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COMBINATION COAT HANGER AND HANGER SUPPORT

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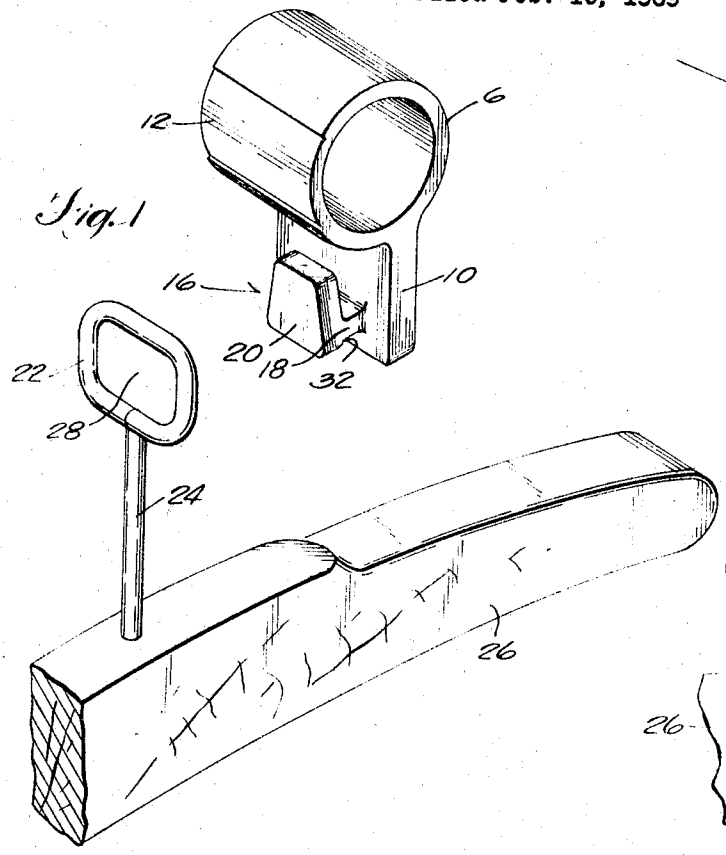


Fig. 1

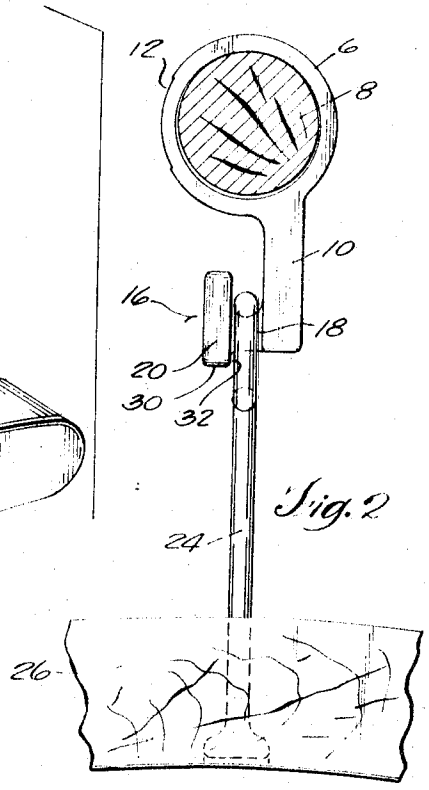


Fig. 2

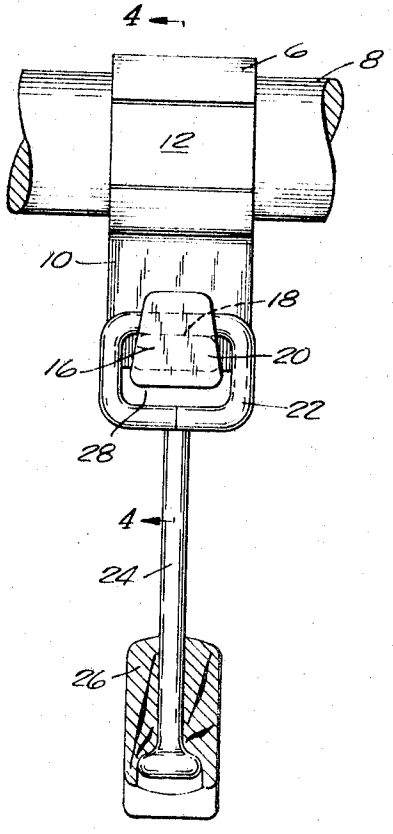


Fig. 3

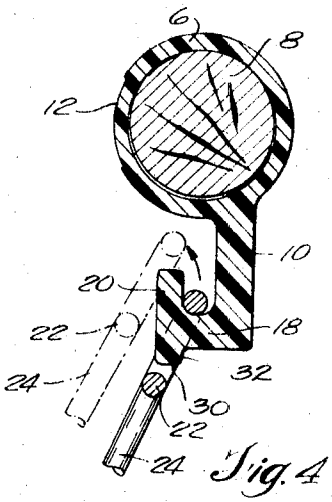


Fig. 4

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COMBINATION COAT HANGER AND HANGER SUPPORT

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U.S. Cl. 223—85 4 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A supporting member slidable on a clothes pole has a laterally projecting hook with which the eye at the end of a hanger rod is engageable, the hook having a head portion to which the shank of the hook is attached at an intermediate level requiring the hanger rod to be tilted in the course of application or removal to minimize the possibility of accidental dislodgment.

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

Many different arrangements have been provided to minimize the tendency of guests in hotels and motels to take a conventional coat hanger with them on termination of their occupancy. The objective is to make the coat hanger unit difficult to use except when attached to its own supporting unit. One objection to such assemblies well-known in the prior art has to do with the difficulty of re-engaging the hanger rod with the supporting unit. Users sometimes feel obliged to hold the hanger unit with one hand and the supporting unit with the other. If the two units are made to permit separation with undue facility the hanger may from time to time become dislodged from the supporting unit.

The closest patented art known to me is found in Leebow Pat. 2,791,335 and Reed 2,998,142.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

According to the present invention a support reciprocable along a conventional clothes pole comprises a sleeve, a hook thereon having a forwardly projecting arm portion, and a head portion in a generally vertical plane from the sleeve by the arm portion. The arm portion is joined to the head portion at an intermediate level so that there is a shoulder of the head portion below the arm portion. Preferably the arm portion of the hook projects from a flange depending from the sleeve and somewhat offset rearwardly from its center.

The hanger has its supporting rod provided at its upper end with an eye or loop with an opening just sufficient to pass the head portion of the aforesaid hook. Because of the above mentioned shoulder, the rod of the hanger must be tilted to clear the lower end of the loop from beneath the head portion of the hook before the loop can be lifted from the hook. A corresponding but converse relative movement is required to replace the hanger on the support.

Because of this shoulder, it is almost impossible for the hanger to become dislodged accidentally from the support. Yet the manipulation of the hanger for disengagement or engagement is readily possible with one hand.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a fragmentary view in perspective showing the relatively separated hanger and support members.

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary detail view in side elevation showing the hanger and support members assembled, the clothes pole being shown in cross section.

FIG. 3 shows the assembly in front elevation with the coat hanger illustrated in section and the clothes pole fragmentarily illustrated.

FIG. 4 is a view in section on the line 4—4 of FIG. 3 showing the coat hanger rod in course of manipulation for disengagement from the support hook.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

A support member **6** comprises a sleeve permanently mounted on a clothes poel **8** and integrally including a hook **16**. A depending portion of this hook may comprise a flange **10** preferably offset to the rear of a vertical plane through the axis of the sleeve.

A shallow recess **12** is provided in the sleeve to receive a label if desired.

Projecting forwardly from the depending flange **10** is an arm **18** which, as best shown in FIG. 1, is substantially flat in cross section, but is much narrower than the flange **10**. Supported by the arm **18** is a head **20** which extends upwardly from the arm to receive an eye **22** at the end of a rod **24** which suspends the coat hanger **26**. The eye **22** defines an opening **28** which corresponds quite closely in its vertical dimension with the height of the head portion **20** of the hook **16**.

The head **20** has its lower margin **30** at a level below the under surface of arm **18**, leaving a shoulder at **32** as best appears in FIGS. 2 and 4. Because of this shoulder, it is difficult for the hanger to be displaced accidentally from its engagement over the arm portion of the hook. In practice, the user will tilt the rod **24** to the position shown in full lines in FIG. 4 whereby the eye **22** will clear the lower surface **30** of head **20**. In this position, the eye is readily lifted from the hook as indicated in dotted lines in FIG. 4. The parts will readily assume these relative positions in any normal attempt to engage the eye with the hook or to disengage the eye therefrom. Accordingly, this manipulation can readily be performed by the user with one hand.

It will be apparent that the particular front elevational form of the hook and the eye is a matter of design. Whereas the eye shown is generally rectangular, and the same is true in the cross section of the arm **18**, these parts may be elliptical or circular if desired, or may have any other appropriate contour. The important feature is to provide the shoulder **32** and to dimension the parts in such a way as to require tilting of the hanger rod **24** in applying or removing the eye from the hook.

There is one mechanical advantage in the rectangular contours of the parts as shown in that the hanger does not tend to swing but tends to hold the clothing supported thereby in vertically depending position. The head of the hook as shown has the form of an inverted keystone, which makes it attractive without sacrificing the advantages above described.

We claim:

1. A combination coat hanger and hanger support in which the support comprises a sleeve for mounting on a clothes pole and having a headed arm projecting forwardly substantially at right angles to said sleeve, the coat hanger having a suspending rod provided with an eye in a plane which is transverse respecting the hanger, said eye being of a dimension to clear the head and to rest on the arm, the head having means below the level of the arm providing a shoulder requiring the tilting of the rod and eye for manipulation of the hanger to and from engagement with the arm of the support.

2. A combination according to claim **1** in which the headed arm is part of a hook which includes a flange depending from the sleeve and offset rearwardly with respect to a plane extending vertically through the axis of the sleeve, whereby to locate said arm substantially directly below said axis.

3. A combination according to claim **2** in which the arm is generally rectangular in cross section and elongated

horizontally but is of less length than the width of said flange, said head being substantially equal to said arm in its horizontal dimension at the level at which it is connected with the arm, and the eye of said rod having a substantially horizontal surface engageable with said arm.

4. A combination according to claim 1 in which said arm has an elongated upper surface for engagement with said eye, which is provided with a complementary surface.

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