Feb. 1, 1955 O. T. BUGG, JR 2,700,836

PARALLEL REVERSIBLE SLEEVE BOARD

Filed Dec. 29, 1951

FIG. 1.

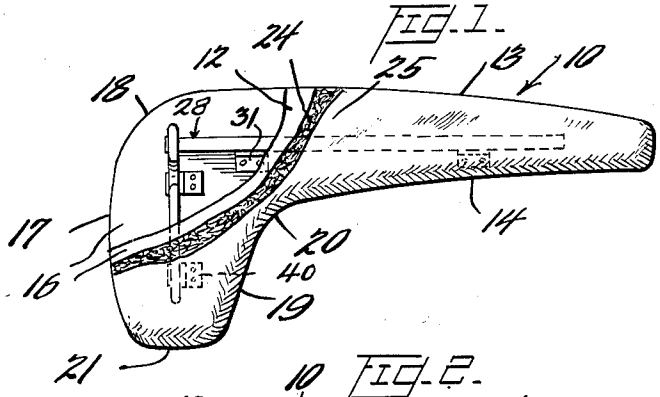


FIG. 2.

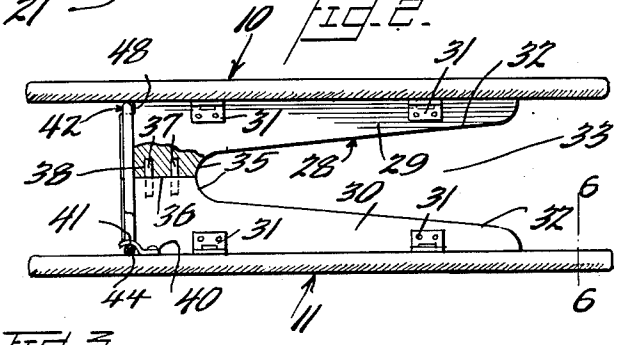


FIG. 3.

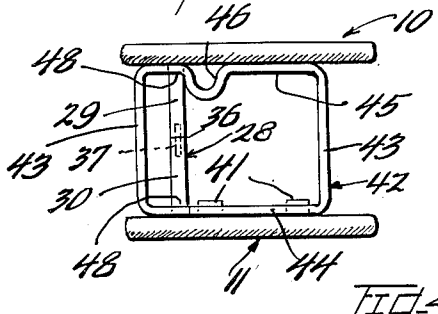


FIG. 5.

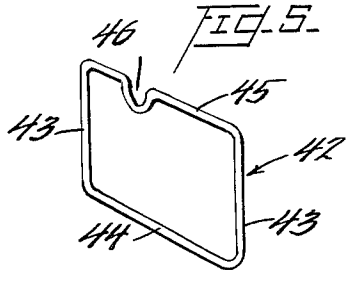


FIG. 4.

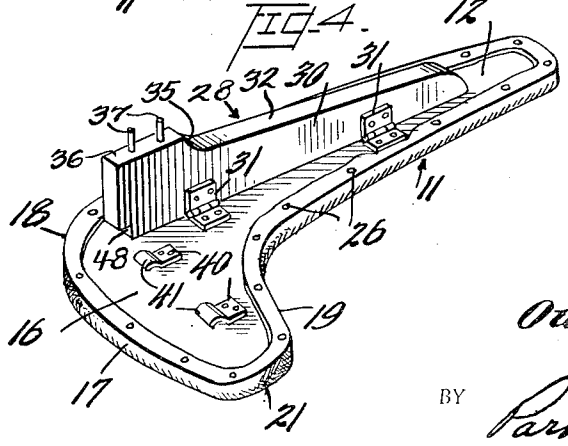
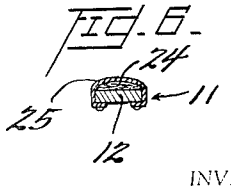


FIG. 6.



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PARALLEL REVERSIBLE SLEEVE BOARD

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8 Claims. (Cl. 38—136)

This invention relates to ironing boards and more particularly to an ironing board structure adapted for use in pressing both the sleeves and shoulders of coats and similar upper garments.

It is the practice to make ironing boards generally in two sizes, namely, a relatively large board for ironing or pressing larger pieces, and a smaller sleeve board for pressing the sleeves of waists, dresses, coats, etc. Such conventional boards facilitate the ironing or pressing of sleeves and the body portions of upper garments, but they fail to provide useable means for pressing the shoulders of such garments.

An important object of the present invention is to provide a novel type of ironing board which particularly facilitates not only the ironing of sleeves of an upper garment but also the shoulder portion thereof, thus rendering it extremely easy to complete the ironing of the body of the garment on a conventional relatively large ironing board.

A further object is to provide a novel board of this character having a main body portion adapted for use in ironing or pressing the sleeve of a garment, and to provide such board with a lateral extension of particular shape to facilitate the ironing or pressing of the shoulder of a garment, including the shoulder seam.

A further object is to provide such a board structure wherein the board is duplicated in the form of two spaced parallel ironing boards whereby one board is adapted for use in ironing or pressing the sleeves and shoulders while the other board acts as a support for the ironing board which is being used, the entire structure being invertable to permit the ironing or pressing of both sleeves and shoulders.

A further object is to provide novel means for connecting the two boards together in rigid relation when in use, and to permit collapsing of the structure for storage in a closet or the like.

A further object is to provide novel means for rigidly supporting the body portions of the ironing board with respect to each other, comprising complementary sections each hinged or pivoted to one of the ironing boards and provided with means for rigidly connecting such complementary members to each other when the board is in use.

A further object is to provide an ironing board of the type just referred to wherein the laterally projecting portions of the two boards, employed for ironing or pressing the shoulder portions of the garments, are supported with respect to each other in spaced relation by a novel foldable or removable supporting element.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description.

In the drawing I have shown one embodiment of the invention. In this showing,

Figure 1 is a plan view of the device, a portion of the upper ironing board being broken away,

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the device,

Figure 3 is an end elevation of the device, looking from the left-hand end of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a detailed perspective view of one of the ironing board sections showing the associated board supporting element hinged thereto and illustrating a pair of spring clips,

Figure 5 is a detailed perspective view of a desired type of supporting element for the laterally projecting portions of the boards, and

Figure 6 is a detailed sectional view on line 6—6 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawing the numerals **10** and **11** designate as a whole a pair of ironing board units which are exact duplicates of each other except as referred to below. Each such ironing board comprises a body portion **12** shaped to taper in width toward its free end toward the right as viewed in Figures 1 and 2. Opposite edges of the body portion of the board are slightly curved as indicated by the numerals **13** and **14**, the purpose of this being to more closely accommodate the board to the shape of a sleeve being pressed thereon.

Each board, at the larger end of the body **12** thereof, is provided with a lateral extension **16**, the outer edge of which is curved rather gradually as at **17** and joins the slightly curved edge **13** of the body **12** in a somewhat more sharply curved portion **18**. The inner edge of the lateral extension **16** is relatively straight as at **19** and is curved as at **20** to join the inner edge **14** as a smooth continuation thereof. The free edge of the lateral extension, that is the bottom edge as viewed in Figure 1, may be slightly curved as at **21**.

Each of the boards **10** and **11** is provided with a padding layer **24**, covered by a fabric layer **25**. This layer **25** is turned over the edges of the board and against the under side thereof and may be tacked or otherwise secured to the board as at **26** (Figure 4).

When the board is in use, the units **10** and **11** thereof are supported in spaced parallel relation with respect to each other by a supporting structure indicated as a whole by the numeral **28**. This supporting structure comprises units **29** and **30**, associated with the respective board units **10** and **11** and hinged thereto as at **31**. The units **29** and **30** of the supporting structure have their adjacent edges throughout the greater portions of their length substantially spaced and slightly tapered toward each other away from the free end of the body portion **12** of each board, such inner edges being indicated by the numeral **32**. This provides a substantial space **33** within the supporting structure **28** for the reception of the portion of a garment arranged beneath the board **10** or **11**, whichever one is the top board being in use. At their left hand ends as viewed in Figure 2, the elements **29** and **30** at the inner edges thereof curve inwardly as at **35**, into contact with each other, from this point to the left hand extremities of the elements **29** and **30**, such elements having flat contacting faces **36**. One of the elements **29** or **30**, for example the element **30** as shown in Figure 4, is provided within the face **36** thereof with a pair of parallel preferably steel pins **37**, fixed in position with respect to the associated supporting element. These pins project upwardly as viewed in Figures 2 and 4 and are snugly received in openings **38** formed in the adjacent portion of the supporting unit **29**. When the device is assembled as in Figure 2, the pins **37** obviously rigidly hold the supporting arms **29** and **30** in position with respect to each other.

Suitable means is employed for rigidly supporting with respect to each other the laterally projecting portions **16** of the boards. Referring to Figure 4, the numeral **40** designates a pair of clips shown in this instance as being connected to the board element of the unit **11**. These clips **40** are provided with arcuate free portions **41**, shaped as shown in Figures 2 and 4. A preferably relatively rigid steel frame **42** (Figure 5) is employed in conjunction with the clips **40**. This frame is generally rectangular in shape and includes opposite vertically extending portions **43**, a horizontal bottom frame portion **44**, and an upper frame portion **45** which may be straight throughout its length, or it may be provided with a loop portion **46** between its ends for a purpose to be described. The frame portion **44** is engageable beneath the clip portions **41** and when the frame is in the operative position shown in Figures 2 and 3, opposite end portions of the frame portion **45** are movable into notches **43** cut in the supporting units **29** and **30** adjacent the faces of the boards. The frame portion **45** may frictionally engage against the bottom of the upper board; it may frictionally engage the lower face of the notch **48** of the upper board, and if desired, the left hand side of the finger loop **46**, as viewed in Figure 3, may frictionally engage the support-

ing unit **29**. Thus the upper end of the frame **42** will be effectively held in position against the top board, while the bottom of the frame **42** is held in position by the clips **40**.

Operation

The device is used with the parts arranged as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. The uppermost board **10** in Figures 2 and 3 is adapted for ironing or pressing of the left hand sleeve and shoulder of a waist, coat or other upper garment. The curvature of the edges **13** and **14** corresponds generally to the curvature of the sleeve of such type of garment. The shoulder portion of the garment is adapted to rest on the laterally extended portion of the upper board, and the ironing and pressing operation can be carried out throughout the length of the sleeve and over the shoulder, as will be apparent. The pressing of an upper garment over the shoulder is the most difficult pressing operation of ordinary garments in the home. The arrangement of the garment over the board, as stated above, greatly facilitates this operation and permits the entire pressing of one side of the sleeve and over the shoulder with one placing of the garment on the board. The space **33** between the units of the supporting device **28** permits the sleeve to be moved upwardly or along the board a sufficient distance to facilitate the carrying out of the pressing operation referred to. After the left hand sleeve and shoulder have been ironed or pressed, the garment is removed and the board is reversed. In the first position of the parts, the board unit **10** will be employed for pressing and the board unit **11** will be employed as a base support for the device. When the device is inverted, the board unit **11** becomes the pressing surface and the board unit **10** becomes the base support therefor, as will be apparent.

When the use of the board has been completed, the user may reach beneath the left hand end of the board as viewed in Figures 1 and 2, grasp the finger-piece **46**, and pull outwardly on the upper edge portion of the frame **42**. This will disengage the frame element **45** from the surfaces with which it is frictionally engaged, whereupon the frame will be swung outwardly and downwardly toward the left as viewed in Figure 2, the clip portions **41** acting as pivotal supporting means for the frame section **44**. If desired, the frame **42** may be pulled outwardly completely from beneath the clip portions **41**. The two board units are then pulled apart to separate the pins **37** from the openings **38**. The units **29** and **30** of the supporting structure **28** then may be swung about their hinges **31**, flat against the board units with which they are connected. Thus the space required for the device, when folded, is minimized, and the entire structure may be stored in a relatively small space.

To assemble the device for the next operation, it merely is necessary to place the board units in position for the insertion of the pins **37** in the openings **38**. The supporting structure **28** then will be assembled as shown in Figure 2. Of course, the board units **10** and **11** would still be free to swing about the pins of the hinges **31**, but the frame **42** prevents such swinging movement. Assuming that the frame section **44** is in position within the clip portions **41**, it merely is necessary to swing the frame **42** upwardly to the operative position shown in Figures 2 and 3. The rectangular frame **42** then not only prevents swinging movement of the board units about the pins of their hinges, but also acts as a rigid support for the laterally projecting portions of the board units over which the shoulder is arranged.

Obviously the bodies of the boards may be of wood or any other suitable material, and any desired means may be employed for securing the padding **24** and cover **25** in position. The device is very simple in construction and economical to manufacture, and greatly facilitates the pressing of the type of garments for which it is intended to be used.

I claim:

1. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of substantially parallel board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, and supporting means connecting said units to each other in spaced parallel relation.

2. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of substantially parallel board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, a supporting structure connected between the body portions of said units and extending substantially longitudinally thereof, and a supporting device extending between the lateral extensions of said units substantially longitudinally thereof and approximately perpendicular to said supporting structure.

3. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly in overlying relationship to the other surface and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, a pair of complementary supporting units hinged to the adjacent faces of said board units and extending longitudinally thereof, means for connecting said complementary sections to each other, and supporting means extending between the laterally projecting portions of said units to support the latter with respect to each other and to fix said complementary units against hinged movement relative to said board units.

4. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of substantially parallel board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, a pair of complementary supporting sections hinged to the adjacent faces of said board units and extending longitudinally thereof, means for connecting said complementary sections to each other, and a supporting device arranged between the lateral extensions of said units, such supporting device comprising a generally rectangular frame connected to a face of one of said board units and engaging the adjacent face of the other of said board units to support said lateral extensions against movement toward each other and to prevent swinging movement of said complementary sections relative to said board units.

5. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of substantially parallel board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, a pair of complementary supporting sections normally arranged in a common plane between and extending substantially longitudinally of the body portions of said board units, means pivotally connecting the remote edges of said complementary sections to the respective adjacent faces of said board units, said complementary sections having adjacent edges of limited length engaging each other and spaced from the ends of said board units opposite said lateral extensions, the remaining adjacent edge portions of said complementary sections being spaced from each other, means for connecting the engaging portions of the adjacent edges of said complementary sections to each other to fix them against movement out of said common plane, and means

arranged perpendicular to and between the lateral extensions of said board units to support them against movement toward each other, and to prevent swinging movement of the complementary sections relative to said board units.

6. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of substantially parallel board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, a pair of complementary supporting sections normally arranged in a common plane between and extending substantially longitudinally of the body portions of said board units, means pivotally connecting the remote edges of said complementary sections to the respective adjacent faces of said board units, said complementary sections having adjacent edges of limited length engaging each other and spaced from the ends of said board units opposite said lateral extensions, the remaining adjacent edge portions of said complementary sections being spaced from each other, means for connecting the engaging portions of the adjacent edges of said complementary sections to each other to fix them against movement out of said common plane, and a rectangular frame arranged between the lateral extensions of said board units perpendicular thereto and substantially perpendicular to said common plane, said frame being connected to one of said board units and having its opposite edge frictionally engaging the other board unit to maintain it in position.

7. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of substantially parallel board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, a pair of complementary supporting sections normally arranged in a common plane between and extending substantially longitudinally of the body portions of said board units, means pivotally connecting the remote edges of said complementary sections to the respective adjacent faces of said board units, said complementary sections having adjacent edges of limited length engaging each other and spaced from the ends of said board units opposite said lateral extensions, the remaining adjacent edge portions of said complementary sections being spaced from each other, a plurality of parallel pins setting into and projecting from one of the engaging adjacent edge portions of one of said complementary sections, the corresponding portion of the other complementary section having openings to slidably receive the projecting portions of said pins to hold said complementary sections in said common plane, and means extending substantially perpendicular to said common plane and arranged between the lateral extensions of said board units to support them against movement toward each other and to prevent said complementary sections from swinging about their pivotal connections with said board units.

8. An ironing board structure comprising a pair of substantially parallel board units, each having an elongated relatively narrow body portion and a lateral extension at one end thereof, said lateral extensions being relatively wider than said body portions and having their edges curving into the edges of the associated body portions, the lateral extensions of said units extending in the same direction, the remote surfaces of said units constituting working surfaces, whereby either such surface may be arranged upwardly and the two working surfaces are the reverse of each other, a pair of complementary supporting sections normally arranged in a common plane between and extending substantially longitudinally of the body portions of said board units, means pivotally connecting the remote edges of said complementary sections to the respective adjacent faces of said board units, said complementary sections having adjacent edges of limited length engaging each other and spaced from the ends of said board units opposite said lateral extensions, the remaining adjacent edge portions of said complementary sections being spaced from each other, a plurality of parallel pins setting into and projecting from one of the engaging adjacent edge portions of one of said complementary sections, the corresponding portion of the other complementary section having openings to slidably receive the projecting portions of said pins to hold said complementary sections in said common plane, a substantially rectangular frame arranged between the lateral extensions of said board units and normally arranged in a plane perpendicular to said board units and perpendicular to said common plane, clips pivotally connecting said frame to one of said board units, the opposite side of said frame being frictionally engageable with the adjacent face of the other board unit, the adjacent end of the complementary section associated with such other board unit being notched to receive the adjacent portion of said frame and such adjacent portion of said frame having a loop bent therefrom and forming a fingerpiece.

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