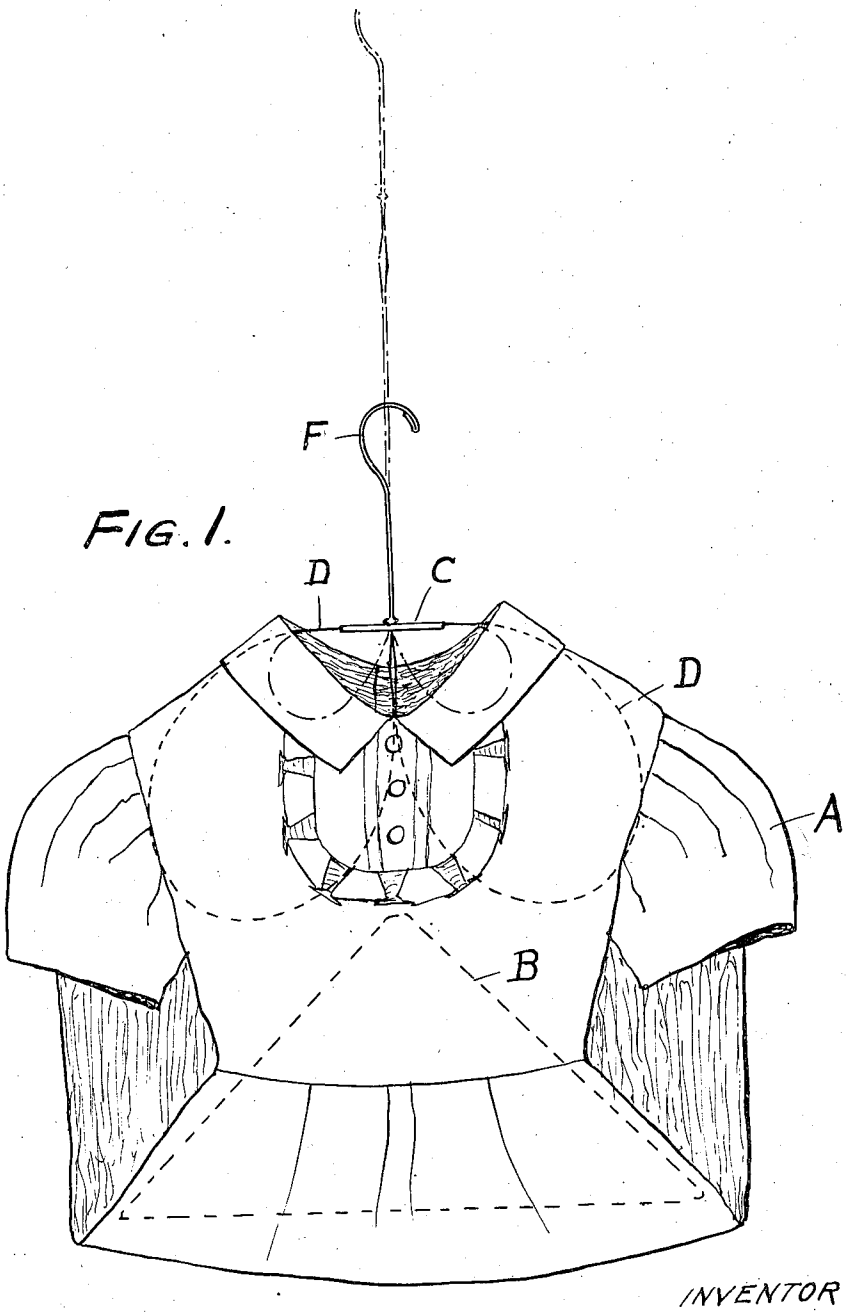
April 12, 1949. L. B. MEYERHOFF 2,467,141

HANGER FOR APPAREL

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3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.




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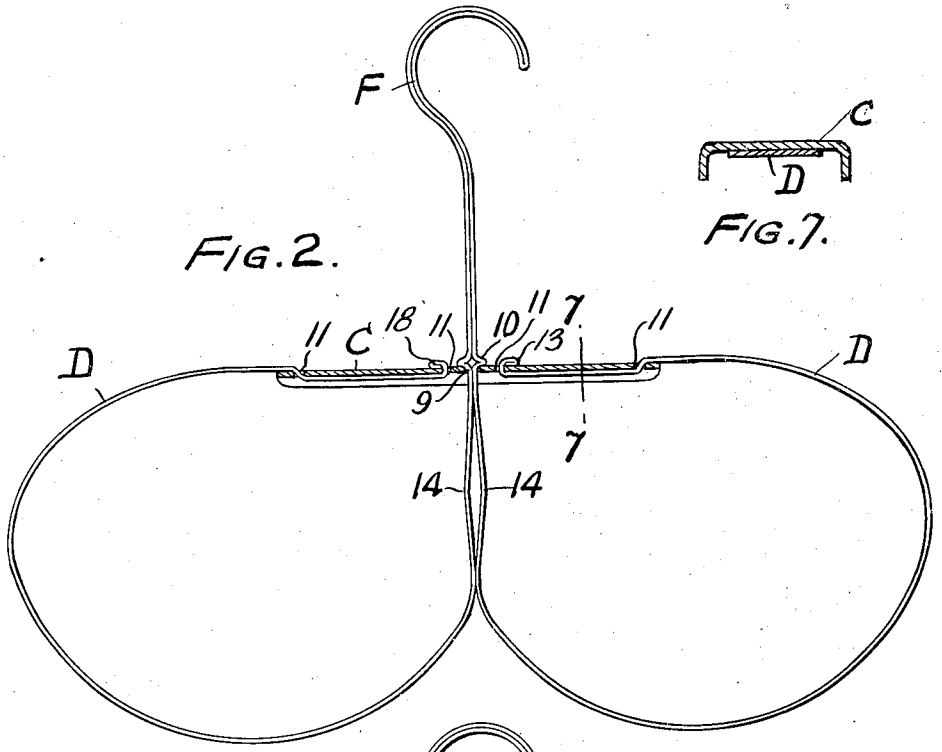



FIG. 2.

FIG. 7.

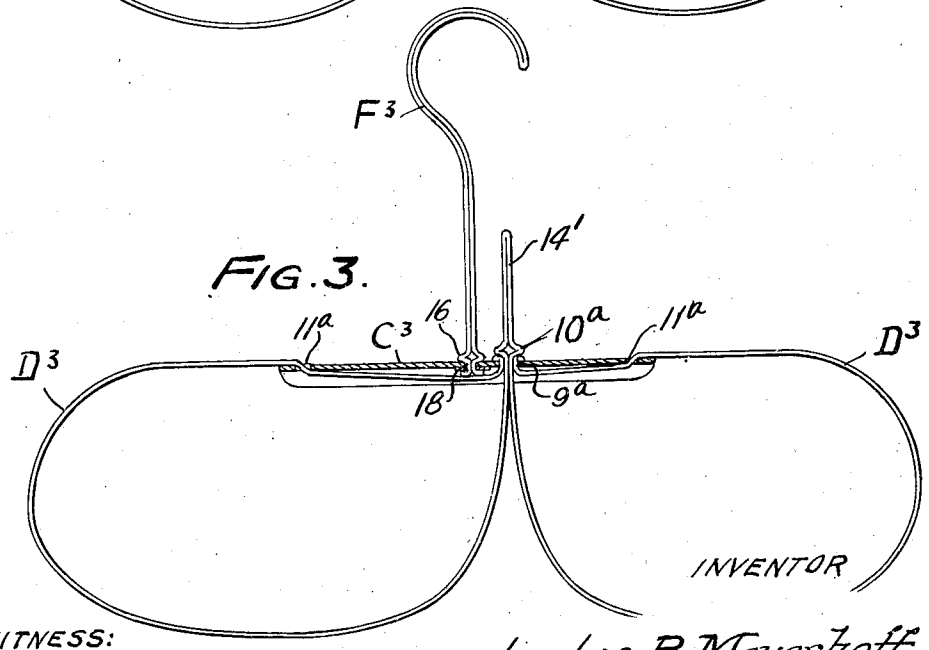



FIG. 3.

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HANGER FOR APPAREL

Filed Dec. 8, 1945 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

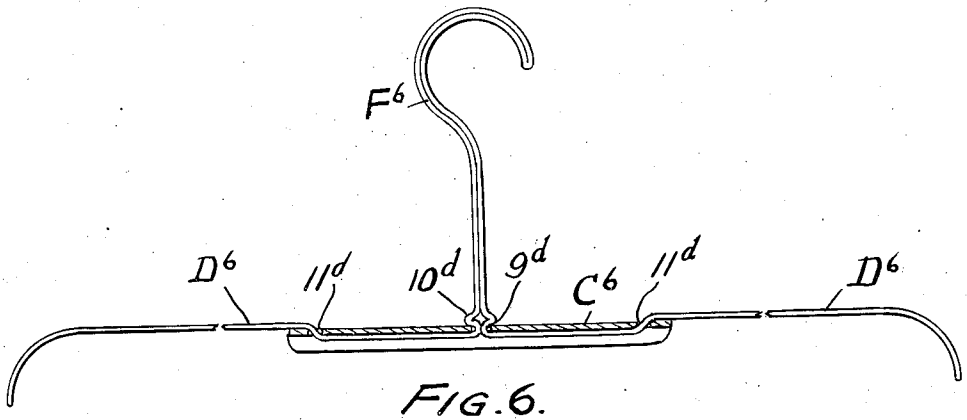



FIG. 6.

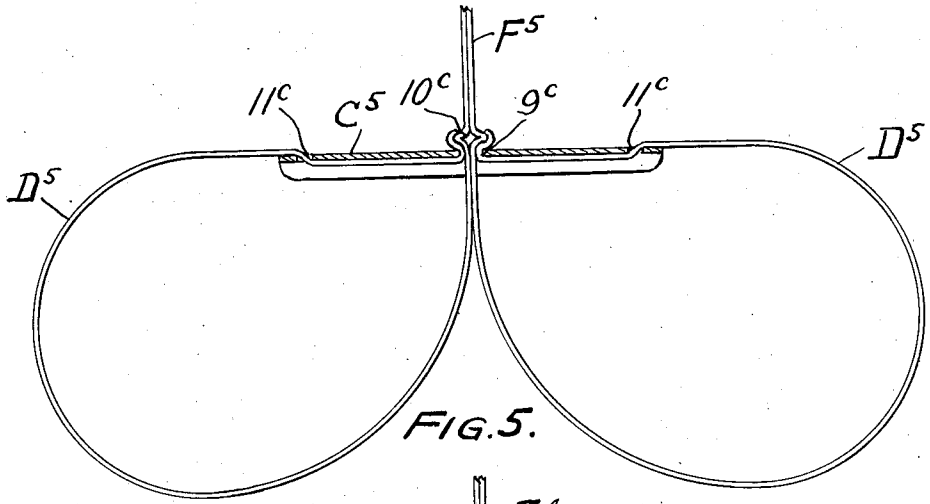



FIG. 5.

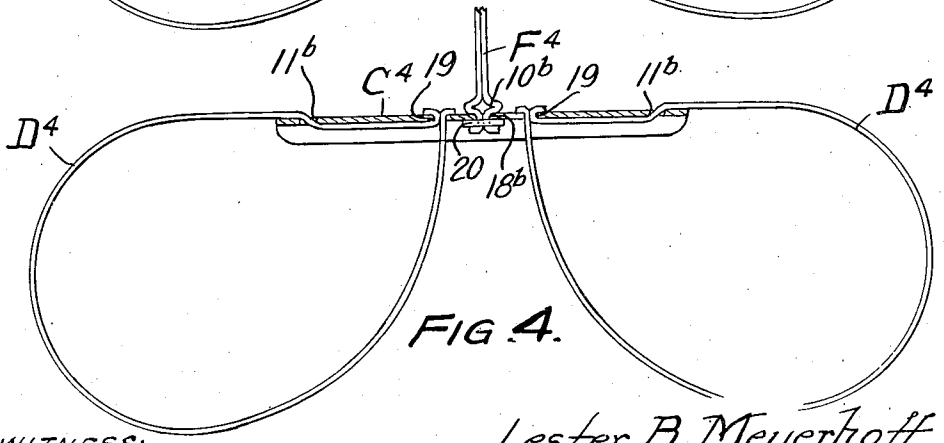



FIG. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,467,141

## HANGER FOR APPAREL

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Application December 8, 1945, Serial No. 633,701

6 Claims. (Cl. 223—92)

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This invention relates to an improvement in garment hangers, and more particularly to hangers from which light garments are suspended, such as children's dresses, ladies' dresses, slips, and other articles of apparel.

One of the objects of my invention is the provision of a hanger of this type having a substantially rigid central or head member provided with a supporting hook for engagement with a supporting bar or member, and relatively flexible members extending from the head for supporting the garment, and which are adapted to be flexed so that the hanger may be withdrawn through the neck opening of the garment by the flexing of the members extending from the head.

A further object of my invention is the provision of means whereby the flexible members may be collapsed to a certain degree before withdrawing the hanger from the garment.

A still further object is the provision of means whereby the garment can be removed from the hanger by partially collapsing the hanger while the supporting hook is in engagement with a supporting bar.

The hanger is not only adapted for use in the home but provides a great saver of man hours in dress manufacturing plants in which the dresses are hung from supporting bars in lots, each lot may represent a different size of a particular type of garment and sold to merchants in quantities, and when an order is received by the manufacturer the packer making up the order for shipment counts the number of garments required from a designated rack and if the number required from a rack is no more than he can grasp between his arms, he clamps the lot between his arms at the plane of the hangers, holds them clamped in relation to each other, and raises them to release the hooks from the supporting bar, and then places them in piled relation on a table then removing his arms so that the pile is in position to be wrapped or tied in a bundle after the hangers are removed as hereinafter described.

The garments when placed on the hangers are ready for sale and are not only pressed but are usually folded about a cardboard or paper shape retaining means within the garment, and are secured in folded position by means of pins, so that the hanger must be removed through the neck opening without unbuttoning the garment which is a tedious and time consuming operation, as it is necessary with the well known wire hangers that when removing the hangers the portion at one side of the hook is slipped laterally into the arm hole so that the portion at the other side of

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the hook can be removed through the neck opening, so the hanger can be slid from the garment, or the hanger must be removed through the bottom of the garment.

This removal of the wire hangers frequently disarranges the garment and not infrequently either releases the buttons from the button holes, and in some cases rips the buttons from the garment. As this process must be repeated for removing a hanger from each garment in the stack, a large amount of time is consumed which is frequently augmented by the additional time required for rearranging the garments which were disarranged during the removal of the hangers.

By the use of my improved hanger, the time required for removing the hangers from a stack of garments is greatly reduced and the hangers are removed without disarranging a single garment.

After the garments have been placed on the table as above described, the packer lightly presses the stack with his left arm, grasps the hooks or the contracting members of one of the hangers with the other hand and withdraws the hangers through the neck opening, one by one or he may draw several at one time if desired.

By the use of one form of hanger, the packer may simultaneously remove all the hangers from a pack of garments while clamped between his arms by drawing them from their hangers while hanging from a supporting bar by their hooks, leaving the hangers on the supporting bar after the withdrawal of the garments.

In addition to the above outlined objects, these hangers will serve useful and important functions in retail and jobbing establishments. They will permit a clerk to quickly remove—or replace—garments hanging from racks for try-on or other purposes.

Having thus described, in a general way, the nature and purpose of this invention, I will proceed, for illustrative purposes, to a detailed description of several forms of hangers in accordance with my invention and in which:

Fig. 1 is a face view illustrating a garment which has been pressed, folded and pinned about an inner shape retaining member with a hanger in position ready for hanging the garment on a supporting bar.

Fig. 2 is a view of a hanger such as shown in the garment in Fig. 1 with the head in section;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing another means of contracting the hanger;

Fig. 4 is a similar view of another form of hanger;

Fig. 5 is a similar view of still another form of hanger;

Fig. 6 is a similar view of a simple form of hanger; and,

Fig. 7 is a sectional view on the line 7—7 of Fig. 2.

Referring to Fig. 1 in which I have illustrated a child's dress designated by the reference character A, which has been pressed, folded about a triangular cardboard retainer B illustrated in dotted lines, and properly pinned as folded, and within which a hanger such as shown in Fig. 2 has been positioned.

The hanger comprises a head member C and flexible members D connected thereto. In Fig. 1, the large loops shown diagrammatically in dotted lines indicate the flexible hanger members D in supporting relation with the garment, while the smaller loops shown in dotted lines indicate the contracted position of the loops in position for withdrawal through the neck opening of the dress.

The hanger shown in Fig. 2 as above described is the same type as that shown in Fig. 1. The hook F is formed as a continuation of the loop forming members D and extends upwardly through an opening 9 in the head C through which the members D are adapted to slide, while the ends of the loop forming members are secured to the head C by being laced through slots 11 and the ends being bent over as indicated at 13. A stop member 10 is formed on said members above the head, and they are provided with cam members 14 below the head, which will require a greater pull on the hook F than caused by the weight of the garment to be supported thereby to draw the cam members 14 through the opening 9 in the head, so that when a garment such as A shown in Fig. 1 is supported by the hook F the weight of the garment will draw the cam members 14 into engagement with the opening 9 but a heavier pull is required to cause the cam members to pass through the opening 9 to contract the loops D as shown by the smaller loops in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

The flexible members D may be made of any suitable material but are preferably made from steel strips and may be secured to the head in any desired manner. The head may also be made of any suitable material. The hooks may also be made separate and secured to the ends of the loop forming members in some of the forms or may be attached to the head in others.

In Fig. 3, I have shown another form of hanger in which the loops $D^3$ may also be contracted by a hand hold 14' formed by connected ends of the loops $D^3$ extending upwardly through an opening $9^a$ in the head $C^3$. The connected ends are also provided with a stop member $10^a$ as in the structure shown in Fig. 2. The other end of each loop is laced through a slot $11^a$ in the head $C^3$ and the opening $9^a$ and is bent over as indicated to secure the end to the head. The opening $9^a$ is made sufficiently wide to provide space for both ends of both loops so that the end portions of the loops below stop member $10^a$ are adapted to slide between the other ends of the loops.

The lower portions of the members forming the hook $F^3$ are provided with a stop member 16, the ends extending through a slot 18 in the head and then bent over to secure the hook to the head.

In Fig. 4, the head $C^4$ is provided with a slot $11^b$ at each end thereof and a slot 19 on each side of the center of the head. The one end of each loop $D^4$ is laced through a slot $11^b$ and then bent about one wall of slot 19 at the same end of the head, while the other end of the said loop is passed through the slot 19 at the side of the other end of the loop and bent over so that both ends of each loop are secured in the same slot in the head.



The hook $F^4$ is loosely mounted in an annular opening $18^b$ in the head $C^4$, between a stop member $10^b$ and a washer 20 so that the head $C^4$ is free to turn on the end of the hook, and when the hanger is removed from a garment, the loop members are flexed during the withdrawal through the neck opening of the garment.

The structure shown in Fig. 5 is very similar to Fig. 2, but the head $C^5$ is only provided with three slots, a slot $11^c$ at each end of the head $C^5$, and a central slot $9^c$ of sufficient width for the reception of four thicknesses of the stock from which the flexible loops and hook are are formed.

The hook member $F^5$ is first curved and provided with a stop $10^c$, the loop forming portions are then both laced through slot $9^c$ and each is then laced through a slot $11^c$ and back through slot $9^c$ and bent about the stop $10^c$, so that the hook member $F^5$ and the ends of the loop are fixedly secured to the head $C^5$, and when the hanger is removed from a garment, the loops are flexed during the withdrawal through the neck opening of the garment.

In Fig. 6, a simple form of hanger is shown comprising a head $C^6$ having a central slot $9^d$, and a slot $11^d$ at each end thereof. The hook $F^6$ and the flexible supporting members $D^6$ are formed of a single piece of flexible strip or wire bent midway between the ends to form the hook $F^6$ and stop $10^d$. Both ends are then passed through slot $9^d$ to seat the stop $10^d$ on the head, the strips are then spread and bent about the walls of the slot $9^d$ and each is then laced through a slot $11^d$ in the head and bent as seen in Fig. 6.

The flexible members extending from the head of each of the structures shown in Figs. 1–6 are adapted to be flexed so that the hanger may be withdrawn through the neck opening of the garment by the flexing of the members extending from the head during the withdrawal of the hanger through the neck opening of the garment. The structure shown in Fig. 1 is particularly adapted for use in wholesale establishments where packers making up orders desire to simultaneously remove a large number of garments from their hangers while hanging from a supporting bar by their hooks.

It will be apparent that the length of the heads or the main supporting portion will be varied for different sizes of hangers as well as the size and flexibility of the flexible members D for hangers for garments of different weights.

What I desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A garment hanger having a relatively rigid body portion, oppositely disposed flexible loops extending from the body portion, said loops being rigidly connected at one end to said body portion, the other ends extending through an opening in the body portion and means for drawing said last mentioned ends through the opening to contract said loops.

2. A garment hanger having a relatively rigid central body portion with oppositely extending ends, a flexible loop extending from each end of the body portion and having an outwardly and an inwardly extending portion, the outwardly ex-

tending portion of each loop being connected to the body portion, the inwardly extending portions passing through an opening in the body portion and adapted to be shifted relative to the body portion to contract the loops, and a supporting hook on the ends of the portions extending through the opening.

3. A garment hanger having a relatively rigid central body portion with oppositely extending ends, a flexible loop extending from each end of the body portion and having an outwardly and an inwardly extending portion, the outwardly extending portion of each loop being connected to the body portion, there being an opening in the body portion, the inwardly extending portions of the loops extending through the opening and arranged to be drawn through the opening to contract the loops.

4. A garment hanger having a relatively rigid central body portion with oppositely extending ends, a flexible loop extending from each end of the body portion and having an outwardly and an inwardly extending portion, the outwardly extending portion of each loop being connected to the body portion, there being an opening in the body portion, the inwardly extending portions of the loops extending through the opening and arranged to be drawn through the opening to contract the loops, a hook connected to the ends of the loops extending through the opening, and means providing a predetermined resistance to the passage of the ends of the loops through the opening.

5. A garment hanger having a substantially rigid body portion, a supporting member extending upwardly therefrom, oppositely extending flexible garment supporting arms extending from the body, each arm being formed of a continuous strip of wire extending outwardly from the body portion then bowed upon itself and extending backwardly to the body portion, the outwardly



and backwardly extending portions of the arms being substantially parallel with the supporting member, both ends of the arms being secured to the body portion, said arms being sufficiently inflexible for the unaided support of a garment and sufficiently flexible to permit the withdrawal of the arms through the neck opening of a garment when the hanger and the garment are moved relative to each other to withdraw the hanger by flexing of the arms and to return the arms to their garment supporting positions after withdrawal.

6. A garment hanger having a substantially rigid body portion, a supporting member extending upwardly therefrom, oppositely extending flexible loops, each loop being formed of a continuous strip of wire of greater width than thickness extending outwardly from the body, then bowed upon itself and extending backwardly to the body in the same vertical plane with the broad faces of the wire extending transversely to the plane of the loop forming garment supporting arms extending from the body, said arms being sufficiently inflexible for the unaided support of a garment and sufficiently flexible to permit the withdrawal of the arms through the neck opening of the garment when the hanger and the garment are moved relative to each other to withdraw the hanger by the flexing of the arms and to return the arms to their garment supporting positions after withdrawal.

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