July 7, 1953 B. LEVINE 2,644,589

GARMENT BAG

Filed June 16, 1950

Fig. 1.

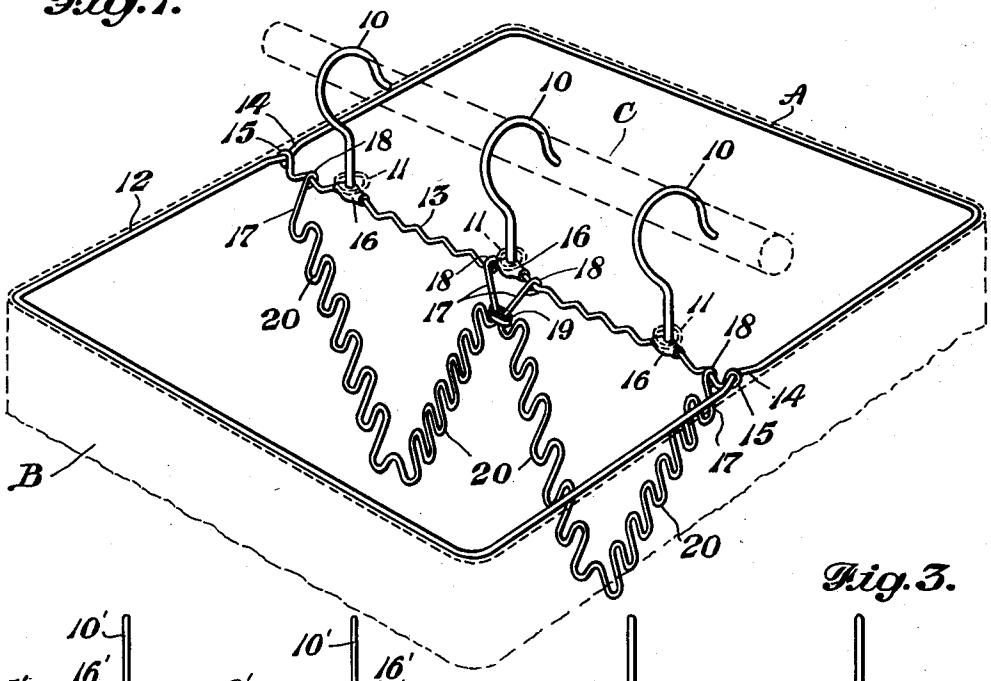
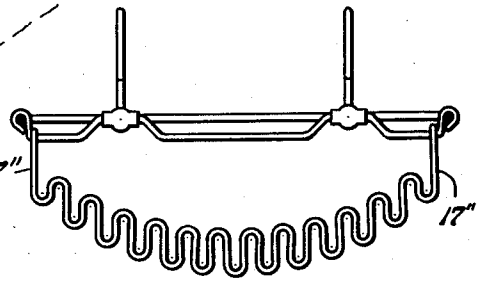


Fig. 3.



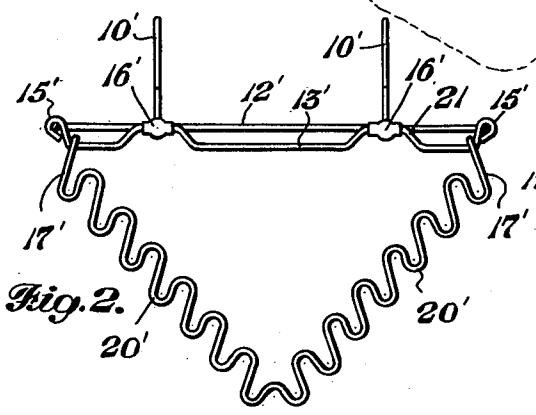


Fig. 2.

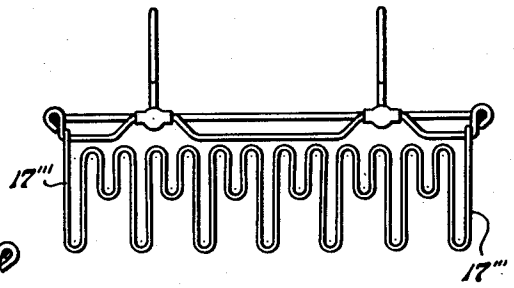


Fig. 4.

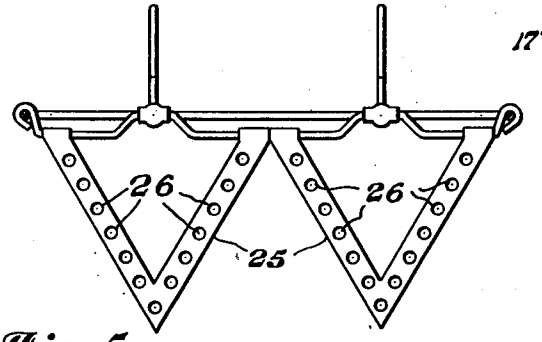


Fig. 5.

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GARMENT BAG

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1 Claim. (Cl. 211—118)

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The present invention relates to improvements in garment bags and more particularly to the supporting frame and hanger supports from which a plurality of garment hangers may be suspended.

Garment bags of the general type disclosed herein comprise a full-length voluminous bag hung upon a supporting frame and opening along one side to receive a plurality of garments each of which is first hung on an ordinary garment hanger and then suspended from a garment support within the bag. These bags are provided with one and preferably two or three hooks passing through the upper end of the bag material and intended to be hooked over a horizontal rod or other closet fixture from which the bag may be suspended. In the garment bags now on the market, the garment-supports comprise a cross-bar within the bag from which the garment hangers are supported. The cross-bars are generally of serpentine or wave-like contour each valley of which acts as a means for separating the hangers from one another in a lateral direction.

It has been found that the prior garment bags separate the hangers laterally, however no provision has been made for separating the hangers in a vertical direction. The separation of the hangers in a vertical direction as well as in a horizontal direction results in a conservation of the limited space in the garment bag and prevents crowding of the garments. This manner of spacing the hangers enables a greater number of garments to be hung in a given space since the bulky portion of each garment, that is the shoulders, is vertically displaced from the corresponding portion of the next adjacent garment and thus the garments may be arranged closer together without mutual wrinkling than would be possible with a plurality of hangers arranged on the conventional cross-bar.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a new and improved garment support for a garment bag wherein the garment hangers can be spaced both laterally and vertically therein.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a frame for a garment bag which will permit all of its parts or sections to be folded flat for shipment or packing and thence to be readily extended to operating position for the reception of garments.

It is a still further object of the invention to provide a frame for a garment bag and a novel garment hanger supporting means formed of wire.

Another object of the invention is to provide a frame and garment hanger supporting means for a garment bag made of simple construction and a minimum of parts so that the device can be marketed at a low price.

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Other objects and the nature and advantages of the instant invention will be apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the supporting frame with the garment bag shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a detail transverse sectional view of a modified form of the invention, and

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are similar views of additional modified forms of the invention.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, the frame A forming the subject matter of this invention is to be used in association with a bag B of the collapsible, flexible type, preferably a rectangular bag. This bag is generally made of paper, cloth, plastic or other material and will collapse into a compact condition when folded.

Within the upper end of the bag is a metal frame, the only part visible from the outside being hook members 10 passing through small holes in the bag preferably reinforced by grommets 11 set into the top wall of the bag. The bag is adapted to be supported from a pole C or other support by means of one or more of the hook members 10 which have their upper ends formed hook-shaped to hook over the pole C.

The frame A is preferably fashioned of heavy wire and consists of a skeleton frame member 12 conforming to the contour of the upper end of the bag, and a cross-bar 13 spanning the main frame member 12 midway between its ends on either longitudinal side. Each longitudinal side of the frame 12 is bent midway thereof to form an indented portion 14 to retain the cross-bar 13 in proper position. The wire cross-bar 13 is provided with a hooked portion 15 at each end thereof which engages the indented portion 14 of the longitudinal sides of the frame. The hooked portions 15 are bent tightly about the frame indented portions 14 to engage it tightly and prevent its removal or shifting thereon. The cross-bar 13 as shown in Fig. 1 is bent to form a wave-like section throughout its entire length.

Each hook member 10 is pivotally attached at its lower end to the cross-bar 13 by means of a sleeve 16 which is attached to the cross bar. The sleeve can be so attached to the cross-bar as to permit rotation of the sleeve about the bar. The lower end of the hook member 10 is swivelly mounted in an opening in the sleeve 16 so that the hook is free to turn about its shank as an axis. By this construction, when the frame is to be collapsed into a flat condition, each hook member can be rotated 90° about its axis and then each sleeve can be rotated 90° about the cross-bar so as to lie flat in the same plane as the frame member 12.

Depending from the cross-bar 13 are the garment hanger supports 17. Each support 17 is

provided with a hook 18 at each end thereof by which it is pivotally hooked onto the cross-bar 13. The supports 17 thus can be rotated 90° about the cross-bar from the depending position, as shown in Fig. 1, to a flat position parallel to the plane of the frame member 12 when collapsed. Thus, when the hook members 10 and the hanger supports 17 are both collapsed, the entire structure is flat and suitable for packaging and shipment.

Two garment hanger supports 17 are shown in Fig. 1, each of which extends one half of the distance across the cross-bar 13. The two supports are connected together by a clip 19 so that the two supports rotate together about the cross-bar 13. Each support 17 is formed of wire and is V-shaped with the upper ends of each section of the V attached to the cross bar 13. Each section of the V is provided with a wave-like portion which extends the entire length of the section. The valley 20 of each wave is separated from the valley of the adjacent wave both laterally and vertically. Each valley is relatively deep and adapted to receive a garment supporting hanger. As shown in Fig. 1, each section of the V-shaped support is provided with seven valleys and is adapted to hold seven hangers. This number can be varied as desired by extending or decreasing the length of the supports. The form of the invention shown in Fig. 2 utilizes a single garment hanger support 17' and is suitable for use with a narrow garment bag. The frame member 12' is formed to the contour of the bag as shown in Fig. 1. The cross-bar 13' is of slightly different construction than that shown in Fig. 1. The cross-bar 13' is attached to the frame member 12' at each end by means of hooks 15' which are formed integrally with the cross-bar 13'. The cross-bar 13' is straight throughout most of its length and is provided with indented portions 21 to which are attached the sleeves 16'. The hook members 10' are attached to the sleeves 16' in a manner similar to that described heretofore in connection with Fig. 1.

The modifications of the invention shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are similar to the structure described in connection with Figs. 1 and 2 with the exception of the garment hanger supports 17. In Fig. 3 the garment hanger support 17'' is made of wire curved in the shape of an arc instead of the V-shape as previously described. The arc shaped wire is provided with a plurality of waves throughout its length, the valley of each wave being adapted to receive a garment hanger. Each wave is separated both laterally and vertically from the adjacent wave to accomplish the same result of the constructions of the support previously described.

In Fig. 4, the garment hanger support 17''' is likewise made of wire bent into wave form wherein successive waves are of varying depth so that the valley of each adjacent wave is separated from the preceding valley both laterally and vertically. As shown in Fig. 4, two depths of waves are shown alternating with each other, a deep wave next to a shallow wave. However, the invention is not limited to this structure as three or more depths of waves could be provided. In the structure illustrated in Fig. 4, each successive garment will be separated both laterally and vertically into two depths so that the shoulder portion of adjacent garments will not be at the same level.

The modification shown in Fig. 5 utilizes sheet metal or wood for the garment hanger support in place of the wire shown in the preceding figures. The sheet metal or wood support 25 may consist of one or more V-shaped sections depending from the cross-bar. The V-shaped sections are provided with a plurality of openings 26 therein wherein adjacent openings are spaced from each other both laterally and vertically and are adapted to receive the hooked end of conventional garment hangers.

In view of the above description, the construction and use of the device is obvious, and it will be seen that the prime objects of the invention are realized in a simple, inexpensive and highly practical device. The collapsible construction of the frame permits the garment bags to be collapsed into symmetrically shaped packages, perfectly flat on all sides, thus making it possible to stack them neatly on shelves or counters. The construction of the garment hanger supports permits the garments to be hung in the bag separated both vertically and laterally to use the limited space in the bag most efficiently.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention and therefore the invention is not limited to what is shown in the drawings and described in the specification but only as indicated in the appended claim.

I claim:

A device for supporting a garment bag and a plurality of garment hangers within the bag comprising a frame adapted to fit within the bag and around the periphery of the upper end thereof, the sides of said frame lying in a common plane, a cross-bar extending across the said frame attached at each end thereof to one of the sides of said frame, at least one hook attached at its lower end to the said cross-bar, and a pair of generally V-shaped wire members normally dependent from said cross-bar, each of said V-shaped members having one of its ends fastened to said cross-bar adjacent the ends thereof, the other of the ends of each of said V-shaped members being fastened to said cross-bar at points spaced from said first ends of said V-shaped members and adjacent the center of said cross-bar, each of said V-shaped wire members having a plurality of wave-like portions formed along the length thereof forming a series of valleys extending substantially vertically downward, the lowermost portions of said valleys being each spaced both vertically and horizontally from the corresponding portion of the adjacent valley to thereby form a series of vertically and horizontally spaced hanger supporting means.

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