Sept. 7, 1926. 1,598,747

J. F. SCHARLES

GARMENT HANGER

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Fig. 1.

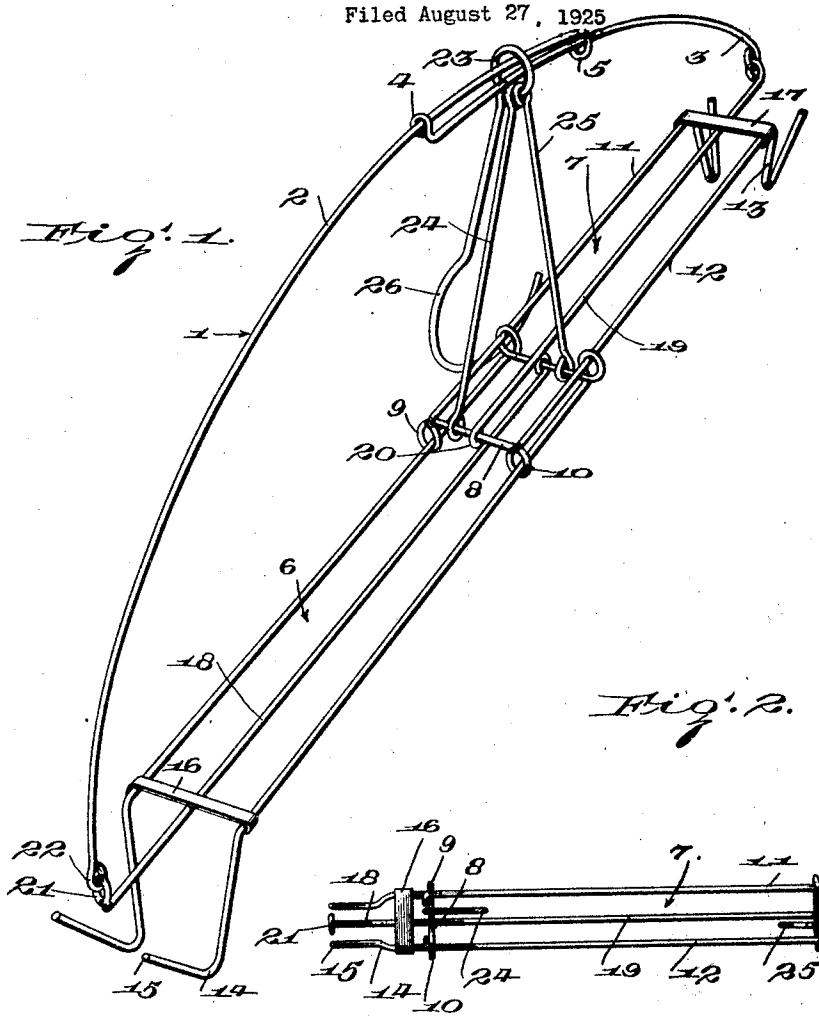


Fig. 2.

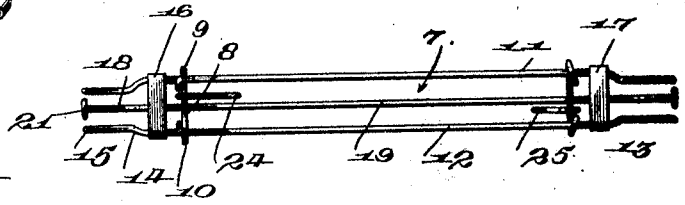
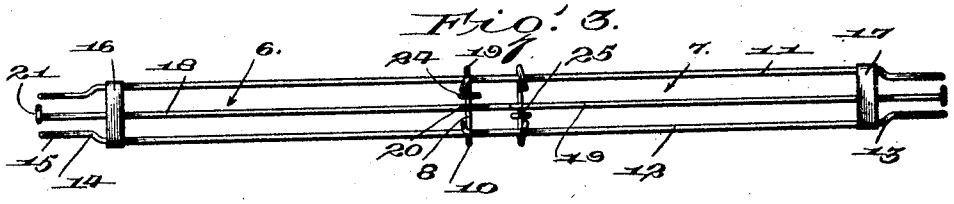


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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GARMENT HANGER.

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This invention relates to garment hangers and has for its principal object the provision of an article of the class designated, constructed so as to be extensible or contractile simultaneously in two dimensions, whereby it occupies a space at any time approximately proportional to the square of its length. That is to say, if it be contracted to one half its full size, it will occupy approximately one fourth the original space. This makes the coat hanger conveniently stowable in trunk or suit case, or even in the coat pocket.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a garment hanger having a curved coat supporting member fitting the shoulder seam of the coat, the construction of which is such that the altitude of the curved member increases as its width expands under adjustment, so that the degree of curvature of the shoulder member remains substantially constant, and it will still fit the shoulder seam, regardless of the adjustment in width of the garment hanger.

Still another object of the invention is the construction of a garment hanger having an extensible trousers suspending member so made as to engage the trousers at the top by belt loops or buttons and to be then extended, stretching the trousers until they hang smoothly in the original creases, without wrinkles.

Other objects of the invention will appear as the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof proceeds.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the garment hanger, in extended position,

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the trousers suspending member, contracted,

Fig. 3 is a similar view, showing the trousers engaging portion extended to full width position.

Referring now in detail to the several figures, the numeral 1 represents the coat supporting member, which is formed of two wires, 2 and 3 of similar curvature and suitable gauge, overlapped at the center, and each looped to slidably embrace the other, as shown at 4 and 5, so that when the ends of the arch formed by said wires are pushed together in the act of contracting the coat hanger, the wires 1 and 2 will slide freely, utilizing one another as tracks.

The trousers suspending member consists of oppositely extending sections 6 and 7, of wire construction, each preferably consisting of a single wire bent to have a transverse middle portion 8 looped at its extremities, as shown at 9 and 10, and continuing, as spaced parallel sides 11 and 12, towards an end of the garment hanger, the sides being there bent into V-shaped hooks having angular bends 14 and free ends 15. The sides are reinforced, adjacent the hooks, with transverse braces 16 and 17.

The sides of each section of the trousers supporting member overlap, the loops 9 and 10 of each section slidably embracing the sides of the other section, so that the two sections may be pushed together or drawn apart.

Coupling rods 18 and 19 are carried by the sections of the trousers suspending member, each rod being looped at its inner end around the transverse portion of the section with which it is associated at an intermediate part, as shown at 20, continuing parallel with the sides of that section to the end thereof, terminating in a loop 21 which forms a link joint with a loop 22 formed at the adjacent end of the coat supporting member, so that when the coat supporting member is extended, the sections of the trousers suspending member will be slidably drawn into position of extension. The rods 18 and 19 are preferably soldered or otherwise suitably secured to the braces 16 and 17.

In using the trousers suspending member, adjacent belt loops at the front and rear of the trousers are slipped over the free ends of the hooks 15, or in the case of buttons, adjacent buttons at the front and rear of the trousers are arranged with their shanks resting in the angular bends 14, while the garment hanger is in contracted position. The hanger is then extended sufficiently to stretch the trousers to the point where the wrinkles are all smoothed out and the trousers hang in their original creases.

A ring 23 freely surrounds the overlapped portions of the wires of the coat supporting member 1, to which ring the struts 24 and 25 are linkably attached at their upper ends. The opposite ends of said struts are freely looped around the transverse portions 8 of the sections 6 and 7 of the trousers suspending member. Not only do the struts materially stiffen the structure of the garment hanger, but they perform the very important function of varying the altitude of the arch of the coat supporting member. It

is obvious that since the transverse portions 8 recede from one another when the sections 6 and 7 are pushed together the struts will assume a position of comparatively flat obliquity when the garment hanger is contracted, but that when it is expanded the struts will be moved to a position approaching the vertical, pushing upwardly the middle of the coat supporting member, thereby increasing the altitude thereof simultaneously with its increase in length and maintaining the curvature of the coat supporting member substantially constant so that it will always conform to the shoulder seam, irrespective of the degree of adjustment of the trousers suspending member made necessary in accommodating it to various widths of trousers.

A hook 26 is linkably attached to the ring 23, by means of which the garment hanger may be hung up. The hook may be permitted to drop to the position shown in Fig. 1, or to any other convenient position, so as to be out of the way when the garment hanger is collapsed for storing it away when not in use.

It is to be understood that the construction of a device embodying the principles of my invention is not limited to the use of wires, but that rods, wooden members or any other structural forms of substance may be substituted therefor without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A garment hanger including an extensible and contractile arched coat-supporting member, an extensible and contractile trousers suspending member subtending said arched member and secured to the ends of the latter, and means connecting said arched member and said subtending member for altering the altitude of said arched member approximately proportionately to the change of length of the subtending member.

2. A garment hanger including a sectional arched coat-supporting member, and a sectional trousers-suspending member subtending said arched member and secured to the ends thereof, said garment hanger being extensible lengthwise, and struts secured to said arched member adjacent the middle thereof and to the sections of said trousers suspending member, said struts having an inclined position where the garment hanger is retracted and assuming a position approaching the vertical when said sections are extended, increasing the altitude of said arched member approximately proportionately to its increase in length and thereby maintaining its curvature approximately constant.

3. A garment hanger including a sectional arched coat-supporting member comprising overlapped wires, looped to slidably interengage, and a trousers suspending member including overlapping extensible sections, having parallel sides, each section having a transverse part continuous with the sides of said section and looped portions between said transverse part and sides, said looped portions of each section slidably embracing the sides of the other section, said sides being formed at their ends with trousers engaging hooks, means connecting the ends of said arched member to the sections of said trousers suspending member, and struts loosely connected to said arched member adjacent the overlapped portions of said wires, and connected to the transverse parts of said sections, said struts having an inclined position when the garment hanger is retracted, and assuming a position approaching the vertical when said sections are extended, increasing the altitude of said arched member approximately proportionately to its increase in length, thereby maintaining its curvature approximately constant.

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