Feb. 23, 1965 H. KANNEGIESSER ETAL 3,170,610

GARMENT PRESS

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Fig. 1

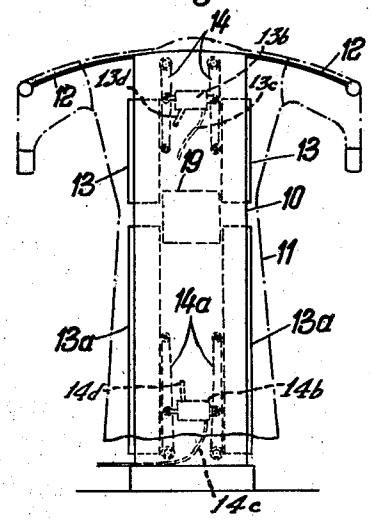


Fig. 2

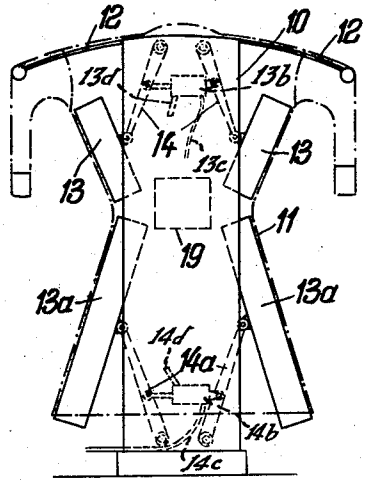


Fig. 3

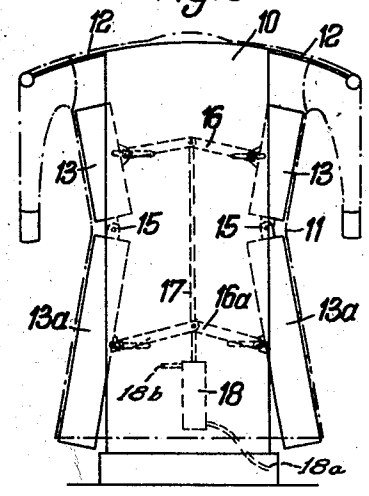


Fig. 4

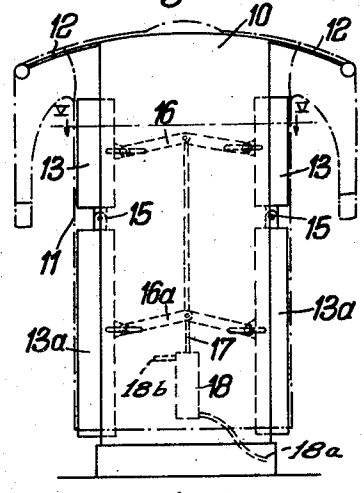


Fig. 6

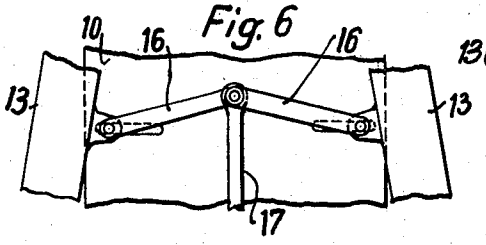
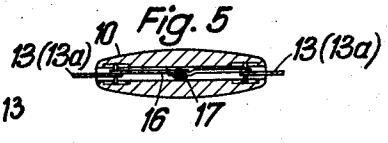


Fig. 5



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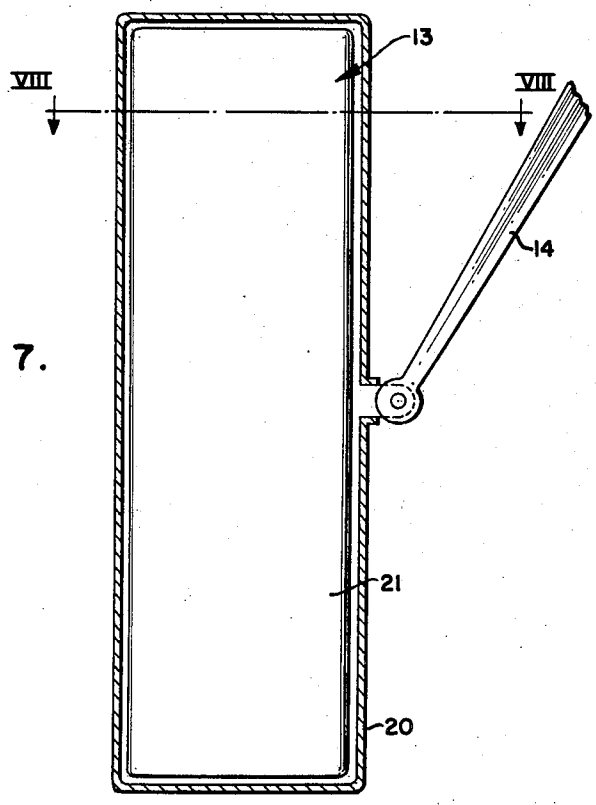


FIG. 7.

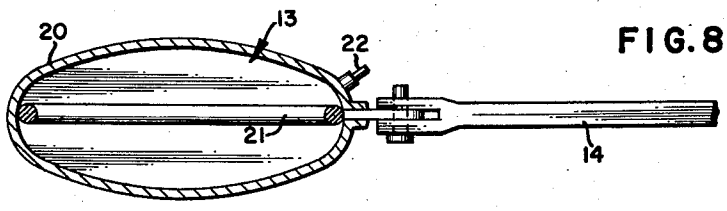


FIG. 8.

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3,170,610

GARMENT PRESS

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Filed Aug. 16, 1961, Ser. No. 131,760
4 Claims. (Cl. 223—57)

The present invention relates to a garment press with press plates adapted from both sides to press against a press body receiving the garment to be pressed.

With garment presses of this type it is known to employ spreaders or spreader plates which are arranged at least partially in the press body and are adapted to be moved out of the press body so as to hold the garment on the press body in taut condition. In connection with such an arrangement, it has already been suggested to provide link-controlled spreader plates at the free sides.

It is furthermore known, in order to spread the garment to be pressed, to employ link systems with vertical bars which, however, do not serve as pressing plates.

In connection with pants spreaders, it has been suggested to employ superimposed wooden spreader members which, however, do not serve as pressing plates but have the sole purpose of spreading and shaping.

It has also been suggested to provide the press body at both ends with spring urged spreaders which, however, likewise do not serve as pressing plates. In other words, no pressing is carried out on such spreaders.

Finally, it may be mentioned that the heretofore known spreader plates serving as pressing plates consist of one piece.

It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a garment press having spreader and pressing plates adapted to be moved out of the press body, in such a way that they will be able to spread the garment to be pressed in conformity with the cut of the garment. In this connection, it is a well known fact that ladies' dresses, for instance, are cut to body shape whereas men's garments extend straight from top to bottom. Thus, if a ladies' garment which is cut to body shape is to be spread taut on the press body, the heretofore fin-like spreading means, which consists of one piece, cannot be used because they can be spread only straight from top to bottom.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a garment press of the above mentioned type, which will be simple in construction and easy to handle.

It is still another object of this invention to provide a garment press of the type outlined above which may be used for both ladies' garments cut to shape and men's garments.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more clearly from the following specification in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 diagrammatically illustrates a garment press according to the present invention with the spreader fins moved to their inward position while a ladies' garment, indicated in dot-dash lines, is placed over said press.

FIGURE 2 diagrammatically shows the press according to FIGURE 1 with individually operable spreader fins moved outwardly into their garment spreading position.

FIGURE 3 diagrammatically illustrates a garment press similar to that of FIGURES 1 and 2 but differing therefrom in that the spreader fins are operable in common.

FIGURE 4 diagrammatically illustrates the garment press of FIGURE 3 with a man's garment mounted thereon while the spreader fins are in their outward or spreading position.

FIGURE 5 is a cross section through FIGURE 4 taken along the line V—V without the garment on the press body.

FIGURE 6 is a fragmentary view drawn at enlarged scale to show the spreader fins of FIGURES 3 and 4 more clearly.

FIGURE 7 shows an expansible spreader fin.

FIGURE 8 is a section on line VIII—VIII of FIGURE 7.

The present invention is characterized primarily in that along each free side of the press body there are provided at least two spreader and press plates which are pivotably mounted in one plane and are adapted selectively to be moved outwardly and inwardly. The spreader and pressing plates are in conformity with one embodiment of the invention linked to each other.

It is furthermore advantageous to design the spreader fins as inflatable bodies.

Referring now to the drawings in detail and FIGS. 1 and 2 thereof in particular, the garment press shown therein comprises a press body **10** with spreader means **13**, **13***a* for instance in the shape of plate-like spreader fins, over which the garment **11** to be pressed is placed.

In a manner known per se, the garment press is provided with sleeve supports **12**. In conformity with the present invention, the spread fins are on each side of the press body subdivided into two or more spreader means **13**, **13***a* arranged at different heights. The upper spreader means **13** which may be formed by boards, plates or inflatable hollow bodies may be tiltable individually, for instance by means of levers **14** in such a way that said spreaders will move beyond the sides of the press body **10** and will be able, as shown in FIG. 2 to spread and hold taut that garment portion which is located above the waistline. The lower spreader means **13***a* are, for instance by means of levers **14***a* tiltable in the same manner and likewise movable outwardly as shown in the drawing.

The actuation of the tilting means may be effected by pressure means, for instance pneumatically or electrically. In FIGURES 1 and 2 expansible motors **13***b* and **14***b* are shown connected between pairs of levers **14** and **14***a* and which may collapse by spring force or fluid pressure, and which can be expanded by fluid pressure to spread the levers connected thereto apart. Each motor consists of a piston pivoted to one lever and a cylinder pivoted to another lever. Conduits **13***c* and **14***c* supply fluid to expand motors **13***b* and **14***b* and conduits **13***d* and **14***d* may supply fluid to collapse the motors. Due to the fact that the spreader means **13**, **13***a* of FIGS. 1 and 2 are operable individually and are movable beyond the outer contour of the press body and may be held in the respective position, it will be obvious that a ladies' garment cut to body shape may be spread taut in a proper manner. The press body is in the manner known per se adapted to be moved into a cabinet comprising two press plates which are adapted to press against the press body from both sides. Inasmuch as garment presses equipped with press plates adapted to be pressed from the outside against an intermediate press body are well known in the art, it would appear that no detailed description of such pressing cabinet with the outer press plates is necessary.

Advantageously, the press body is provided with abutment means **19** for limiting the inward movement of the spreader means. These abutment means **19**, for instance in form of a plate, are advantageously provided between the pivots linking levers **14**, **14***a* to the respective fins **13**, **13***a*.

The modification illustrated in FIGS. 3, 4, 5 and 6 differs from that of FIGS. 1 and 2 in that the spreader means **13**, **13***a* are so interconnected that they are movable out in common from each side of the press body **10**

by link means, hinges 15, etc. This common tilting of the spreader means 13, 13*a* on both sides of the press body is advantageously effected by levers 16, 16*a* which may be toggle levers, elbow levers or the like, said levers being linked to the spreader means. By displacing a bar 17, for instance by means of a pressure fluid cylinder piston system 18 having supply conduits 18*a* and 18*b*, it will be possible to tilt the spreader means in common thereby making it possible simultaneously to spread the garment at its upper as well as its lower portion.

FIG. 4 indicates how, by means of the same press not only ladies' garments out to body shape but also straight garments may be spread. In the last mentioned instance, the spreader fins will engage the garment along a substantially vertical line.

FIGURES 7 and 8 show how a spreader fin could be formed of a flexible gas tight envelope 20 with a support member 21 therein pivoted to lever 14 so the fin could be inflated and assume a predetermined desired shape. A valve can be availed of for supplying fluid to the inside of envelope 20.

It is, of course, to be understood that the present invention is, by no means, limited to the particular construction shown in the drawings, but also comprises any modifications within the scope of the appended claims.

What we claim is:

1. A press body adapted for use in a garment press having press plates operable for engaging the front and back of the press body for pressing garments on said body, said body being adapted to receive and support a garment to be pressed, at least two spreader fin plates arranged one above the other on each side of said press body and supported by said press body and respectively movable laterally outwardly with regard to said press body, all of said spreader fin plates being located substantially in one and the same plane, a single link for each spreader fin plate pivotally supported at one end by said press body and pivotally connected at the other end to a single intermediate point only on the respective said spreader fin plate and operable to actuate the latter in said plane, each said spreader fin plate being freely tiltable in said plane and independently of the others of said

spreader fin plates and about the said point of connection thereof with respective said link so as to adjust to the configuration of the garment to be pressed which is placed on the body, and fluids operable means connected to said link responsive to pressure for actuating said link to move said spreader fin plates laterally relative to said body thereby to hold a garment spread out for being acted on by said press plates.

2. A press body according to claim 1 wherein the pair of spreader fin plates on each side of said press body is arranged with one above and one below the region along the body where the smallest lateral dimension of the garment placed on the body will lie.

3. A press body according to claim 2 in which the links pertaining to the spreader fin plates on respectively opposite sides of said press body at the same level are linked together for common operation.

4. A press body according to claim 2 in which all of said links are linked together to actuate said spreader fin plates in unison, and said fluid operable means comprises a single fluid operable water connected to all of said links to actuate said spreader fin plates.

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