Jan. 19, 1937. O. BRODEWITZ 2,068,446

CLOTHES HANGER

Filed Dec. 14, 1935

Fig. 1

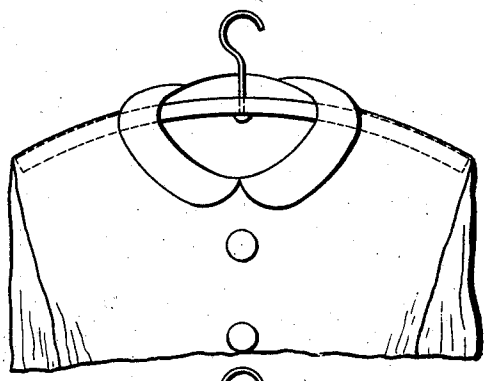


Fig. 2

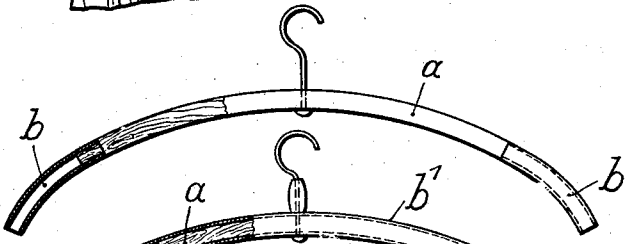


Fig. 3

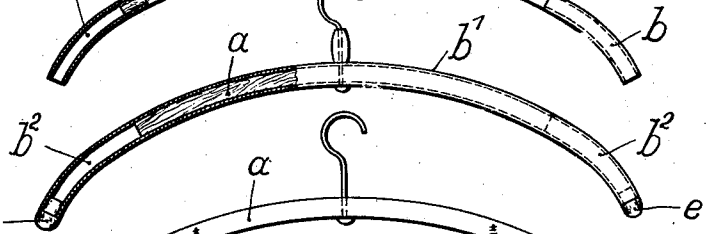


Fig. 4

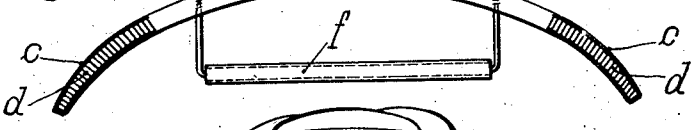
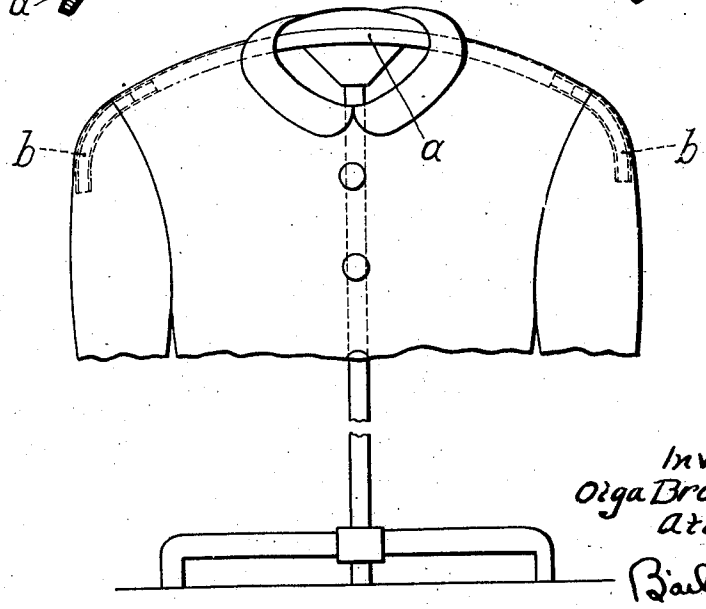


Fig. 5



Inventor:
Olga Brodewitz
Attorney:
Bailey & Parson

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CLOTHES HANGER

Olga Brodewitz, Essen, Germany

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5 Claims. (Cl. 223—92)

The present invention relates to a clothes hanger especially for clothing of delicate material.

Rigid clothes hangers have the disadvantage that more particularly with articles of clothing of material which stretches readily, the articles become distorted at the ends of the hanger where the material is no longer supported and this distortion cannot be overcome by any subsequent treatment of the material. Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawing indicates the effect produced by the ordinary rigid clothes hanger.

The object of the present invention is to provide a clothes hanger which is adapted to support without distortion even articles of light and delicate materials such as for example knitted fabric, stockinette, light silk and the like, so that by means of this hanger it is possible to store such articles in the hanging position, whereas otherwise for the reasons specified they could only be stored in a horizontal position. According to the invention this object is attained in that each end of the hanger consists of an elastic flexible body which is in the form of a hollow cylinder or in the form of a body tapering towards its outer end, e. g., is a length of rubber tubing or is a helical or conical spring. Such end pieces afford flexibility necessary for the present purpose so that even an article consisting of fine and light material is capable due to its weight of drawing the ends of the hanger downwardly in a smooth curve. Consequently such ends adapt themselves to the form which the article of apparel has when it is actually being worn, this adaption occurring automatically and within relatively wide limits independently of the various dimensions of the articles of apparel where the sleeve is attached to the shoulder. Due to the automatic correct configuration of the hanger under the weight of clothing even the most delicate material is not subjected to the distortion so that such articles can be stored hanging on such a hanger whereas hitherto they have had to be stored in the horizontal position. Such a hanger affords the further advantage that it does not occupy more space than an ordinary wooden hanger which, for example, is of particular importance when it is to be employed in warehouses, trunks and the like.

It has already been proposed to provide the ends of a clothes hanger with a pear-shaped body of sponge-rubber the enlarged and solid end projecting beyond the end of the hanger being bent downwardly to a certain extent under the weight of the article placed on the hanger and thereby adapting itself to a certain extent to the configuration of the article of apparel. As, however, such a body is relatively rigid, this effect is obtained only with relatively heavy articles of apparel and even then only to a limited extent. In addition such sponge rubber bodies are not very permanent and are bulky. Consequently a clothes hanger constructed in this manner cannot attain the object of the present invention.

Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawing shows an ordinary clothes hanger as commonly used prior to the present invention, Figs. 2, 3, and 4 each show one embodiment of a clothes hanger constructed in accordance with the invention and Fig. 5 represents the effect of the new hanger in contradistinction to that in Fig. 1.

The hanger according to the invention consists of a rigid central portion *a* of wood or the like with an elastic flexible body at either end, this body being cylindrical or tapering towards its outer end.

In the embodiment according to Fig. 2 a length of rubber tubing *b* of a thickness appropriate for the present purpose and of an appropriate length is positioned on each end of the rigid portion *a*. The tube can be pushed on to the rigid portion *a* so as to fit tightly about it only by this manner, or the tubings *b* may additionally be fixed on the rigid portion *a* by means of an adhesive paste or by means of a squeezing member.

In the embodiment according to Fig. 3 a rubber tubing b^1 is pushed tightly on to the rigid portion *a* of the hanger and the ends b^2 of the tubing b^1 are projecting an appropriate length beyond the ends of the hanger portion so as to constitute elastic flexible extensions. The ends b^2 of the tubing b^1 and likewise the ends of the tubings b in the embodiment according to Fig. 2 may be closed by a button *e* or the like and the coverings b^1 and *b* may be of any suitable color or multicolored.

In the embodiment according to Fig. 4 closely wound helical or conical springs *d* are mounted at the ends of the rigid portion *a* and they may be provided with a cover *c* of woven or knitted fabric.

An article of apparel hung on such a hanger automatically causes the ends of the hanger, as is shown in Fig. 5, to bend downwardly in a form corresponding to the article of apparel at the point where the sleeve is attached to the shoulder so that the ends of the hanger automatically assume a curve corresponding to the shape of the

article, whereas the rigid central portion which has the shape of the shoulder section of the article of apparel retains this shape even under the weight of the article. If the flexible end portions have a rough surface as is the case for example with rubber, then they also afford the advantage of preventing the article of apparel from sliding off the hanger.

As indicated in Fig. 5 the hanger may be constructed as a pedestal hanger instead of a suspended hanger as in Figs. 2, 3, and 4. Further the hanger can be made to fold in any suitable way as with the known travelling hangers. If such hanger is made appropriately strong then it is particularly suitable as a hanger for fur coats and the like for which it is very disadvantageous to use an incorrectly shaped hanger. The hanger may have any suitable cross-section, for instance it may be circular, oval or rectangular. As the thickness of the hanger is not increased by the resilient ends it does not occupy any more space than the customary wooden hangers which is of particular importance for example when employing the hanger in warehouses.

As shown in Fig. 4 a cross-bar *f* for the suspension of the lower ends of clothing, of trousers, stockings and the like may be joined to the hanger and this cross-bar can also be provided with a covering of rubber or the like.

What I claim is:

1. A clothes hanger comprising a rigid central element and elastic resilient elements of hollow cross section connected to the ends of said rigid element, said hollow elements extending beyond the ends of said rigid element, no portion of said hollow elements being of greater cross section than the portion thereof connecting said hollow elements to said rigid element.

2. A clothes hanger as claimed in claim 1, in which the resilient elements are constituted by lengths of rubber tubing.

3. A clothes hanger as claimed in claim 1, in which the rigid element is provided with a covering of rubber tubing the ends of which are elastic and flexibly projecting beyond the ends of the rigid element.

4. A clothes hanger as claimed in claim 1, in which the resilient elements are constituted by a coil spring.

5. A clothes hanger as claimed in claim 1, in which the resilient elements are constituted by a coil spring, and a covering surrounding said spring.

OLGA BRODEWITZ.