Dec. 1, 1942. I. J. SHAFARMAN 2,303,585

GARMENT DISPLAY MEANS

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Fig. 1.

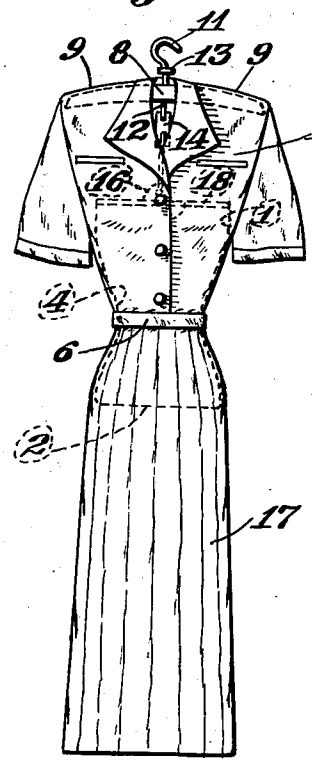


Fig. 2.

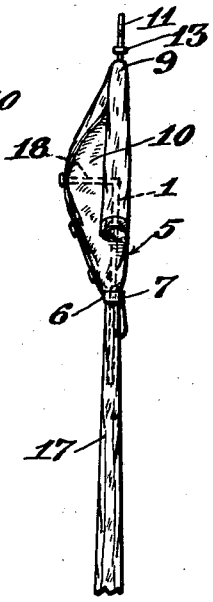


Fig. 3.

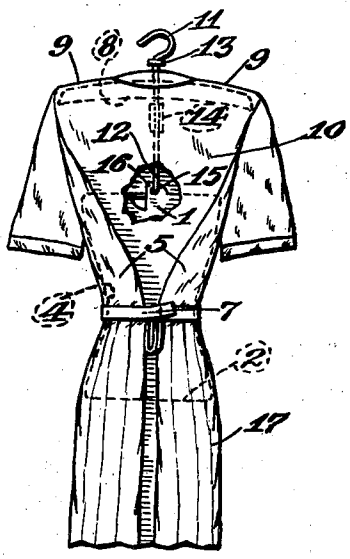


Fig. 6.

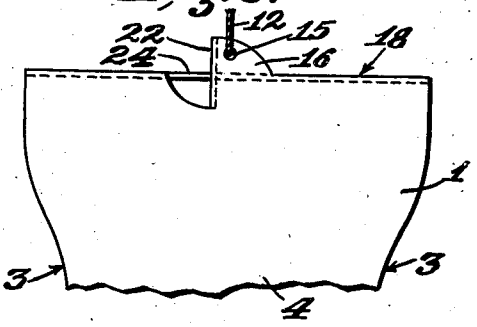


Fig. 5.

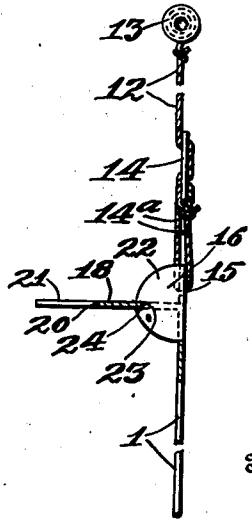


Fig. 4.

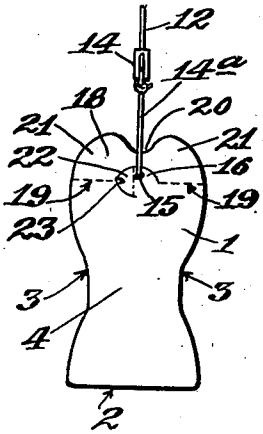
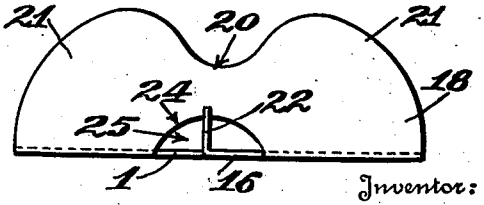


Fig. 7.



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GARMENT DISPLAY MEANS

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Fig. 8.

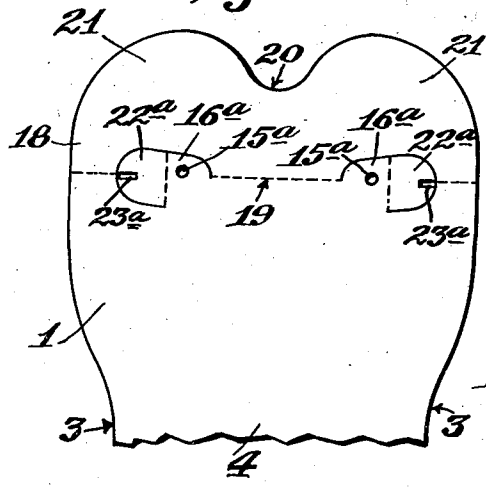


Fig. 9.

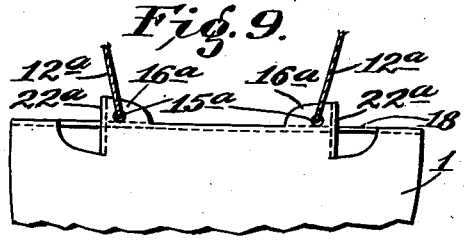


Fig. 10.

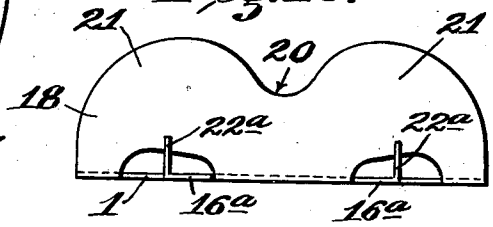


Fig. 11.

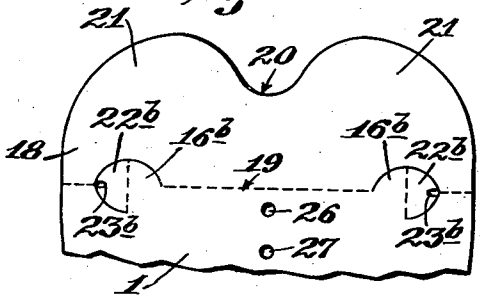


Fig. 12.

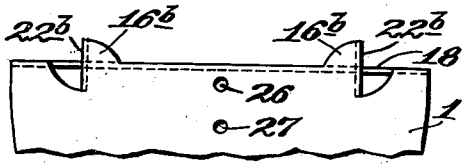


Fig. 13.

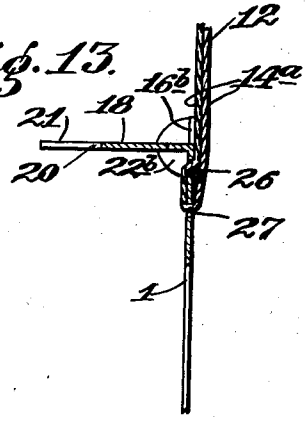


Fig. 14.

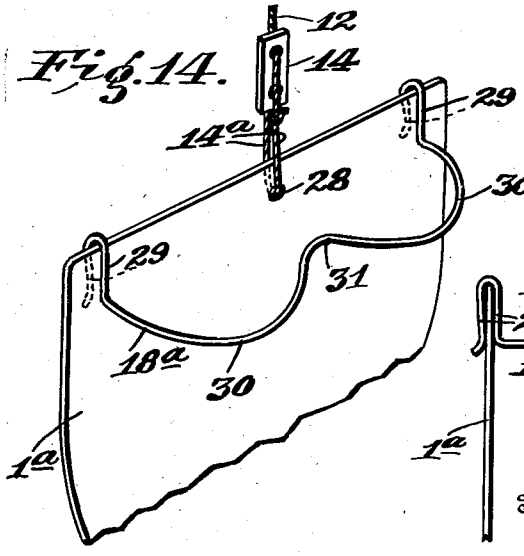
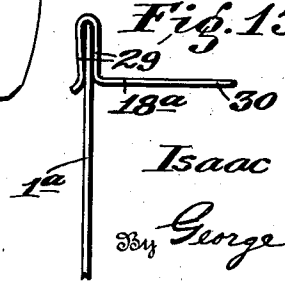


Fig. 15.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,303,585

GARMENT DISPLAY MEANS

Isaac J. Shafarman, Cleveland, Ohio

Application May 12, 1941, Serial No. 393,113

3 Claims. (Cl. 223—68)

This invention relates to garment hangers and more particularly to improved means for displaying in a show-window, salesroom or other place, women's apparel, for example, one-piece dresses, in an attractive and pleasing manner in near simulation of the garment as actually worn.

The principal object of the invention is to provide for supporting and hanging the garment with the jacket portion or bodice relieved of the direct weight and strain thereon of the skirt or nether portion of the garment, with the further provision for bust projection or uplift effect of the jacket portion or bodice to produce a silhouetted contour or profile of the same so as to give to the eye the general idea of the particular design and form of the garment as worn naturally or with conventional or special appliances on the person.

A further object is to provide a simple and inexpensive, yet practical and highly efficient device for the purpose of the invention.

Another object is to provide for utilization with the device of the present invention an embodiment of the salient and advantageous features of the device of the inventor's prior United States Patent No. 2,014,299, granted September 10, 1935.

With the foregoing and other objects and advantages to be attained, as will later more fully appear, the invention consists broadly in the novel general structure and application of the display device, and in the parts and combinations and arrangements of parts as hereinafter described and afterwards set forth with particularity in appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating some practical embodiments of the invention—

Figure 1 is a front elevational view showing a dress on a supporting and hanging device applied in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a side view of the same garment to which the device is applied as in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a rear elevational view of the same mounted garment;

Figure 4 is a face view of the form body element detached and in its original, flattened, knockdown condition;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view, on an enlarged scale and in partial cross-section and edge elevation, of the form body element shown in Figure 4, but with the bust extender portion bent and set perpendicularly and thus locked for use as applied in Figures 1 to 3 inclusive;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary rear elevational view of the form body element with the bust extender portion set up for use as in Figure 5;

Figure 7 is a top plan view of the form body element as shown in Figure 6;

Figure 8 is a fragmentary face view of the upper portion of a modification of the form body element in its original, flattened, knockdown condition;

Figure 9 is a fragmentary rear elevational view of the form body element shown in Figure 8, with the bust extender portion set up for use;

Figure 10 is a top plan view of the form body element as shown in Figure 9;

Figure 11 is a fragmentary face view of a further modification of the form body element in its original, flattened, knockdown condition;

Figure 12 is a fragmentary rear elevational view of the form body element shown in Figure 11, with the bust extender portion set up for use;

Figure 13 is a fragmentary sectional and partial elevational view of the form body element as shown in Figure 12;

Figure 14 is a perspective view illustrating the provision of a detachable bust extender element for the form body element; and

Figure 15 is a fragmentary edge elevational view of the form body element, showing the applied detachable bust extender element in end view.

Referring now to the drawings and, first, more particularly to Figures 1 to 7, inclusive, the numeral 1 designates a practical form body element for use in carrying out the present invention, the same being made of a sheet of cardboard, fiberboard or other suitable material possessing the requisite form-retentive qualities.

As shown, the element 1 is made of comparatively thin gauge, but inherently stiff yet bendable material and generally flattened throughout, with a straight bottom edge 2 and curvilinear, recesed, opposite side marginal portions 3 providing a reduced neck portion 4 between its ends. This element is placed either inside the dress or outside at the back thereof, with the neck portion 4 of the element coinciding with the waist portion of the garment, and the belted portion or material of the garment in the immediate region of the waist line is folded over the rear face of the element at opposite sides thereof, as at 5, and drawn tightly across the front, as at 6, and then pinned or otherwise securely fastened at the waist line to the element, as indicated at 7 in Figures 1 and 3.

In carrying out the invention, the form body

element 1, with the dress mounted thereon, is either directly or otherwise supported with vertical adjustment on a conventional display stand or else suspended by a vertically adjustable and preferably flexible connection to an ordinary garment hanger such as illustrated in Figures 1 to 3, inclusive, and comprising a curved and slightly arched cross bar 8 for supporting the shoulder portions 9 of the jacket portion or bodice 10 of the garment, the hanger being provided with the usual hook member 11 by which it can be obviously suspended from a supporting bar or rack or a special display stand or fixture, as the case may be. In this connection, it is noted that the hanger bar 8 may be of any other regular shape or the hanger may be of the conventional wire type. So, too, it may obviously be an integral part of a conventional display stand.

The form body element 1, as shown, is attached with vertical adjustment to the base of the hook member 11 of the hanger adjacent the middle portion of the shoulder bar 8 by a stout cord 12, or, obviously, a tape, either of which is preferably provided at one end with a rubber eyelet or grommet-like element 13 to slip over and be frictionally held on the hook member 11, the opposite end of the cord or tape 12 being attached to a conventional, apertured, adjusting slide 14, through which the cord or tape 12 is slidably threaded, the portion of the cord or tape between its attached end and that portion which is slidably threaded through the slide being looped as at 14a and threaded freely slidable through an aperture 15 in an ear 16 produced from a cut part of the form body element 1. By this flexible and adjustable connection between the form body element 1 and the hanger hook member 11, as just above described, said element 1 may be raised and lowered, at will, in suspension from the hanger and to such a degree that the secured waist portion of the garment on the form body element may be held slightly lifted with respect to the hanger shoulder bar 8 by the adjusted and tautened cord or tape 12, so that the entire weight and strain of the skirt portion 17 of the dress is carried by the suspended form body element 1 and the jacket portion or bodice 10 is relieved of all weight and strain except a part of that of itself alone which is carried by its shoulder portions 9 on the hanger bar 8.

By thus hanging the jacket portion or bodice of the garment on the hanger bar 8 and relieving that part of the garment from the pulling and sagging strains which would otherwise be imposed thereon, a neat and graceful draping and natural form display of the jacket portion or bodice 10 of the garment is attainable. In this connection, if a full blousing effect of the jacket portion or bodice 10 is desired, it is only necessary to accordingly adjust the cord or tape 12 and lift the form body element 1 to the required elevation with respect to the hanger bar 8 for the purpose, but if the tapered and drawn-in waist effect of the present day style commonly in vogue is desired the adjustment and tautening of the cord or tape 12 is made just enough to suspend the form body element 1 with a very slight lift to loosen the jacket portion or bodice 10 of the garment sufficiently to impose only a part of its own weight on its shoulder portions 9 which are supported directly on the hanger bar 8, some of the weight of the jacket portion or bodice 10 at the lower part thereof being carried by the form body element 1 because of the attachment of the adjacent waist portion of the garment to the neck portion of said element 1.

Either of the above noted display effects in the jacket portion or bodice 10 of the garment can be attained by the use of the display device of the inventor's prior Patent No. 2,014,299, hereinbefore referred to, but the improvement brought about by the device of the present invention has the additional advantage of further enhancing the attractiveness and sales value of the display in that provision is made for bust extension of the jacket portion or bodice of the garment with a close simulation of natural form as when the garment is worn or as heretofore produced in display by the use of the bulky, cumbersome and more expensive molded or otherwise created and manufactured display forms or manikins.

For the above noted purpose the form body element 1 may be provided with a bust extender member 18 at or adjacent its upper end, preferably as a foldable, integral, portion scored along its base line 19 (see Figure 4) for easy folding without breaking the constituent material, the marginal portion of the member or leaf 18 so provided being curvilinear with a middle recess 20 providing a pair of rounded and tapered bust form portions proper 21 which are forwardly projected when the member or leaf 18 is bent along the scored base line 19 and set perpendicularly or substantially at a right angle to the form body element 1 when the latter is applied in the hanging of the garment as hereinbefore described.

In its folded set up position the bust extender member or leaf 18 is held by a foldable locking ear 22 formed by a cutting operation simultaneously and coincident with that in formation of the first herein described apertured ear 16 and as an integral part with the same. This locking ear 22 is formed with a forward marginal notch 23 which engages the curved edge portion 24 of the opening 25 in the body material from which the ear 22 is folded at right angles to the ear 16 and the immediately adjacent portion of the form body element 1 on vertical scored lines. This notched ear 22, when the bust extender member or leaf 18 is set in operative position as shown more clearly in Figures 5, 6 and 7, and the ear 22 is turned perpendicularly with its notched portion 23 engaged as just above described, securely holds and supports said member or leaf 18, whereby to maintain the bust portion of the garment projected forwardly away from the form body element 1, with the entire garment contoured and profiled with bust protrusion and uplift effect as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, when viewed from front, side and rear, respectively.

The form body element 1 may be modified in structural details of the provision for locking the bust extender member or leaf 18 in set-up operative position and also as to the means for supporting the form body element 1 from the hanger device 8 or such other supporting device or means which may be utilized to suspend said element 1 in use. One particular modification is illustrated in Figures 8, 9 and 10, wherein the form body element 1 is provided with a pair of apertured ears 16a, each somewhat like the hereinbefore described ear 16, and each ear 16a having one of a pair of cords or tapes 12a attached thereto (see Figure 9 for illustration) and said pair of cords or tapes 12a being used to provide a double suspension for the form body element 1 in some instances. In this particular modification there is also provided a pair of locking ears

22*a*, each similar to the single ear 22 and one each being companion to the respective apertured suspending ears 16*a*.

The form body element 1 may be further modified as illustrated in Figures 11, 12 and 13, wherein double locking means is provided for the set up bust extender member or leaf 18, and provision is made for supporting the form body element 1 only at one place, that is to say, a pair of medially disposed, vertically alined apertures 26, 27, are provided, through which the looped portion 14*a* of the cord or tape 12 is threaded (see Figure 13) and the cord or tape is adjusted by means of the slide 14 as in the first herein described construction and arrangement illustrated in Figures 1 to 7, inclusive. In this particular modification the cutting of the outlines of the material of the form body element 1 to produce the locking ears 22*b* and the parts 16*b* corresponding to the first herein described supporting ears 16 is substantially identical with that for producing the said parts 16 and 22, except that in the present modification the ears or parts 16*b* are not apertured, because there is no necessity for providing apertures in them inasmuch as the apertures 26, 27, are provided in the form body element proper for slidably attaching the cord or tape 12 as just above described.

In some adaptations and uses of the present invention, the bust extender element may be detachable instead of being provided as an integral part of the form body element as shown in Figures 1 to 13 inclusive. The particular construction and arrangement of the bust extender element for detachability may be varied within the purview of the present invention. That is to say, the element may be constructed of the same character of sheet material as the form body element or else shaped from wire or narrow strip material in any obvious or approved manner. As a practical adaptation of this feature of the invention a wire structure is illustrated in Figures 14 and 15, wherein a plain, flat, form body element 1*a*, similar to that disclosed in the inventor's prior Patent No. 2,014,299, hereinbefore referred to, is utilized in the exemplification of the general broad idea, the element, as shown, being provided with a single, medially disposed, aperture or eyelet 28 near its upper end for the slidable attachment of the looped portion 14*a* of the lengthwise adjustable cord or tape 12. As shown, the bust extender element, designated generally by the reference character 18*a*, is formed from a single piece of form-retentive wire, preferably possessing certain inherent resiliency, the opposite end portions of the wire being rebent, as at 29, to provide retaining and supporting clips for the bust extender element to engage over the adjacent upper corner portions of the form body element 1*a*, while two portions 30 of the wire next adjacent the clipped end portions 29 are looped forwardly with rather broad curvature to produce bust extending and uplift portions proper, with a curved, recessed, portion 31 between them, as shown more clearly in Figure 14.

As to the detachability of the bust extender element, the inventive idea comprehends broadly this feature, and, obviously, many modifications thereof are contemplated within the purview of the invention as a whole, and it is further obvious that many modifications of the intgerally provided bust extender element other than those herein specifically illustrated and described may be made within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims. So, too, the suspension of the form body element of device of the present invention is not limited to the use of the specific garment hanger element 8 as illustrated in Figures 1 to 3, inclusive, but may be accomplished by the use of other forms and kinds of hanger elements alone or as parts of conventional or special display stands or fixtures. This invention, therefore, is not limited to the specific constructions, adaptations and applications herein shown and described.

What is claimed is:

1. A device for displaying a garment of the character described, comprising a flat plate-like element about the lower portion of which the waist portion of the garment is folded and supportedly secured, an extender element foldably mounted and openable to a substantially right angular horizontal position on the upper portion of said plate-like element for protruding and uplifting the bust portion of the garment, a locking tab attached to said plate-like element and foldable thereon on a vertical axis, said locking tab engaging under said extender element when said extender element is in its extended operating position.

2. A device for displaying a garment of the character described, comprising a flat plate-like element about the lower portion of which the waist portion of the garment is folded and supportedly secured, an extender element foldably mounted and openable to a substantially right angular horizontal position on the upper portion of said plate-like element for protruding and uplifting the bust portion of the garment, said extender element having an opening therein, a foldable locking tab on the plate-like element, said locking tab having a slot therein, the edge of said extender element at the opening thereof engaging the slot in said locking tab when said extender element is in its extended operating position.

3. A device for displaying a garment of the character described, comprising a flat plate-like element about the lower portion of which the waist portion of the garment is folded and supportedly secured, an extender element foldably mounted and openable to a substantially right angular horizontal position on the upper portion of said plate-like element for protruding and uplifting the bust portion of the garment, said extender element consisting of a flat plate-like member having its free outer edge formed to simulate the contour of a human bust, said extender element having an opening therein, a foldable locking tab on the plate-like element, said locking tab having a slot therein, the edge of said extender element at the opening thereof engaging the slot in said locking tab when said extender element is in its extended operating position.

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