Sept. 25, 1951 W. COHEN 2,569,371

PIVOTED SPRING CLIP

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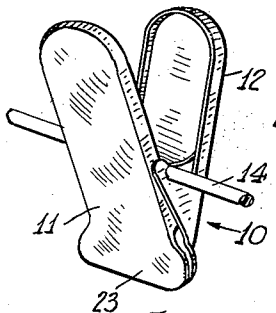



Fig. 1.

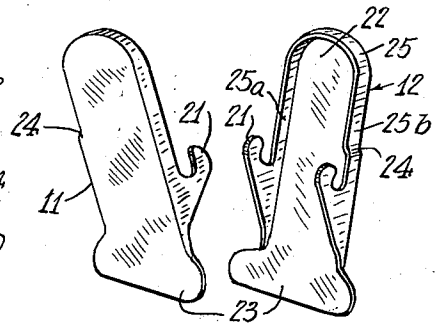



Fig. 2.

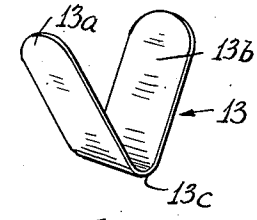



Fig. 3.

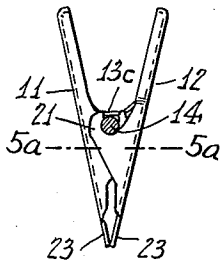



Fig. 4.

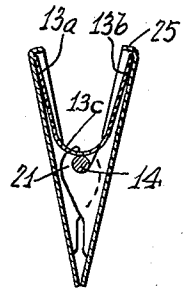



Fig. 5.

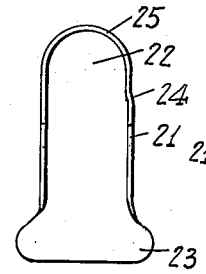



Fig. 6.

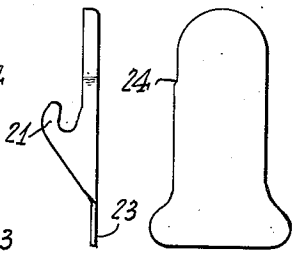



Fig. 7.

Fig. 8

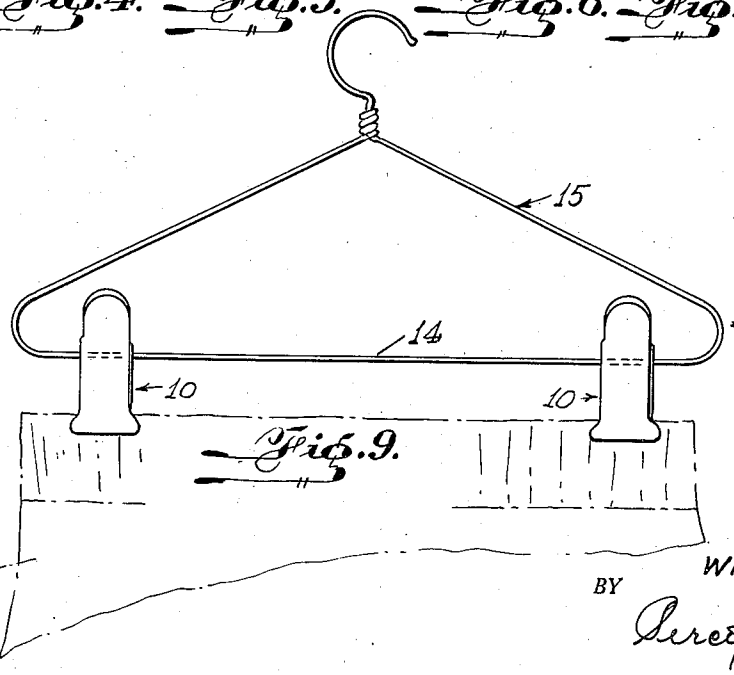



Fig. 9.

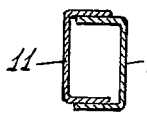



Fig. 5a.

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## PIVOTED SPRING CLIP

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1 Claim. (Cl. 24—252)

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This invention relates to a spring-urged clip for skirts, trousers, and the like.

Skirt and trouser clips are frequently provided on garment hangers, and especially garment hangers which are made of steel wire, bent to appropriate shape. In many cases, the wire of the hanger proper comprises an integral part of the skirt and trouser clip in the sense that the several component parts of the clip are pivotally mounted thereon. More especially, the wire of the garment hanger constitutes the pintle of the clip.

It is a conventional practice to mount these clips on the wire of the garment hanger before said wire is bent to garment hanger shape. This procedure renders the manufacture of such clip-equipped garment hangers rather difficult and costly. Efforts have accordingly been made to devise skirt and trouser clips of this general character which may be applied to the garment hanger following its formation as such. In each case, the clip has been designed to be independent of the wire which constitutes the garment hanger so that the clip is a complete entity in itself prior to its application to, and irrespective of, its application to the garment hanger. In other words, the wire which constitutes the garment hanger, in such case no longer serves as the fulcrum or pivot of the clip. Clips of this type have been found wanting in many respects, and despite the advantage of being able to mount them after the garment hanger is formed, they have not succeeded in superseding conventional clips which must be applied to the wire before its formation into the garment hanger.

The principal object of the present invention is the provision of a skirt and trouser clip which may be readily mounted upon a wire garment hanger frame following its formation as such and which includes the wire of said hanger frame as an integral part thereof. The clip herein described and claimed affords two distinct advantages: it may be mounted on a completely formed hanger or frame and when so mounted cannot be removed without destruction, and it utilizes the wire of said garment hanger or frame as its pivot or fulcrum. Some of the skirt and trouser clips of the prior art may be mounted on a completed garment hanger and others utilize the wire of said hanger as their fulcrum or pivot; but both features and advantages together cannot be found in any one skirt and trouser clip of the prior art. And of those that may be mounted on a previously bent wire frame, none are adapted to become permanently secured to the wire frames. They may be removed as easily as they were mounted.

A skirt and trouser clip made in accordance with the present invention comprises but three component parts in addition to the wire of the

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garment hanger which serves as the pivot or fulcrum of said clip. These component parts may be listed as follows: a pair of pivotally mounted, coacting grip members and a spring member which engages said grip members and urges them into tensioned engagement with each other. These grip members are provided with hook formations which engage the wire of the garment hanger, and it is by this means that they are enabled to make use of said wire as their pivot or fulcrum. The spring member is nested in the manipulating ends of the grip members and also engages the wire of the garment hanger, to prevent the grip members from disengaging the wire, and also to serve as supporting means whereby said grip members may be supported by said wire.

It is accordingly another important object of this invention to provide a spring-urged skirt and trouser clip of the character described, which may be easily assembled on a preformed wire frame for permanent use therewith, and wherein the spring serves as the means which supports the clip on the garment hanger. One of the important advantages flowing from this feature is the fact that the heavier the garment happens to be, the surer will be the supporting action of the spring. By the same token, the supporting action of the spring will be enhanced in direct relation to the thickness of the cloth which the clip engages. In other words, a heavy garment will be supported by the clip under discussion with even greater strength than a lighter garment or a garment which is made of thinner material.

A preferred form of this invention is shown in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a skirt and trouser clip made in accordance with said invention, showing it mounted on the wire of a conventional wire garment hanger.

Fig. 2 is an exploded perspective view of the two grip members thereof.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the spring member.

Fig. 4 is a side view of the clip, showing it mounted on the wire of the garment hanger, and showing said wire in cross-section.

Fig. 5 is avertical section through said clip.

Fig. 5A is a cross-sectional view through said clip, as indicated by line 5*a*—5*a* of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is an inside view of one of the grip members.

Fig. 7 is a side view thereof.

Fig. 8 is an outside view thereof.

Fig. 9 shows a pair of clips mounted on a wire hanger and supporting a skirt.

It has above been stated that a spring clip 10 made in accordance with the present invention comprises but three component parts, exclusive

of the wire of the garment hanger proper. These three component parts are a pair of grip members 11 and 12, respectively, and a U-shaped spring member 13. The fulcrum of the clip is the wire 14 of conventional wire garment hanger 15.

It will be noted that the two grip members 11 and 12 are identical with each other; that is to say, no "rights" or "lefts" are required. And it will further be noted that they are pivotally connected to each other about wire 14. They are thereby enabled to co-act with each other, under the influence of spring member 13, to grip a garment such as skirt 20.

More specifically, each of the two grip members is provided with a pair of hook-shaped formations 21, one on each side thereof, and intermediate the two ends thereof. The portion of the grip member which extends above the two hook-shaped formations is designated in the drawing by means of the reference character 22 and constitutes the finger piece or manipulating portion of the grip member. The hooks 21 are directed upwardly toward the free ends of the finger portions. The portion of the grip member which lies below the hook-shaped formations is designated in the drawing by means of the reference character 23 and constitutes the gripping jaw of the grip member. It will be noted that the hook-shaped formations 21 and 22 are open at the top and closed at the bottom. It will also be noted that one of said hook-shaped formations is laterally offset slightly from the side edge of the grip member as shown at 24, the other being aligned with the opposite side edge thereof. And it will further be noted that a rounded flange 25 is formed along the top and side edges of the grip member, above the hook-shaped formations. Flange 25 is of inverted U-shape and its downwardly extending legs 25*a* and 25*b* are continuous with the two hook-shaped formations 21.

The hook-shaped formations 21 are clearly adapted to engage wire 14 of garment hanger 15. Since the two grip members are identical, and since one of the hook-shaped formations of each grip member is slightly offset from the side edge thereof, the two grip members will be closely aligned with each other across wire 14. In other words, jaws 23 will meet each other squarely and neither will over-hang the other, either laterally or otherwise. The same is true of the manipulating finger portions 22 which will also be in alignment with each other so that neither is offset from the other when the grip members of which they are a part are mounted on wire 14.

Spring member 13 is, preferably though not necessarily, a leaf-spring which is bent to approximately U-shape, its two arms 13*a* and 13*b* being in diverging relation to each other as Figs. 3 and 5 clearly show. These arms are rounded at their end portions to correspond to the curvature of flanges 25 of the two grip members 11 and 12, respectively. The dimensions of the arms of the spring member are such as to enable them to fit between vertical portions 25*a* and 25*b* of the two flanges 25, and thus nest within the manipulating portions. This has the effect, not only of retaining the spring in proper relation to the two grip members, but also of maintaining the two grip members in lateral alignment with each other. This will very clearly be seen in Figs. 1 and 5.



In order to mount the clip on wire 14, the two gripping members 11 and 12 are hooked thereon by means of their hook-shaped formations 21. (See Figs. 1, 4, and 5.) The U-shaped spring member 13 is then placed between the two grip members, immediately above wire 14. The two arms of the U-shaped spring member are brought into abutment with the inside of the two grip members above the wire. Flanges 25 confine the two arms of said spring member and prevent them from becoming dislodged relative to the grip members. Stated differently, the curved yoke portion 13*c* of spring member 13 is brought to rest upon wire 14 and the two curved end portions of arms 13*a* and 13*b* are nested within and brought into engagement with the curved portions of flanges 25. It will be noted that any tendency toward relative lateral movement between the two gripping members is effectively averted by reason of the spring nesting within and being confined by the flanges 25. Hence, when the clip engages a garment such as skirt 20 and the weight of the garment exerts a downward pull upon the clip, the spring member 13, confined by flanges 25, will resist such pull and prevent dislodgment of the clip relative to the wire. It will be noted that the wider the jaws 23 of the grip members are required to open in order to accommodate a garment, the more narrowly spaced will be the upper finger portions thereof. This will have the effect of decreasing the angular distance which separates the two arms of the U-shaped spring member and will strengthen the resistance of said spring member to the downward pull of the garment.

The foregoing is descriptive of a preferred form of this invention, and it will be clearly apparent that other forms and modifications of the described form may be had within the broad scope and coverage of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

A garment clip of the character described, comprising a pair of grip members having manipulating portions at one end and coacting jaws at the other end, a pintle for pivotally uniting said grip members, hook-shaped ears on said grip members which engage said pintle to dispose the two grip members in coacting, pivotal relationship, flange formations on the manipulating portions, and a U-shaped spring member mounted between said manipulating portions wholly on one side of said pintle with the convex surface of its yoke portion resting upon the pintle and with its end portions freely nesting within the flange formations, and being the sole means of non-removably confirming the pintle within said hook-shaped ears.

WILLIAM COHEN.


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