April 20, 1965 C. UNDERWOOD 3,179,256

SUPPORTING BRACKET FOR MULTIPLE CLOTHES HANGERS

Filed Feb. 10, 1964

FIG. 1

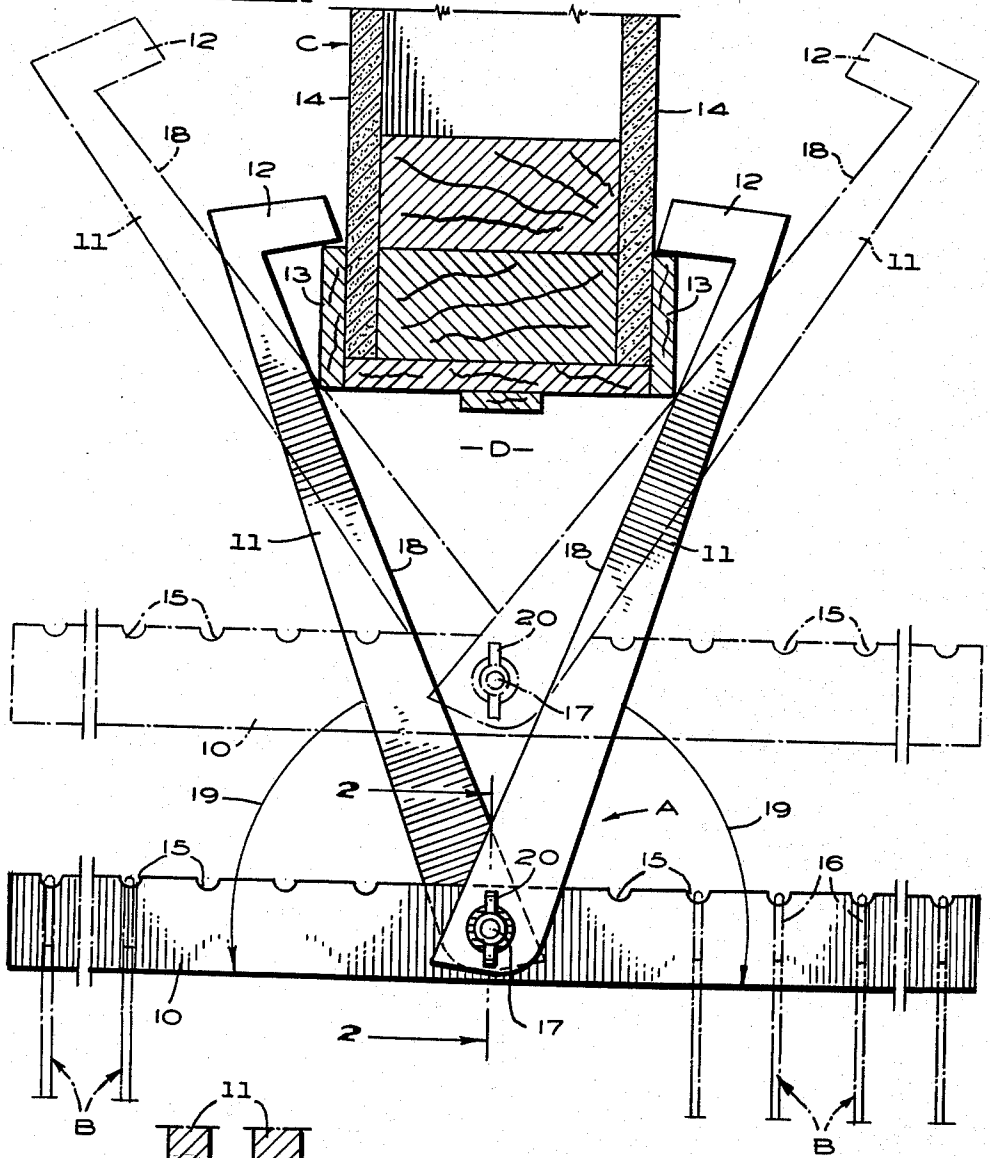


FIG. 2

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SUPPORTING BRACKET FOR MULTIPLE CLOTHES HANGERS

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3 Claims. (Cl. 211—118)

The present invention relates to improvements in a supporting bracket for multiple clothes hangers. It consists of the combinations, constructions and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

An object of this invention is to provide a supporting bracket that may be readily engaged with molding strips that are mounted on opposite faces of a wall over a door opening, the bracket being provided with a bar constituting a support for a plurality of clothes hangers on which ironed garments may be placed.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a supporting bracket having hooks formed on a pair of hanger straps, these hooks being engageable with the molding strips so as to removably anchor the bracket in place.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a supporting bracket that may be easily disengaged from the molding strips by merely pushing the bracket upwardly relative to the wall above the door opening.

Other objects and advantages will appear as the specification continues. The novel features of the invention will be pointed out in the annexed claims.

For a better understanding of the invention, reference should be made to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which:

FIGURE 1 is an elevational view of my supporting bracket for multiple clothes hangers, the hooks on the hanger straps being shown in full lines as engaging with molding strips on a sectionalized wall above a door opening, the dot-dash lines indicating the bracket in a raised position with the hooks being disengaged from the molding strips; and

FIGURE 2 is an enlarged transverse sectional view taken along the vertical plane 2—2 in FIGURE 1.

While I have shown only the preferred form of my invention, it should be understood that various changes, or modifications, may be made within the scope of the annexed claims without departing from the spirit thereof.

Detailed description

Referring now to the drawing in detail, it will be noted that I have provided a supporting bracket designated generally at A, and including a bar **10** constituting a support for a plurality of conventional clothes hangers B. Moreover, the bracket A defines a pair of hanger straps **11—11** having their lower ends secured to the bar **10** to support the latter. Each hanger strap **11** is fashioned with a hook **12** at its upper end, and these hooks project toward one another so as to be engageable over molding strips **13—13** that are mounted on opposite faces **14—14** of a wall C over a door opening D, with the bar **10** being disposed in this opening.

As clearly shown in FIGURE 1 of the drawing, the hanger straps **11—11** are secured to the bar **10** at substantially the midpoint of the latter, and the bar has sufficient length to project beyond the opposite faces **14—14** of the wall C. This arrangement will permit a plurality of clothes hangers B to be supported on the bar **10** on opposite end sections thereof. The clothes hangers B are adapted to have ironed garments placed thereon. Notches **15** of any suitable shape may be formed in the bar **10** to receive hooks **16** on the clothes hangers.

The lower ends of the hanger straps **11—11** are swingably connected to the bar **10** by a bolt **17**, the axis of this bolt extending transversely relative to the bar. Thus the

hooks **12—12** may be swung toward one another so as to engage over the molding strips **13—13**, as shown on solid lines in FIGURE 1.

It will be apparent that the hanger straps **11—11** diverge upwardly from the bolt **17**, the latter providing the swingable connection between the hanger straps **11—11** and the bar **10**. The hanger straps have inclined inner edges **18—18** that will cam against the molding strips **13—13** to automatically disengage the hooks **12** from the molding strips, when the supporting bracket A is pushed upwardly relative to the wall C, as illustrated by dot-dash lines in FIGURE 1.

The hanger straps **11—11** are swingable into folded position extending lengthwise of the bar **10**, as suggested by the arrows **19**. This will provide a compact unit for packaging and/or storage.

In order to retain the hanger straps **11—11** in a position wherein their hooks **12—12** engage with the molding strips **13—13**, a wing nut **20** has been provided on the threaded end of the bolt **17**. As shown in FIGURE 2, the other end of the bolt may have an enlarged head **21** that is shaped to project inwardly of a washer **22** so as to grip the adjacent hanger strap **11** (left side of FIGURE 2), when the nut **20** is tightened. Also, this head may be grasped in one hand while the nut **20** is tightened by the other hand of an operator so that the bolt will be held against turning. The same bolt **17** and nut **20** may be used to hold the hanger straps in folded position relative to the bar **10**.

It will be seen from FIGURE 1 that each hanger strap **11** is substantially 7-shaped in outline.

Of course, any suitable material, such as wood, plastic, plywood, etc., may be used for the bar **10** and the hanger straps **11—11**, and that the supporting bracket A may be made in any desired size and dimensions.

I claim:

1. A supporting bracket for multiple clothes hangers comprising:
   - (*a*) a bar constituting a support for multiple clothes hangers;
   - (*b*) a pair of hanger straps having their lower ends swingably secured to the bar to support the latter;
   - (*c*) each hanger strap being fashioned with a hook at its upper end;
   - (*d*) the hooks projecting toward one another so as to be engageable over molding strips that are mounted on opposite faces of a wall over a door opening, with the bar being disposed in said opening;
   - (*e*) the upper ends of the hanger straps being swingable toward and away from one another so as to be engaged with and disengaged from the molding strips, respectively;
   - (*f*) the hanger straps diverging upwardly relative to one another from their swingable connection with the bar;
   - (*g*) the hanger straps having inclined inner edges that will cam against the molding strips to automatically disengage the hooks from the molding strips, when the supporting bracket is pushed upwardly relative to said wall;
   - (*h*) the hanger straps being swingable about an axis extending transversely relative to the bar;
   - (*i*) the bar having its end sections projecting substantially the same distance to each side of the axis;
   - (*j*) the hanger straps being swingable into folded position extending lengthwise relative to the bar;
   - (*k*) and means operable to lock the hanger straps in any position to which they are swung.

2. A supporting bracket for multiple clothes hangers comprising:
   - (*a*) a bar constituting a support for multiple clothes hangers;

(*b*) a pair of hanger straps having their lower ends swingably connected to the bar for swinging about an axis extending transversely relative to the bar, with the hanger straps being movable in planes paralleling the length of the bar;

(*c*) each hanger strap being fashioned with a hook at its upper end with the hooks projecting toward one another;

(*d*) the hooks being movable with their hanger straps about said axis toward one another so as to be engageable over molding strips that are mounted on opposite faces of a wall over a door opening, with the bar adapted to be disposed in such opening;

(*e*) the upper ends of the hanger straps being swingable away from one another about said axis so as to disengage the hooks from molding strips;

(*f*) the hanger straps diverging upwardly relative to one another from their swingable connection with the bar, when the hooks are engaged over molding strips;

(*g*) and the hanger straps having unobstructed inclined inner edges that will cam against molding strips to automatically swing the hanger straps apart about said axis to disengage the hooks from molding strips, when the supporting bracket is pushed upwardly.

3. The supporting bracket for multiple clothes hangers, as set forth in claim 2:

(*h*) and in which the swingable connection is provided by a bolt and nut, and being operable to clamp the hanger straps in any position into which they are swung about said axis, the bolt extending through the hanger straps and bar.

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