Aug. 31, 1937. J. GUTTRIDGE 2,091,506

GARMENT PROTECTOR

Filed Aug. 15, 1935

Fig. 1.

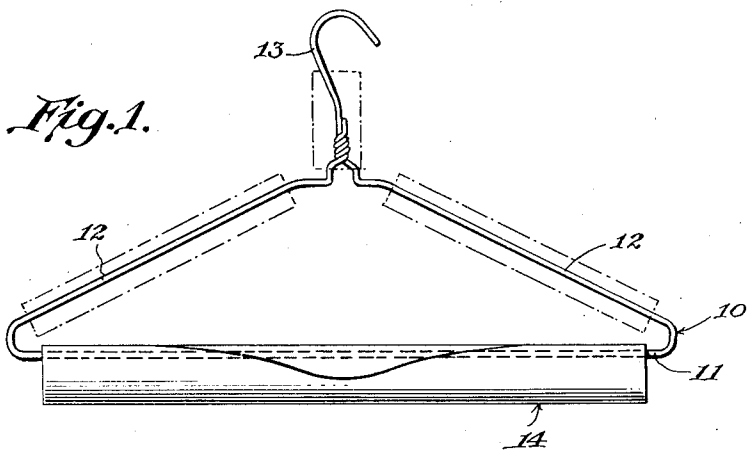
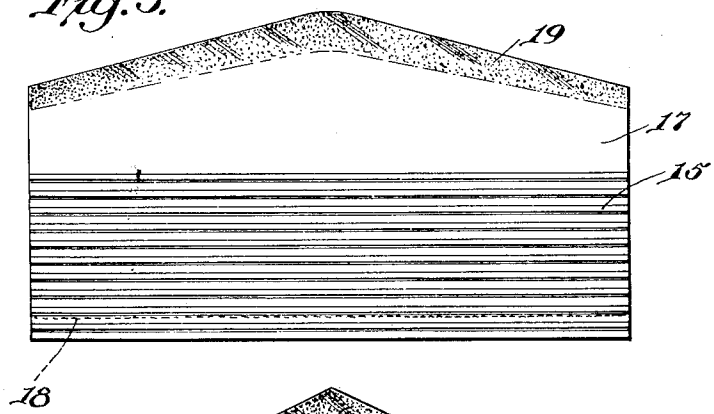


Fig. 3.



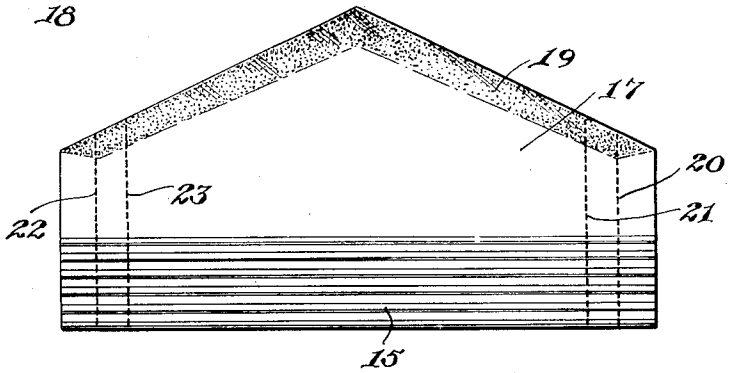
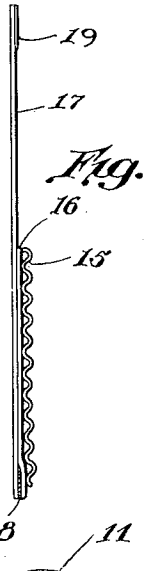


Fig. 6.

Fig. 4.



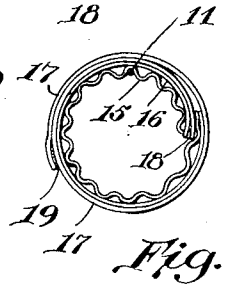
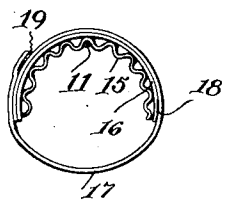


Fig. 2.

Fig. 5.



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GARMENT PROTECTOR

James Guttridge, Youngstown, Ohio

Application August 15, 1935, Serial No. 36,400

6 Claims. (Cl. 223—98)

A number of problems have arisen in conjunction with apparel hangers now in general use by cleaning and pressing establishments, clothing stores, tailors, and in private homes.

Where the hanger is of the bent wire type, trousers or other articles draped over the usual transverse bar are subjected to an objectionable creasing due to the small diameter of the wire, and to possible soiling from any dirt or rust which may be present on the bar.

In the case of wooden hangers, while the transverse bar is ordinarily of somewhat larger diameter there is still an appreciable creasing, especially when the article to be supported is placed thereupon while still damp. Such wooden bars are generally rough and contain splinters which become particularly objectionable when sheer fabrics are to be supported.

As verified by the patented art, numerous attempts have been made to solve these problems through the provision of covers of various materials to be interposed between the apparel hanger and the fabric to be supported.

Wherever paper or cardboard has been previously proposed, the cover has been of such sectional configuration that there is a tendency for it to rotate about the hanger bar when the hanger is jarred or when the article of clothing is unevenly draped upon the cover. Efforts to prevent such rotation are taught by the prior art, usually amounting to making the guard or cover longer than the horizontal bar, and notching the ends of the cover for reception of the vertical or inclined portions of the hanger. Such notching complicates assembling, weakens the device and fails to obviate the objectionable twisting of the cover and slipping of the garment. Moreover, many of these prior devices actually present sharp edges which will cause the undesirable creasing.

Several of the earlier proposed structures depend for attachment to the hanger, upon cut-out tongues which must be inserted into slots, unnecessarily consuming time and increasing the danger of tearing the devices.

Metal protectors have likewise been proposed, but their cost introduces a major objection, rendering them unsuitable for commercial use unless their return to source is assured. Besides, such devices will require cleaning when they become soiled, while the cheaper paper or cardboard types can be replaced feasibly at slight expense.

The present invention relates to a protector or cover for apparel hangers, which proposes to overcome the faults and limitations of the prior devices. The construction herein contemplated is such that the supporting surface of an apparel hanger can be covered quickly and inexpensively, regardless of the length of such surface, without requiring interfitting of parts or alignment of notches with parts of the hanger. Once the cover has been applied to the hanger and the fabric draped thereover, there is no possibility of rotation of the cover about the supporting bar, and thus no tendency of the garment to slip from its support.

In general, the proposed structure comprises a tubular body, the inner surface of which is corrugated and the outer surface relatively smooth, composed of a plurality of layers of material, prepared as a flat blank, which is rolled about the transverse bar of a hanger when needed and held in its tubular form by adhesive or the like. By virtue of the increased diameter of the supporting surface, the creasing effect may be materially reduced if not obviated.

A more complete understanding will be had upon reference to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of the cover applied to a garment hanger;

Fig. 2 is a partial section of the device shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the completed blank;

Fig. 4 is an end view of the blank of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a partial section corresponding to Fig. 2, of a modified form; and

Fig. 6 is a plan view of a modified blank.

A hanger 10, shown in Fig. 1 as of the bent wire type, comprises a transverse bar 11, a pair of inclined bars 12, and a suspending element 13. The protector or cover 14 surrounds the transverse or so-called trouser bar, for achieving the desired results. As indicated by broken lines, the other portions of the hanger can be covered similarly to provide additional protection to the clothing or other goods to be supported.

The blank from which the protector is formed is depicted by Figs. 3 and 4 wherein a rectangular layer or ply 15 of corrugated paper or board has a backing sheet 16 in accordance with a common type in commercial use. The corrugated ply together with its backing sheet is shown as attached to a sheet 17 of surfacing material by an adhesive 18 which may be applied only marginally as shown, or over the entire area of contact.

The sheet material 17, which may be paper, cloth, "Cellophane", or other fabric, extends beyond the corrugated material and has its re-

mote margin preferably coated with adhesive 19 which serves to retain the device when assembled for use, in the tubular form shown in Fig. 2.

In order to take advantage of the maximum advantages of the device it is preferable to wind the blank to such a diameter that only the terminal corrugations of the material are overlapped. The sheet material 17 having a relatively smooth surface will then be spirally wound to its limit, its adhesive margin moistened and applied to that portion of the previously rolled surface which it happens to overlie.

The sheet material 17 may be attached to the corrugated member by rivets, wire fasteners, etc., and it is similarly contemplated to employ mechanical fasteners in lieu of the adhesive coating 19 at the opposite margin. The coating 19 may be preformed or applied at the time the tube is to be formed.

The depth of the corrugation will preferably exceed the diameter of the transverse bar 11, so that while oscillation of the tubular covering about the bar is possible, there is no possibility of bodily rotating the tube about the bar without first lifting the tube to disengage the corrugation from its interlocked relationship with the bar. Thus when the cover has been applied to the hanger, some one of the corrugations will register with the bar and so remain unless purposely changed. Since the overlapping edges of the corrugated material are preferably flattened as shown in Fig. 2, a substantially uniform and continuous corrugated surface results.

It is also conceivable that the complete inner surface of the potector need not be corrugated, in which event material having one or more longitudinally extending corrugations might be used.

Whereas the ends of the corrugated material will preferably be overlapped in the manner set forth above, this can be varied by bringing the ends into a greater overlapping relationship, or as shown in Fig. 5, spacing the ends to form an arc and completing the tube with the outer surface sheet 17. In this case, as well as the former, the inherent resiliency of the corrugated material will maintain the device in distended condition.

Wire hangers are by no means of standard size and shape, and appreciable variation in the lengths of their transverse bars has been noted. Accordingly, provision may be made for such differences by perforating or scoring the blank as indicated by numerals 20, 21, 22, 23, in Fig. 6 to faciltate shortening of the cover by removing marginal strips of desired widths.

As will be noted upon reference to Figs. 2 and 5, it is preferable to roll the corrugated material sufficiently to produce an arc of at least 180° so that the suspended material will engage no sharp edges, but instead, hang tangentially from the surface of the protector.

The principle of the present invention may find application to stretched lines as well as to hangers in general, and the contemplated scope will appear from the following claims.

I claim:

1. A substantially flat blank for a garment protector comprising a ply of sheet material having opposite margins thereof adhesively coated, a superposed ply of corrugated material presenting a plurality of corrugations joined to one of said margins only, said corrugated material terminating short of the other of said margins.

2. In combination with an apparel hanger having a horizontal bar, a tubular body having a plurality of adjacent internal corrugations substantially parallel to the bar for substantial interlocking relation with said bar.

3. In combination with an apparel hanger having a horizontal bar, a laminated body having a corrugated surface composed of a plurality of corrugations substantially parallel to the bar for engagement with said bar and a relatively smooth opposite surface.

4. In combination, a garment protector comprising a plurality of sheets of material adhesively assembled and arranged in a substantially tubular shape, one of said sheets presenting a plurality of adjacent corrugations extending longitudinally of said protector and interiorly thereof, and a supporting element extending into said protector in cooperation with said corrugations.

5. In combination, a garment protector comprising a ply of paper arcuately disposed and having a plurality of adjacent longitudinal corrugations on its concave surface and having a margin affixed to an edge of sheet material, said sheet material being spirally wound upon itself to maintain the arcuate disposition and fastened in such spiral condition, and a supporting element extending into the spirally wound body for engagement with the corrugations thereof.

6. In combination, a garment protector for interposition between a supporting element and a garment, comprising an arcuately shaped member presenting a plurality of adjacent corrugations longitudinally of the protector on its concave surface, and a supporting element paralleling said corrugations for engagement therewith.

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