

J. A. SHOEMAKER.
CLOTHES HANGER.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 15, 1917.

1,293,953.

Patented Feb. 11, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

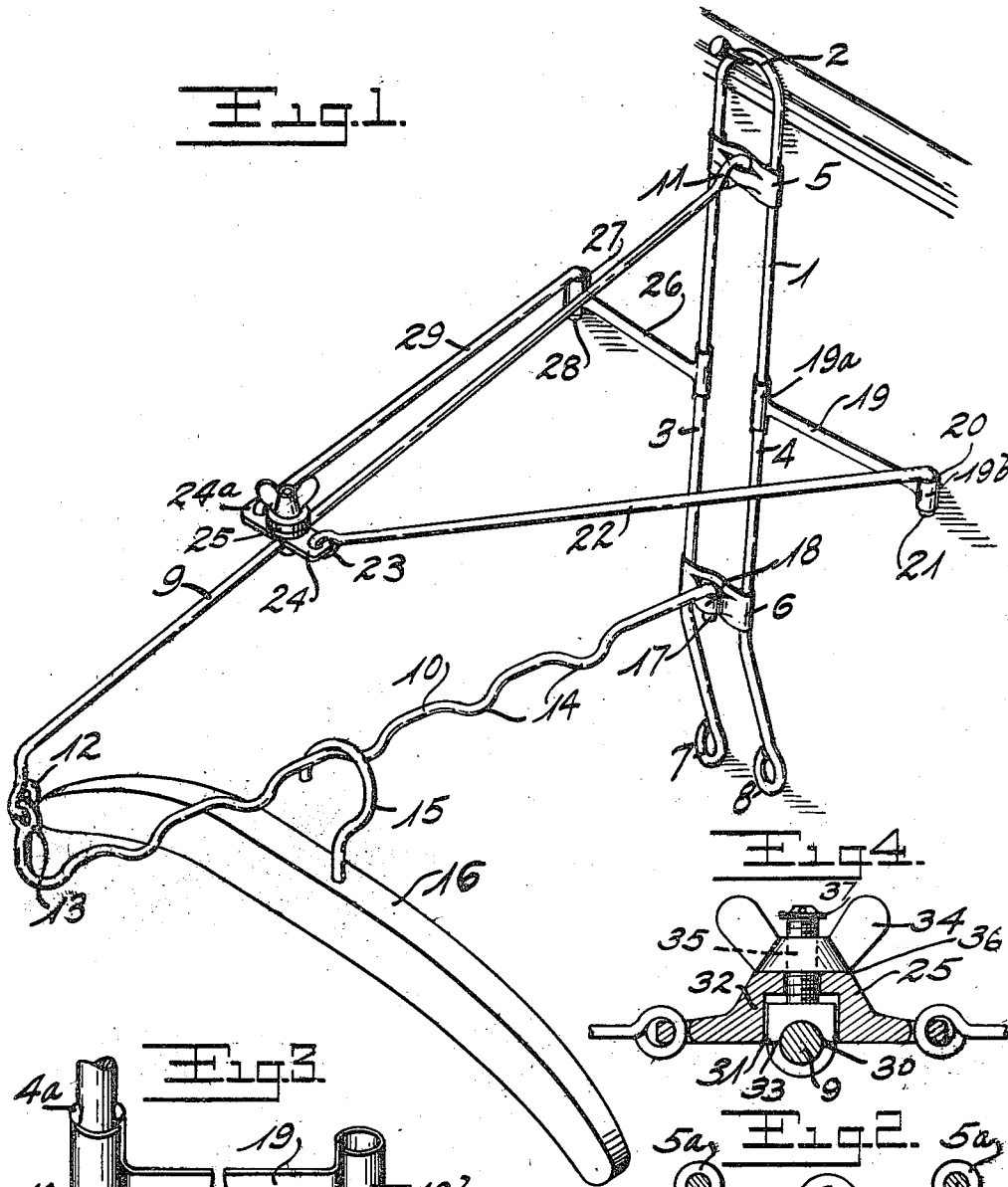


Fig. 4.

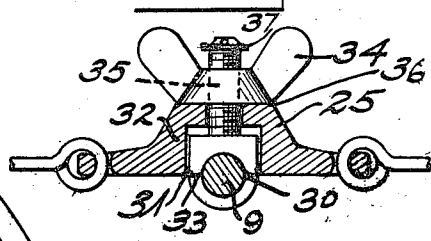


Fig. 2.

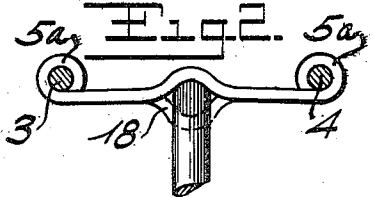
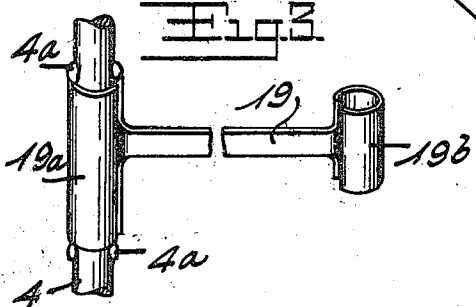


Fig. 3.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

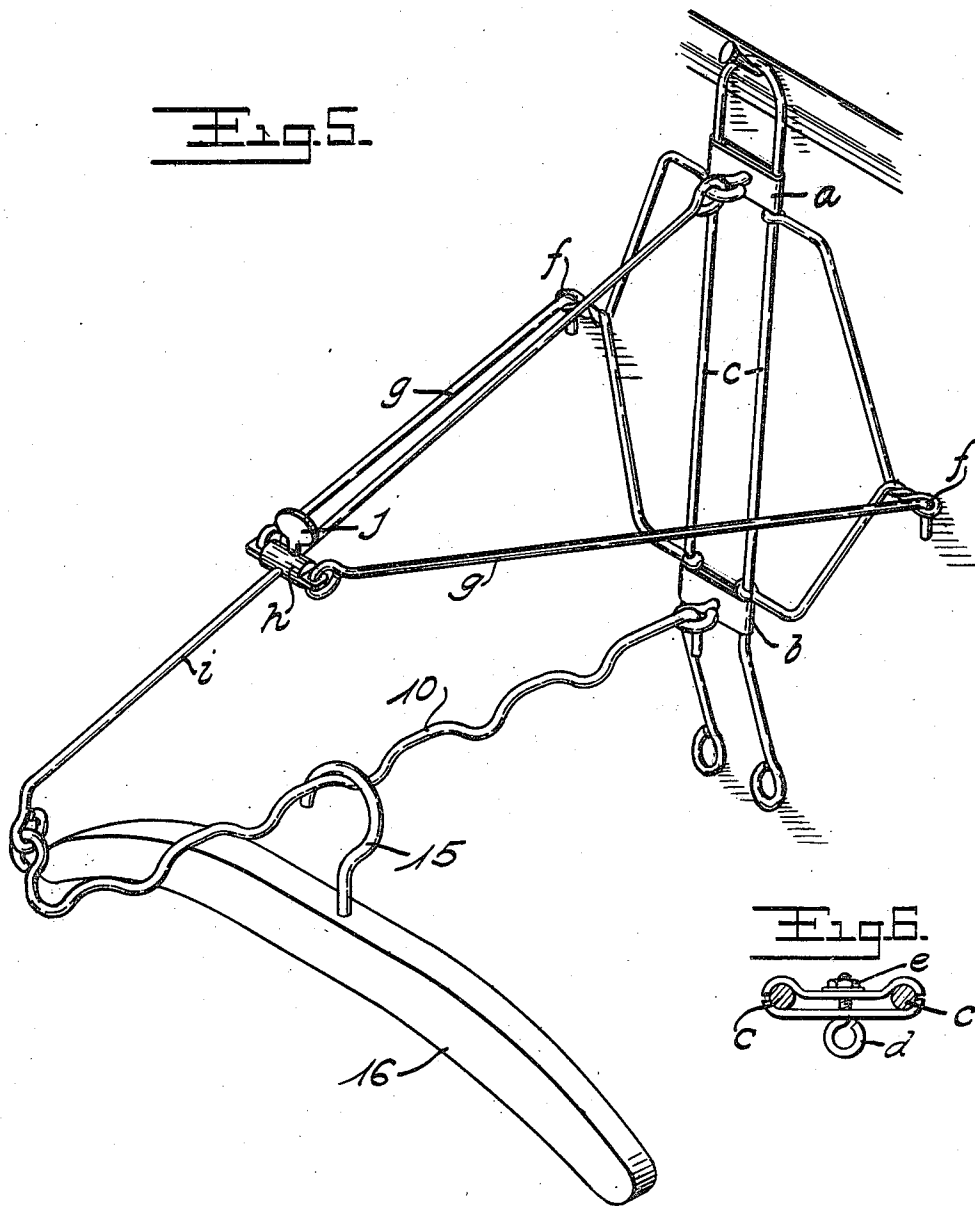
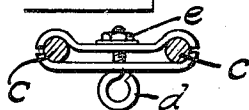


Fig. 6.



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CLOTHES-HANGER.

1,293,953.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 11, 1919.

Application filed March 15, 1917. Serial No. 154,932.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH A. SHOEMAKER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and the State of New York, (whose post-office address is 451 East 28th street, Brooklyn, N. Y.,) have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Hangers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, whereby any one skilled in the art may make and use the same.

The invention relates to clothes hangers, and more particularly to a collapsible folding type of support for a plurality of garment supporting members. The primary object of the invention is to provide a very substantial support, for a plurality of garment supporting devices, which will make available clothes hanging space for a number of suits, coats and other articles of wearing apparel from a single hook or nail.

A further object is to provide a collapsible folding support, of the character referred to, which may be conveniently carried as a toilet accessory in the luggage of a traveler, occupying but small space and in fact, being scarcely more cumbersome than the ordinary clothes arm or hanger which it may serve to support.

A still further object is to provide a device, of the character defined, which will be adjustable to meet various conditions of application, and may be suspended from a nail or hook, and rigidly tensioned with reference to the supporting wall, from which the hook projects, permitting the support of unusual weights for a minimum supporting strength of the nail or hook from which it is suspended.

A final object of the invention is to produce an efficient support or hanger for a plurality of clothes hangers, which will support a maximum weight from any given point of suspension; will be collapsible, and adjustable, and can be manufactured with great facility and produced at a very low cost.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the hanger and its method of application to a supporting nail or hook and wall.

Fig. 2 is a detail view of a spacing bracket of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a detail view illustrating a lat-

eral arm and its connections with the dependent supporting frame and tension bar, as used in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a detail view of the locking clamp of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to that of Fig. 1, showing the same elements but with slightly modified forms of the structural parts.

Fig. 6 is a detail view of the spacing and supporting brackets of Fig. 5.

While the device hereinafter described is termed a clothes hanger, it is in fact, what might better be termed a hanger for clothes hangers; inasmuch as it is a device designed to support a plurality of garment hangers. In fact, in its ability to give a substantial support for sustaining the combined weight of many garments, resides its true efficiency.

While being collapsible and adjustable, and of comparatively light weight and structural form, its elements are so disposed as to form trusses and struts to take up and distribute the strains of the load.

It is therefore possible to use a very light structural form to carry unusual weights, on the structure itself, with the great advantage of reducing the strain or pull upon the supporting nail or hook, combined with the advantages accruing from the added hanger space afforded in conjunction with a single hook.

While designed particularly for temporary use as a toilet accessory for travelers, it may be employed as a permanent fixture, to a door, closet wall, or other support occupying a minimum of space, and giving a maximum of supporting elements for clothing.

When collapsed, it is entirely unobjectionable, occupying no appreciable usable space, and when extended affording ample capacity, for supporting a considerable wardrobe.

In the accompanying drawings, the numeral 1, denotes a dependent support, herein illustrated as a comparatively light rod or wire, bent to U form to provide a supporting loop 2, and having its arms 3 and 4, extending in parallel relation between spacing and supporting bracket 5 and 6. The lower end of the arms 3 and 4, preferably terminate in loops or rings 7 and 8, and are bent somewhat at an angle to the main por-

tions of the arms 3 and 4, to provide an enlarged abutting base to bear against a wall or similar support, with slight resiliency.

By being curved or bent they will hold the support slightly away from the wall, giving ventilation between the wall and the supported garments, and preventing soiling of the garments through rubbing against the wall.

10 Extending between the bracket 5, and the bracket 6, there is a triangular strut arranged in a vertical plane, and having an upper tension bar 9, and a lower thrust and supporting bar 10.

15 The tension bar 9 has a loop 11, engaging the spacing and supporting bracket 5, and at its opposite end is provided with a loop 12, which engages an eye 13, of the thrust bar 10.

20 These connections permit the parts to move with reference to each other, so that the device may be unfolded and adjusted, in position for use, or may be collapsed for packing.

25 The thrust bar 10, is corrugated or intermittently provided with loops 14, which serve as spacers for supporting hook 15, of clothes arms or similar devices, 16.

30 The inner end of the bar 10 is turned down at right angle providing a vertical pin 17, which engages a suitable loop 18, extending from the spacing or supporting bracket 6.

In order to prevent side weaving or lateral movement of the extended bar 10 a triangular strut is arranged in a horizontal plane substantially at right angles to the strut formed by the bars 9 and 10. In fact, there are really two strut members, one at either side of the dependent supporting frame.

As illustrated there is a lateral support 19, pivotally arranged upon the number 4, and terminating in a pivotal loop 20. This is engaged by the downturned end 21, of a thrust bar 22. The opposite end of the bar has a loop 23, pivotally engaging a cross bar extension 24, of a locking clamp 25. Similarly arranged upon the dependent member 3, there is a cooperating lateral member 26, having a pivotal opening 27, for the end 28, of a thrust bar 29. This thrust bar is pivotally connected to the cross bar extension 24, extending on the opposite side of the locking member 25, from that of the extension 24.

It will be seen from the above, that the vertical strut lightens the down pull or dead weight upon the supporting nail or hook, and the horizontal struts while aiding in the support of the load, absolutely prevent side weaving or lateral movement of the vertical strut members.

In employing the device the loop 2, is first placed over the nail or hook, the bar 10, is

then engaged with the loop of the bracket 6, and the clamp device is slid along the bar 9, until the thrust bars 22 and 29, force the ends of the lateral supports 19 and 26, firmly against the supporting walls.

Inasmuch as the base formed by the loops 7 and 8, engages the wall, it is quite apparent that a very considerable weight may be readily supported upon the bar 10.

In Figs. 5 and 6, a very light structural form is indicated, in which the spacing and supporting brackets are formed from two plates bound together and to the dependent supports *c*, by an eye bolt *d*, and a nut *e*.

The lateral bars consist of rods encircling the dependent supporting members *c*, and twisted to provide pivot loops *f*, for the respective thrust bars *g*. A simple form of clamp device *h*, slides upon the tension bar *i*, and is locked by a thumb screw *j*. The bars *g*, have a loose engagement with the clamp device.

In Figs. 1 and 3, the lateral arms are illustrated as formed from sheet metal having a comparatively long bearing 19^a, to engage the bar 4, which bar has ears 4^a, struck out above and below the bearing portion 19^a, to prevent sliding of the arm relatively to support 4. The outer end of the arm has a similarly formed bearing 19^b, giving substantial support for the end 21 of the bar 22, so that there will be no twisting of the bar or clamping member 25.

The spacing or supporting brackets 5 and 6, are of identical form pressed up from sheet metal with ends 5^a, encircling the rods 3 and 4, and held against sliding thereon by ears similar to the ears 4^a. At their centers the metal is spread as indicated to provide the connection eyes or loops for the rods 9 and 10.

The locking clamp 25, is of similar form, consisting of a perforated block 30, to receive the rod 9. This block extends into a bore 31, in the base 32, of the clamping rod. The base 32, has a concaved seat of semi-circular form 33, which cooperates with the perforated block 30, to clamp the bar 9, when the perforated block is drawn into the bore 31, by the wing nut 34, and screw-threaded shank 35, the nut 34, bearing against the upper surface 36, of the clamping block. A small washer 37, is affixed to the end of the threaded shank 35, to prevent disengagement of the parts.

It is obvious from the above description that a very simple and most efficient device is provided, by utilizing the adjustable and collapsible struts, in horizontal and vertical planes, and an unusual hanger space is made available from a single hook.

It is of course to be understood, that the exact details of the construction and arrangement of the elements, may be modified to suit the exigencies of any particular re-

quirement. The essential motive is to provide a simple, compact, light weight or collapsible structure, which may be adjusted for use, without the use of tools, and which will afford unusual means of support, for a plurality of hangers, all from a single hook or point of support against a wall.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A folding clothes hanger for supporting a plurality of garment hangers from a hook or the like, comprising a dependent supporting member, having means of attachment to a hook, and means at the lower end thereof forming an abutment to engage a wall, a vertical strut, pivotally engaging the dependent support, one member thereof providing a horizontal support for clothes hangers and detachably engaging the dependent support, a strut adjustable horizontally with reference to the dependent support for preventing lateral movement of said member, and a clamp device permitting adjustment of, and locking of the lateral strut.

2. A folding clothes hanger having a main supporting element, provided with means of attachment to a hook or the like, and arranged at its opposite end to engage a wall, a vertical strut having its tension bar pivotally connected adjacent to the upper end of the main support, and its compression bar removably and pivotally connected adjacent to the lower end thereof, and forming a means for supporting a plurality of clothes hangers, said tension and compression bars being looped together at their outer ends, a horizontal strut member pivotally engaging the main support at each side and having pivoted thereto tension bars, and a clamp device uniting said bars and engaging the tension member of the vertical strut.

3. In a device of the character described a vertical supporting member, arranged to engage a hook and bear against a wall, lateral arms pivoted thereto, strut members remov-

ably engaging said arms at their extremities, a vertical strut engaging the vertical supporting member, and comprising a horizontal thrust bar, providing a support for a plurality of hangers and a tension bar adjustably connected with the strut members of the horizontal strut, and a clamp device slidable upon said tension bar and forming the connection for locking the horizontal and vertical struts in adjusted position with reference to the wall.

4. In a device of the character described a vertical supporting member, arranged to engage a hook and bear against a wall, lateral arms pivoted thereto, strut members engaging said bars at their extremities, a vertical strut engaging the vertical supporting member, and comprising a horizontal thrust bar, having depressions forming spaces, and providing a support for a plurality of hangers and a tension bar adjustably connected with the strut members of the horizontal strut, and a clamp device slidable upon said tension bar, and forming the connection for locking the horizontal and vertical struts in adjusted position with reference to the wall.

5. A supporting frame for clothes hangers, comprising a U shaped dependent member, having means for suspending the same from a hook or the like, and an abutting lower end to engage a wall, spacing and supporting brackets secured to said dependent member, and held against movement thereon, loops upon said spacing brackets, a vertical strut pivoted to the loop of the uppermost bracket, and removably attached to the loop at the lowermost bracket, said strut forming a support for a plurality of clothes hangers, and a horizontal strut adjustable with reference to the dependent member, and vertical strut, and a clamp for securing said parts in adjusted position.

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Witnesses:

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EDITH REMOND.