L. S. HAUCK.

PORTABLE WARDROBE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1912.

1,043,590.

Patented Nov. 5, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

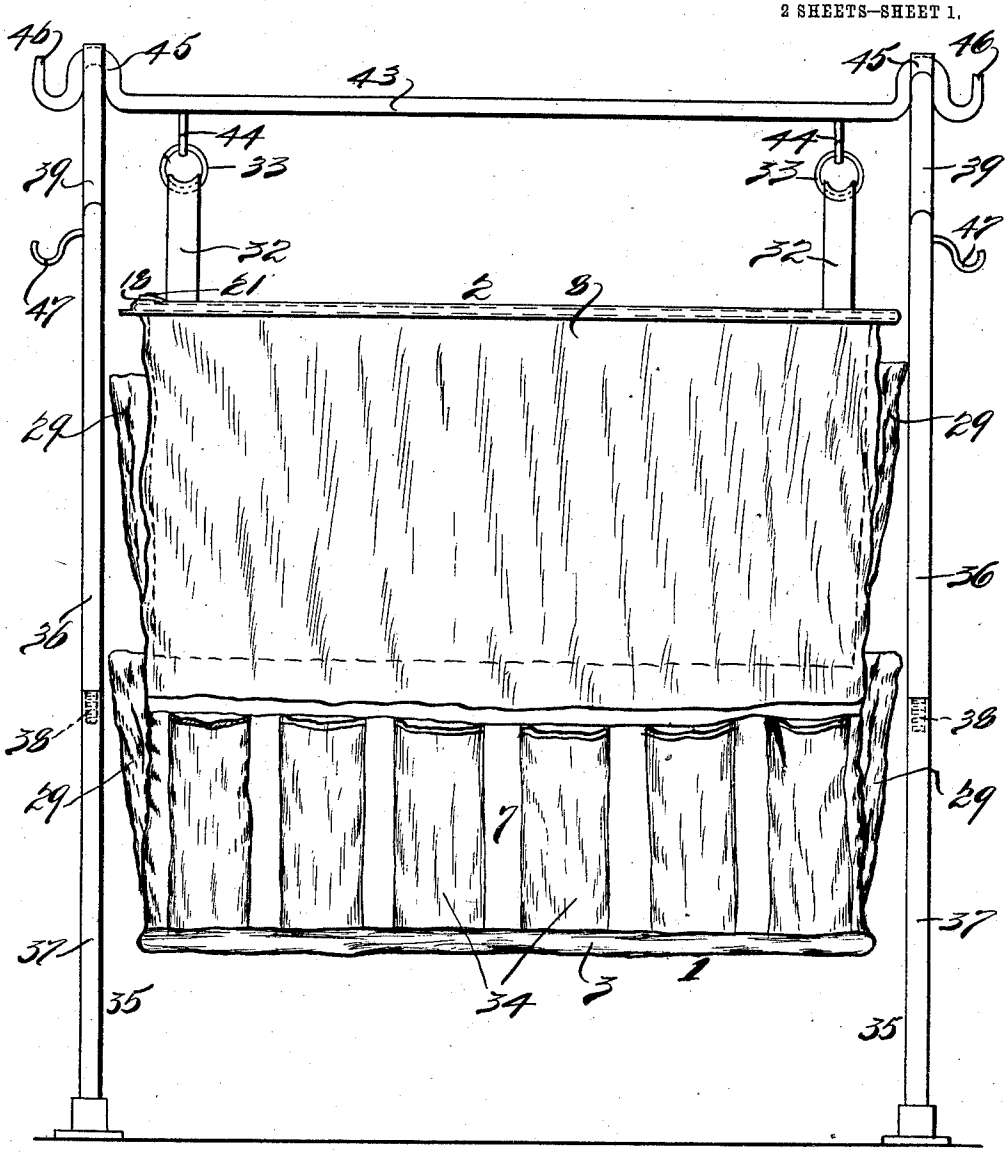

Fig. 1.

Witnesses:
C. A. Jarvis
Estelle A. Lamburger.

Inventor:
Louise S. Hauck
by Marion & Hauck
attorney.

COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

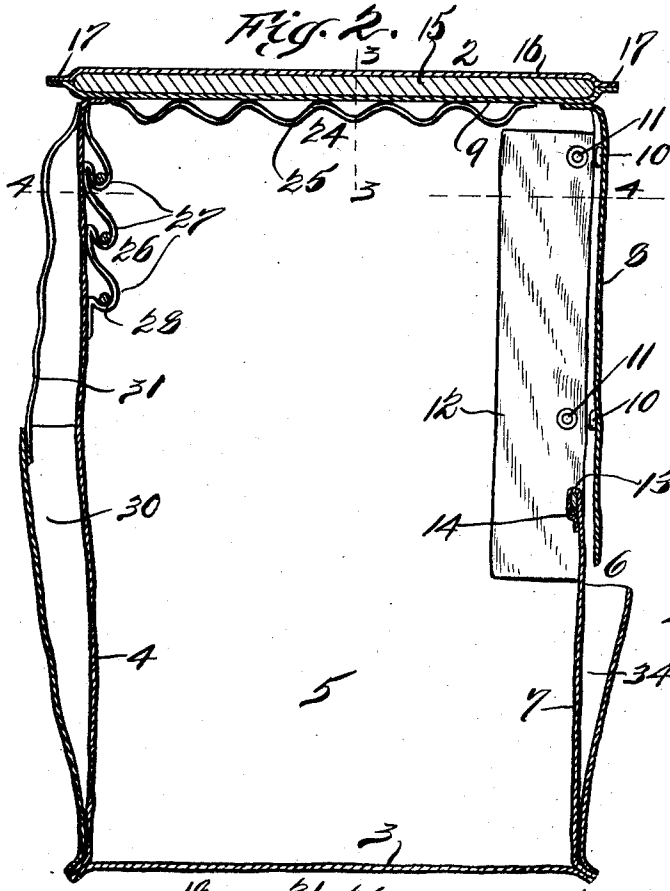


Fig. 5.

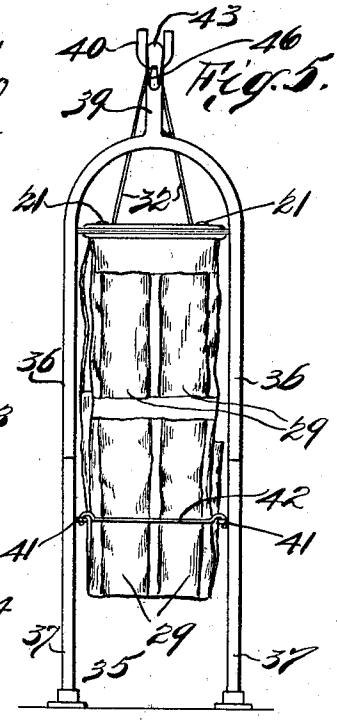
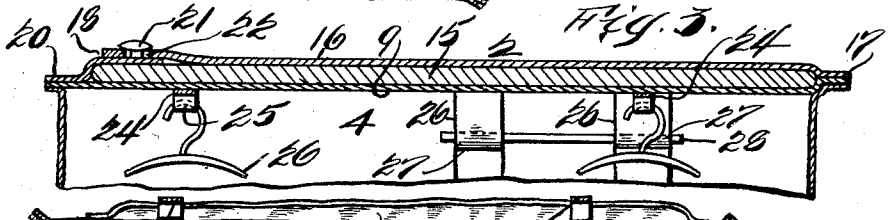


Fig. 3.



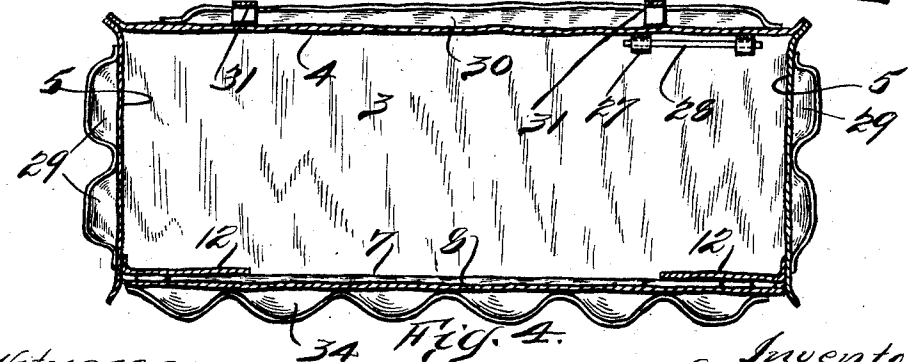


Fig. 4.

Witnesses:
E. A. Jans
Estelle C. Hamburger

Inventor:
Louise S. Hauck
by Maurice Block
attorney.

COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUISE S. HAUCK, OF BAYSIDE, NEW YORK.

PORTABLE WARDROBE.

1,043,590. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 5, 1912.

Application filed April 15, 1912. Serial No. 690,714.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUISE S. HAUCK, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Bayside, Queens county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Wardrobes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to an improvement in portable wardrobes, the object being to provide a wardrobe that can be folded up and packed in a trunk or other similar receptacle.

The chief object of my invention is to provide a wardrobe adapted for receiving clothes and other articles of apparel that can be carried from place to place by traveling salesmen or tourists, the said wardrobe being adapted to be set up in a room of a hotel for instance during the stay of the salesman or tourist.

My invention is also well adapted for use in boarding houses where the closet room is limited, or in fact in any place where clothes are to be kept.

To render my improved wardrobe a portable structure that can be packed into a small place, I preferably make the same out of fabric and in the form of a box, that is to say the wardrobe comprises a top, a bottom, sides, a back and an open front. To adapt the wardrobe to retain shoes, slippers, umbrellas, &c., I provide the sides and rear thereof with pockets and straps to receive the said articles. In order to stiffen the top of the cabinet, I provide a filling-piece, which will hereinafter be described. By means of aprons, my improved wardrobe is rendered practically dust-proof.

In order that the wardrobe may be set up upon the floor of a room I provide a portable stand, which is preferably a knock-down structure that may be taken apart and packed with the wardrobe proper. As will hereinafter appear, my improved wardrobe is provided with means for supporting clothes hangers and also means for supporting trousers.

I will now describe my invention in detail, the novel features of which I will finally point out in the claim, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front view of my improved wardrobe; Fig. 2 is an enlarged central vertical sectional view of the wardrobe proper; Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional detail view of the top of the wardrobe and a portion of the sides and rear thereof, the section being taken on a line 3—3 in Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view on a reduced scale, the section being taken on a line 4—4 in Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is an end view on a reduced scale of my improved wardrobe.

In the accompanying drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 1 indicates a foldable wardrobe which consists of a top 2, a bottom 3, a rear member 4, side members 5 (see Figs. 2 and 3) and a front portion 6, which comprises a comparatively low section 7 which is secured to the sides 5 and bottom 3 and a flap or cover 8, which is secured to the member 9 of the top 2. The flap or cover 8 is provided with sockets 10 into which buttons 11 carried by aprons or dust-guards 12 will snap. The upper edge of the section 7 is provided with a loop 13 into which a stiffening element or bar 14 is slipped in order to lend to the said section, at the top edge thereof, a certain amount of rigidity.

In order that the top 2 of the cabinet may be rendered stiff, in order that the cabinet as a whole may be caused to retain its shape, I provide a board or stiffening element 15, which is slipped in between the members 9 and 16 of the top 2.

By referring to Fig. 2 it will be seen that the members 9 and 16 are permanently secured together, at one end and sides thereof, as at 17, but are adapted for releasable attachment at the forward end thereof, as at 18; in other words, the top member 16 comprises a covering piece and an apron 20, which is secured to the lower member 9 of the top 2, the said apron 20 being provided with buttons 21, one only being shown, which pass through button-holes 22, one only being shown, in the covering piece. By securing the top member 16 and bottom member 9 together, as above described, a pocket 23 is provided into which the filling piece 15 can be slipped when the cabinet or wardrobe is to be set up for use. When the wardrobe is to be packed away the filling piece may be withdrawn, if desirable, or the said filling piece may be left in if space permits. When the fabric, which forms the cabinet or wardrobe, is to be washed the filling piece 15 and stiffening bar 14 in the section 7, will be withdrawn or removed. To adapt the wardrobe to retain coats, skirts,

trousers or other similar articles of wearing apparel, I provide the top 2 of the wardrobe with tapes or straps 24, looped as shown in Fig. 2. In the loops 25 of the tapes or straps 24 coat-hangers 26 may be hung, upon which hangers skirts, coats or the like may be hung. To adapt the cabinet to retain trousers, I provide the rear member 4 with straps or tapes 26 formed into loops 27, in which bars or rods 28 are placed. The bars or rods 28 are for the purpose of supporting trousers. In order that shoes, slippers, &c., may be carried by the cabinet, I provide the side members 5 thereof with pockets 29 in which shoes, slippers or other small articles may be placed.

As can be seen in Figs. 2 and 4, the rear member 4 of the wardrobe is provided with a comparatively large pocket 30 in which laundry or soiled linen may be placed. The rear member 4 of the wardrobe is also provided with straps 31 which connect the upper end of the pocket 30 with the rear member 4 of the wardrobe. These straps act to support the pocket 30, when said pocket is filled. It will, of course, be obvious that umbrellas or parasols may be placed in the pocket 30 as well as soiled linen. The stiffening of the top 2 accomplishes a double purpose, namely, to keep the cabinet or wardrobe in shape and also to provide a shelf upon which books, ornaments, or other comparatively heavy objects may be placed. In order that the wardrobe may be suspended from a suitable support, I provide suspending straps 32 which are at one end thereof secured to the top member 16 of the top 2. In this instance, the suspending straps 32 are provided with rings 33, which may be caused to engage hooks or the like.

As can be seen in Figs. 1 and 4, the section 7 of the front of the cabinet is provided with pockets 34 in which any small article may be placed. As it is obviously impossible to find supports for the wardrobe which are properly spaced to receive the rings 33 of the straps 32, I preferably provide a portable knockdown framework or stand which may be carried with the wardrobe and set up when the wardrobe is to be put into use. As herein illustrated the support or stand for the wardrobe comprises uprights 35 consisting of the members 36 and 37, detachably connected as at 38. The upper members 36 of the frame or uprights 35 are preferably forked, as shown in Fig. 5 and carry a vertical member or post 39, provided with a jaw 40 at the upper end thereof. The lower members 37 of the framework 35 are independent elements which are screwed on to the members 36, in this instance, but any form of connection which renders the members 36 and 37 separably connected can be used. To prevent the uprights 35 from spreading transversely, I provide the lower members 37 with eyes 41 with which a cross-rod 42 engages. As can be seen in Fig. 1 the upper part of each of the uprights 35 is connected by a bar 43, provided with depending hooks 44 which engage the rings 33 on the straps 32 of the wardrobe. The bar 43 adjacent each end thereof is provided with a loop 45 adapted to take into and engage the jaws 40 on the uprights 35. The outer ends of the rod 43 are upturned as at 46 to form hooks which may be used for the support of clothes. The uprights 35 are also provided with hooks 47 which may also be used for the support of clothing.

Should the user of my improved wardrobe so desire he or she may insert hooks into a shelf or other support upon which the wardrobe may be hung.

It will be quite apparent that when the flaps 8 which form part of the front of the wardrobe is down and buttoned to the dust guards or aprons 12 the cabinet or wardrobe is rendered practicaly dustproof.

Having now described my invention in detail, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A portable wardrobe comprising two sides, two ends, a bottom and a pocket-form top, all of fabric capable of being rolled into a small parcel, a stiffening board adapted to be inserted in said top, means attached to the top for suspending garments and means attached to one of said sides for holding articles of apparel, the other side being provided with a flap closure for access to the interior of said wardrobe, in combination with means for suspending the same.

Signed at New York city, N. Y., this 13th day of April, 1912.

LOUISE S. HAUCK.

Witnesses:
EDWARD A. JARVIS,
ESTELLE O. HAMBURGER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."