinet **10** beneath the mandrel and its attachments above described.

Affixed to cabinet **10** is an upstanding arm **35** having a resilient curved arm portion **36** connecting with a pivoted spring **37** and swivel **38**, and terminating with a garment suspension hook **39**. Arm **35** and its extensions are so located that when a garment on a garment hanger is placed on hook **38**, one sleeve of the garment will lie approximately directly over mandrel **30** and steam bag **32**.

The garment supporting means should supply sufficient resilience to support a garment above the steam bag **32** until the operator draws the sleeve down over bag **32** to be finished. Bag **32** is proportioned to expand into the conical shape illustrated in dotted line position in Fig. 2, these overall dimensions being in excess of the diameter of the usual garment sleeve.

To operate the device, the operator places a garment supported by a garment hanger on hook **39**, turns it with the aid of swivel **38** and pivoted arm **36** until one sleeve is over steam bag **32**. This is the position of garment **40**, Fig. 1. He then depresses pedal **21** to admit steam to bag **32** which expands as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 2. Bag **32** emits steam through its fabric which passes through the sleeve of garment **40**, which is thus steam-pressed into tubular shape and is finished by admitting dry compressed air into bag **32** by depressing pedal **22**. The garment **40** may then be released by the operator whereupon it is raised above bag **32** by the upward action

of the suspension arm and hook. The operator then rotates the garment or swings it laterally to bring its other sleeve into operating position above the steam bag, and this sleeve is finished in like manner.

It will be appreciated from the above described that if a rack or other easily accessible supply of garments is arranged adjacent the apparatus comprising the invention, they may be rapidly consecutively transferred to the suspension hook and their sleeves finished.

What is claimed is:

1. A garment sleeve finishing means including a support, an upstanding perforate mandrel, means for delivering a flow of steam and of air to said mandrel, means for controlling said flow, an inflatable bag covering said mandrel expanding to a size proportioned to roll finish the sleeve of a garment, and vertically movable garment supporting means positioned above said mandrel and said inflatable bag normally supporting said garment with one or the other sleeve above mandrel and bag, said garment supporting means being adapted to be lowered by the operator to bring each sleeve consecutively down over said bag for roll finishing without removal of the garment from said supporting means.



2. The invention according to claim 1, where in the garment supporting means consists of a garment hook suspended on a resilient arm.

3. The invention according to claim 1, where in the garment supporting means includes an overhanging resilient arm located to the side of the mandrel and bag by a distance measured by one-half the width of an average sleeved garment, and a garment hook connected to said arm by a swivel.

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