Oct. 2, 1951 J. B. McPHERSON 2,569,726

COLLAPSIBLE GARMENT HANGER

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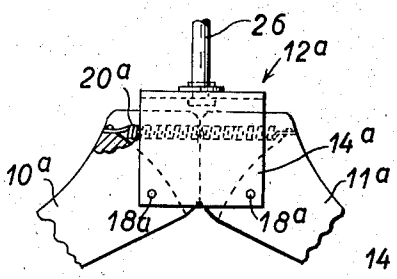


Fig. 3.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

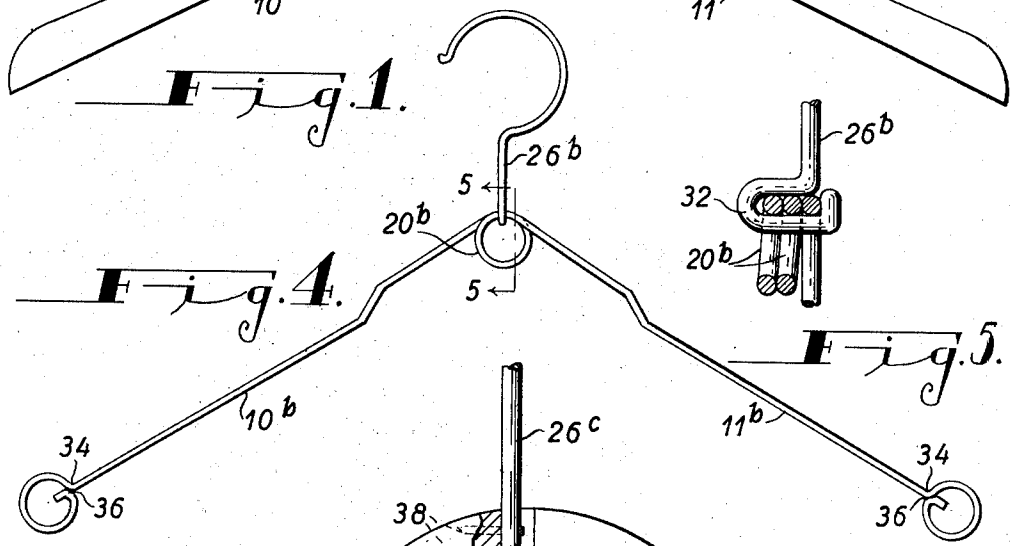


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

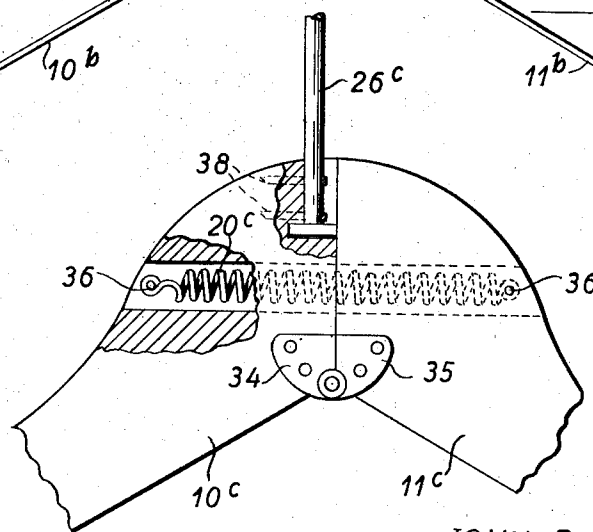


Fig. 6.

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COLLAPSIBLE GARMENT HANGER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 223—94)

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This invention relates to garment hangers of the collapsible type.

One of the objects is the provision of a hanger having spring held pivoted arms arranged to be moved relatively to each other against the action of a spring, which is of sufficient strength to bias the load of a garment supported on the arms, the arrangement being such that it may readily be inserted into the neck opening of a buttoned garment to be hung thereon by partially collapsing the arms, or a garment may be removed from the hanger by pulling the garment or hanger relative to each other to swing an arm or both about a pivotal point to permit the withdrawal of the hanger through the neck opening of the garment during the movement of the arms towards each other against the action of the spring.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a hanger in which the garment supporting arms can be moved towards each other and then secured to each other for packing into a shorter space.

Having now described, in a general way, the nature and purpose of this invention, I will proceed, for illustrative purposes, to a detailed description of several embodiments thereof with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of one form of hanger in accordance with my invention with a portion broken away;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 with a portion broken away;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of another form of hanger with the arms and the supporting hook broken off;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of another form of hanger formed of a continuous piece of spring wire;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 6 is a side elevation similar to Fig. 3 showing another form of pivotal connection between the supporting arms.

In Figs. 1 and 2 I have shown a form having two arms 10 and 11 which may be formed of wood, plastic, sheet-metal or from any other suitable material, and may be channel-shaped throughout and especially if made of plastic material or shaped in dies if made of sheet metal or other material.

In the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the arms are formed of wood and are connected to each other by a U-shaped member 12 having flanges

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14 extending from a web 16. The flanges 14 straddle the ends of the arms which are pivotally mounted between the flanges on rivets or screws 18 extending through the flanges and the straddled ends of the arms. The web 16 of the channel member is spaced a sufficient distance above the arms to provide clearance for the ends of the arms 10 and 11 when they are swung into engagement with each other to be secured for packing or to permit the arms to be inserted into the neck opening of a garment or to be drawn through the neck opening of a garment.

The pivot ends of the arms 10 and 11 are recessed as partially shown by the broken away portions in Figs. 1 and 2 for the reception of a coil spring 20 having legs 22 engaging the wall of the recess in the arms 10 and 11 to spread and hold the arms in their spread positions. The spring 20 is coiled about a core 24 which is secured in position by a rivet 26 extending through the flanges 14 of the U-shaped member 12.

Rotatably mounted in the web 16 of the U-shaped member 12 is a supporting hook 26 by which the hanger is supported from a rod or other supporting member.

In Fig. 3 I have shown another form of spring 20^a for holding the arms 10^a and 11^a in their spread or extended positions. The ends of the arms 10^a and 11^a are also pivoted to the flanges 14^a of a U-shaped member 12^a at 18^a and the ends of the arms 10^a and 11^a are recessed for the reception of tension spring 20^a, each end of the spring being secured to the bottom of the recess in one of the arms 10^a or 11^a.

In both of the above forms, both arms are arranged to swing relative to the U-shaped member, but, if desired, either of the arms may be secured to the flanges of the U-shaped member so that the other arm would be free to swing relative to the U-shaped member and the arm secured thereto.

In Figs. 4 and 5 I have illustrated a hanger formed of spring wire having arms 10^b and 11^b centrally connected to each other by a coil 20^b. The arm 10^b extends from one end of the coil while the arm 11^b extends from the other end of the coil. The supporting hook 26^b is provided with a loop 32 which embraces the coil 20^b so that the arms 10^b and 11^b are in effect pivoted to each other intermediate their ends.

The end of the arm 11^b is coiled so that substantially one-half of the coil is above the plane of the arm and one-half below the plane of the arm while the end of the wire is bent to substan-

tially extend in the plane of the arm while the bends at 34 and 36 at the ends of the coil engage each other to close the coil.

In Fig. 6 I have illustrated another means for pivotally connecting the arms 10c and 11c to each other and in which hinge members 34 and 35 are connected to the ends of the arms 10c and 11c, respectively, both arms 10c and 11c are provided with aligned through openings above the hinge and seated therein is a tension spring 20c, each end being secured to an arm 10c or 11c by a rivet or nail 36. The supporting hook 26c is seated in a groove in the end of arm 10c and is retained therein by means of staples 38.

In all of the forms shown, the springs for retaining the garment supporting arms extended or spread for supporting a garment, the tension of the spring is sufficient to retain the arms in position for supporting a garment but may be sufficiently flexible to permit one arm to be moved relative to the other to draw the hanger through the neck opening of the garment supported thereon or to insert a hanger into the neck opening of a garment closed at the front by buttons or otherwise by moving one arm towards the other.

What I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. A collapsible garment hanger having oppositely disposed rigid arms, an inverted U-shaped member straddling the adjacent ends of the arms, means for pivotally connecting the straddled ends of both arms to the U-shaped member, a helical torsion spring, a horizontally disposed core member secured to the U-shaped member and passing through and supporting said spring, the ends of said spring abutting respectively against said arms so as to bias them upwardly continuously and a supporting hook connected to the U-shaped member.

2. A collapsible garment hanger having oppositely disposed rigid arms, an inverted U-shaped member straddling the adjacent ends of the arms, means for pivotally connecting the straddled ends of both arms to the U-shaped member, a helical torsion spring, a horizontally disposed core member secured to the U-shaped member and passing through and supporting said spring, the ends of said spring being received respectively in recesses in said arms and abutting respectively against said arms so as to bias them upwardly continuously and a supporting hook connected to the U-shaped member.

JOHN B. McPHERSON.

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