

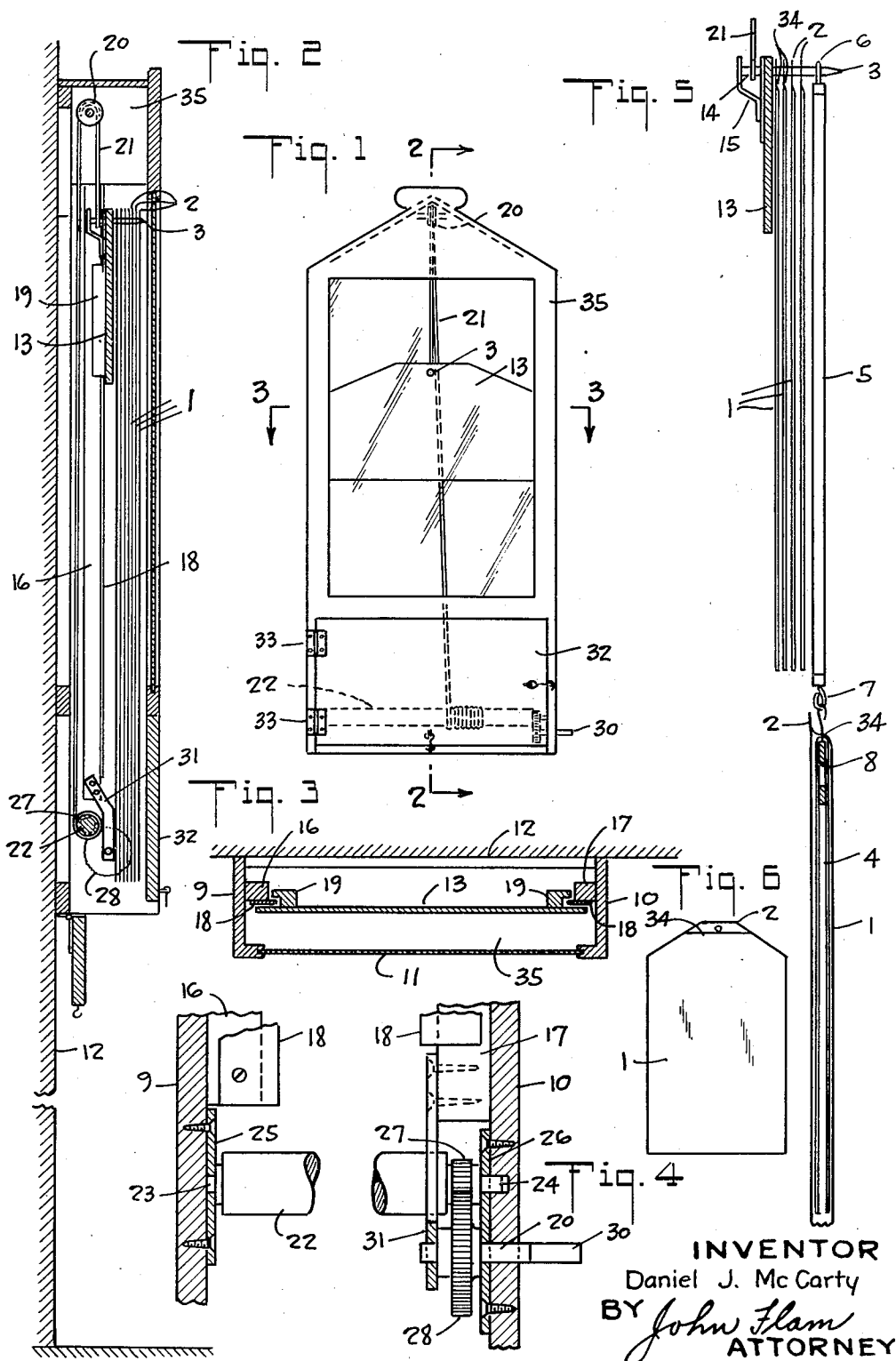
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DEVICE FOR PLACING BAG COVERS OVER GARMENTS

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DEVICE FOR PLACING BAG COVERS OVER
GARMENTS

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4 Claims. (Cl. 226—18)

This invention relates to a device used for the insertion of garments into bag coverings.

In garment cleaning and pressing establishments, it has now become the custom to place a paper bag or covering over the garment after cleaning or pressing, and prior to delivery to a customer. Such bags are usually arranged with an open bottom, so that they may be slipped over a garment hung on a conventional clothes hanger. The clothes hanger is usually provided with a hook that can project through a small opening in the top of the bag.

The act of placing the bag over a garment hanging on a hanger, has been clumsy and time consuming. Especially is this true where the garment is a full-length one; such as a woman's dress, or an overcoat or a suit of clothes.

It is one of the objects of this invention to provide a device that makes it possible to place such covering bags easily over the garment.

It is another object of the invention to make it possible to store a large number of bags in a convenient manner and in a position ready for placing them over garments as desired.

It is another object of this invention to provide a convenient although inexpensive mechanism, including an enclosing cabinet, to facilitate the storage of a number of bags for use; that is, with the open end at the bottom, and in elevated position.

This invention possesses many other advantages, and has other objects which may be made more easily apparent from a consideration of one embodiment of the invention. For this purpose there is shown a form in the drawing accompanying and forming part of the present specification. This form will now be described in detail, illustrating the general principles of the invention; but it is to be understood that this detailed description is not to be taken in a limiting sense, since the scope of this invention is best defined by the appended claims.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a cabinet incorporating the invention, the carriage being shown in partially elevated position;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken along plane 2—2 of Fig. 1, but with the carriage in fully elevated position, and the bottom door of the cabinet open;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view, taken along plane 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged detail sectional view illustrating the elevating and lower-

ing mechanism, some of the parts being broken away to reduce the size of the figure;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 2, but showing the manner in which a garment bag has been placed over a garment on a hanger; and

Fig. 6 is an elevation of one of the garment bags to be utilized in connection with the invention.

The garment bag 1 (Figs. 2, 5 and 6) is shown as of conventional form. It is open at the bottom and has an upwardly extending tab 2, the top of the bag having a small slit or opening 34, where tab 2 joins the bag.

In the apparatus utilized for the invention, the garment bags 1 are supported at their upper ends by the aid of the tab 2, through which passes the supporting member 3 (Figs. 2 and 5). This supporting member is conveniently made in the form of a rod or spike with a pointed end, which can be forced through the tabs 2. Furthermore, the support 3 is of sufficient length to accommodate a comparatively large number of bags 1, only a few being shown in Figs. 2 and 5. These bags 1 thus are suspended with their open ends directed downwardly, so that the bags may be pulled over a garment.

In order that this downward telescoping motion of the bag 1 may be easily effected, use is made of a rod or pole 5. This rod or pole is intended to be inserted upwardly into a bag 1, through the open end thereof. Its upper end is intended to be passed through the upper slit 34; it also carries a hook 6 at its upper end adapted to engage the support 3, after passing through the slit 34. At the lower end the pole 5 carries a hook 7 upon which a garment hanger 8 may be suspended. Upon this garment hanger, a garment 4 is placed.

With the pole 5 thus inserted into one of the bags, the operator can grasp the lower edge of the bag 1 and tear through the tab 2, pulling the bag downwardly over the pole 5 and over the hook 7 and onto the garment hanger 8. This completes the operation of placing the bag over the garment, as illustrated in the lower portion of Fig. 5. All that is required then is to remove the garment hanger 8 from the hook 7; the garment hanger 8, the garment 4 and the bag 1 is then ready for delivery to a customer.

It is apparent that for convenience in operation the bags 1 should be suspended at a height to facilitate the ready insertion of the pole 5 within one of the bags 1, by an operator standing on the floor. For this purpose there is provided an elevating and lowering mechanism, so

that for loading the support 3, this support can be lowered; and after loading, the support 3 with the bags 1, may be elevated to its desired height.

For this purpose there is provided an enclosing cabinet 35 shown to best advantage in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. This cabinet can include the sides 9 and 10 (Fig. 3) having a front glass panel 11, and supported directly on a vertical wall 12. The glass panel 11 makes it possible conveniently to view the bags 1 from the exterior of the cabinet.

The lowering and elevating mechanism includes a pulley and drum device and a carriage 13 operated thereby. This carriage supports at its upper end, the bag support 3. This support 3 may have a rearwardly extending portion 14, braced by a bracket 15 fastened to the rear wall of the carriage 13. This carriage 13 is adapted to be guided by the aid of vertical guide cleats 16 and 17 fastened to the inner sides of the side walls 9 and 10. To each of these guides is fastened a longitudinal metal strip 18. The edge of the metal strip 18 projects inwardly beyond the guide cleats 16, 17. These edges are adapted to be engaged within a groove formed between the rear wall of carriage 13 and the rabbetted cleats 19, fastened to the rear of the carriage 13.

The guide members 16, 17 and 18 extend for a material portion vertically within the cabinet structure 35, as shown most clearly in Fig. 2. A pulley 20 is provided near the top of the cabinet over which passes a flexible element such as string or cord 21. The other reach of the cord 21 is intended to be wound on a drum 22 located near the bottom of the cabinet. This drum is shown in Fig. 4 as having pintles 23 and 24 journaled in the bearing brackets 25 and 26 fastened to the inside surfaces of walls 9 and 10. In order to raise and lower the carriage 13, the drum 22 is adapted to be rotated by the aid of a pair of gears 27 and 28. Gear 27 is fastened to the right hand end of drum 22. Gear 28 meshes therewith and is adapted to be rotated by the aid of a handle on the outside of the cabinet. For this purpose the gear 28 has an extending shaft 29 with a square projection 30 that may be received in a ratchet handle or the like. The gear 28 is rotatably supported by the aid of the bracket 26, and also by the aid of a supplemental bracket 31 fastened to the cleat 17.

In order to gain ready access to the drum mechanism, the cabinet may be provided with a door 32 adapted to swing on a vertical axis as by the aid of hinges 33.

The mode of operation of the apparatus is clear from the foregoing. When it is desired to load the support 3 with the garment bags 1, the drum 22 is operated to lower the carriage 3. In its lowered position, the carriage 3 extends to near the bottom of the cabinet 35, in which position the bags are placed, by the aid of the tabs 2, upon the support 3. Then the drum 22 may be

operated to bring the carriage 13 to the position shown in Fig. 2. A sufficient number of bags may be thus supported at a convenient level and to last for a considerable period.

In order to place a bag 1 over a garment 5 such as 4, the garment hanger 8 is supported at the bottom of the pole 5, the top of the pole extending upwardly through one of the bags. This bag, as heretofore stated, can then be pulled down off of the support 3, tearing the tab 2 and slipping over the garment 4. The garment hanger 8 can then be removed from the pole 7.

What is claimed is:

1. In a device of the character described, a carriage, a vertical guide for the carriage, means for lowering and elevating the carriage on the guide, means supported on the carriage and forming a rod suspension adapted to pass through the tops of a number of garment bags placed side by side in a stack with their open ends directed downwardly for supporting the bags with their lower open ends unimpeded and a pole adapted to support a garment hanger and to be inserted into any of the bags.

2. The process of placing garment bags over garments, which comprises supporting one or more garment bags at the tops so that they hang downwardly with the open end at the bottom, placing a garment on a hanger, supporting the hanger on a pole, passing the pole upwardly and through the top of one of the bags, and pulling the bag downwardly over the pole and onto the hanger.

3. In a device of the character described, a carriage, means for moving the carriage in a vertical direction, means supported by the carriage for suspending a number of garment bags side by side in a stack at their upper ends, and a pole adapted to be inserted optionally into any one of the bags, the upper end of said pole being adapted to extend beyond the bag and engage said support means, the lower end of the pole being adapted to support a garment hanger, whereby the garment hanger is supported adjacent the lower end of the bag.

4. In a device of the character described, a carriage, a vertical guide for the carriage, a cabinet enclosing the guide and carriage, a pulley and drum mechanism supported in the cabinet and cooperating with the carriage to lower and elevate it, means supported by the carriage for suspending a number of garment bags side by side in a stack at their upper ends, and a pole adapted to be inserted optionally into any one of the bags, the upper end of said pole being adapted to extend beyond the bag and engage said support means, the lower end of the pole being adapted to support a garment hanger, whereby the garment hanger is supported adjacent the lower end of the bag.

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