Our invention relates to a garment stretcher for laundry work and more specifically to a device for holding the portion of the garment which can be described as irregularly tubular in form, such as shirt sleeves, trouser legs, etc., in a flat, stretched relation.

The state of the art as practiced at present in the laundry business is to dampen or wet garments which are to be ironed. Such garment is then stretched by hand on the buck, or ironing table, to make it as flat as possible, after which it is pressed with the iron or hot plate to make it smooth. The garment being wet or damp has a natural tendency to shrink or crumple and without means for holding the cloth of the garment in a stretched relation it will crinkle immediately before the iron or hot plate is applied, and the work thus produced will have creases pressed into the cloth. Further, the hand work of stretching the cloth is slow and tedious.

The object we have accomplished by our invention is the construction of a device which will hold the garment in a stretched relation while being ironed or pressed, thus assisting in the ironing of garments more quickly and better.

Other objects are the cheap cost of producing the device, and its efficiency. It is simple in construction and does not easily get out of order.

In the drawing accompanying this specification, Figure 1 shows a side view of the device complete with wire loops thereon ready for use. Figure 2 shows a perspective view of the device shown in Figure 1 with a spring wire loop in position for use. Figure 3 shows a portion of a sleeve with the spring wire therein, illustrating the manner in which the garment is held in a stretched relation. Figure 4 shows the spring wire loop.

In said drawings 5 is an upright post on base 6. An arm 7 is hinged to a swivel support assembly 8. The swivel support assembly consists of a socket member 9 which is supported on the top of post 5. The arm 7 can be tilted to an angle desired on hinge bolt 10.

To socket member 9 is attached upright support 11 which is pivoted to support extensions 12, attached to and depending from arm 7. Arm 7 is cut beveled at the outer end as shown in Figure 1, so it can be readily slipped into a sleeve, and has a groove 13 formed therein to hold the wire loop.

An adjustable catch 15 is placed in slot 16 in arm 7, and a stop 18 is positioned on the arm to the rear of the catch. An endless spring wire 20 is a part of the device. We have also shown a portion of a shirt sleeve 21 in the drawing in Figure 3. In using this device we have found it convenient to hang the spring wire loops on the arm near the post ready for use. The operator takes one of the loops, positions it so it engages the catch 15, and so that the wire engages the slot 13. This procedure makes the wire ring assume an elliptical outline, as shown in Figure 2. The operator then slips the shirt sleeve or other portion of the garment over the combined wire and arm and the yielding springy characteristic of the wire holds the sleeve in a flat stretched position. The assembled wire and garment is then removed and the sleeve as thus stretched may then be pressed with a hot plate or iron, the result being a smooth finish of the fabric without being crinkled or misshaped.

Having described our invention, we claim:

A garment stretching device consisting of an endless spring wire loop, and an arm having means thereon spaced apart for holding said wire loop in an elliptical shape.

AUGUST ISADOR HONDEVILLE.
WALTER JORDAN ROSS.