Sept. 18, 1945. B. P. BOHN 2,385,053

GARMENT HOLDING MEANS

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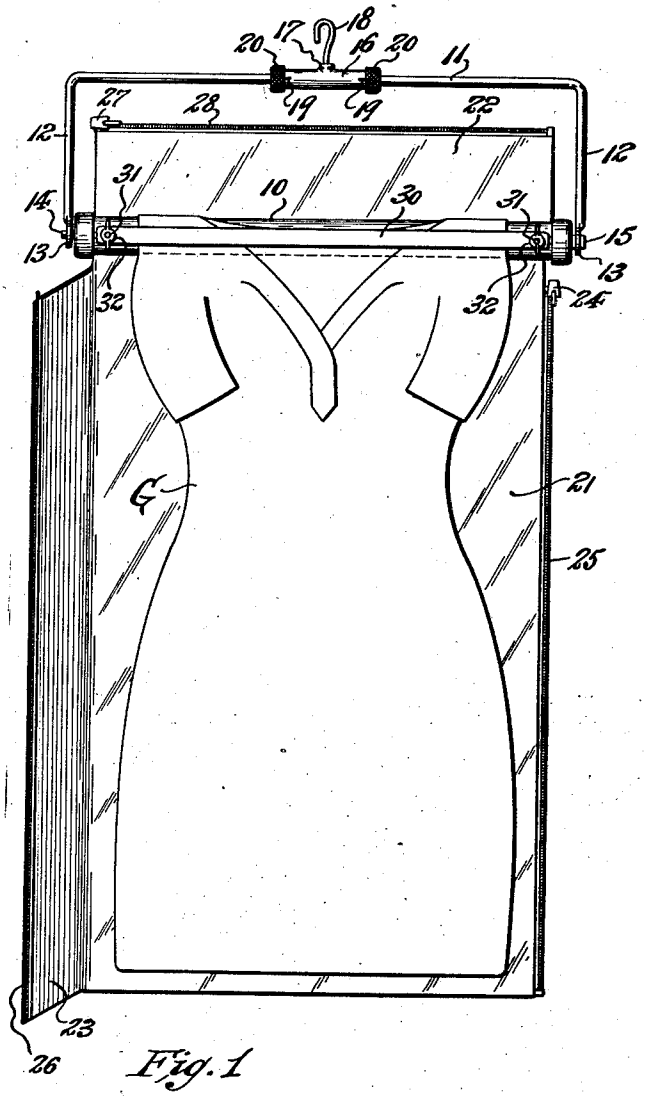


Fig. 1

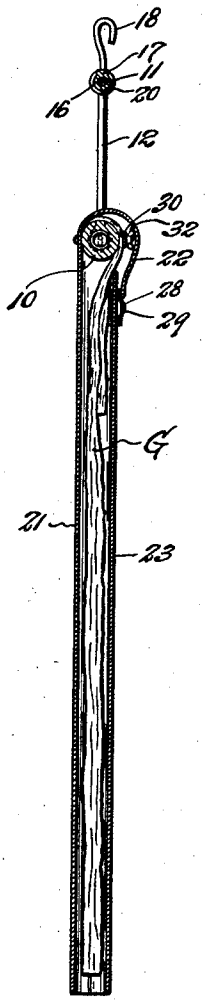


Fig. 3

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GARMENT HOLDING MEANS

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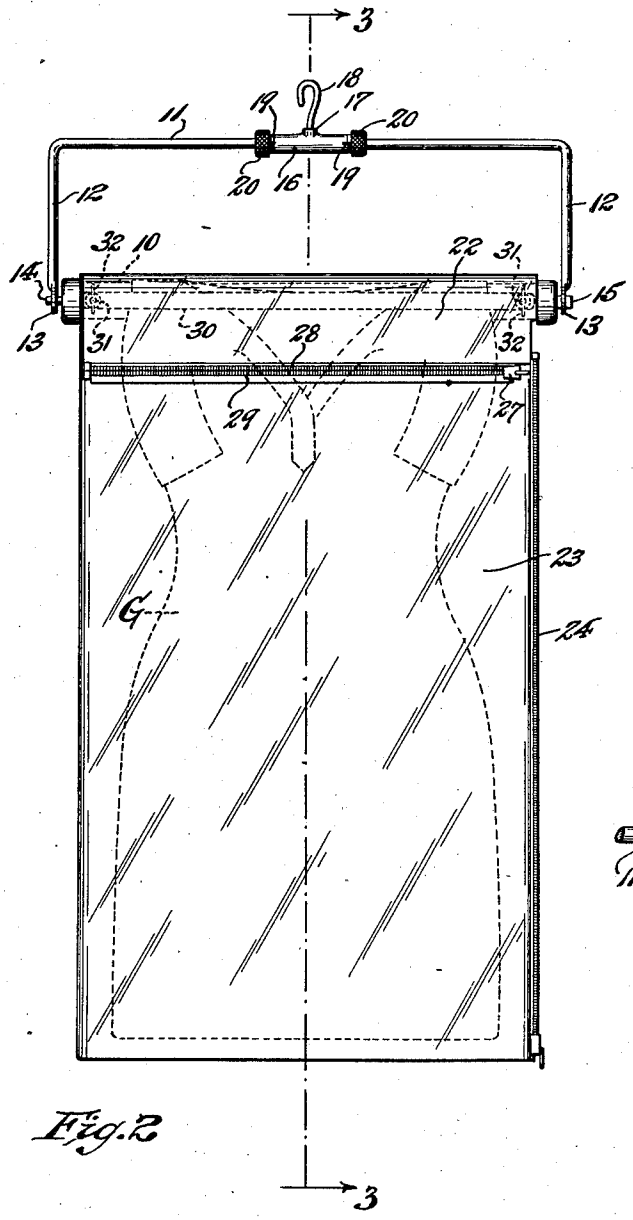


Fig. 2

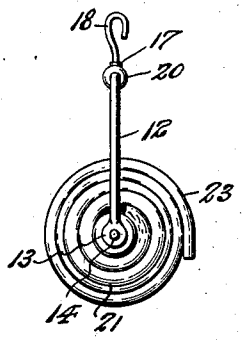


Fig. 4

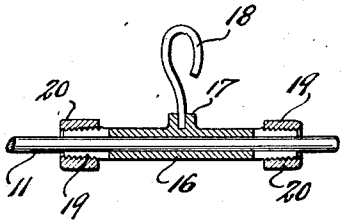


Fig. 5

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GARMENT HOLDING MEANS

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Application September 28, 1944, Serial No. 556,251

5 Claims. (Cl. 223—85)

This invention relates, generally, to improvements in means for compactly arranging and holding garments subject to the packing thereof into luggage or other containers for transport or storage, whereby the garments are so disposed and held as to be firmly supported against rumpling, creasing and like undesirable mussing.

Various devices have been heretofore provided for supporting garments in suspended or folded condition within trunks, suit cases and like articles of luggage. Such devices usually included a hanger or frame upon which the garments were mounted, but in most cases the garments in their entirety were not firmly held against shifting on the support, or against movement within the container, with the result that undesirable rumpling, creasing and oher mussing effects were not entirely avoided.

Having this in view, it is an object of this invention to provide a novel means for manipulating and holding garments in such manner that the same are smoothly rolled upon themselves, whereby in their entirety the garments are firmly held both against bodily shifting as well as against movement of their parts relatively one to another so that rumpling, creasing or other undesired mussing effects are avoided, while at the same time the garments are reduced to small bulk for convenient packing into luggage or other like containers for transport or storage.

The invention has for another object to provide a novel garment supporting means operative to smoothly roll the garment or garments upon itself or themselves, said means further including a novel protective covering for the envelopment of the garment or garments so as to not only protect the same against dust and soiling but also to separate contiguous convolutions of the rolled garments one from another, whereby to prevent entanglement of trimming, laces or other parts thereof which might involve risk of injury thereto.

The invention has for a more specific object to provide novel garment supporting means comprising a hanger frame between the dependent arms of which is mounted a spring actuated roller of the automatic detent release type, said roller being equipped with means to clamp an end portion of a garment thereto, whereby upon spring actuated rotation of the roller the garment will be smoothly rolled upon and about the latter; and means also attached to the roller being further provided for enveloping the garment preparatory to rolling the same, whereby to protect it and separate contiguous convolutions thereof when rolled.

Another object of the invention is to provide the hanger frame of the roller with a shiftably adjustable suspension means, whereby to permit said suspension means to be aligned to the center of gravity of garments as attached to the roller so as to facilitate the operations of either rolling the garments on to or from the latter.

Other objects of this invention, not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be understood from the following detailed description of the same.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a face view of the garment holding means of this invention with its garment covering envelope extended and opened to expose the roller for application of a garment thereto and within said envelope; Fig. 2 is a similar view with the envelope extended but closed in enveloping relation to the garment; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section taken on line 3—3 in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is an end elevational view of the garment holding means with the enveloped garment rolled upon the roller thereof and ready to be deposited in luggage or a like container.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of the shiftably adjustable suspension means with which the roller hanger or yoke frame is provided.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the above-described views to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, the novel garment holding means comprises a spring actuated roller 10 of the automatic detent release type, being substantially the same in construction and operation as that of the familiar spring actuated window shade roller.

Means for mounting the roller 10 subject to suspension when required, from a stationary support (not shown), comprises a hanger member or yoke frame formed by a top bar 11 having arms 12 dependent from the opposite ends thereof. Said frame arms 12 each terminate in a suitable perforate bearing element 13, which are respectively adapted to receive the journal stud 14 which projects from one end of the roller 10, and the key lug 15 of the roller spring and detent shaft which projects from the opposite end of said roller 10. Shiftably adjustable on the top bar of the hanger member or yoke is a suspension hook means. In a preferred form thereof, said suspension hook means comprises a

sleeve 16 slidably mounted on the top bar 11. Said sleeve is provided intermediate its ends with an angular boss 17, in which is fixed a suspension hook member 18 for extension therefrom. Said sleeve is provided at one or both ends thereof with tapered externally screw-threaded split end portions 19, upon which are threaded manipulatable clamp nuts 20. When said clamp nuts 20 are loosened, the sleeve and its hook member may be shifted in either direction along the top bar, and, when disposed in a desired position upon the latter, may be releasably fixed thereon by turning home the clamp nuts, whereby to contract the split end portions 19 into strong gripping and holding relation to said top bar 11.

Affixed to and along one side of the roller 10, to initially depend therefrom, is the main body section 21 of a garment closure envelope, the same having an end closure portion 22 extending upwardly beyond the roller 10. Foldably connected with one longitudinal margin of said main body section 21 is a cover section 23 which is adapted to be infolded from an open position (see Fig. 1) across the body section 21 to a closed position (see Fig. 2). Said garment enclosure envelope thus constituted may be made of any suitable flexible sheet material, such e. g. as a textile fabric.

Suitable cooperative fastener means are provided for respectively holding the cover section 23 and the end closure portion 22 in closed relation to said body section 21, whereby to enclose a garment within the closure envelope formed by said parts. Preferably the fastener means for securing the cover section 23 in closed relation to the body section 21 comprises cooperative slide fastener means 24, one section 25 of which is secured to the free longitudinal edge of the main body section 21, and the other section 26 of which is secured to the free longitudinal edge of the cover section 23. Similarly, the fastener means for securing the end closure portion 22 in closed relation to the envelope structure preferably comprises cooperative slide fastener means 27, one section 28 of which is secured to the transverse free edge of said end closure portion 22, and the other section 29 of which is secured in suitably located transverse extension to the outer face of said cover section 23.

On the side thereof opposite to that to which the above-described closure envelope is attached, the roller 10 is provided with a detachable clamp bar 30 for extension along the face thereof. Said clamp bar may be provided at its ends with suitable releaseable fastening means, such e. g. as projecting screw-threaded studs 31 affixed to the roller body, over which perforate end portions of the clamp bar may be engaged, and thereby retained in place by wing nuts 32 applicable to said studs.

In the use of the novel garment holding means, the hanger member or yoke frame is suspended by its hook member 18 from a suitable stationary support, whereupon the closure envelope is drawn down from the roller 10 to extended position, thus rotating the roller 10 against the tension of its spring so as to accumulate and store tension in the latter for imparting subsequent reverse winding movement to the roller, when the latter is released from detent restraint. When the closure envelope is thus extended, the slide fastener means 27 is released to separate its sections 28 and 29, to therefore permit the end closure portion 22 to be swung up to open position, whereupon the slide fastener means 24 is similarly released to separate its sections 25 and 26 to permit the cover section 23 to be out-swung to open position (see Fig. 1). When the closure envelope is thus opened, the roller 10 will be exposed for operative attachment of a garment G thereto.

To apply the garment G to the roller 10, the clamp bar 30 is first detached from the roller, whereupon the upper end of the garment G is applied against and along the surface of the roller, and then the clamp bar 30 is applied over the garment end and affixed to the roller, whereby to clamp the garment to the latter so as to hang therefrom outspread over the main body section 21 of the closure envelope (see Fig. 1).

After the garment G has been affixed to the roller 10 for suspension therefrom as described, the closure envelope is closed to envelop the garment. This is done by infolding the cover section 23 over the garment G, and then securing said cover section in garment enclosing relation to the main body section 21 by closing the slide fastener means 24. After the cover section 23 has been closed and secured, the end closure portion 22 is swung down over and around the roller 10, and in turn secured in closed position by closing the slide fastener means 27, whereupon the roller suspended garment is entirely enveloped by the closure envelope (see Figs. 2 and 3).

The garment having been attached to the roller 10 and enclosed in the enclosure envelope, the garment envelope assembly is ready to be rolled up on and around the roller. This is done by pulling down on the assembly to release the roller from detent restraint, so that the accumulated tension of the roller spring will rotate the roller in direction to wind up the enveloped garment on and around the roller (see Fig. 4), whereupon the garment is smoothly convolved and firmly held against shifting, rumpling or mussing, as well as being protected by the closure envelope against dust, dirt or soiling.

To facilitate smoth garment rolling or unrolling of the roller, the whole assembly, as suspended from a stationary support by the hanger member or yoke frame, should be so balanced as to hang perpendicularly from said support. It sometimes happens that the supported garment is so designed, or is so embellished with variously disposed trimming or ornament, that its center of gravity is such as to swing the assembly out of perpendicular to one side or the other. In such case, this condition may be corrected, and the assembly caused to hang in desired perpendicular disposition, by shifting the suspension hook means of the hanger member or yoke frame to and affixing the same in an adjusted position on the top bar 11 of the latter, so as to bring said suspension hook means into alignment with the center of gravity of such garment.

Not only does the novel garment holding means of this invention permit disposition of a garment applied thereto in a smoothly and compactly rolled mass of reduced bulk convenient for deposit in a luggage or container compartment, but also the same may be used to hang the garment, at journey's end in a closet or other place, and as still protected by the closure envelope, in outdrawn extended and dependent relation to the roller until such time as use thereof is desired.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. A device for the purposes described comprising a spring actuated roller of the automatic de-

tent release type, a hanger yoke between the arms of which said roller is mounted, said hanger yoke having a shiftably adjustable hanger hook for suspending the device from a stationary support, means carried by said roller for clamping thereto a garment for initial suspension therefrom, a closure envelope also affixed to said roller to initially depend therefrom, said closure envelope being manipulatable to envelope a garment dependent from said roller, and said garment and enveloping closure envelope being adapted by actuation of said roller to be wound upon and about the same.

2. A device for the purposes described comprising a spring actuated roller of the automatic detent release type, a hanger yoke between the arms of which said roller is mounted, means carried by said roller for clamping thereto a garment for initial suspension therefrom, a garment enclosing means comprising a body section affixed to said roller to depend therefrom behind a suspended garment, said body section having a cover section connected therewith and manipulatable to fold over the suspended garment to enclose the latter between the same and said body section, said body and cover section having cooperative means for securing the same in closed together relation, and the thus enclosed garment being adapted by actuation of said roller to be wound upon and about the same.

3. A device for the purposes described comprising a spring actuated roller of the automatic detent release type, a hanger yoke between the arms of which said roller is mounted, said hanger yoke having a shiftably adjustable hanger hook for suspending the device from a stationary support, means carried by said roller for clamping thereto a garment for initial suspension therefrom, a garment enclosing means comprising a body section affixed to said roller to depend therefrom behind a suspended garment, said body section having a cover section connected therewith and manipulatable to fold over the suspended garment to enclose the latter between the same and said body section, said body and cover section having cooperative means for securing the same in closed together relation, and the thus enclosed garment being adapted by actuation of said roller to be wound upon and about the same.

4. A device for the purposes described comprising a spring actuated roller of the automatic detent release type, a hanger yoke between the arms of which said roller is mounted, means carried by said roller for clamping thereto a garment for initial suspension therefrom, a garment enclosing means made of flexible material comprising a body section affixed to said roller to depend therefrom behind a suspended garment, said body section having a cover section connected with one side edge thereof so as to be inwardly foldable over the suspended garment whereby to enclose the latter between the same and said body section, said body and cover section having cooperative means for securing the same in closed together relation, said body section having an end closure portion extending from its upper end beyond said roller, said end closure portion being downwardly foldable over the roller and closed cover section, said end closure portion and cover section having cooperative means for securing the former in closed condition, and the thus enclosed garment being adapted by actuation of said roller to be wound upon and about the same.

5. A device for the purposes described as defined in claim 4, wherein said hanger yoke is provided with a shiftably adjustable hanger hook for suspending the device from a stationary support.

BEATRICE P. BOHN.