July 5, 1932. O. L. BOOKS 1,866,150

FOLDING HANGER FOR TRAVELING CASES

Filed May 4, 1931

Fig. 1.

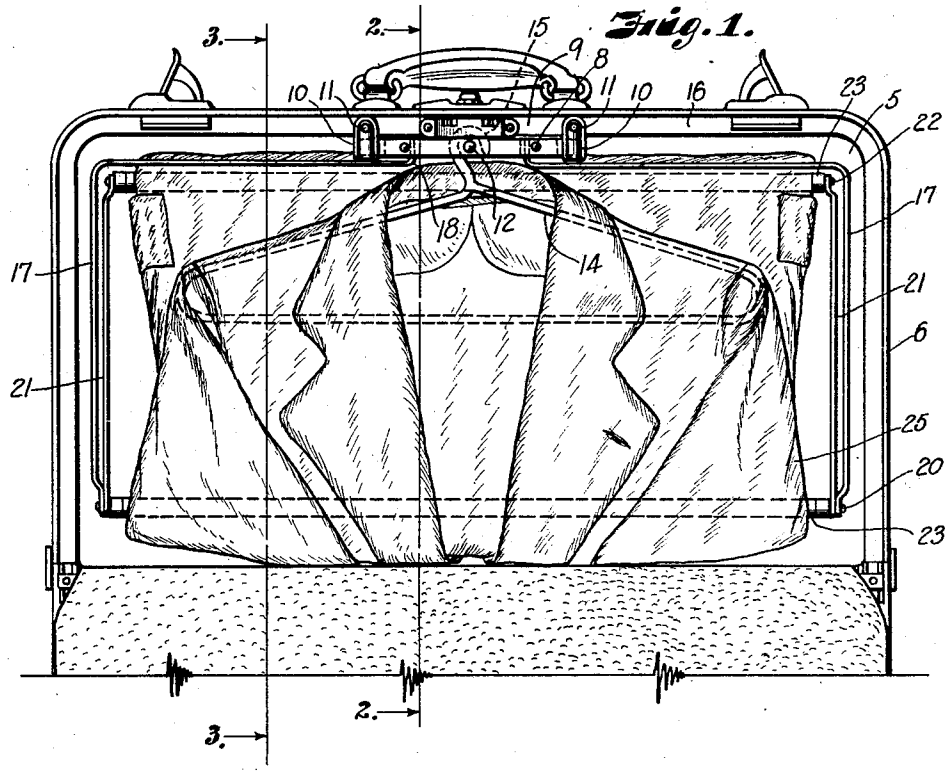


Fig. 2.

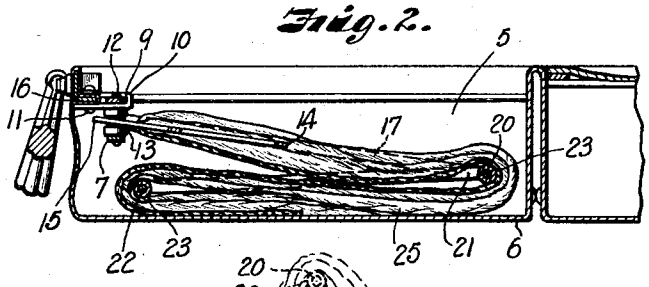


Fig. 4.

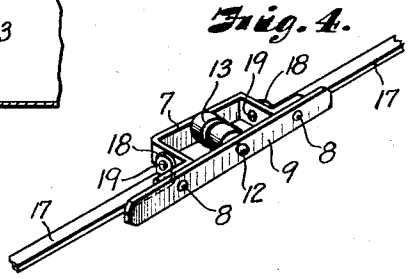


Fig. 3.

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FOLDING HANGER FOR TRAVELING CASES

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The present invention relates to garment hanging devices, and the primary object in view is to devise a novel and improved garment hanger construction adapted to be installed in traveling cases, for the purpose of suspending garments, such as coats, dresses and the like in neatly folded condition within a traveling case, and in such a manner as to eliminate all unnecessary folding or creasing of the garment.

To this end I have devised a simple and conveniently operated structure adapted to be attached inside one of the compartments of a traveling case, and comprising folding members cooperating to support the garment in smooth folds approximately fitting the interior of the compartment.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient hanger construction which is adapted for convenient attachment to the interior of the traveling case for the support of the usual garment hanger element, together with a double-folding framework which is of a size approximating that of the interior compartment of the case, and operating to support the garment, when suspended from the hanger element, in folds fitting into the case without undue folding and creasing of the garment material.

With the foregoing general objects in view, the invention will now be described by reference to the accompanying drawing illustrating one practical and efficient form of embodiment of the improvement, after which those features and combinations deemed to be novel will be set forth and claimed.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a plan view illustrating a portion of an ordinary form of traveling case and showing the interior of one of its compartments, having a garment hanger construction installed therein embodying the present invention;

Figures 2 and 3 are transverse sections, taken upon the lines 2—2 and 3—3, respectively, of Figure 1, Figure 3 illustrating the hanger construction in open position, and including dotted lines illustrating the operation of folding the same into the folded position illustrated by Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a perspective detail view showing that portion of the device which forms a supporting means for attachment to the interior of the traveling case.

Referring now to said drawing in detail, this illustrates the improved hanger construction as embodied in one compartment 5 of a traveling case 6, one section only of which is illustrated. The improved device comprises a suitable supporting means, such as the U-shaped bracket element 7, rigidly secured as indicated at 8 to a bar 9, the ends of which may be attached in any desired manner for securing the device within the compartment 5, as by means of swivel loops 10 adapted to be secured by rivets 11 or the like to the interior upper side of the compartment 5, whereby the remaining parts of the construction are properly suspended within said compartment when the case is in upright position.

Across the middle of the space enclosed by the bracket 7 and the bar 9 is mounted a pin 12 which may, if desired, carry a spool or roller 13, which is designed for the support of the usual hanger device 14 having the hook 15 for attachment to the supporting roller 13.

The opposite ends of the bracket member 7 also serve as a support for a swinging frame member comprising a bail-like frame 17 formed with lugs 18 which are pivoted, as indicated at 19, to the ends of the bracket member 17, as represented in Figures 1 and 4. The lower ends of the bail 17 carry a rod 20, and this construction thus provides an open frame member of a size approximating that of the interior of the compartment 5, as clearly represented in Figure 1. To the opposite ends of the rod 20 is also pivotally connected a second frame member, made up of the arms 21 pivotally connected at their opposite ends to said rod 20 and a second rod 22, the size of this second open frame member thus approximating that of the first frame member but being sufficiently smaller to fold within the same, as shown. Each of the rods 20 and 22 may, if desired, be provided with a suitable roller 23 for facilitating the operation in the use of the device, and as a safe-

guard against undue creasing of the garment.

In the installation and use of the improved construction, the supporting means comprising the bar 9 and the bracket member 7 is suitably attached in any appropriate manner to the upper interior portion of the compartment 5, the convenient means illustrated comprising the swivel loops 10 attached to the flange 16 surrounding said compartment 5 constituting a convenient detachable construction for the purpose. With the device thus installed, the folding framework remains in collapsed condition within the compartment 5 until a garment is to be packed at which time a hanger device 14 is inserted in the garment and its hook portion 15 attached to the supporting element 13 and beneath the portions 22 and 23 of the smaller frame member having the end portions 21.

This smaller frame member is then swung outward upon the axis of the rod 20 to bring the cross rod 22 upon top of the lower portion of the garment, as represented in Figure 3. After drawing the garment down over the rods 22 and 23 as much as is deemed desirable, the rod 20 connecting the folding frame members is then raised, as represented by the dotted lines in Figure 3, to permit folding of the smaller frame member 17—22 into the compartment 5 beneath the other frame member, which is then lowered down into said compartment upon top of the smaller frame member, as clearly illustrated by the full lines in Figure 2. This operation obviously folds the garment about both of the rods 20 and 22, leaving the tail portion of the garment resting upon the bottom of the compartment 5, as shown.

Thus a garment hanger construction is provided which is conveniently installed within one compartment of a traveling case of the form illustrated, and the construction and operation are such that the garment is by practically one movement folded into neat, smooth-lying folds of a size approximating that of the interior of the compartment, so that all unnecessary folding and creasing are prevented, due to the frame members themselves being of approximately the same size as the compartment, and hence forming folds in the garment of those same proportions. This results in spreading out the garment and retaining it in folds of as great an extent as is permitted by the size of the compartment, eliminating unnecessary creasing and effectively suspending the folded garment in this position without any opportunity of sagging of the material between the supported lines at the opposite sides of the compartment.

It is also obvious that garments of any type, or of any size or description which are to be packed, may be accommodated by the improved hanger construction, and that the only operation required for removal of the garment from the case is the disengagement of the hanger hook 15 from its support, whereupon the garment may be lifted out by means of the hanger 14, since the frame members will readily allow the garment to be pulled out from between them; in fact, the roller type of mountings 23 will aid in smoothing out the folds of the garment, when thus removed from the case.

While I have illustrated and described what I now regard as the prefered form of construction for embodying the proposed improvement, I recognize that various modifications of the construction may be employed without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I therefore desire to reserve the right to make whatever changes or modifications may fairly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

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

1. A garment hanger construction for traveling cases comprising supporting means adapted for attachment to the interior of the case, a hanger element carried by said supporting means, folding frame elements carried by said supporting means and including parallel bars spaced apart approximately the width of the case for supporting the garment in folds approximately fitting inside the case, one of said frame elements having a pivotal connection to said supporting means, and a second of said elements having a pivotal connection to said first frame element on an axis parallel to the axis of said first pivotal connection whereby the garment may be folded by successive folding movements taking place partly outside the case and partly thereafter as the garment and frame elements are deposited within the case.

2. A garment hanger construction for traveling cases, comprising supporting means adapted for attachment to the interior of the case, means for engaging the garment with said supporting means, and folding frame members suspended from said supporting means, each being of a size approximating that of the interior of the case and adapted to support the garment in folds approximately fitting the interior of the case, said frame members having a pivotal connection to each other for folding movement, and one of said frame members having a pivotal connection with said supporting means along an axis parallel to the axis of the connection between said members whereby all of the members may partake of a swinging movement with respect to the support.

3. A garment hanger construction for traveling cases, comprising supporting means adapted for attachment to the interior of the case, means for engaging the garment with said supporting means, and a folding frame work having a pivotal connection to said sup-

porting means, said framework comprising pivotally connected frame members each of a size approximating that of the interior of the case and adapted to support the garment in folds approximately fitting the interior of the case, the axes of the pivotal connection between the frame members and the pivotal connection to the support being substantially parallel.

4. A garment hanger construction for traveling cases, comprising supporting means adapted for attachment to the interior of the case, means for engaging the garment with said supporting means, a frame member of a size approximating that of the interior of the case and pivotally connected to said supporting means, a second frame member of approximately the same size as the first member and pivotally connected for folding movement therewith about an axis parallel to the pivot axis of said first frame member, said frame members cooperating to provide parallel garment supporting elements spaced apart approximately the width of the case for maintaining the garment in folds fitting the interior of the case.

5. A garment hanger construction for traveling cases comprising supporting means adapted for detachable connection to a case on the interior thereof and providing a supporting member extending along one side of the case for a garment hanger element, and a double-folding framework pivotally suspended from said supporting member along an axis parallel to said supporting member, said framework being of such a size when folded as to fit approximately the interior of the case for supporting the garment when suspended from said hanger element in folds fitting the interior of the case.

6. A garment hanger construction for traveling cases comprising supporting means adapted for attachment to the interior of the case and providing a supporting member extending along a wall of the interior of the case, means for engaging the garment with said supporting member, a pair of frame members each of a size approximating that of the interior of the case for maintaining the garment in folds approximately fitting said interior of the case, means for suspending one of said frame members from said supporting member, and means providing a pivotal connection between said frame members along an axis parallel to said supporting member and permitting folding movement of the frame members in the direction of the folding movement of the garment around said frame members.

In witness whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

OTHO L. BOOKS.