United States Patent

[11] 3,547,321

[72] Inventor **Walton B. Crane**
Los Angeles County, Calif.

[21] Appl. No. **829,665**
[22] Filed **June 2, 1969**
[45] Patented **Dec. 15, 1970**

[73] Assignee **Allied Plastics Company**
Los Angeles, Calif.
a corporation of California

[54] **GARMENT HANGER FOR TWO PIECE LADIES'SWIMSUIT OR THE LIKE**
1 Claim, 5 Drawing Figs.

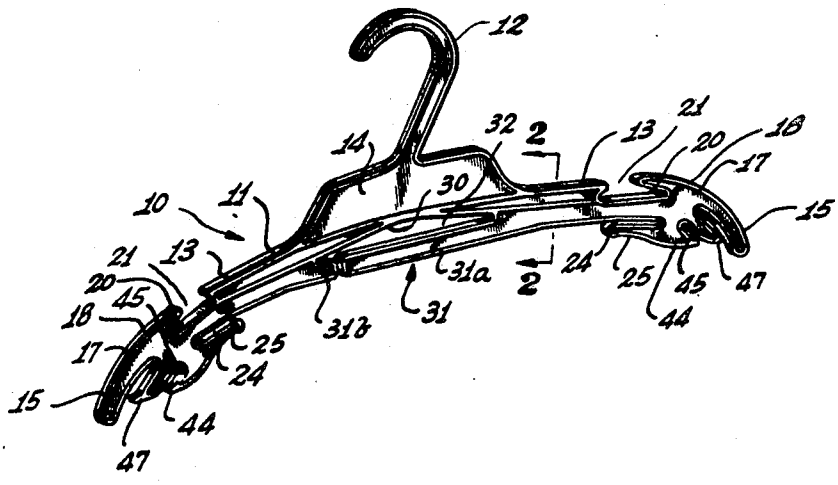
[52] **U.S. Cl.** **223/88**
[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47j 51/097**
51/097
[50] **Field of Search** 223/85, 88, 91, 92, 93, 95, 87

[56] **References Cited**
UNITED STATES PATENTS

D192,280	2/1962	Zuckerman	(223/92UX)
D205,113	6/1966	Coon	(223/88UX)
1,619,992	3/1927	Smith	223/88
2,150,869	3/1939	Shafarman	223/88
2,191,714	2/1940	Gustin	(223/85UX)
2,596,745	5/1952	Waldman	223/88
3,319,850	5/1967	Rosen	223/92
2,149,674	3/1939	Hendrix	223/95
2,387,681	10/1945	Reed et al.	223/87
2,549,297	4/1951	Dobana	223/88
3,243,087	3/1966	Pulitzer	223/87

Primary Examiner—Jordan Franklin
Assistant Examiner—George H. Krizmanich
Attorney—Forrest J. Lilly

ABSTRACT: A hanger for one-piece or two-piece women's swimsuits, in the general form of a common coat hanger. A short horizontal bar is provided on the under side of the hanger, in the central region thereof, and supports the crotch of the swimsuit. In the case of the trunks of a two-piece suit downwardly and outwardly projecting hooks engage in the waistband thereof, so as to support the trunks in a doubled and space-saving position. The shoulder straps of the upper garment or bra of the two-piece suit are engaged in pairs or recesses formed above and below the hanger, and support the garment high on the hanger, also in a space-saving position. In the case of a one-piece suit, the crotch is suspended as before, the suit hangs doubled, and the shoulder straps are engaged in the aforementioned recesses, the same as those of the bra in the first example, so that the suit then hangs between the crotch bar and the pairs of arm recesses. The suit then again hangs in a relative short vertical distance.



PATENTED DEC 15 1970

3,547,321

Fig. 1

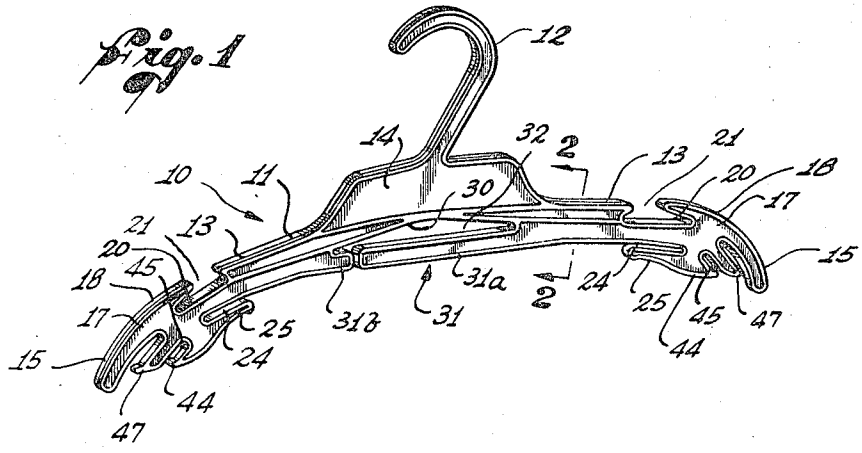


Fig. 2

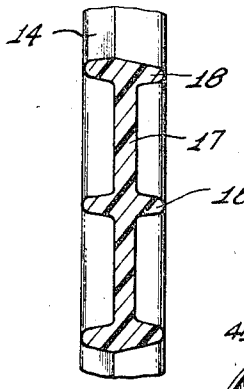


Fig. 3

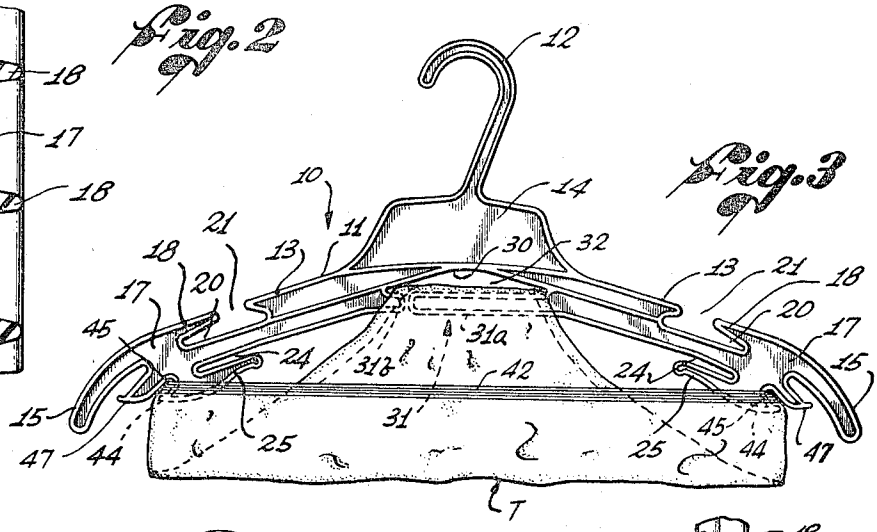


Fig. 4

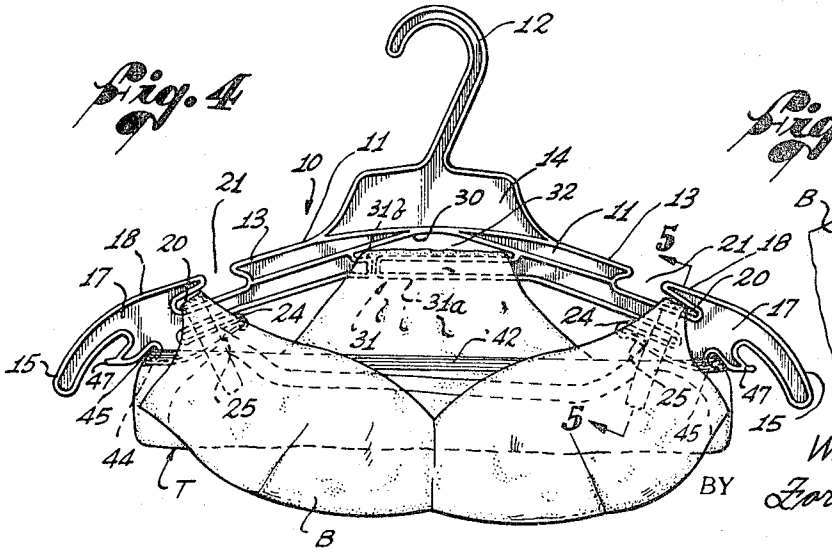
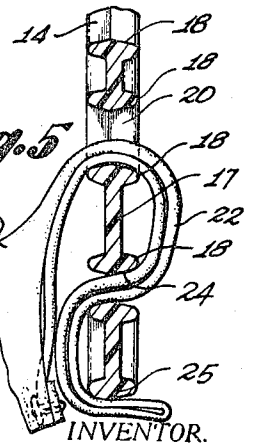


Fig. 5



INVENTOR.
WALTON B. CRANE
BY Forrest J. Lilly
ATTORNEY

GARMENT HANGER FOR TWO PIECE LADIES'SWIMSUIT OR THE LIKE

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to garment hangers, and more particularly to a garment hanger of the common type comprised of two curved arms extending oppositely from a hook, especially adapted to hang either a one-piece or two-piece ladies' swim outfit, such as an ordinary one-piece suit, or a two-piece suit comprised of a bra, or other upper garment, having shoulder straps, and a lower garment in the nature of trunks, generally without legs, and characterized by a crotch and a waistband.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The warehousing of garments in the garment industry often presents a space problem, It is often desirable to hang certain types of garments from garment hangers in order to preserve them from wrinkling or crushing, and this method of storage is especially uneconomical of space. It is the primary purpose of the present invention to provide a hanger for ladies' swimwear according to which the suit is supported on a clothes hanger substantially of the common general form of conventional coat or garment hangers, with minimized space requirements.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to the invention, the upper part of a two-piece swimsuit, a bra, for example, is suspended from the two arms of the hanger by inserting its shoulder straps first into slots formed in the upper sides of the hanger arms, and then into second slots in the undersides of the hanger arms. The straps are thereby bound sufficiently to avoid sliding through, and the straps can be pulled through the slots until the points of attachment to the garment are immediately adjacent the arms of the hanger, and are thus held high. A one-piece suit is hung from the shoulder straps in the same manner. Thus by this means, the entire bra or other upper garment can be supported high on the hanger arms, with only a few inches of drop therebelow. A one-piece suit is hung differently at the bottom, as will appear presently. The lower garment or trunks of a two-piece suit, or the bottom of a one-piece suit, are suspended by running the crotch thereof over a horizontal projecting arm or tongue located under the arms of the hanger, in its medial portion. The waistband of a trunk-type garment is then stretched over outward projections formed on the lower portions of the hanger arms, so that the trunks are doubled or hung in a "loop", and so that their vertical hanging distance is reduced, and they also are thus supported high on the hanger. The doubling of the garment, of course, shortens the vertical distance by which it hangs from the hanger arms. A one-piece suit will be seen to hang doubled, between the crotch bar and the slots or recesses of the hanger arms.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a hanger in accordance with the invention;

FIG. **2** is a transverse section taken on line **2–2** of FIG. 1;

FIG. **3** is a side elevational view of the hanger of FIG. **1**, showing thereon the lower part or trunks of a ladies' two-piece swimsuit;

FIG. **4** is a view similar to FIG. **3**, but showing the upper part of the swimsuit added to the hanger; and

FIG. **5** is a section to an enlarged scale taken on line **5–5** of FIG. **4**.

DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

A hanger in accordance with the invention is designated at **10** in the drawings, and comprises a body having two arms **13** extending oppositely and downwardly from an apical medial portion or neck **14** which supports a hook *h*.The arms **13** are at an obtuse angle relative to one another of 25° to 30°, preferably, terminating in downwardly curved ends **15** at approximately 45° to horizontal at their extremities. The hanger is fabricated of a suitable plastic material, preferably a thermoplastic, and is made up of a flat web **17**, surrounded by or afforded with bracing ribs or beads **18** in a suitable pattern for good bracing, as illustrated.

The arms **13** of the garment hanger are formed, in their upper edge portions, with elongated slats or recesses **20**, generally parallel with the arms, and entered via narrowed passages **21**, to receive the doubled shoulder straps **22** of the upper garment B, in this case the bra of a two-piece suit. These recesses **20** are properly spaced for the average shoulder strap spacing to be accommodated. In the undersides of the hanger arms, just under the recesses **20**, and parallel therewith, are formed elongated notches or recesses **24**, preferably, and in this case, opening under the arms **13** towards the center or apex of the hanger. These notches are defined by fingers **25** formed on the undersides of the arms **13**, somewhat inside the curved arm tips **15**, and pointing generally upward along the angled arms **15**, just below the latter. As shown, the entrance passageways **21** into the recesses **20** are located toward the upper ends of the latter, and the fingers **25** terminate just about in line with the upper ends of the passageways **21**, considered in planes at right angles to the arms. The shoulder straps **22** of the bra or other garment to be hung are conveniently first doubled, then entered into the recesses **20** through the passages **21**, then moved slightly upwards in the recesses **20**, pulled down and engaged over the tips of the fingers **25**, moved edgewise into the notches **24**, and then pulled endwise through the recesses **20** and notches **24** until the garment, just below the straps, is immediately adjacent the arms **13**. The straps **24** will then be tightly enough bound to assure that the garment will not slip off the hanger. The widths of the recesses or notches **20** and **24** are, of course, made appropriate for the thickness of the shoulder straps to be used therewith to assure a light but adequate binding action. The fingers **25**, in this connection being made of plastic, are somewhat resilient, and in the case of a heavy garment, can if the notch is initially made somewhat narrow for the thickness of the straps be designed to resiliently deflect slightly as the straps are pushed into place, so as to afford a resilient damping action on the straps.

The provisions for hanging the lower garment of the two-piece combination are as follows:

The arms **13** at the underside of the hanger, below the neck or apical medial portion **14**, are formed with a wide angle, inverted V-notch **30**, preferably at the same included angle made by the arms **13**. Across this notch, at a distance of approximately one-half inch below the apex of the wide angle of the notch, and extending horizontally between the arms **13**, is a hanger bar **31**. The structure somewhat resembles a flattish or wide-angle letter A, with the bar **31** constituting the cross bar of the A. The width of the triangular recess **32** formed by the notch **30** and the top edge of the bar **31** is conveniently about 3⅜ inches. The bar **31** intersects the arms of the hanger at points very approximately one-quarter of the lengths of the arms, measured from the apex of the hanger to the tips of the arms. The bar **31** is divided into two parts of unequal length, **31***a* and **31***b*, by a narrow slot **33** near one end. These two parts **31***a*and **31***b* merge or join integrally at one end with the arms **13**, and in effect increase their widths outside of and below the recess. The opposite ends of the bar parts **31***a* and **31***b* are free. The long bar part or tongue **31***a* is resiliently laterally deflectable to one side or the other. Thus the tongue **31***a* may be bent open, like a gate, and thrust through the crotch portion **40** of the trunks, designated generally at T. Thus, to hang the trunks, they are held crotch up, the tongue **31***a* is pushed to one side, threaded through the crotch, and released. The crotch then spreads laterally over onto the bar part **31***b*, to hang smoothly from substantially the full length of the two-piece bar **31**.

The trunks, hanging from the bar **31**, are then doubled and lifted, and the waistband **42** thereof hooked over a pair of projections or hooks **44** formed at the opposite ends of the afore-

mentioned fingers **25**. The projections **44** are thus on the undersides of the arms **13**, and project outward and downward. The waistband of the garment is thus stretched over the hooks **44** and engaged in the notches **45** therebehind. The trunks thus hang smoothly in a doubled, space-saving position between the crotch bar **31** and the waist hooks **44**. For trunks of a larger waist size, a pair of wider-spaced waist supporting projections **47** are provided just outside the projections **44**.

The case of the one-piece suit need not be illustrated. The bottom end is hung by its crotch over the bar **31**, the suit is doubled, and the shoulder straps are laced into and bound by the recesses **20** and **24**. If the one-piece suit has a skirt, it may be hooked over the projections **44** or **47**.

A neat package of small bulk and small vertical dimensions is thus provided for either type of suit.

It is evident that the hanger is also capable of use as an ordinary garment hanger for coats, dresses, or shoulder strap garments such as slips.

I claim:

1. A hanger composed of a plastic material for use in compactly hanging a garment having a crotch at the bottom, including:

a hanger body comprised of an elongated hook-supporting medial portion having oppositely projecting arms;

a hook connected to the center of said medial portion;

a horizontal, crotch-support bar spaced underneath said medial portion and terminating at its ends in the central region of the hanger at spaced points on opposite sides of said hook in general proximity to said medial portion, said bar being integrally joined at both its ends with said hanger body and comprising two separate parts having closely spaced opposed ends defining an entrance slot for insertion and threading thereof through a crotch portion of a garment, said separate parts being of unequal length one of which is resiliently bendable to the side, garment-engaging means on said arms spaced from said medial portion including slots formed in the upper surface portions of and parallel to said arms, said arms including narrow openings leading into said slots from the upper surfaces thereof, elongated recesses formed in the lower surfaces and longitudinally of said arms directly below said slots and opening toward each other, and oppositely and outwardly directed fingers formed on the undersides of said arms outwardly of said recesses, said slots and recesses adapted to engaged garment shoulder strap portions with said fingers adapted to engage with a waistband of a garment while a crotch thereof is supported on said crotch-support bar.