Sept. 24, 1940. H. F. SHANNON 2,215,769

COMBINED COAT AND SKIRT HANGER

Filed Feb. 23, 1939

Fig. 1.

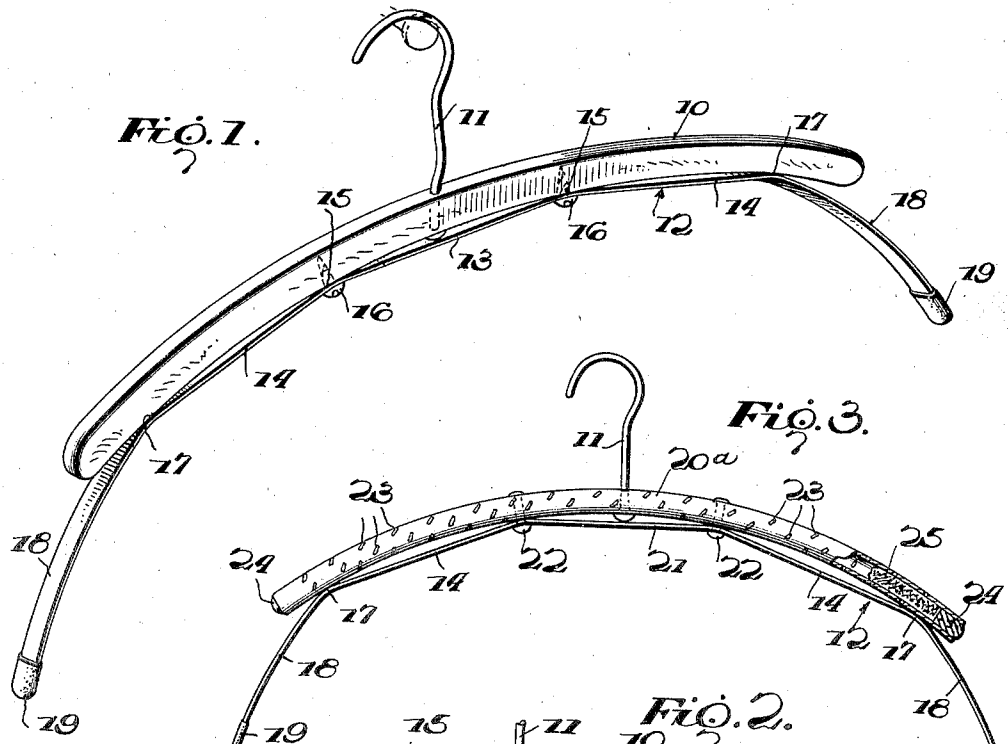


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

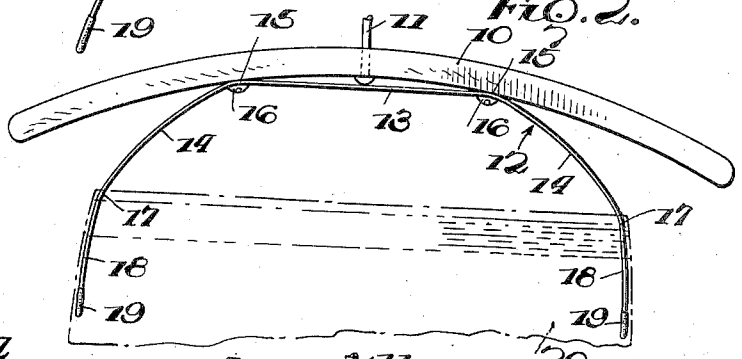


Fig. 4.

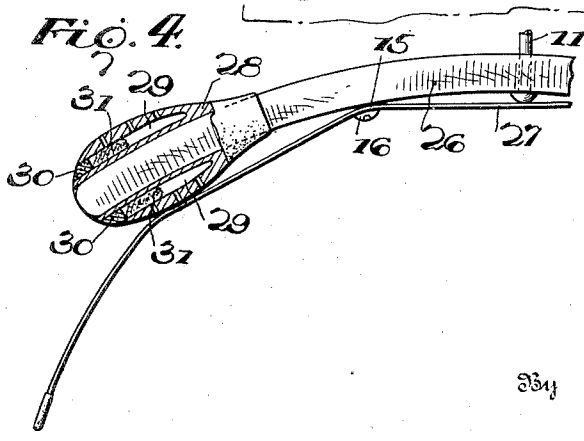
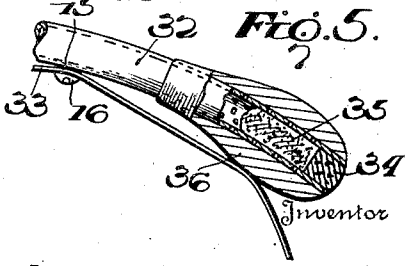


Fig. 5.



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COMBINED COAT AND SKIRT HANGER

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Application February 23, 1939, Serial No. 258,049

1 Claim. (Cl. 223—88)

This invention relates to a combined coat and skirt hanger.

Coat hangers of the less expensive kind have been heretofore handicapped, as is widely appreciated, by the fact that, in actual use, a man's coat usually slid off or to one end or the other of the hanger bar, while a lady's coat became draped, by said bar, in an entirely unnatural and flat position, the inadequacy being due perhaps, primarily, to the fact that the hanger bar afforded the sleeves, at the shoulders, little or no support. Satisfactory results have, of course, been afforded, more or less, by expensive hangers of the form-shaped kind, but insofar as is known, the less expensive type of hanger still remains an inefficiently short bar, on the one hand, or a skeleton device of wire, on the other hand. In neither instance, is such minimum hanger construction generally adapted to support a lady's skirt.

An object of the present invention, therefore, is to provide a combined device adapted to meet the demand of an inexpensive hanger which will support both a lady's coat and skirt at the same time.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device wherein the skirt sustaining spring employed will be of such shape and so arranged beneath the hanger bar that a skirt drapped on said spring will tend to provide shaping-bulk for a coat draped over the hanger bar.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device wherein the skirt sustaining spring will be so shaped as to provide a unitary pair of spring arms tending to spread apart within the waistband of a skirt for thus extending the skirt in flat front and rear panels and eliminating wrinkles in the skirt by sustaining the cloth thereof to hang substantially flat at said panels.

Still another object is to provide a device wherein the spring arms will be provided with angles or elbows over which the waistband of a skirt may be engaged to thus hold the skirt against slippage from said arms.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device wherein the spring arms will be of a length and so disposed below the hanger bar as to extend within the sleeves of a coat, near the shoulders, when a skirt is not present on said arms, thus to sustain and drape the sleeves while, at the same time, obviating slippage of the coat toward one end or the other of the hanger bar or flat sagging of the sleeves of the coat.

And the invention seeks, as a still further object, to provide a device which, while incorporating the salient practical advantages enumerated, as well as others, will, nevertheless, be of extremely simple construction and adapted, in competitive manufacture, to offer more intrinsic worth for the same popular price or less.

Other and incidental objects of the invention will appear as the description proceeds and in the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved coat and skirt hanger.

Figure 2 is an elevation showing, in dotted lines, a skirt attached to the hanger spring.

Figure 3 is an elevation of a modified structure showing the use of a tubular hanger bar.

Figure 4 is a detail elevation of a further modification showing the use of shoulder shaping knobs at the ends of a wooden hanger bar, parts being broken away and depicted in section.

Figure 5 is a detail elevation of still another modification showing the use of shoulder shaping knobs at the ends of a tubular bar, parts being broken away and depicted in section.

Referring now more particularly to Figures 1 and 2 of the drawing, I employ a curved hanger bar 10 having flat parallel sides and rounded ends. This bar is preferably, in this variation of the invention, of suitable wood. Extending through or otherwise suitably fixed to the bar at the crown of the curve thereof is an appropriate hook or suspending device 11, which may be of wire as shown.

Extending along the lower concave edge of the hanger bar 10 is a skirt sustaining spring 12, preferably formed of a strip of suitable resilient metal and somewhat longer than the bar 10. The spring 12 is, to meet the exigencies of symmetry and convenience, preferably of a width substantially equal to the thickness of said bar so as to lie flush at its edges with the sides of the bar and while, on the whole, the spring is concavo-convex to conform to the curvature of the lower edge of the bar 10, said spring is, nevertheless, composed, preferably, of three chordal portions, comprising a center portion 13 and side portions 14, all substantially of equal length. Locating angles 15 are thus defined in the spring at the junctions of the portions 13 and 14 thereof to receive screws 16 or other suitable fastening devices rigidly connecting the spring with the hanger bar 10.

As will be perceived, angles 17 are also defined in the spring 12 at the outer ends of the chordal portions 14. These angles 17 provide shoulders or elbows which normally abut the lower edge of the bar 10 near its extremities while the free end portions of the spring are arcuately curved to form a pair of spring arms 18 bowing downward-

ly and outwardly well beyond the free ends of said bar. Slipped over or otherwise fixed to the free ends of the arms 18 are friction tips 19 which may be of rubber.

In Fig. 2 of the drawing, I have shown, in dotted lines, a conventional skirt attached to the spring 12, the waistband of the skirt being indicated at 20. As will be observed, the spring arms 18 are inserted into the upper end of the skirt with the result that the arms are compressed or flexed toward each other by the skirt and preferably, the skirt is so disposed that the waistband 20 thereof lies above or at least extends over the elbows 17. Thus, the arms 18 are tensioned to grip the skirt and support the skirt upon the spring while the elbows 17 will bear into the material of the waistband or into the material of the skirt just below the waistband to prevent slippage of the skirt from said arms. Moreover, the tips 19 will afford a pronounced frictional hold on the skirt at the free ends of the arms so that accidental release of the skirt will be prevented while also, said tips will protect the skirt against gouging or injury by the metal edges at the terminals of the arms. Accordingly, as will be seen, the skirt will be sustained below the bar to provide distending or shaping bulk for a coat disposed upon said bar.

As will be noted, the screws 16 in reality determine, by their location, the effective length of the arms 18 since flexing of the free end portions of the spring 12, when a skirt is engaged with said arms, occurs from said screws outward. However, by employing a unitary spring, flexing tension on each arm will be influenced toward equalization between the arms while also, by employing a pair of screws, possible rotation of the spring out of the plane of the bar 10 will be prevented.

As previously indicated, the elbows 17 preferably lie close to the ends of the bar 10 with the result that the major portion of the length of the arms 18 is disposed beyond the terminals of the bar. The projecting end portions of the arms are thus disposed, when a skirt is not engaged with the arms, to extend within the sleeves of a coat adjacent the shoulders to afford a more or less shaping support for the shoulder portions of the sleeves. Furthermore, the projecting end portions of said arms will, at the same time, tend to prevent slipping of the coat toward one end or the other of the bar.

In Figure 3 of the drawing, I have shown a modification of the invention wherein the hanger bar is indicated at 20*a* and the skirt sustaining spring at 21. In this variation, the bar 20*a* is of tubular construction and the spring 21 is connected thereto by rivets or other suitable fastenings 22. The bar may be of metal and formed therein are scattered openings 23 while disposed in the ends of the bar are removable closure plugs 24 which may be of cork. The bar is thus fashioned to removably receive an absorbent filler, as indicated at 25, of cotton or other approved material. Thus, this filler may be impregnated with a suitable moth repellant, the odors from which will, of course, emerge through the openings 23 and so come into contact with the garments supported by the hanger. If preferred, the filler 25 may be impregnated with cologne, sachet, or the like.

In Figure 4, I have shown another modification wherein the hanger bar is indicated at 26 and the skirt sustaining spring at 27. The bar may be of wood and suitably flexed to the ends thereof are tapered shoulder shaping knobs 28 fashioned more or less to fit within the shoulders of a coat, the knobs being rounded. These knobs may be of any approved material and formed therein are one or more ventilated chambers 29 closed at their outer ends by removable plugs 30 like the plugs 24. The chambers 29 are thus each adapted to removably receive a suitable filler 31 corresponding to the filler 25 and capable of serving a like function.

In Figure 5 of the drawing I have shown still another modification of the invention wherein the hanger bar is indicated at 32 and the skirt sustaining spring at 33. In this variation, the bar 32 is of perforated tubular construction similar to the bar 20 and is closed at its ends by removable plugs 34 like the plugs 24, while within the bar is removably disposed a filler 35 like the fillers 25 and 31 and capable of serving a like function. Suitably fied to the ends of the bar are shoulder knobs 36 like the knobs 28 except that as the bar 32 is tubular to receive the filler 35, the knobs 36 are without chambers like the chambers 29. Except as specified, all of the modified structures are otherwise identical with the construction shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawing and further description is accordingly believed unnecessary.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

A combined coat and skirt hanger including a curved hanger bar having a concave lower edge, a flat substantially concavo-convex spring substantially conforming to the curvature of the lower edge of the bar and of a width substantially equal to the thickness of said bar, said spring being formed from a sheet metal strip bent to provide a center chordal portion and flanking side chordal portions terminating in curved spring arms extending well beyond the ends of said bar to curve downwardly therefrom for engagement within the upper portion of a skirt having a waistband flexing the arms toward each other, the side chordal portions of the spring being joined with the center chordal portion by angles seated against the lower edge of the bar and said arms being joined with the side chordal portions by angles forming elbows at the inner ends of said arms normally abutting the lower edge of the bar but adapted to provide prominences coacting with the waistband of the skirt for securing the skirt against slippage from said arms, and fastening devices rigidly fixing the spring to the bar at the angles delimiting the center chordal portion whereby the spring may freely flex from said fastening devices to the ends thereof while the center chordal portion will tend to equalize flexing stress upon the end portions of the spring.

HUBERT F. SHANNON.