Dec. 9, 1947. H. C. RIEMANN 2,432,251

GARMENT HANGER

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Fig. 1.

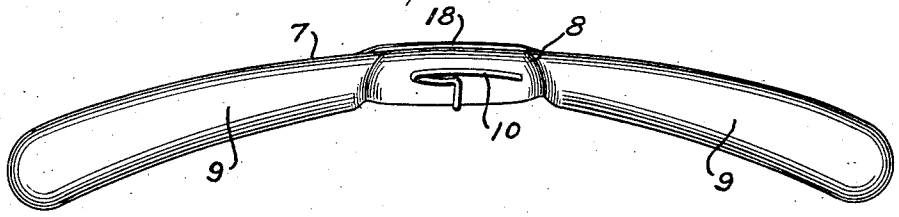



Fig. 2.

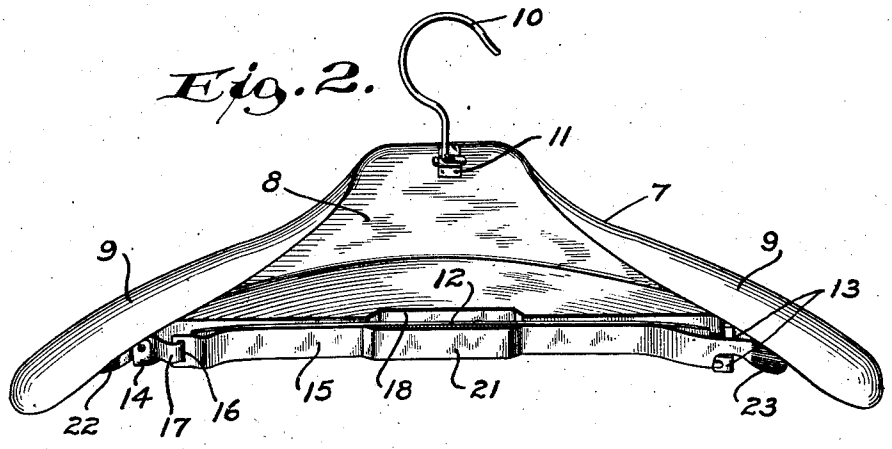
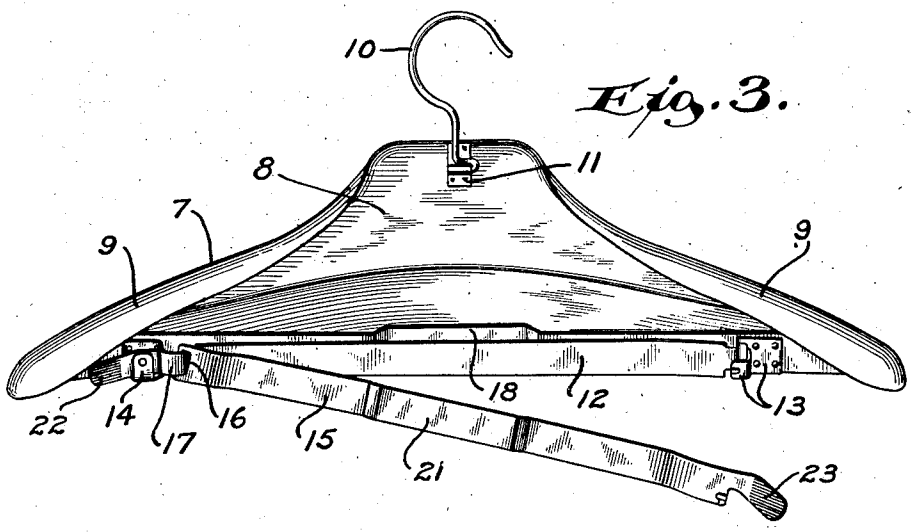



Fig. 3.




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Fig. 4.

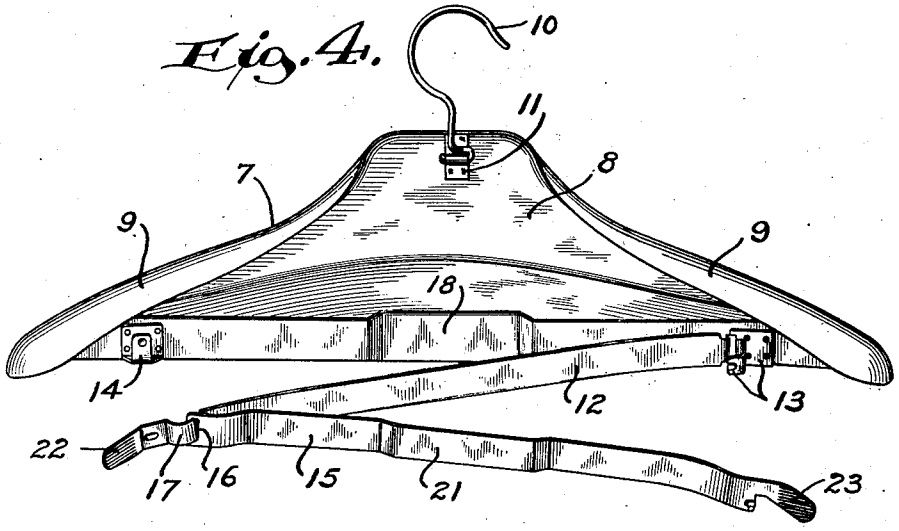
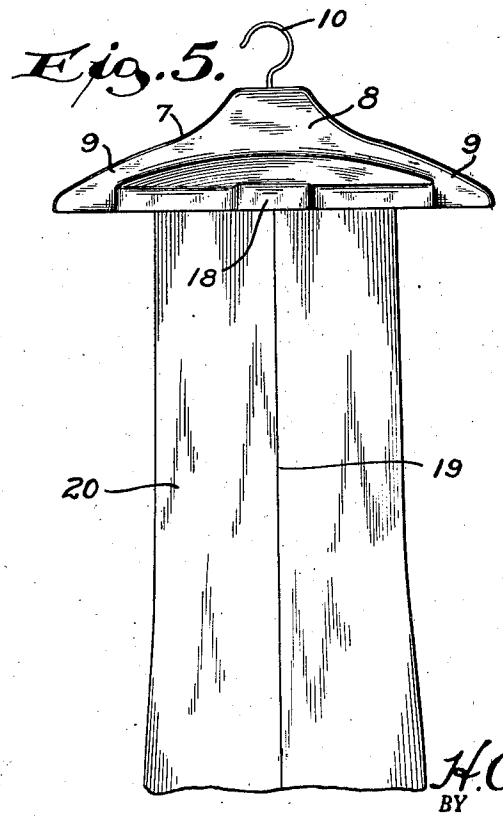



Fig. 5.




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## GARMENT HANGER

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Application September 10, 1945, Serial No. 615,398

2 Claims. (Cl. 223—91)

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The present invention relates generally to improvements in the art of producing suspension devices for clothing or the like, and relates more particularly to improvements in the construction and operation of combined hangers for trousers or skirts and coats or similar articles of wearing apparel.

The primary object of my present invention is to provide a new and useful garment hanger which is durable and sturdy in construction and highly effective in use.

Many different types of garment hangers for suspending diverse articles of wearing apparel when not in actual use, have heretofore been proposed, and while some of these prior devices were adapted to receive only coats, trousers, or skirts, others were constructed to simultaneously suspend two or more such articles. Many of these previous garment hangers were formed of wire, wood, and paper, while some were formed of sheet metal with the aid of punches and dies; but all of the prior garment suspension devices were objectionable either because they were too frail, or too bulky, or too heavy, or too costly, or because they were not adapted to properly maintain the suspended garments in shape or in neat condition.

It is therefore a more specific object of the present invention to provide an improved garment hanger which obviates all of the above mentioned objectionable features, and which may be readily produced from suitable sheet-like material with the aid of punches and dies or by injection molding, to provide a suspension device which will not undesirably stretch, wrinkle or otherwise deform the suspended articles.

Another specific object of my invention is to provide a strong and attractive garment suspension device formed of sheet-like material and adapted to receive several garments simultaneously, and which will permit convenient application or withdrawal or removal of any of the individual garments without undesirably disturbing others.

A further specific object of this invention is to provide an inexpensive but rigid garment hanger especially adapted to suspend coats, jackets, sweaters or the like, while preventing sagging or distortion of the shoulders of such articles.

Still another specific object of the invention is to provide an improved hanger for one or more trousers, shirts, or the like, wherein undesirable compression of seams and pleats is eliminated, while the individual articles are readily applicable or removable.

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An additional specific object of the present invention is to provide an improved combined coat and pants hanger formed of sheet-metal, plastic, or the like, and which is exceedingly compact and durable, which has considerable capacity, and which may be manufactured and sold at very moderate cost for diverse uses.

These and other specific objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description.

A clear conception of the features constituting my present improvement, and of the construction and operation of a composite garment hanger embodying the invention, may be had by referring to the drawings accompanying and forming a part of this specification wherein like reference characters designate the same or similar parts in the various views.

Fig. 1 is a top view of one of the improved composite garment hangers;

Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the composite hanger, showing the suspension hook in active position, but the two trouser clamping bars latched and in inactive condition;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to that of Fig. 2, but showing the outer trouser clamping bar unlatched and swung outwardly;

Fig. 4 is another rear elevational view of the same composite hanger, showing both of the trouser suspension bars unlatched and swung outwardly; and

Fig. 5 is a front elevation of the hanger drawn to reduced size, and showing a pair of trousers suspended therefrom.

While the invention has been shown herein as being advantageously applicable to composite hangers formed of sheet-metal and adapted to simultaneously suspend both coats and trousers, it is not my desire or intent to unnecessarily restrict or limit all features of the improvement to such composite devices nor to the use of sheet-metal, since certain of these improved features are more generally applicable and the parts may also be formed of sheet-like material such as plastic produced by injection molding.

Referring to the drawing, the improved composite garment hanger shown therein, comprises in general a main one-piece sheet-metal body 7 having a longitudinally curved front apron wall 8 provided with downwardly and outwardly sloping laterally curved opposite shoulder supports 9, and having an open rear portion; a wire suspension hook 10 swingably suspended from the uppermost inner portion of the apron wall 8 by means of a small bracket 11; a straight trouser

clamping bar 12 having one end swingably connected to one lower inner end of the wall 8 by a combined hinge and clamping hook 13, while its opposite end is formed for snug coaction with a clamping hook 14 secured to the opposite lower inner end of the wall 8; and a medially off-set trouser clamping bar 15 having one end provided with a slot 16 swingably coacting with a bulge 17 near the hcoked end of the bar 12, while its opposite end is formed for snug coaction with the hook 13.

The main body 7 including the apron wall 8 and shoulder supports 9, may be readily formed of a single piece of sheet-metal with the aid of punches and dies, and is so shaped and curved that it will snugly fit the shoulders and collar portions of coats, jackets, sweaters, or the like, which are applied thereto and suspended therefrom. The longitudinal and lateral curvature of this one-piece sheet-metal body 7, permits the use of relatively thin and light sheet material, without sacrificing rigidity and strength; and the longitudinal curving of the open sided sheet-metal body structure also permits compact nesting of a number of the hangers for confinement within a suitcase or the like.

The wire suspension hook 10 which is pivotally attached to the bracket 11, may be swung downwardly within the body 7 when not in use, but may also be readily positioned as shown in the drawings; and this hook 10 may obviously be formed of a single length of wire or other strip metal. The hook attaching bracket 11 may be formed of sheet-metal, and may be attached to the upper inner portion of the body 7 in any suitable manner as by riveting or spot welding.

The central portion of the lower rim of the body apron wall 8 is preferably provided with an off-set 18 in order to provide space for the reception of the thicker side seams 19 of the legs of trousers 20, and while the medial portion of the trouser clamping bar 12 is straight, the medial portion of the outer clamping bar 15 is also preferably provided with a similar off-set 21. The clamping bars 12, 15 are formed of resilient sheet-metal and may be produced with the aid of punches and dies, and the same is true of the clamping hooks 13 which may be firmly secured to the body wall 8 by riveting or spot welding.

As previously indicated, one end of the inner clamping bar 12 is swingably secured to the combined hinge end hook 13; and the opposite swinging end 22 of this bar is bent outwardly a considerable distance beyond the bulge 17, so as to provide the desired clamping effect when the bar end 22 is inserted within the hook 14. As also previously indicated, the slotted end of the outer clamping bar 15 is swingably associated with the bulge 17 of the inner bar 12; and the opposite end 23 of this bar is likewise bent outwardly a considerable distance in order to provide the desired clamping effect when this bar end 23 is inserted within the hinge hook 13. The clamping bar assemblage is therefore such, that the lower leg portions of one pair of trousers 20 may be clamped between the inner bar 12 and the body wall 8, while the lower leg portions of another pair of trousers 20 may be independently clamped between the bars 12, 15; and the outer bar 15 may be readily removed from the inner bar bulge 17 by merely slipping the slot 16 over the inner bar end 22, when its use is no longer desired.

While the normal use of the improved composite garment hanger should be apparent from



the foregoing detailed description of its construction, a short resumé of the operation of the device will be given. When the garment hanger is not in use, the clamping bars 12, 15 may be compactly confined within the sheet-metal body 7 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the suspension hook 10 may, if desired, be swung downwardly within the body 7 so as to eliminate cutwardly projecting parts. The hollow hangers may then be compactly nested so as to occupy minimum space for storage and transportation. If it is merely desired to utilize one of the devices for the purpose of suspending a coat, jacket, or sweater, the hanger may be assembled as in Figs. 1 and 2 with both clamping bars 12, 15 remaining confined within the body 7.

When it becomes desirable to apply trousers 20 to the improved hanger assemblage, either the outer clamping bar 15 alone, or both clamping bars 12, 15 may be released, depending upon whether one or two pairs of trousers 20 are to be applied. A single pair of trousers may be quickly applied by releasing only the outer bar 15 as in Fig. 3, and two pairs may be just as readily applied by releasing both bars 12, 15 as in Fig. 4, and by thereafter springing the resilient bar ends 22, 23 into the adjacent hooks 13, 14 in an obvious manner. The resilient bars 12, 15 will then effectively clamp the trouser legs within the hanger body 7, and the off-sets 18, 21 will insure uniform clamping and will eliminate excessive clamping at the seams 19. The trousers 20 may be just as quickly and conveniently released and removed, independently of each other, and coats or jackets may obviously be suspended from the body portions 9 while the trousers 20 are suspended from the device.

From the foregoing detailed description it will be apparent that my present invention provides a simple, compact, and sturdy garment hanger which may be constructed primarily of sheet-metal with the aid of punches and dies and at moderate cost. The improved device is adapted to simultaneously suspend coats or the like, and one or more pairs of trousers or the like, without distorting or undesirably crushing or wrinkling the garments; and the aesthetic curvature of the body 7 not only provides for more efficient suspension of the garments, but also enhances the strength even when relatively thin and light sheet-metal is utilized in its formation. The improved trouser clamping structure besides being simple in construction and readily manipulable, will permit independent application or removal of the trousers 20, and also avoids undesirable compression of the seams 19 while insuring uniform clamping effect. When not in use, the improved structures may also be compactly nested and confined in relatively limited spaces, and the improved assemblage obviously presents a neat and highly attractive appearance; and as previously indicated, the various parts of the device need not be formed of actual sheet-metal but may also be formed of plastic or other sheet-like material, so that the term "sheet-metal" as employed throughout the specification and claims should be construed to include such substitute sheet-like materials.

It should be understood that it is not desired to limit this invention to the exact details of construction or to the precise mode of use, herein shown and described, for various modifications within the scope of the appended claims may occur to persons skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. A garment hanger comprising, a body formed of a single sheet of material and having downwardly and outwardly directed shoulder supports connected at their lower extremities by an integral apron wall having an approximately horizontal lower edge portion spanning the gap between the outer ends of said shoulder supports, and provided with an outwardly directed medial off-set and an approximately horizontal flat bar hingedly connected at one end directly to the inner side of said apron edge portion beneath one shoulder support and having its opposite swinging end releasably attachable to the inner side of the apron edge portion beneath the other shoulder support while its medial part coacts directly with said lower apron off-set to complete a trouser clamp.

2. A garment hanger comprising, a body formed of a single sheet of material and having downwardly and outwardly directed shoulder supports connected at their lower extremities by an integral apron wall having an approximately horizontal lower edge portion spanning the gap between the outer ends of said shoulder supports and provided with an outwardly directed medial off-set, an approximately horizontal flat bar hingedly connected at one end directly to the inner side of said apron edge portion beneath



one shoulder support and having its opposite swinging end releasably attachable to the inner side of the apron edge portion beneath the other shouder support while its medial part coacts directly with said lower apron off-set to complete a trouser clamp, and another approximately horizontal flat bar hingedly connected at one end to the swinging end of said first mentioned bar and having its opposite swinging end releasably attachable directly to said apron wall near said first mentioned hinge connection to complete a second trouser clamp.

HOWARD C. RIEMANN.


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