My invention relates to garment hangers of the type which comprise a substantially triangular form composed of wire, metal or wood with a top hanger hook and a bottom cross member for the reception of trousers or skirts, the coats or like garments being customarily hung over the downwardly inclined side members of the frame.

More particularly, my invention is concerned with garment hangers of the type above described which are formed of bent wire and which are therefore subject to the objection that trousers and like garments left hung over the bottom members become creased and lose their shape because of the sharp bend which the garment must take in hanging over them, it being borne in mind that the trousers when thus hung over the bottom hanger member at the cleaning and pressing shops are still moist and therefore the crease or fold formed by this member is more firmly set into the garment when it is removed from the hanger.

It is also to be noted in this type of garment hanger that the weight of the coat hangs from the shoulder and that the shoulder itself not only overhangs substantially beyond the frame at each end, but also there is a tendency of the hanger frame to cause creases, or to distort the shoulders of the coat as they set themselves over it. This is especially true of suits made of washable material, such as linen and the like. Various attempts have been made to overcome this difficulty by applying bent paper forms about the bottom hanger member, and while these have been more or less successful, none have offered any relief to the deformation of the coat but have concerned themselves solely with the protection of the trousers.

According to my present invention, I have designed a very simple and inexpensive attachment formed of cardboard with its ends slit to provide tongues, the body portion between the end slits being substantially coextensive in length with the bottom hanger member, and the slitted ends being adapted to project substantially beyond the ends of the hanger frame and there to be interlocked in such manner as to provide a rounded support for the shoulders beyond the hanger frame and to depend so as to set the body portion so that it will not twist about the bottom member. As thus applied the body portion is substantially a flat element of appreciable width and when the trousers are hung over it drapes itself over the bottom hanger member, providing a shallow arched support for the trousers, which both front and rear is in contact with the overhanging seat and vest, whereby a double advantage results in that the coat itself is held out in front and back, thus preventing draped folds in the coat, and the engagement of the coat with the trousers on each side of the hanger practically eliminates any tendency of the trousers to slip, and become dislodged from the hanger.

My invention will be readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings which forms a part of this specification, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the cardboard attachment blank forming the subject matter of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of a garment hanger of conventional type showing my invention applied thereto and in operable position supporting a suit of clothes.

Fig. 3 is a view of the garment hanger broken away with the attachment shown in end elevation.

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line IV—IV of Fig. 2, showing the manner in which trousers or like garments are supported therefrom.

Similar reference numerals refer to similar parts throughout the drawing.

I have illustrated my invention as applied to the bent wire type of coat hanger now in general use, though it is to be understood that it may be readily applied to garment hangers made up of other materials and differing in shape so long as they provide a bottom member as the bottom strand 5 of the hanger for the support of trousers and like garments. As shown, the bottom member 5 is connected to the diagonal strands 6 which are twisted together and one extends to form the hanger hook 7.
My attachment is preferably formed of cardboard or like stiff inexpensive material and comprises a body portion 8 having end slits 9 extending inwardly along its center line and terminating a distance apart substantially equal to the bottom hanger member 5. This slot 9 thus provides a pair of adjacent tongues 10 and 11 and in the opposite edges of these tongues 1 form parallel slits 12 and 13 adjacent to the rounded ends 14 and 15 of the tongues. The treatment at each end of the body is similar and the tongues 10 and 11 thus formed can be interlocked as shown in Fig. 3 by bending the tongues down and lapping one over the other until the slot 12 or 13 of one tongue interfits in the slot 12 or 13 of the other tongue and thus interlock the two tongues together, in which case the two interlocked tongues are drawn together and deflected on a downward curve from the level of the body portion of the attachment. At the end of each slot I also provide a hole 9a to fit about the upwardly bent portion of the hanger. Thus I provide the downwardly sloping and downwardly tapering extensions beyond the hanger frame which are adapted to be received into the shoulder portion 16 of a coat as it is supported by the garment hanger.

The body portion 8 of the attachment forms a level support resting centrally on the bottom member 5 of the hanger and the weight of the downwardly inclined interlocked ends holds this attachment in level position on the hanger. When the trousers are hung over the attachment they cause the drape or arch as shown in Fig. 4 and thus the trousers have a very wide supporting surface projected substantially on each side of the hanger frame and thus adapted to hold the trousers in position to be engaged by the coat both at the front and the back and to be more securely held against slippage. This feature prevents the loss of trousers from hangers which frequently occurs in dry cleaning establishments. At the same time, the wide support for the trousers holds the coat itself out at the front and rear and gives it a more normal set which reduces the tendency of the narrow wire frame to distort or crease the shoulders. Furthermore, the weight of the trousers or other garment on the main body portion 8 provides a lever support for the shoulder supporting portions of the attachment.

While I have shown my invention in but one form, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that it is not so limited, but is susceptible of various changes and modifications, without departing from the spirit thereof, and I desire, therefore, that only such limitations shall be placed thereupon as are imposed by the prior art or as are specifically set forth in the appended claims.

What I claim is:-

1. A garment hanger cover comprising an elongated strip of sheet material having end slits forming a pair of tongues at each end of the strip, and flap means to interlock the tongues at each end in overlapped relationship.

2. A garment hanger cover comprising an elongated strip of sheet material having aligning longitudinal end slits, dividing the strip at each end into a pair of parallel tongues, and flap means on the tongues to interlock them in overlapping relationship.

3. The combination with a garment hanger having a base member, of a cover for the hanger comprising a strip of sheet material having longitudinally disposed end slits spaced at their inner end substantially the length of the hanger base member, said slits providing at each end of the strip a pair of tongues which project substantially beyond the hanger with hanger members interposed between them, and means to interlock each pair of tongues beyond the hanger.

4. The combination with a garment hanger having a base member, of a cover for the hanger comprising a strip of sheet material having longitudinally disposed end slits spaced at their inner end substantially the length of the hanger base member, said slits providing at each end of the strip a pair of tongues which project substantially beyond the hanger with hanger members interposed between them, and means to interlock each pair of tongues beyond the hanger in overlapped downwardly inclined relationship.

5. The combination with a garment hanger having a cross bottom member, of a cover for said member formed of a strip of sheet material, slits in said strip to receive the side members of the hanger, the strip comprising end portions which project outwardly substantially beyond the ends of the hanger to provide shoulder supporting extensions.

6. A cover attachment for bent wire garment hangers having a bottom cross strand comprising a relatively narrow strip of sheet material having a body portion substantially coextensive in length with the bottom hanger strand and adapted to rest thereon, there being slits in the strip to receive the side members of the hanger, and hinged downwardly inclined end members integral with said cover body which project to form shoulder supporting extensions.

7. A cover for garment hangers comprising a narrow elongated body portion of sheet material having longitudinal middle slits extending inwardly from each end to points spaced less than the width of the hanger, said slits providing a pair of parallel tongues at each end of the strip adapted to project substantially beyond the hanger, said tongues having slits along their outer edges adapted to interlock when the tongues are bent down.
wardly and overlap to provide braced shoulder supports adapted to extend beyond the hanger.

8. As an article of manufacture, a garment hanger cover comprising a narrow elongated strip of relatively stiff sheet material having longitudinal end slits forming parallel tongues at each end with outer marginal slits in the tongues disposed to permit the tongues of each adjacent pair to be interlocked in overlapped downwardly inclined relationship to the body of the strip.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HARRY M. REED.