Oct. 2, 1951 L. H. SCHWARZ 2,570,075

RETAINER FOR CLOTHES HANGERS

Filed July 3, 1948

Fig. 1

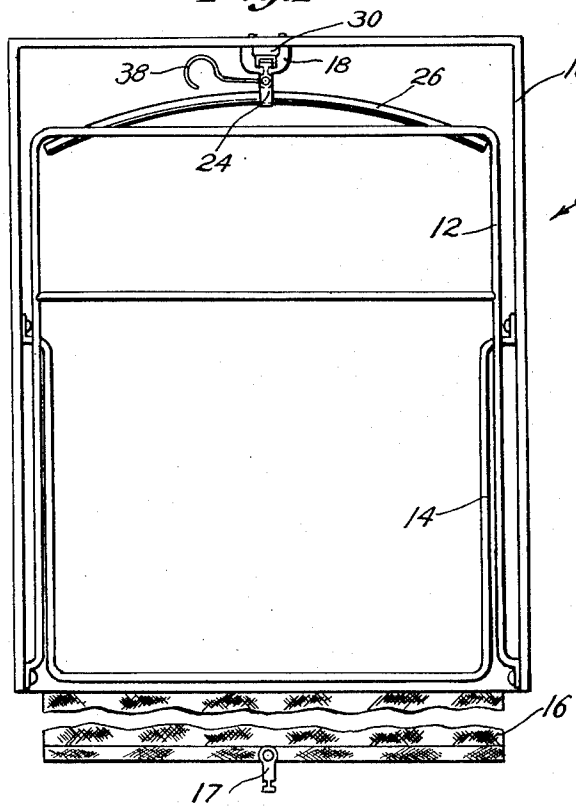


Fig. 2

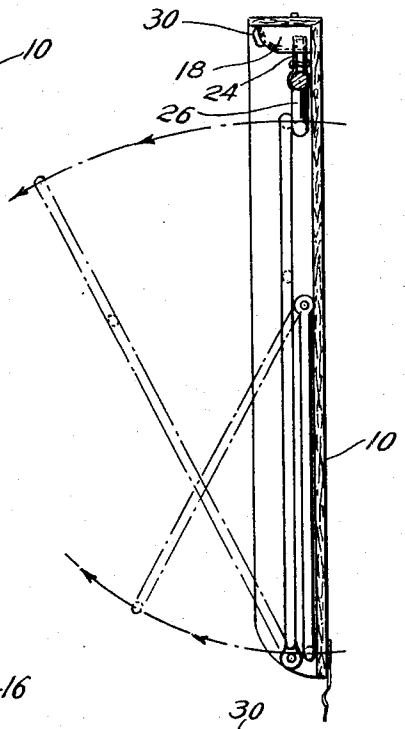


Fig. 3

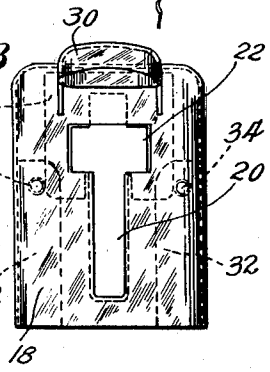


Fig. 4

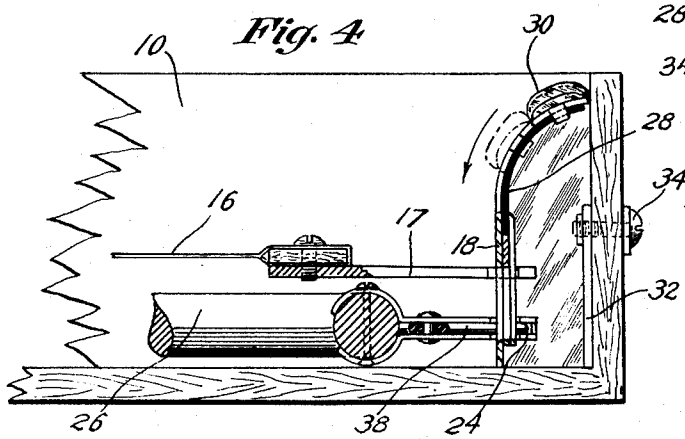


Fig. 5

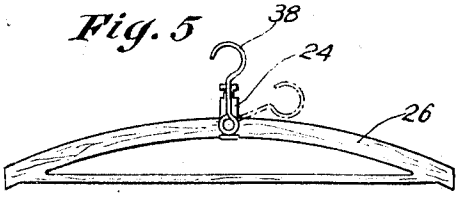


Fig. 6

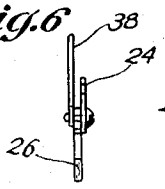
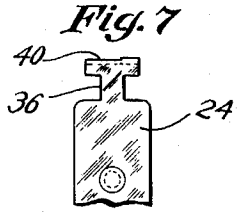


Fig. 7



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RETAINER FOR CLOTHES HANGERS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 312—307)

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This invention relates to retainers for clothes hangers and more particularly to retainers therefor attached to the interior of luggage such as travelling bags, wardrobe and other trunks and trays fitted thereto.

An object of the present invention is to provide a simple latch or retainer secured centrally to a side or end wall of a trunk, bag, or tray therefor, that will permit the supporting member or hook on a clothes hanger to be introduced therein and a latch member moved to a position locking the supporting member therein while permitting adjusting movement of the hanger.

A feature of importance of the invention is that the retainer is in the form of a small casing within which is mounted a movable latch, slidable within the casing between positions permitting introduction of the supporting member for a clothes hanger to a position partially closing an opening or slot in the casing and locking the supporting member therein.

With the above and other objects and features in view the invention may include the features of construction and operation set forth in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

In the accompanying drawing annexed hereto and forming a part of this specification, I have shown the invention embodied in a conventional form of luggage tray for a traveling bag or trunk but it will be understood that the invention can be otherwise embodied and that the drawing is not to be construed as defining or limiting the scope of the invention, the claims appended to this specification being relied upon for that purpose.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a complete plan view of the conventional luggage tray provided with the present clothes hanger retainer;

Fig. 2 is a side view of the tray shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a detached front view of the retainer forming the present invention, the view being shown in elevation;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the retainer shown in section and showing its mounting and attachment within a luggage tray;

Figs. 5 and 6 are front and side views respectively of a clothes hanger adapted for general use and for application to the retainer shown in Figs. 1 to 4, and

Fig. 7 is a detail of the upper end of a clothes hanger adapted for the present invention.

In the above mentioned drawings there has been shown but one embodiment of the invention

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which is now deemed preferable, but it is to be understood that changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Briefly, and in its preferred aspect, the invention may include the following principal parts: First, a casing having a T-shaped slot formed centrally therein, and having attaching means for mounting the casing in fixed position within a luggage tray or other piece of luggage; second, a slidable member mounted on the inner surface and movable to open and partially close the slot in the casing; third, a knob or other part attached to the slidable member and movable over the outer side of the casing so that the slidable member may be moved by manually operating the knob; and fourth, clothes hangers adapted to have their supporting members insertable within the slot in the casing and retained against removal by movement of the slidable member to a locking position.

Referring more in detail to the figures of the drawing it will be seen that there has been shown a tray 10 adapted to fit within a traveling bag or trunk (not shown). This tray 10 is provided with clothes retaining and folding bars 12 and 14 hinged as shown to the side walls of the tray. These bars 12 and 14 are shown in closed position in full lines in Figs. 1 and 2. There also is provided a fabric curtain 16 that may be placed over the clothes and racks when the tray 10 is filled and ready to be placed within a trunk or other form of luggage.

Centrally of the upper end wall of the tray 10 as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 is a casing 18 having a central slot 20 formed therein in the form of a T. At its widest part 22 the slot 20 will admit the upper end of a supporter or hook 24 for a clothes hanger 26, this end of the supporter 24 being shown in detail in Fig. 7. After insertion the supporter 24 may be moved to the narrow portion of the slot 20 and with all hangers 24 in place slidable member 28 may be moved downward by means of the knob 30 to its position closing the wider portion 22 of the slot 20. In this position of the slidable member 28 the hangers 26 are retained against removal.

The slidable member 28 is formed from a thin sheet of metal such as steel and is guided in slots formed within the casing member 18. To actuate the slidable member the knob 30 is provided on the outside of the casing 18 and attached to the slidable member 28 by prongs or other means on the knob extending through the guid-

ing slots formed in the casing 18. The slidable member 28 also is provided with an opening of T form, a portion being wide enough to fully uncover the wider part 22 of the slot 20 in the casing 18. In one position of the slidable member 28 the complete opening 20 including portion 22 in the casing 18 is open so that hangers 26 may be inserted. In the other or lower position of the slidable member 28 the wider portion of its slot is below the wider portion 22 of the slot 20 in the casing 18 so that only the upper narrow portion of the slot in the slidable member 28 is exposed. In this position the hangers 26 are effectively locked against removal by the neck portion of their supporters 24 passing through the narrow portion of the slot 20.

To fasten the casing 18 in position within a tray or other piece of luggage 10 the rear wall of the casing 18 may have bent over portions 32 on opposite sides so that screws 34 extending through the wall of the tray may enter threaded openings in these bent over portions.

The hangers 26 usable with this casing 18 have their supporting extensions 24 formed with a neck portion 36 intermediate their length so that after passing the supporter 24 through the wider portion of the slot 22 the hanger 26 and its supporter 24 will be retained with the neck portion 36 of the supporter 24 within the lower and narrower portion of the slot 20.

The hangers 26 also may be adaptable for general use and for that purpose the conventional hook 38 may be provided on the hanger 26. As shown in Fig. 7 at 40 one side of the outer end of the supporter 24 is cut away so that the hook 38 may be moved out of the way when its hanger 26 is to be placed within a tray 10.

Also as shown in Figs. 1 and 4, the fabric cover 16 may have an attaching member 17 formed with a neck portion similar to the supporter 24. By this means the attaching member 17 may be positioned within the casing 18 and locked therein similarly to the hangers 26. In this position of the member 17 the fabric cover 16 is held in place over the hangers 26 and over the rods 12 and 14 to retain and protect the clothing within the tray 10.

An alternative form of hanger is shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The body portion may be flat and made of wood, pressed fiberboard or sheet

metal having a supporting projection 24 operating similarly to that shown in Fig. 7. The supporting projection, however, instead of being doubled over at its upper end as in Figs. 2, 4, and 7, is formed from a single strip of sheet metal mounted on one side only of the hanger 26 and is provided with a similar neck portion 36.

I claim as my invention:

1. A retainer for clothes hangers comprising a casing attached to a piece of luggage and having a slidable member therein, guiding means for said slidable member formed in said casing, co-operating slots formed in said casing and slidable member, said slots having wide and narrow portions, and said slots, with the slidable member in one position, having their wide portions aligned and in another position having the wide portions out of alignment, and a knob on said slidable member having projections extending through narrow elongated slots in said casing member, whereby said slidable member may be moved by movement of said knob, the length of movement being limited by said slots.

2. A retainer for clothes hangers comprising a casing attached to a piece of luggage and having a slidable member therein, co-operating slots formed in said casing and slidable member, said slots having wide and narrow portions and said slots, with the slidable member in one position, having their wide portions aligned and in another position having the wide portions out of alignment, and a knob secured to said slidable member and having extensions passing through narrow slots in said casing and attached to said slidable member whereby said slidable member will be attached to said knob and guided relative to said casing.

LEONARD H. SCHWARZ.

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