ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE
A coat hanger tally comprising a resilient inverted U-shaped unit having two limbs joined at one of their ends by a bridge and tapered toward each other at their other end, said tally including a keyhole slot in the bridge for easy mounting and removal of the tally to a coat hanger and for gripping the stem of the hook of the hanger while a garment is received thereon and said limbs adapted to grip between them the adjacent portion of the coat hanger to maintain said tally in position on the hanger.

This invention relates to so-called "sizing buttons" as used on coat hangers, e.g., in retail clothiers shops, for quick identification of different sizes of garments, also to similar tally-like fitments as so used, again in retail clothiers shops, for indicating the maker's name of the garment, or the style or price of the garment, also to similar fitments as so used in laundries, hotel cloakrooms, industrial establishments and like places as a means of identifying the ownership of the garment hanging on the hanger, either by name or by some other significant marking. For convenience in the further description of the invention and in the appended claims such fitments will be referred to as "coat hanger tallies."

A coat hanger tally as so identified consists essentially of a small inverted U-shaped unit removably mountable on the shoulder bar of a conventional coat hanger, at or near the base of the stem portion of the hook of the hanger, and incorporating two display panels one constituted by one of the limbs of the inverted U and the other by the other limb of the inverted U, the two display panels carrying respectively, on their forwardly directed faces, identical garment denominations (size, style, price, ownership, etc.), and the construction being such that when the tally is in mounted position on the coat hanger, with a garment in hung position thereon, one of the display panels is visible from a position in front of the hanger and the other is visible from a position in rear of the hanger, the two limbs of the U-shaped unit, carrying respectively the two display panels, being connected at the top thereof by a narrow bridge formed integrally with the limbs and there being in said bridge a slot leading along the bridge to the centre thereof from one end of the bridge.

As will be understood, with this construction the tally is introduced into position on the hanger and removed therefrom by way of the slot in the bridge and therefore without the necessity of having to remove the hanger from its support.

Preferably, the slot is keyhole shaped, the width of the slot along the main portion thereof, between the entrance of the slot and the enlarged inner end thereof, being such in relation to the diameter of the stem of the hook of the hanger that when the tally is in fitted position on the hanger it tends to remain in this position, with the stem of the hook located within the enlarged inner end of the slot.

Preferably, also, the tally is a plastics moulding. It may, however, be composed of metal, in which case it may be a metal stamping bent to shape.

In either case the tally may be resilient and of such cross-sectional shape in the prefitted condition of the tally that the gap between the display panels tapers downwardly in the tally section—thereby providing a construction in which the tally tends to grip the shoulder bar of the hanger, provided of course the bar is of an appropriate width cross-sectionally relative to said gap.

If the slot in the tally is keyhole shaped and also the tally is resilient the cross section of the slot in the bridge of the tally may advantageously taper downwardly, as with such a construction the effective width of the slot along the main portion thereof may, if necessary (according to the diameter of the stem of the hook of the hanger), be increased so as to permit entrance of the stem of the hook into said main portion in the operation of fitting the tally on the hanger and in the reverse operation of removing the tally from the hanger, by bending the tally about the longitudinal axis of the bridge, thereby reducing the angle of taper of said main portion of the slot, with resulting increase of the width of the slot at the level of the underside of the bridge. A further advantage of this construction is that with it the bridge of the tally grips the stem of the hook of the hanger with substantially line contact (provided, of course, the diameter of the stem is of appropriate magnitude relative to the width of the slot), thereby easing the operation of sliding the tally into and out of fitted position on the hanger.

It is further advantageous to form the main portion of the slot with flared entrances at the two ends of said portion, as in this way the operations of fitting the tally on the hanger and removing it therefrom are facilitated.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the invention by way of example.

In these drawings:
FIG. 1 is an elevational view of the coat hanger of conventional form with a tally in accordance with this invention in fitted position thereon;
FIG. 2 is an elevational view of the tally;
FIG. 3 is a plan view of the tally;
FIG. 4 is a section through the tally, in fitted position on the hanger, looking in the direction of arrow A in FIG. 3; and FIG. 5 is a similar section through the tally in the pre-fitted condition thereof, also looking in the direction of arrow A.

Like reference characters denote like parts in the various figures.

The hanger shown comprises a shoulder bar 1 and a wire hook 2.

The tally shown is an inverted U-shaped plastic moulding possessing a small measure of resilience and comprising two wings 3, 4 (corresponding to the two limbs of the inverted U) and a bridge 5 (corresponding to the base of the inverted U).

The wings 3, 4 constitute the two display panels of the tally, their outwardly directed faces carrying identical garment denomination markings. These markings, in the particular embodiment of the invention illustrated, are constituted by the numeral "12," which numeral denotes the stock size of the garment. The tally illustrated is, therefore, a "sizing button" ordinarily so-called.

In the bridge 5 is a keyhole shaped slot comprising a main portion 6 and an enlarged inner end portion 7. The main portion 6 has flared entrances 8, 9 at respectively the two ends of the portion and the cross section of the slot along the main portion thereof tapers downwardly in the tally section, as clearly shown in FIG. 5.

The two wings 3, 4 may of course be of any desired shape other than that shown.

My invention in respect of which I hereby seek the grant of Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A coat hanger tally comprising a resilient inverted U-shaped unit removably mountable on the base portion of the stem of the hook of a conventional coat hanger, and having two display panels one constituted by one of the limbs of the inverted U and the other by the other limb of the inverted U, the two display panels carrying, respectively, on their outwardly directed faces, identical garment denomination markings such as size, price, or the like, the two limbs of the U-shaped unit connected at one of their ends by a narrow bridge integral with the limbs, a keyhole-shaped slot in the bridge extending from substantially the center thereof to one edge, the inner end of the slot enlarged to receive said stem and the inner and outer ends of the slot flared to facilitate application of the tally to a coat hanger and removal therefrom, the slot having a width less than the thickness of a stem over which the tally is to be received so that the tally is held in place by interengagement of the sides of the slot with the stem, said slot being tapered downwardly throughout its length between the flared end portions so that upon flexing the opposite limbs of the unit outwardly the effective width of the slot is increased, and the limbs tapered toward each other so that the limbs are adapted to grip between them the adjacent portion of a hanger to be received therebetween.

2. A coat hanger tally as in claim 1 wherein said limbs are adapted to be flexed outwardly to receive the shoulder bar of a coat hanger therebetween, the natural resiliency of the limbs causing them to grip between them the shoulder bar of the hanger.

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

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