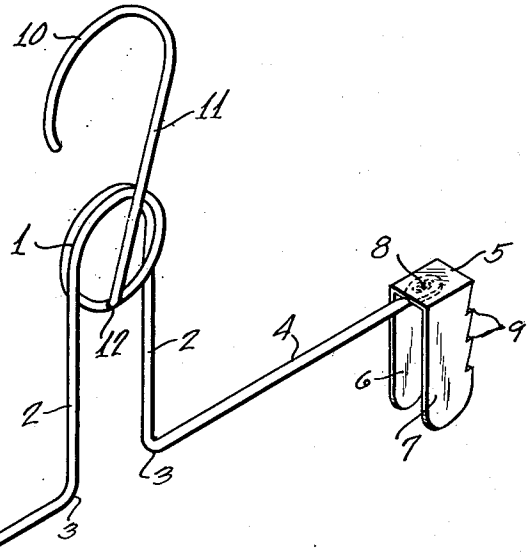
Aug. 15, 1939 J. V. ROWAN 2,169,538

GARMENT HANGER

Filed Oct. 6, 1938

FIG. 1.



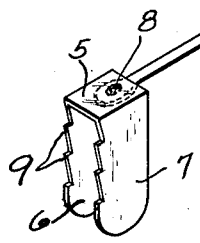
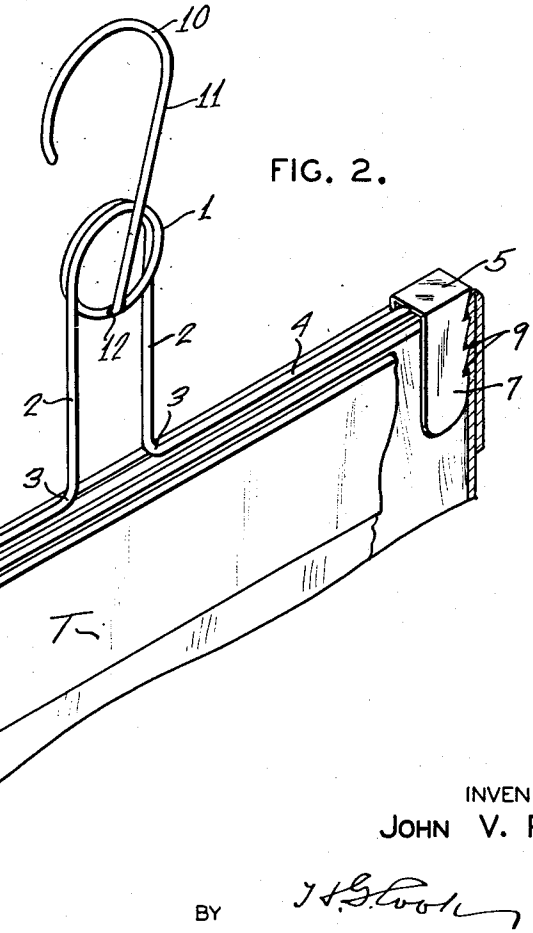


FIG. 2.



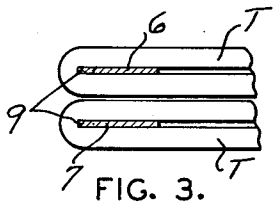


FIG. 3.

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GARMENT HANGER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 223—95)

This invention relates to hangers for garments, and more especially for trousers. In the use of the ordinary hanger when trousers are suspended therefrom, the hanger must be so tightly clamped to the cuff of the trousers that it causes a slight depression in the cuff at that portion thereof which has been held in the clamp which is quite apparent when the trousers are removed from the hanger. One of the most important features of my hanger is that when the trousers are removed therefrom, absolutely no mark is left to mar the trim appearance of the trousers where they have been in engagement with the hanger. Another feature of my hanger is its resiliency, which makes it adjustable to accommodate legs of trousers of varying widths with the minimum amount of exertion. Another advantage is that my hanger is formed of inexpensive material and is of extremely simple construction, which brings the cost of manufacture down to the minimum.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating my hanger.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of my hanger, partly broken away, showing the same in engagement with the bottom portions of the legs of a pair of trousers.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged, fragmentary, detail view taken on the line 3—3, Fig. 2, showing one end of my hanger in engagement with the trousers.

My hanger comprises arm portions and a hook portion which are constructed of a resilient, relatively heavy wire. The main portion of my hanger is formed of a continuous piece of wire, which is bent at its approximate center to form a loop 1. The wire extending from both sides of the loop 1 is then bent downwardly to form vertical portions 2 of such length as to be conveniently gripped by the hand of the user of the device, and at the points 3 (Figs. 1 and 2) the wire is bent at right angles, thus forming the horizontal arm portions 4 of my hanger. The arm portions 4 are then cut off at their ends so that their combined length added to the width of the space between the points 3 will be approximately the same as the width of the average trouser legs. It will be seen that the resiliency provided by the loop 1 and the play permitted by the space between the points 3 will permit the user of the device to insert it easily and quickly into the trouser legs of somewhat narrow dimension at their bottom portions by merely pressing the portions 2 toward each other, which can easily be done with one hand, and also to force the portions 2 apart when the hanger is to be used in connection with rather wide trousers.

At the outer ends of the arm portions 4 there are secured inverted U-shaped gripping members which contact the inner side of the bottom portions of the trouser legs, said gripping members consisting each of a single piece of some lightweight metal which is bent to form three walls 5, 6, and 7. The undersides of the walls 5 are secured, preferably by spot welding, to the upper sides of the arm portions 4 at the extreme outer ends of said arm portions, as shown at 8 in Fig. 1, with the walls 6 and 7 depending vertically therefrom. The walls 6 and 7, at their outer edges where they engage the inner sides of the trousers at the points where said trousers are creased, are provided with teeth 9. The teeth 9, while not so sharply pointed as to injure the fabric of the trousers, will yet hold the trousers securely enough to prevent their sliding off the hanger. For greater ease of insertion of the hanger into the trouser legs, and also to prevent their sliding off the hanger, the points of the teeth are cut to form acute angles, rather than right angles, with the shorter side of each tooth positioned above the longer side thereof, as illustrated most clearly at the left-hand side of Fig. 1. The lower ends of the walls 6 and 7 are rounded so as to eliminate any possibility of their catching on the fabric of the trousers.

A hook member 10, formed of the same sort of wire as the main portion of the hanger, is provided to permit the hanger to be suspended from the ordinary clothes pole found in the average clothes closet, or from a clothes hook, or the like. The lower end of the vertical portion 11 of the hook member 10 is secured by spot welding to the lower portion of the loop 1 at the point designated by the reference character 12. The advantage of securing the hook member 10 in this manner, that is, at the lowermost point of the loop, is that it becomes necessary to spot weld through only a single thickness of the wire and at a point where the resiliency of the wire forming the loop is in no way interfered with, as would be the case if the hook member were welded to the upper, double-wire portion of the loop. This permits the loop to be formed before the welding operation takes place. In order to weld through only one thickness of the wire at the top of the loop, it would be necessary to weld it before the loop is formed.

When it is desired to put my hanger to use, for instance, to suspend therefrom a pair of trousers, which I will designate by the reference character T in the drawing, if the trouser legs are somewhat narrow the user of the device

grasps the portions 2 in the hand and presses them together until the arm portions 4 of the hanger can be inserted into the trouser legs. The wall portions 6 of the gripping members are inserted into one of the trouser legs and the wall portions 7 of said gripping members inserted into the other trouser leg, and then the user releases his grip on the portions 2, which, due to the resiliency of the wire of which the hanger is constructed, permits the arm portions 4 to spring apart until the teeth 9 engage the inner sides of the trouser legs at the location where trouser legs are usually creased. This is most clearly illustrated in Fig. 2. On the other hand, should the trouser legs be rather wide, the portions 2 are forced apart until the arm portions are slightly wider than the trouser leg. The portions 2 are then grasped and gently pressed toward each other until the arms 4 can be easily inserted into the trouser legs, after which the grasp is released and, on account of the resiliency of the wire, the arm portions 4 will spring apart until the teeth 9 engage the inside of the trouser legs. This operation can be quickly and easily performed, due to the fact that the wire forming the hanger has sufficient resiliency to permit the portions 2 to be forced apart without injury to the hanger, and also to be bent back to their normal positions when it is desired to remove the wide trouser legs therefrom. When the arms 4 have been adjusted to fit snugly within the trouser legs, the teeth 9 will frictionally engage the fabric of the trousers and effectively prevent them from sliding off the hanger, at the same time helping to maintain the creases in the trouser legs which is essential to their trim appearance.

When the trousers are to be removed from the hanger, it is necessary only to grasp the hanger at the portions 2 and press said portions toward each other, which will disengage the teeth 9 from the fabric of the trouser legs and permit the hanger to be easily withdrawn therefrom.

While I have described my hanger particularly with reference to its use in hanging trousers, it is to be understood that it may be used for the purpose of hanging other garments, such as skirts, and the like.

I claim:

1. A garment hanger comprising a main body portion having opposed portions movable toward and from each other, a loop midway between said opposed portions and formed integral therewith, a hook member fixedly secured to said loop at the lower portion thereof, garment-engaging elements at the outer ends of said opposed portions, said main body portion being capable of being retracted to permit said garment-engaging elements to be introduced into the legs of a pair of trousers, said main body portion being possessed of resiliency to permit said garment-engaging elements to be moved away from each other and into engaging relation with the trouser legs, and said garment-engaging elements being provided with teeth at the edges where they engage the trouser legs.

2. A garment hanger comprising a main body portion having opposed portions movable toward and away from each other, a loop midway between said opposed portions and formed integral therewith, a hook member fixedly secured to the lowermost point of said loop, garment-engaging elements at the outer ends of said opposed portions, said main body portion being capable of being retracted to permit said garment-engaging elements to be introduced into the legs of a pair of trousers, said main body portion being possessed of resiliency to permit said garment-engaging elements to be moved away from each other and into engaging relation with the trouser legs, and said garment-engaging elements being provided with teeth at the edges where they engage the trouser legs, said teeth having a horizontal plane at their upper sides and an inclined plane at their lower sides to facilitate the ready engagement of said teeth with the garment without injury to said garment.

3. A garment hanger comprising a main body portion having opposed portions movable toward and away from each other, a loop having more than a single convolution of wire midway between said opposed portions and formed integral therewith, a hook member spot welded to said loop, after said loop has been formed, at a point where said loop has but a single thickness of wire, garment-engaging elements at the outer ends of said opposed portions, said main body portion being capable of being retracted to permit said garment-engaging elements to be introduced into the legs of a pair of trousers, said main body portion being possessed of resiliency to permit said garment-engaging elements to be moved away from each other and into engaging relation with the trouser legs, and said garment-engaging elements being provided with teeth at the edges where they engage the trouser legs, said teeth being formed with acute angles at their points and the shorter side of each tooth being positioned above its longer side to facilitate the ready engagement of said teeth with the garment without injury to said garment.

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