Sept. 5, 1944. A. J. BROWN ET AL 2,357,309

CONTAINER

Filed Dec. 13, 1939 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

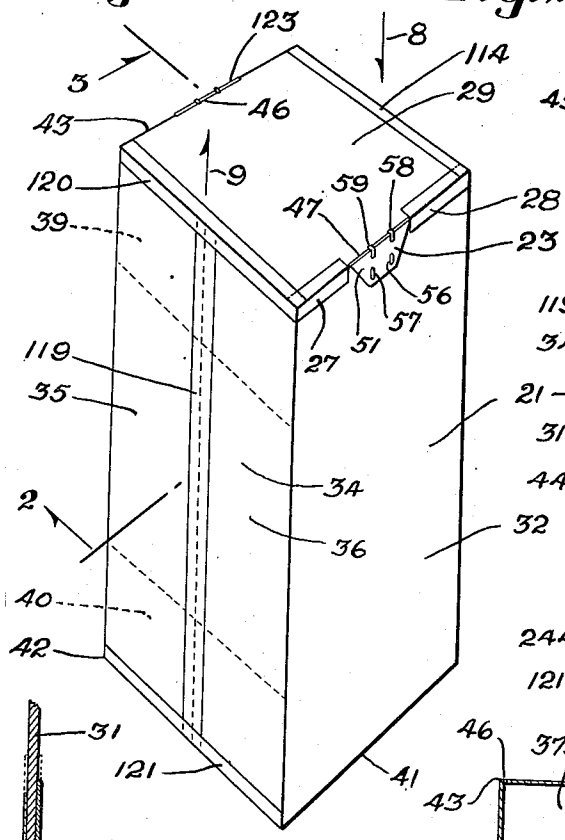
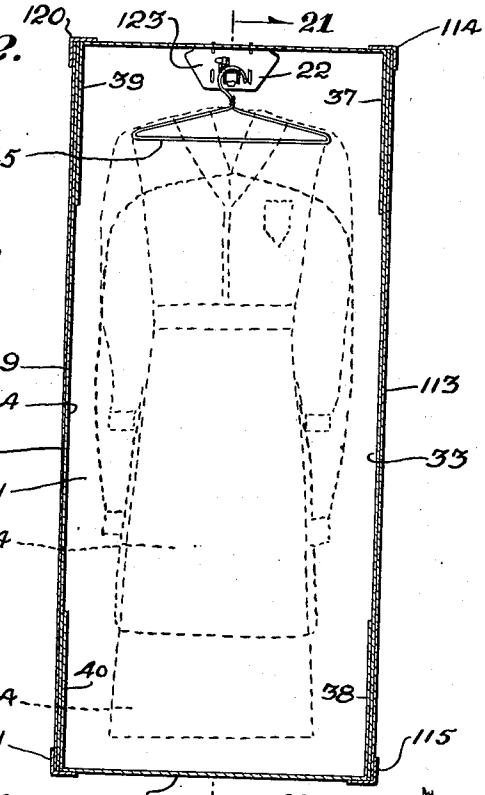


Fig. 2.



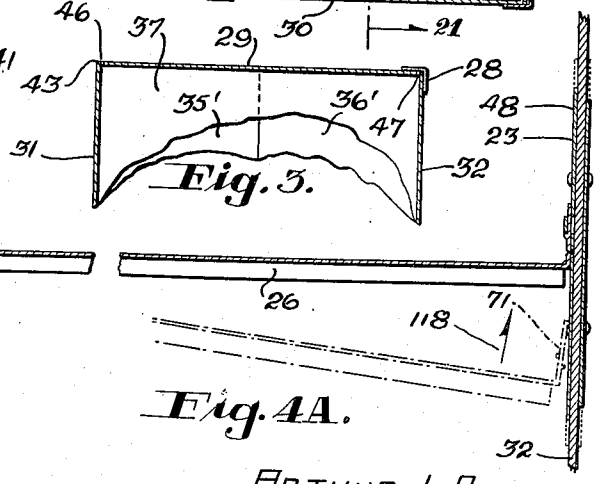


Fig. 3.

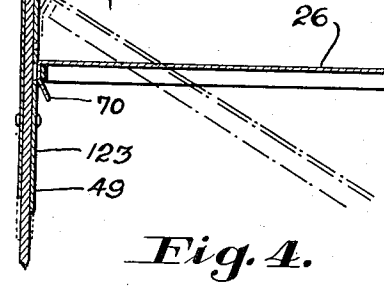
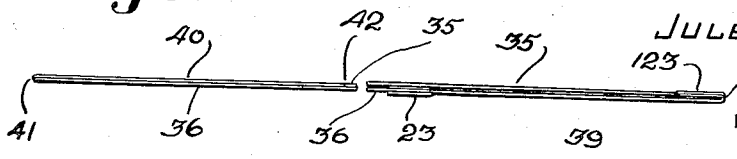


Fig. 4.

Fig. 4A.

Fig. 5.



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Filed Dec. 13, 1939 4 Sheets-Sheet 2

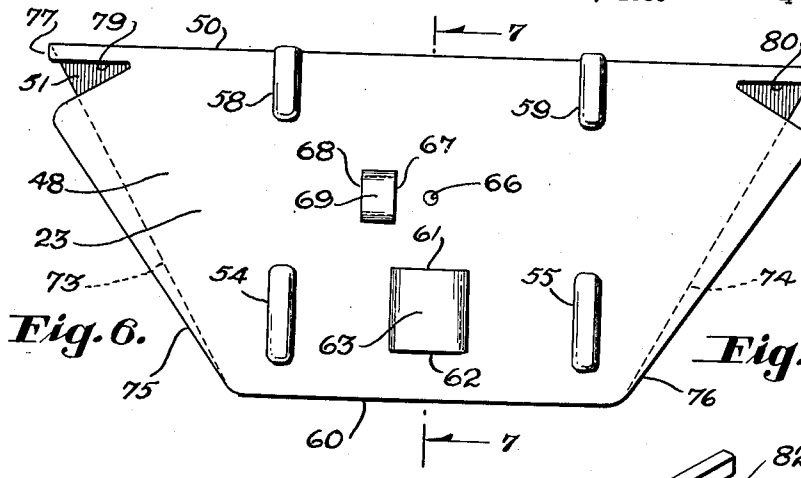


Fig. 6.

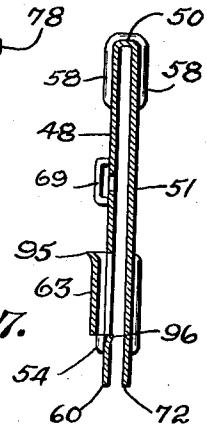


Fig. 7.

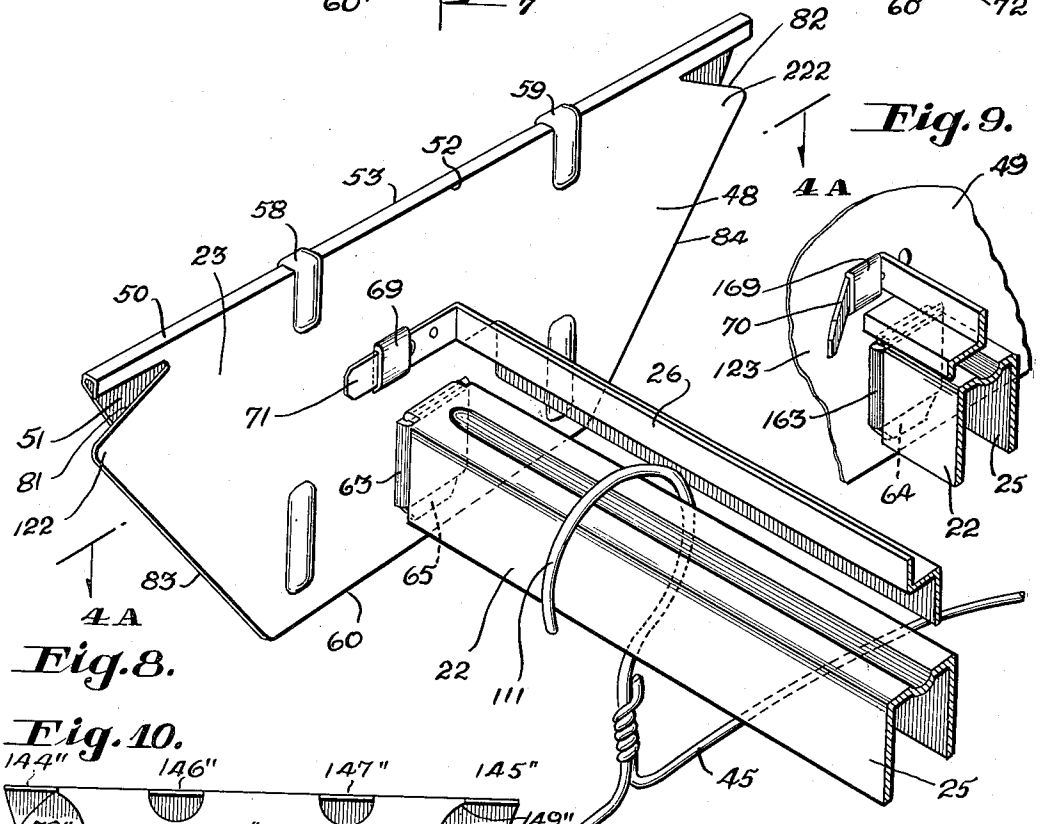


Fig. 9.

Fig. 8.

Fig. 10.

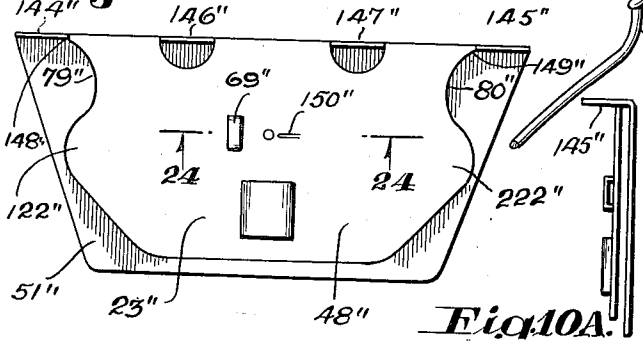


Fig. 10A.

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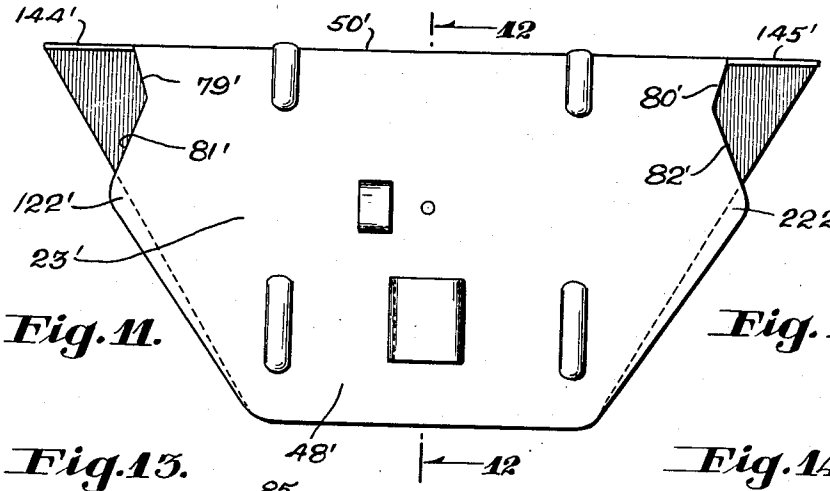


Fig. 11.

Fig. 12.

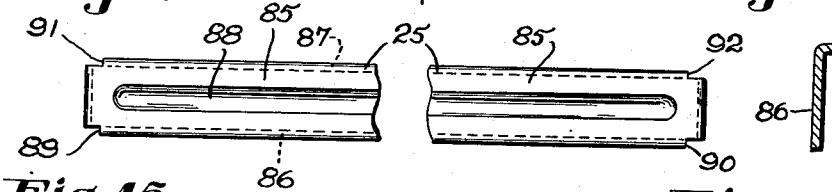


Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.

Fig. 15.

Fig. 16.

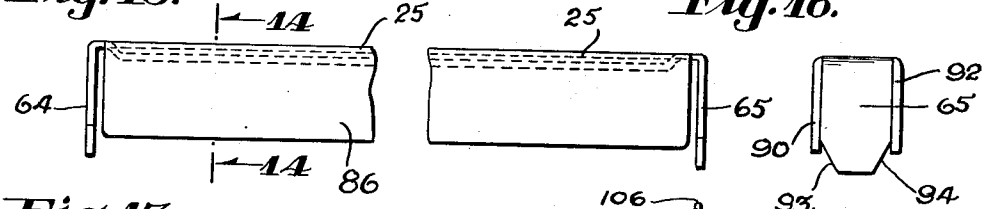


Fig. 17.

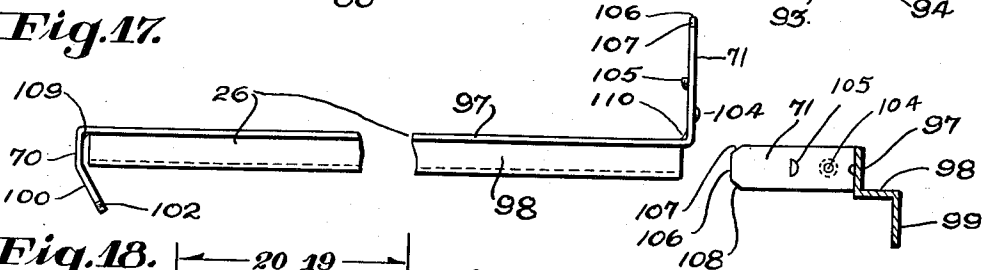
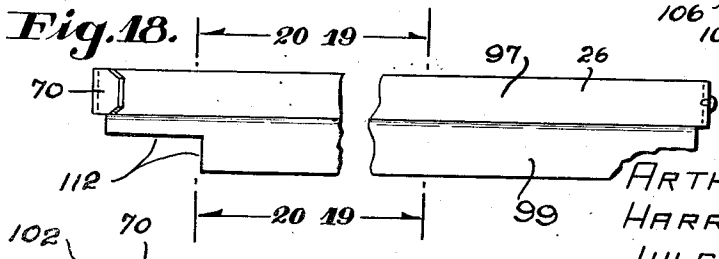


Fig. 18.

Fig. 19.



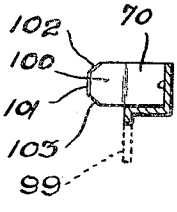


Fig. 20.

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CONTAINER

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Fig. 21.

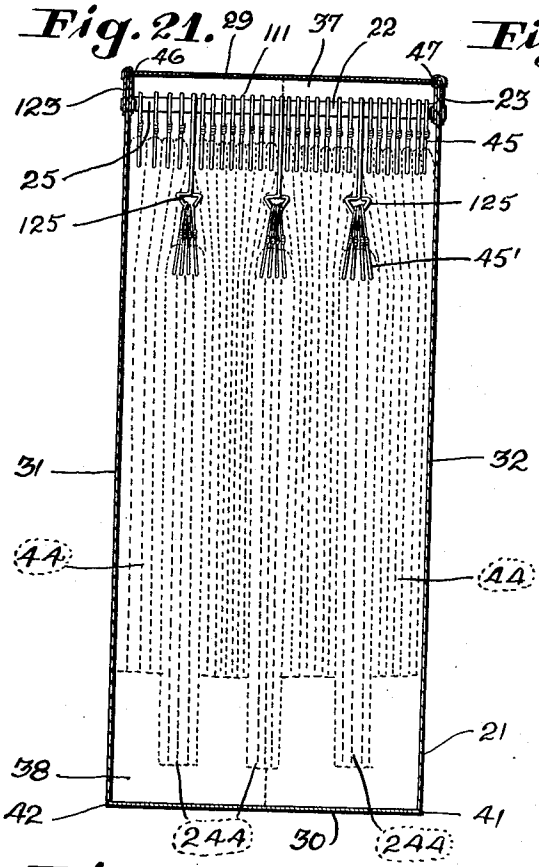


Fig. 22.

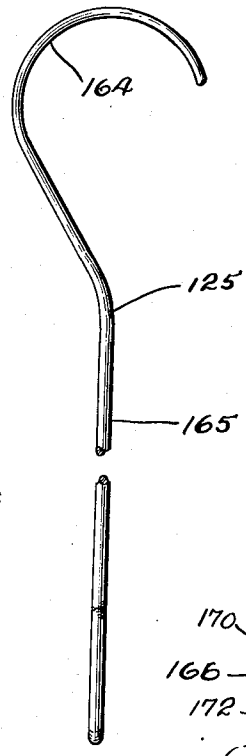


Fig. 23.

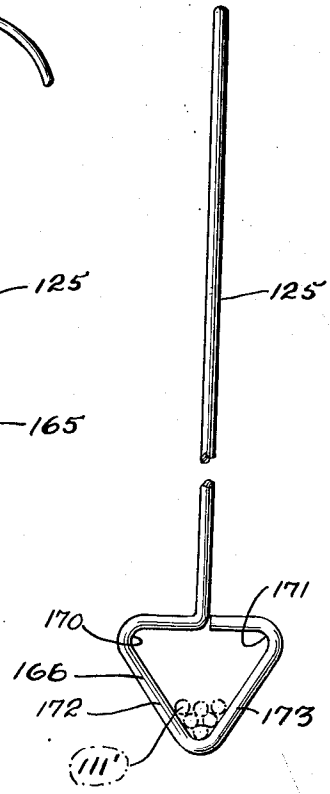
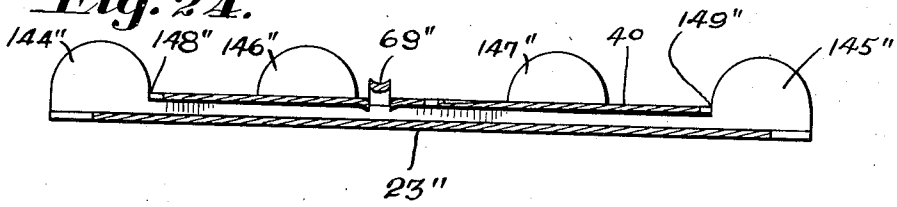


Fig. 24.



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Patented Sept. 5, 1944

2,357,309

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,357,309

CONTAINER

Arthur J. Brown, Flushing, Harry E. Copen, Brooklyn, and Jules Nisenson, New York, N. Y., assignors, by direct and mesne assignments, to Pak-Rak, Inc., a corporation of New York

Application December 13, 1939, Serial No. 308,920

18 Claims. (Cl. 206—7)

This invention relates generally to containers and more particularly to containers specially constructed for the transportation of men's or women's clothing or other garments.

Heretofore, clothing has been shipped from manufacturer to warehouse or from warehouse to retail outlet by folding the garments and placing them layer upon layer in a container. Since the garments when made are normally supported upon hangers, this procedure involves the necessity of removing the garments from the hanger, manually folding the same; and doing the same operations in reverse order at the end of the trip to which the garments have been subjected. In view of the fact that the garments are laid upon each other, it is frequently necessary in such a packaging procedure to pad the various garments by means of tissue paper, etc., in an effort to prevent unsightly creases. Furthermore, in as much as the garments packed at the lowest portions of the container support the weight of all of the garments thereabove, undesirable creasing and wrinkling must necessarily occur and this condition is aggravated by hot or humid conditions of travel.

On the receiving end considerable manual effort, time, and bother are required in order to place the garments into salable condition. The garments must be removed from the container, sponged and/or pressed, and placed upon hangers.

In accordance with the present invention all of these costly and unnecessary steps are obviated and it becomes necessary only to take the garments already on hangers and to hang up these hangers within a new container. The "hanging-up" operation is so simple, that a plurality of hangers having garments thereon may be "hung up" at one time. So much for the beginning of the trip. During transit, each garment is supported upon an individual hanger, and no garment supports the weight of any of the others. At the end of the trip, it becomes necessary merely to open the container and remove the garments still on the hangers and transfer them to racks located in the warehouse or retail outlet.

Among the objects of the present invention is the provision of a novel container wherein a plurality of garments are each individually supported upon hangers, and the container itself is particularly adapted for upright or vertical shipment so that none of the garments bears the weight of any of the other garments.

Another object herein lies in the provision of novel supporting structure in combination with a container whereby the container may be completely "knocked down" so as to permit economical and convenient shipment and storage of the container and a considerable portion of the supporting structure.

Another object herein lies in the provision of novel garment supporting structure readily adapted for use with a greater number of garments than normal capacity.

A still further object of the invention lies in the provision of novel supporting structure which is readily installed in the container, requiring neither tools nor any skill on the part of the operator.

Another object herein lies in the construction of novel garment supporting means, for use in conjunction with a container, which are capable of economical large scale production and which possess the qualities of high strength and low weight. Depending upon various transit considerations such as distance and rates, it becomes possible to either use the container and supporting structure over again for a return trip or to collect a number of the containers and ship them to the sender in bulk at a reduced transportation rate; or by reason of the low cost of the combination container and supporting structure, to merely discard the same after a single use.

A still further object of the invention lies in the provision of garment supporting structure for use in combination with a light weight container, wherein the container may undergo a considerable amount of distortion in transit without deleteriously affecting itself or the garments contained therein.

While where it is desired the present construction may be utilized in connection with rigid containers such as wooden cases or the like, low cost cardboard, corrugated board, or fiber-board substances may be used with a consequent saving in weight.

A feature of the present invention lies in the provision of secondary hanger carriers which in cooperation with the primary hanger carrier adapt the container for most efficient use with particular types of garments.

In accordance with the present invention the use of cardboard sheet separators between groups of garments is not required in order to prevent rumpling or shifting of the garments.

These objects and other incidental ends and advantages will more fully appear in the progress of this disclosure and be pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings constituting a material part of this disclosure, similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a view in perspective showing a container embodying the invention. In this view the container is completely closed and sealed.

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view of Figure 1 as seen from the plane 2 thereon.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view of the set up container as formed to receive

the carrier supports which are removed in this view for purposes of clarity.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view showing a carrier support in a left hand position and the left or hook end of the retainer. Figure 4 is taken at the same level as Figure 4A and the primary hanger carrier is not shown, for purposes of clarity.

Figure 4A is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view showing a carrier support in a right hand position and the right or snap end of the retainer, as seen from the plane 4A—4A on Figure 8, the primary hanger not being shown.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary end elevational view of the container in a folded or flattened condition, with a pair of carrier supports in place.

Figure 6 is a front elevational view of a carrier support in accordance with a first embodiment of the invention.

Figure 7 is a vertical sectional view of Figure 6 as seen from the plane 7—7 thereon.

Figure 8 is a fragmentary view in perspective showing a carrier support in a right hand position, the right or snap end of the retainer, an end of the primary hanger carrier and a single hanger. This view is as would be seen from the arrow 8 on Figure 1 with the container removed.

Figure 9 is a fragmentary view similar to Figure 8 but showing the left hand position, as would be seen from the arrow 9 on Figure 1 with the container removed.

Figure 10 is a view taken similarly to Figure 6, but on a reduced scale, showing a carrier support in accordance with a third embodiment of the invention.

Figure 10A is an end elevational view of Figure 10 as seen from the right.

Figure 11 is a view taken similarly to Figure 6, but showing a carrier support in accordance with a second embodiment of the invention.

Figure 12 is an end elevational view of Figure 11 as seen from the right.

Figure 13 is a fragmentary plan view of the primary hanger carrier.

Figure 14 is a schematic sectional view taken from plane 14—14 of Figure 15.

Figure 15 is a fragmentary front elevational view of the primary hanger carrier.

Figure 16 is an end elevational view of Figure 15 as seen from the right end thereof.

Figure 17 is a fragmentary plan view of the retainer.

Figure 18 is a fragmentary front elevational view of the retainer.

Figure 19 is a vertical sectional view as seen from the plane 19—19 on Figure 18.

Figure 20 is a vertical sectional view as seen from the plane 20—20 on Figure 18.

Figure 21 is a central vertical sectional view of a loaded container—looking toward the rear, or as might be seen from the plane 21—21 on Figure 2. In this view both primary and secondary hanger carriers are shown.

Figure 22 is a fragmentary side elevational view of a secondary hanger carrier.

Figure 23 is a fragmentary front elevational view of a secondary hanger carrier as seen from the left of Figure 22.

Figure 24 is a horizontal sectional view (slightly enlarged) of Figure 10 as seen from the plane 24—24 thereon.

Turning now to the first embodiment of the invention, Figures 1 to 9 inclusive, and 13 through 23, the container is generally indicated by numeral 21, and the hanger maintenance or rack structure is generally indicated by numeral 22. The rack structure 22 includes a pair of carrier supports 23 and 123; a primary hanger carrier 25; secondary hanger carriers 125; and a retainer 26.

The container 21 is preferably a box or carton composed of so called corrugated cardboard which usually comprises a laminated structure including two external planar plies with a layer of corrugated cardboard sandwiched and cemented therebetween. The container 21 is preferably of one-piece construction, the ends of the container blank being connected by adhesive fabric tapes 27 and 28. The container may, however, be made of two pieces in which case the fold line 42 would be supplanted by a suitable taped joint. The container 21 includes top wall 29, bottom wall 30, left side wall 31, right side wall 32, rear wall 33, front wall 34 subdivided into front doors 35 and 36, rear flaps 37 and 38, and front flaps 39 and 40. The rear wall 33 is divided into two doors 35' and 36' similar to the doors 35 and 36 as shown in Figure 3.

In order to facilitate the folding of the container so that the same may be easily shipped and stored in a flattened condition and that the container may be readily set up, the cardboard material is scored or compressed at the fold lines 41, 42, and 43. Each of the doors and flaps described in the preceding paragraph, where it joins the top, bottom, or side walls is also scored or compressed to form suitable fold lines.

The weight and strength of the material of which the container 21 is fabricated will of course be affected by the weight of the burden which it must transport in use; while the size and shape of the container 21 will likewise be governed by the corresponding size and shape of the commodities which the container will transport. A container twenty inches square (when set up and closed) having a height of fifty-two inches has been found very satisfactory for the shipment of women's dresses. As illustrated in Figure 2 of the accompanying drawings, it is desirable that there be adequate clearance between the ends of the hangers 45 and 45' and surfaces of the front and rear walls 34 and 33 respectively so that the shoulder and upper sleeve portions of the garments 44 and 244 shall not be abraded thereagainst by reason of vibration or tilting of the container during transit.

The top wall 29 at the juncture thereof with the side walls is provided with slits or orifices 46 and 47 into which the inner plates 49 and 48 of the carrier supports 123 and 23 respectively, are inserted. In the container 21 as shown the orifice 46 is formed by slitting the top wall 29 at the fold line 43, that is at the upper end of the inner surface of the side wall 31; while the orifice 47 is merely the disconnection between the top wall 29 and the right side wall 32, between the tapes 27 and 28. Obviously if the container is inverted, the orifices 46 and 47 would both be formed in a manner similar to that just described for the orifice 46.

The carrier supports 123 and 23 are completely reversible so that they may both be identical, with a consequent saving in die, manufacturing and inventory cost. Since the carrier supports are uniform, a description of one will suffice for both.

The carrier support 23 is preferably blanked and formed from a single piece of sheet metal and generally comprises an inner plate 48, a top portion 50 and an outer plate 51. The top por-

tion 50 is bounded by two ninety degree bends 52 and 53 so that the carrier support is substantially inverted U shaped in cross section, with the inner surfaces of the plates 48 and 51 spaced and parallel. The spacing between the plates 48 and 51 is substantially equal to, or slightly less than the thickness of the wall 32 so that the support 23 is frictionally maintained in position with the upper edge of the side wall abutting the inner surface of the top portion 50. The lower portion of the inner plate 48 is provided with ribs 54 and 55, while the outer plate is provided with similar ribs 56 and 57 as seen in Figure 1. A pair of ribs 58 and 59 extend from the upper portion of inner plate 48 over the top 50 and onto the upper portion of outer plate 51. The various ribs 54 to 59 inclusive serve to add strength to the carrier support and to prevent undesirable distortion thereof under the various stresses encountered in service.

Centrally of the inner plate 48 and adjacent the lower edge 60 thereof, the said plate is provided with two horizontally disposed, spaced and parallel incisions 61 and 62 and the plate area therebetween is formed into a socket 63 having an open top and bottom. The spacing between the inner surface of the socket 63 and the outer surface of the inner plate 48 is slightly greater than the thickness of the tabs 64 or 65 on the primary hanger carrier 25, described hereinbelow. The width of the opening in the socket 63 is slightly greater than the tabs 64 or 65.

The plate 48, on the median line thereof, is provided with a circular orifice 66, and to the left thereof, as viewed in Figure 6, said plate is provided with a pair of spaced, parallel and vertically directed incisions 67 and 68. The plate area between the incisions 67 and 68 is formed into a pocket 69 having both sides thereof open. The vertical edges of the pocket 69 may be flared slightly similar to the third embodiment, see Figure 24. The spacing between the inner surface of the pocket 69 and the outer surface of the inner plate 48 is slightly greater than the thickness of the tabs 70 or 71 on the retainer 26 more particularly described hereinbelow. The centers of the pocket 69 and the orifice 66 are aligned on a horizontal axis, and the width of the openings in the pocket 69 is slightly greater than the tabs 70 or 71.

The carrier support 23 is with the exception of the pocket 69, symmetrical about a vertical central axis. The lower edge 60 of the inner plate 48 is of substantially the same width as the lower edge 72 of the outer plate 51. The side edges 73 and 74 of the plate 51 converge rectilinearly from the bend 53 to the edge 72. The side edges 75 and 76 have an irregular configuration, best seen in Figures 6 and 8, extending from bend 52 to edge 60 and including the vertical edges 77 and 78, the horizontal edges 79 and 80, the angularly diverging edges 81 and 82 and the inwardly converging edges 83 and 84. The connections of the various edges just described with each other, are rounded so that no sharp points occur. It is also to be noted that the edges 73 and 74 are not in alignment with edges 75 and 76.

The primary hanger carrier 25 is preferably blanked and formed from a single piece of sheet metal and includes a horizontal top portion 85, longitudinally disposed vertical flanges 86 and 87 and end tabs 64 and 65. The carrier is substantially inverted U shaped in cross section. The top portion 85 is channel shape, having a central longitudinally disposed downwardly extending rib 88. The ends 89, 90 and 91, 92 of the flanges 86 and 87 respectively are disposed short of the full length of the top portion 85 in order not to interfere with the sockets 63 and 163. The tabs 64 and 65 having converging side edges 93 and 94 in order to facilitate the insertion of said tabs into the sockets 63 and 163. For the same purpose the socket 63 has the upper edge 95 flared outwardly slightly and also the inner plate edge 96 flared inwardly slightly (see Figure 7).

The retainer 26 is preferably blanked and formed from a single piece of sheet metal and includes a top portion 97, hook tab 70, snap tab 71, horizontal shelf flange 98, and vertical lip flange 99. The hook tab 70 projects forwardly forming a right angle with the top portion 97, and is preferably of the same height as top portion 97. The forward portion 100 is bent at a slight angle inwardly (best seen in Figure 17) and the leading edge 101 has forwardly converging edges 102 and 103 which facilitate the insertion of the hook tab 70 into the pocket 169. The snap tab 71 projects rearwardly forming a right angle with the top portion 97, and is preferably of the same height. The snap tab 71 is provided with an outwardly projecting dome 104 and an inwardly projecting detent 105. The leading edge 106 has rearwardly converging edges 107 and 108 to facilitate the insertion of the snap tab 71 into the pocket 69. When the tab 71 is fully inserted, the dome 104 enters the orifice 66 with a snap action and the detent 105 abuts the forward edge of the pocket 69. The ribs 109 and 110 serve to maintain the tabs 70 and 71 in proper angular position with relation to the top portion 97.

The shelf flange 98 and the lip flange 99 are so proportioned that there is just enough clearance between them and the top portion 85 and the nearest flange 86 or 87 to allow the hook portion 111 of the hangers 45 to lie therebetween. The end of lip flange 99 adjacent the hook tab 70 has an indentation 112 to permit the leading edge 101 to be inserted into the pocket 163.

The secondary hanger carriers 125 are preferably formed of wire and each includes a hook portion 164, a relatively long shank 165 and a triangle portion 166, best seen in Figures 22 and 23.

Operation

The container 21 received in a flattened condition as illustrated in Figure 5 is opened up and erected. The rear wall 33 is integrated by folding flaps 37 and 38 through ninety degrees and then the rear doors 35' and 36' are similarly folded. The meeting edges of the doors are joined with a strip 113 of adhesive tape. The upper and lower edges of the doors 35' and 36' are joined to the top wall 29 and bottom wall 30 respectively by means of strips 114 and 115 respectively of adhesive tape. If the carrier supports 123 and 23 have not previously been attached to the upper portions of the walls 31 and 32, the inner plates 49 and 48 are now inserted into the orifices 46 and 47 respectively.

The front doors 35 and 36 are now open. The flap 40 rests on the floor; while the flap 39 may be folded through 270 degrees from its position in Figure 2, so as to be out of the way. The left end of the primary hanger carrier 25 is introduced within the container 21 to a position behind the pocket 169 and directly over the socket 163; while the other end having the tab 65

is swung into the container about the tab 64 as a center. When the tabs 64 and 65 are directly over the sockets 163 and 63 the entire hanger carrier is lowered into place. Since the carrier 25 is of fixed dimensions and the container is not absolutely rigid the flares 95 and the converging edges 93 and 94 permit the carrier to be manually pushed downwardly into place thus properly aligning the parts.

Now a plurality of garments on hangers 45 are hung on the primary hanger carrier 25. Since the retainer 26 has not yet been inserted there is ample space between the top portion 85 and the under surface of the top wall 29 so that the several hangers with hook portions 111 open toward the rear may be put in place in a single operation. Only one hanger 45 has been shown in Figure 8 for purposes of clarity, but obviously many may be racked next to each other limited only by the length of the carrier 25 and the thickness of the garments 44 as well as the hangers, as seen in Figure 21.

Many types of garments, as for example women's dresses when placed upon the hangers 45 present a greater thickness in the shoulder portions directly adjacent the hangers 45 than they do in the nether portions thereof. Thus with the garments placed in the container 21 under a certain compression longitudinally of the primary hanger carrier, they will be under considerably less compression in the nether portions thereof. In accordance with the present invention advantage of this fact is taken, and a plurality of subsidiary or secondary hanger carriers 125 are utilized. The hook portions 164 are placed upon the primary carrier 25 and the slender shanks 165 pass downwardly between the hangers 45 at the region of the greatest compression and thereby maintain the triangle portions 166 in a position where they may support additional hangers 45' which in turn have additional garments 244 thereon. In this fashion the compression may be equalized and a considerably greater number of garments may be carried without appreciably increasing the compression and thus without increasing the tendency of the garments to wrinkle or crease.

After all of the hangers and garments are in place the hook end of the retainer 26 is introduced into the container into a position indicated by the dot-dash lines on Figure 4 in which the forward portion 100 of the hook tab 70 is in contact with the plate 49. The tab 70 is moved forwardly in the direction of the arrow 117 and the cam action of the inner surface of the tab 70 in cooperation with pocket 169 assists the twisting of the retainer 26 into fully seated position. The snap end of the retainer approaches the pocket 69 from a position indicated by the dot-dash lines in Figure 4A. Moved rearwardly in the direction of the arrow 118 the tab 71 is inserted into the pocket 69 and snaps into place as described above.

With the retainer in place the hangers 45 are permitted only limited movement. Upward movement is prevented by the shelf flange 98. Forward or rearward movement is prevented by the lip flange 99 in cooperation with the primary hanger carrier.

The flaps 39 and 40 are next moved to the positions shown on Figure 1 and the front doors 35 and 36 are closed and sealed with adhesive strips 119, 120, and 121.

When the container arrives at its destination, it is only necessary to cut the strips 119, 120, and 121 and to remove the retainer in order to remove the hangers and garments. The retainer is removed by reversing the operations of its installation.

In order to facilitate loading, handling and unloading of the container, instructions may be placed on the outside of the container indicating that the container is to be shipped and placed right side up and also which are the front doors, since the container 21 presents a symmetrical external appearance.

In accordance with the present construction the entire weight of the hanger rack structure 22, the hangers 45 and 45', and the garments 44 and 244, is primarily borne by the upper portions of the side walls 31 and 32. The length of the top portions 50 distributes the strain over sufficient area so that the pressure is not great enough at any point to start tearing the walls of the container.

When the container 21 is shifted about in transit, forces are set up which are transmitted to the carrier supports 23 and 123 causing them to turn about their own central vertical axes. The disalignment of the edges 73 and 74 of the plate 51 with the edges 75 and 76 prevents the pairs of edges 73, 75 and 74, 76, from having a shearing or breaking action. The peculiar configuration of the edges 75 and 76 by reason of the indentations formed by the edges 79, 81, and 80, 82 checks any tendency of the walls to tear along the edges 77 or 78 while the round nosed projections 122 and 222 (Figure 8) flex slightly when the carrier support is twisted and thus do not start a tear in the inner surface of the side wall which they contact.

Turning now to the second embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figures 11 and 12 a modification of the carrier support 23 is shown. In this form indicated generally by numeral 23' the principal differences are the lowered position of the projections 122' and 222'; the more obtuse angles of the indentations formed by the edges 79', 81' and 80', 82'; also the horizontally disposed tabs 144' and 145' which extend over the inner plate 48' projecting directly off the top portion 50'. The tabs 144' and 145' increase the foundation area and thus add to the vertical support of the primary carrier support 23' by resting upon the top wall 23 directly thereunder.

In the third embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figures 10 and 10A, and 24 another modification of the carrier support 23 is shown. In this form indicated generally by numeral 23'' the principal differences are the lowered position and the greater-radius roundness of the projections 122'' and 222''; the rounded indentations 79'' and 80''; the rounded tabs 144'', 145'', 146'', and 147''; the complete disalignment of the inner plate 48'' and the outer plate 51''. The pocket 69'' has the vertical edges thereof flared inward slightly while the adjacent edges of the plate 48'' are oppositely flared. The plate 48'' is provided with an indented track 150''. The dome 104 engages this track and guides the moving end 71 into the pocket 69'', the flaring just described assisting this operation. Since the greatest distance between the outer edges of the rounded projections 122'' and 222'' is equal to the distance between the points 148'' and 149'', the slits or orifices 46 and 47 need be made only an equal length thus the tabs 124'' and 125'' may rest on the top wall 29 where it solidly joins the side walls. The tabs 146'' and 147'' serve to prevent any tendency of the free edges of the top wall

adjacent thereto to buckle upwardly and thus admit dust.

It may thus be seen that the present invention provides a novel and useful container especially suitable for the shipment of garments in bulk. By reason of the unique construction and cooperation of the parts in the rack structure heavy loads may be supported and contained by relatively light weight boxes and cartons. Being made of stamped sheet metal, as illustrated in the illustrated preferred embodiments, the rack structure is light in weight, strong, compact and cheap. The parts may be dismantled and in that condition take up little space. By reason of the individual suspension of each garment on its own hanger, the container may be closely packed with a considerable number of garments, without wrinkling, creasing, or otherwise deleteriously affecting the same. The novel secondary hanger carriers disclosed herein are very efficient and useful, and the peculiarly shaped triangle portion thereof is important. Since the triangle portion 166 is disposed with the base of the triangle uppermost, a wide space is provided between the upper bends 170 and 171 so that a few hangers 45' may be inserted therebetween simultaneously, thereby saving time both in loading and unloading. The hook portion 111' of the hangers 45' however, after being manually released are caused to bunch up or wedge together by reason of the converging portions 172 and 173. This wedging action is useful in positively maintaining the portions 111' in the triangle portion during transit.

We wish it to be understood that we do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

We claim:

1. In combination: a container composed of sheet material and having a continuous side wall and top wall, the top wall being disposed at an angle with relation to the side wall; said container having a slit disposed at the juncture of the side wall and the top wall; a carrier support having an inner and an outer plate connected by a top portion; the inner plate penetrating said slit, and the inner opposed surfaces of said plates engaging only the side wall therebetween, and the inner surface of the top portion of the carrier support engaging only the upper edge of the side wall bordering said slit.

2. A garment rack adapted to be installed within a container, said rack comprising: a pair of inverted U shaped carrier supports for engaging opposite side walls of said container, each of said supports having an inner plate, an outer plate and a top portion; each of said inner plates having a socket projecting therefrom, said socket having an opening directed toward the said top portion; and a primary hanger carrier having downwardly directed tab ends, which are insertable into said sockets through the socket openings, movement of said carrier supports toward or away from each other in the direction of the axis of the hanger carrier being limited by said tabs and said hanger carrier.

3. A garment rack adapted to be installed within a container, said rack comprising: a pair of inverted U shaped carrier supports each composed of sheet material folded upon itself to form an inner plate, an outer plate spaced from and parallel to the inner plate, and a top portion connecting the upper edges of the inner and outer plates, said inner plate having a slit substantially parallel to the upper edge thereof, the said plate being deformed in a direction away from the outer plate, providing an upwardly opening socket; and a primary hanger carrier having downwardly directed tabs on the ends thereof, said tabs being insertable in said sockets by movement of the hanger carrier in a downward direction, movement of said carrier supports toward or away from each other in the direction of the axis of the hanger carrier being limited by said tabs and said hanger carrier.

4. A garment rack adapted to be installed within a container, said rack comprising: a pair of inverted U shaped carrier supports each having an inner plate, an outer plate, and a top portion connecting the upper edges of said plates, said inner plate having a pair of horizontal, rectilinear, spaced and parallel slits, the portion of the inner plate located between said slits being deformed away from the outer plate, forming a socket; and a primary hanger carrier having downwardly directed ends which are insertable into said sockets, movement of said carrier supports toward or away from each other being limited by said ends and said hanger carrier.

5. In combination: a container having spaced and parallel side walls substantially vertically positioned, and a top wall connecting the upper edges of said side walls; a garment rack adapted to be detachably installed within the container, comprising a pair of inverted U shaped carrier supports each having an inner plate, an outer plate, a top portion connecting said plates, and an upwardly opening socket on said inner plate; said container having a pair of oppositely disposed slits at the juncture of the top wall and the side walls, the inner plates of the carrier supports being downwardly insertable through said slits; a primary hanger carrier having downwardly directed ends receivable by said sockets; the distance between the opening of the socket and the upper edge of the inner plate being greater than the height of the ends on the hanger carrier, movement of said carrier supports toward or away from each other being limited by said ends and said hanger carrier.

6. A garment rack structure adapted for installation within a container, said rack structure comprising: a pair of relatively stationary carrier supports, the distance between them being fixed, said carrier supports being adapted to engage opposite side walls of said container; a primary hanger carrier connected to said supports and adapted to carry hangers thereon; and a retainer to keep said hangers on the hanger carrier, said retainer being disposed to one side and above the primary hanger carrier; slidable means detachably connecting the retainer to one of the carrier supports and latching means detachably connecting the other end of the retainer to the other carrier support.

7. A garment structure adapted for installation within a container to support a plurality of garments in the container, said structure comprising: a pair of carrier supports each having an inner plate with a pocket therein; said carrier supports engaging opposite side walls of the container; a primary hanger carrier connected to said supports and adapted to carry hangers thereon; a retainer for keeping said hangers on the hanger carrier, said retainer having a hook at one end thereof and a tab on the other end; said hook being detachably non-rectilinearly slidably connectable with and seatable within one pocket,

said tab being detachably engageable in the other pocket.

8. A garment rack structure adapted for installation within a container, said rack structure comprising: a pair of carrier supports each having an inner plate with a pocket; said carrier supports engaging opposite side walls of the container; a primary hanger carrier connected to said supports and adapted to carry hangers thereon; a retainer for keeping said hangers on the hanger carrier, said retainer being composed of sheet material including a horizontal shelf, a top portion projecting perpendicularly up from one longitudinal edge of the said horizontal shelf, a vertical lip flange projecting perpendicularly down from the other longitudinal edge of said shelf, said top portion extending beyond the ends of the shelf portion and including a hook on one end thereof and a tab on the other end thereof; said hook being slidably connectable with the pocket in one support and the tab being insertable in the pocket on the other support.

9. A garment rack structure as claimed in claim 7 in which the inner plates of the carrier supports have vertically disposed spaced slits, the portions of the inner plates between said slits being displaced out of the plane of the said inner plates to form the pockets.

10. A carrier support for use with a container having a wall, said support being substantially inverted U shape in cross section, including a pair of spaced, opposite and parallel substantially planar plates engaging the said wall therebetween, the upper edges of said plates being connected by a top portion; the first of said plates having a pair of generally vertically directed side edges; the second of said plates having a pair of generally vertically directed side edges not in alignment with the side edges of the first plate; a portion of the second plate being horizontally wider than the first plate and another portion of the second plate being horizontally narrower than the first plate.

11. A carrier support for use with a container having a planar wall, said support being composed of a single sheet of material folded upon itself in inverted U shape (in cross section) having an inner plate, an outer plate, and a top portion connecting the upper portions of the said plates which are spaced and parallel; the vertical side edges of the outer plate being substantially rectilinear and converging toward each other as they approach the lower edge of the outer plate; the vertical side edges of the inner plate converging toward each other as they approach the lower edge of the inner plate, the upper portions of the side edges of the inner plate having indentations directed toward each other, the opposite upper portions of the side edges of the outer plate being unindented, the vertical side edges of the inner plate and the vertical side edges of the outer plate being substantially disaligned.

12. A carrier support as claimed in claim 10 having a pair of ribs extending from the upper portion of the first plate over the top portion and onto the upper portion of the second plate.

13. A carrier support for use with a container having a wall, said support being substantially inverted U shape in cross section, including a pair of spaced, opposite and parallel plates engaging the said side wall therebetween, the upper edges of said plates being connected by a top portion; the first of said plates having a pair of opposite rectilinear edges arranged generally vertically; the second of said plates having a pair of opposite non-rectilinear edges arranged generally vertically.

14. A carrier support as claimed in claim 13 having a tab projecting off said top portion and disposed at an angle with relation to one of said plates.

15. A garment rack for use with hook type garment hangers said rack being adapted to be installed within a container, comprising: carrier supports for engaging walls of said container; a primary hanger carrier connected to said supports and adapted to carry a first group of said garment hangers thereon; and a secondary hanger carrier detachably suspended by the primary hanger carrier and adapted to carry a second group of said garment hangers thereon, said secondary hanger carrier including a hook shaped member adapted to engage the primary hanger carrier and having an orifice at the lower end thereof in which the hook portions of said second group of garment hangers are engageable.

16. For use with a garment rack including a transversely disposed primary hanger carrier and a garment hanger having a hook: a secondary hanger carrier comprising a hook shaped member at the upper end thereof and an elongated body portion having a triangularly shaped orifice in the lower portion thereof within which the hook of the garment hanger is loosely and detachably engageable, the base and widest portion of the triangularly shaped orifice being disposed above the apex thereof, whereby a plurality of garment hanger hooks may be simultaneously inserted into said orifice at the widest portion thereof and will be brought together by gravity and the downwardly converging sides of the said triangularly shaped orifice.

17. A garment rack adapted to be installed within a container, said rack comprising: a pair of carrier supports engageable with opposite side walls of said container, each of said supports having an upwardly opening socket and a side opening pocket laterally displaced with relation to the socket; a primary hanger carrier having downwardly directed tab ends insertable into said sockets; a retainer the ends of which are horizontally insertable into said pockets, the retainer in its seated installed position blocking the upward path of travel of the primary hanger carrier; movement of said supports with relation to each other being limited by said primary hanger carrier and said retainer.

18. For use with a garment rack including a transversely disposed primary hanger carrier and garment hangers having hooks: a secondary hanger carrier comprising a hook shaped member at the upper end thereof and an elongated body portion having a triangularly shaped orifice in the lower portion thereof within which the hooks of the garment hangers are loosely and detachably engageable, the base or widest portion of the triangularly shaped orifice being disposed above the apex thereof, the said lower portion being rotated about said body portion as an axis so that said lower portion is disposed at substantially right angles to said hook shaped member.

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