March 14, 1950 J. F. WINNEMORE 2,500,729

GARMENT HANGER

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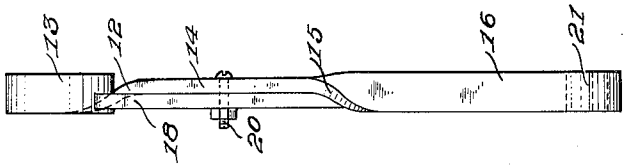

Fig. 2.

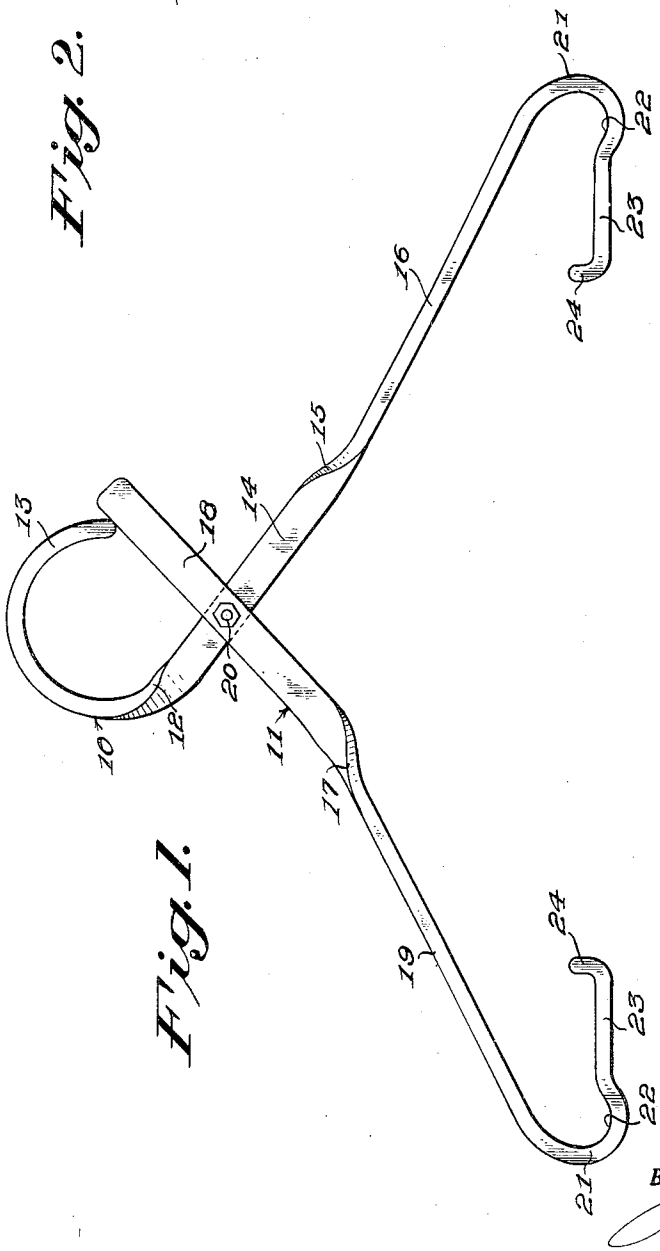

Fig. 1.

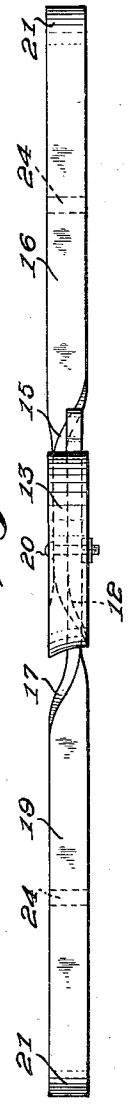

Fig. 3.

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GARMENT HANGER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 223—85)

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This invention relates to a garment hanger.

Garment hangers of the coat, combined coat and trousers as well as other types, as now constructed, usually include a supporting hook for suspension of the garments from rods or hooks in a wardrobe.

While it is important that garment hangers be capable of quick connection to or disconnection from a rod or the like, as is afforded by the well known wire hook, it is also important that the hangers, whether empty or supporting garments, retain their placed positions against inadvertent removal.

Thus, it is a common experience when placing or removing a coat on or from a hanger, to dislodge one or more adjacent hangers, with the result that they fall to the floor, which if empty cause unnecessary exertion and if supporting garments, such garments are liable to become soiled as well as rumpled in thus falling to the floor.

A primary object of this invention is to provide a garment hanger which satisfies the maximum requirements of hangers as relates to their suspension, and which satisfactorily overcomes the above noted objections to existing garment hangers.

A further and somewhat more specific object of the invention is the provision of a garment hanger including garment-supporting portions and a self-closing retaining hook which is capable of being readily opened for placing the hanger on, or removing same from, a supporting rod or the like.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will present themselves in the course of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the hanger in accordance with a preferred structural embodiment thereof.

Figure 2 is an edge view as observed from the right of Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the hanger.

The improved hanger comprises a pair of cooperating sections 10 and 11 which are preferably formed from flat bars or strips of plastic material. The section 10 is bent or twisted at 12 through an angle of 90° in the provision of a curved hook 13 above the twist and a pivot portion 14 below the twist. The section is further twisted through an angle of 90° at 15, thereby returning the flat bar in conformity with the hook 13, and the section 10 below the twist 15 extends downwardly and laterally in the form

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of a shoulder-supporting portion 16. The section 11 is twisted through an angle of 90° at 17 in the provision of a pivot portion 18 at one side of the twist and a shoulder-supporting portion 19 at the other side of the twist.

The portions 14 and 18 are pivotally connected as by a bolt 20 or other suitable means and, as will be observed from the drawing, the pivot connection 20 is closely adjacent the hook 13, and the portions of the sections 10 and 11 below the pivot are much longer than the portions above the pivot.

While it is desired that the flat bar sections retain their widths at right angles to a vertical plane extending longitudinally through the hanger, it is necessary to provide the vertical bar portions 14 and 18 to facilitate pivoting of the sections, and for this reason only, the sections are twisted at 12, 15 and 17. It is to be observed, however, that sections of other transverse dimensions may be used. For example, the sections may be square in cross section, and accordingly the twisting wold not be required, or the flat bar-like sections may be disposed entirely vertically as the portions 14 and 18, in which event the twisting would be unnecessary. Furthermore, the sections may be tubular or of cylindrical stock, in which event they may be flattened adjacent their points of pivotal connection.

The shoulder-supporting portions 16 and 19 are inwardly curved at their lower ends as at 21 in the provision of internal loops 22, and which are inwardly extended in horizontal portions 23 which, in turn, terminate in upwardly directed extensions 24.

As will be readily seen from Fig. 1, the upper end of portion 18 of section 11 normally engages the free end of the hook 13, due to the weight of the substantially long portions below the pivot 20, the hanger having a tongs-like action.

In use, the lower portions of the sections 10 and 11 are grasped in the hands and upon separating such portions, portion 18 moves away from the end of the hook, whereby it may be placed on a supporting rod, after which the portion 18 automatically moves into hook-closing position. The weight of the portions below pivot 20 is sufficient to maintain the hook closed even without a garment on the hanger, and with a garment thereon, the hook is more firmly closed.

The removal of the hanger from the rod is effected by the same operation as in the placement thereon. The hook 13 and portion 18 above pivot 20 in effect provide a loop which is nor-

mally closed by gravity and which is readily openable for introducing a rod or the like thereinto.

The loops **22** provide for reception of the shoulder straps of slips and the like, and trousers may be supported by a removable rod engaged with the projections **24**.

Furthermore, the hanger may be readily adapted for supporting trousers by means of a telescoping tube, or an elastic cord.

The invention, however, is more particularly concerned with the pivotally connected sections providing relatively short loop-forming members and relatively long garment-supporting portions.

While I have disclosed my invention in accordance with a single specific embodiment thereof, such is to be considered as illustrative only, and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being defined in the following claims.

What I claim and desire to secure by U. S. Letters Patent is:

1. A garment hanger comprising a pair of elongated sections disposed in intersecting relation adjacent corresponding ends thereof and pivotally connected together at said intersection, said sections thus disposed and connected providing relatively long normally downwardly directed diverging garment-supporting portions disposed below said pivotal connection, said sections above the pivotal connection providing a pair of relatively short separable loop-forming portions normally held in engagement with each other by the weight of the relatively long garment-supporting portions.

2. A garment hanger according to claim 1, wherein one of said loop-forming portions is in the form of a downwardly opening curved hook, and the other loop-forming portion is straight and in continuation of one of said garment-supporting portions, said straight portion adjacent its free end normally engaging the free end of said hook under the weight of said garment-supporting portions, and being separable therefrom upon upward movement of the garment-supporting portions.

3. A garment hanger according to claim 1, wherein said garment-supporting portions adjacent their lower free ends are each provided with an inwardly facing loop which is extended in a substantially horizontal portion, the horizontal portion merging into an upwardly directed extension and the loop projecting below the horizontal portion.

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