Dec. 18, 1928. 1,695,661

H. C. MONTAGUE

GARMENT BAG

Filed March 1, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

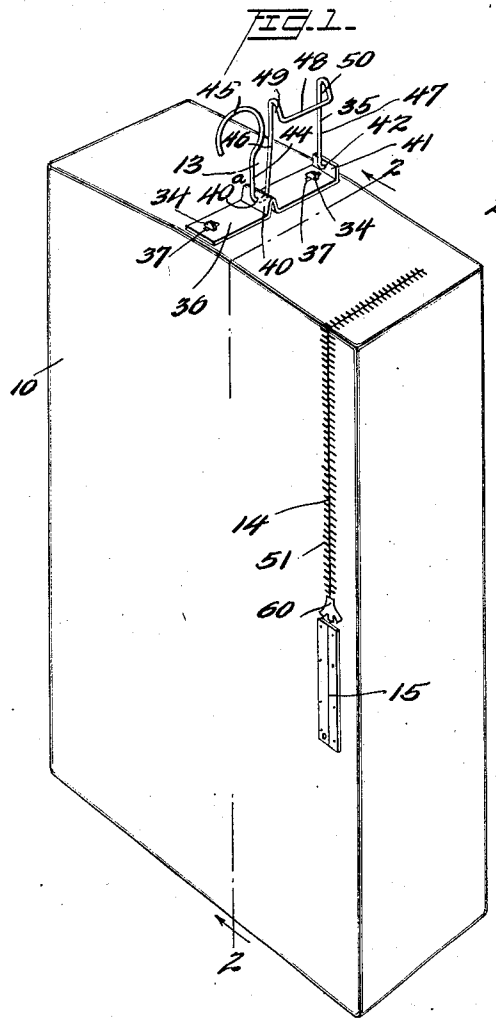


FIG. 2.

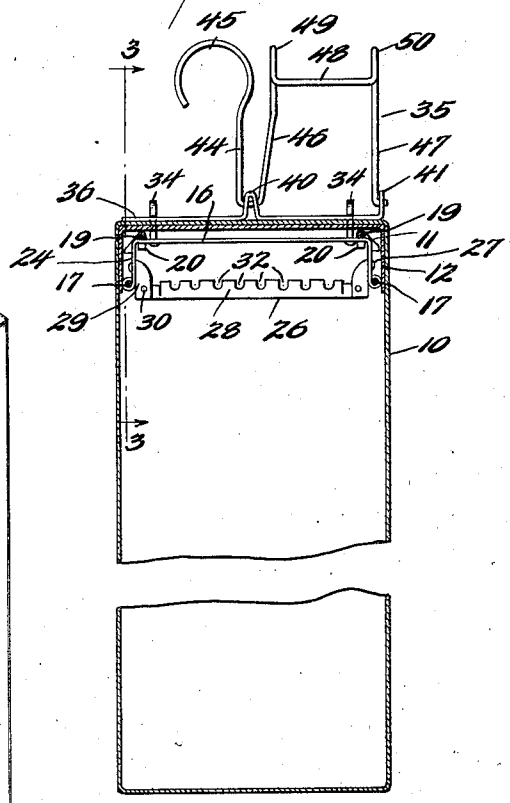


FIG. 6.

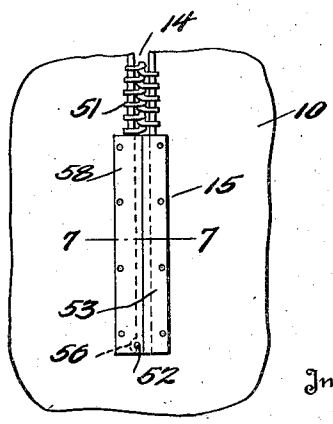
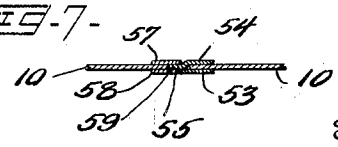


FIG. 7.



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Dec. 18, 1928. 1,695,661

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Filed March 1, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 3.

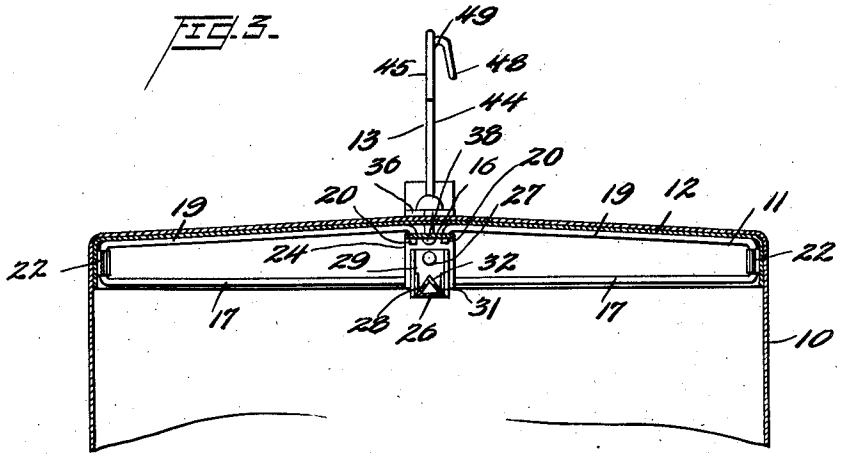


FIG. 4.

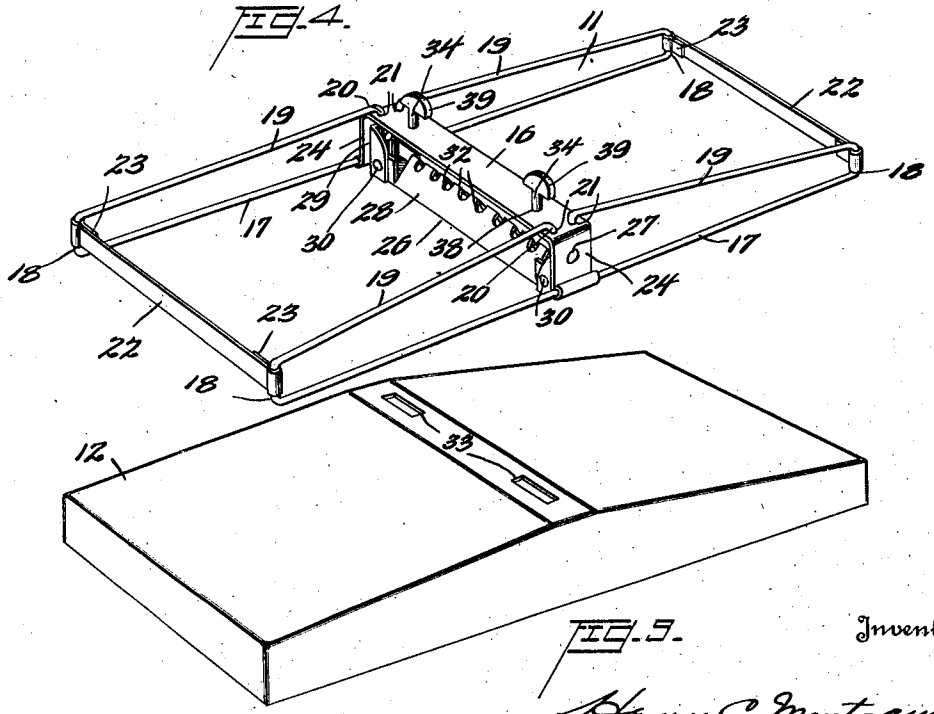


FIG. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GARMENT BAG.

Application filed March 1, 1927. Serial No. 171,840.

This invention relates to garment bags such as are used to store clothing to protect it from moths, dust and dirt, and more particularly to the type having a flexible envelope, whereby the bag itself may be folded up and stored when not in use.

It is an object of the invention to provide a garment bag which is simple and convenient in operation, as to facility for support as well as access, and which will be cheap in construction, serviceable and convenient in use. Other objects and features of novelty will be apparent as the description proceeds, as taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing a garment bag according to the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a transverse section thereof, taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section along the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the skeleton frame for supporting the upper portion of the garment bag;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the interior dust excluding cover;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail view of the reinforcing hinge for the lower end of the access opening; and

Fig. 7 is a sectional view of the same along the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the garment bag as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 comprises a substantially rectangular envelope 10 of fabric or other suitable flexible material, the upper end of which is held in substantially rectangular shape by the frame indicated generally by the character 11. The interior cover or dust guard 12 shown in Fig. 5 fits over the frame 11 and the whole is supported by the hook member 13 by which it may be suspended from either a rod or hook. A longitudinal slit 14 is provided for access to the interior of the bag and the lower portion of this slit is reinforced by the hinge member 15 which also serves to hold the closure in its open position.

As shown in Figures 3 and 4, the skeleton frame 11 for the upper end of the bag comprises a main transverse strap member 16 which is bent down at each end forming the end portions 24. The bottom of each portion 24 is rolled back on itself to receive the wires 17 which extend in parallel relation along both sides of the top of the bag. Both ends of each wire 17 are bent upwardly as at 18 and then back toward the center as at 19 terminating in short right-angular bends 20 which are received in holes 21 of the main member 16. Short straight end members 22 of strap metal material are located at each end of the frame 11 and each strap 22 has its end rolled back on itself as at 23 to receive the portion 18 of the rod members, forming a rigid skeleton frame for the top of the bag.

Below the member 16 and between the ends 24 thereof a support member 26 is provided, which is riveted to the end portions 24 as at 27. The member 26 may be formed of strap metal material having one side bent up as at 28 to form a flange. This flange is cut and folded upward at its ends as at 29 to form bearings to receive the rivets 27, by which the support 26 is secured to the end portions 24. The overlapping portions of the flange may be secured together by the rivets 30. The central portion of the flange 28 is again bent back upon itseilf as at 31, and the upper edge formed thereby is cut away as at 32 to form a series of spaced notches, to receive the hooks of coat hangers and hold them in spaced relation.

The interior dust cover 12 as shown in Fig. 5 is adapted to fit down over the rectangular frame 11 just described. The dust cover may be formed of thin sheet material and provided with slots 33, to allow passage for the fastening members 34 to be later described. As shown in Fig. 3, the envelope 10 fits over both the rectangular frame and dust cover, whereby the upper end of the bag receives a rigid support, and the dust cover effectually prevents any dust or dirt from sifting through the material of envelope 10.

The garment bag is adapted to be hung from a rod or other support by the hook member 35 shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. To secure the hook member to the skeleton frame 11 a batten 36 is fitted over the top of the cover 10, so as to overlie the top of the support member 16. This batten is also provided with slits such as 37 to receive the fastening members 34 better shown in Fig. 4. These fastening members are swiveled in the member 16 as at 38 and project upwardly terminating in flat turn-button extensions 39 which are adapted to be received by the slots 33 and 37. By turning these members ninety degrees, the envelope 10 and the cover 12 are securely clamped between the member 16 and the batten 36.

The batten 36 is crimped as at 40 substantially midway of its length and is provided with an opening 40ª to receive a portion of the hook 35. One end of the batten is also formed with an upwardly extending flange 41, also provided with an opening 42 to receive the end porton of the hook 35.

The hook 35 may be formed of a single piece of heavy wire inserted through the opening 40ª and bent upwardly as at 44 terminating in a hook 45 similar to the usual coat hanger hook, by means of which the bag may be hung over the usual clothing support rod in a store room. The other end of the wire is bent up just clear of the opening 40ª and substantially parallel to the portion 44 as at 46. This portion of the wire extends over and through the opening 42 providing an upright leg 47. The loop 48 between the legs 46 and 47 is bent back to form the two hooks 49 and 50, the ends of which are connected by the portion 48, and by means of these two hooks the garment bag may be supported over the ordinary coat hook or a laterally projecting horizontal nail, and therefore the bag will be prevented from sagging, or tilting forward or downward at the front edge.

The garment bag is provided with a very convenient means of access to its interior. As shown in Fig. 1 the envelope is provided with a slit 14 which extends up one side of the face and across the top for the greater portion of its width. This top extension is important, as it permits a wide side opening through which to pass articles into the bag.

The slit 14 is provided with a hookless fastener 51, a portion of which is shown in detail in Fig. 6. The fastener is operated by a moving element 60, shown in Fig. 1. This fastener is so well known, and of such general application that further description thereof is unnecessary.

To strengthen the end of the closure against tearing, and also to hold it open while garments are being inserted or removed, the lower portion of the slit 14 is reinforced by the hinge member 15. As shown in Figs. 6 and 7 this hinge member consists of a plurality of plates hinged together as at 52. The material of the envelope, at one side of the slit is secured between two plates 53 and 54. The plate 54 is offset to provide a tongue 58, which extends somewhat beyond the edge of the slit to form an overlapping closure. The tongue is provided with an ear 56, to form a bearing for the hinge pintle 52. The material of the opposite side of the opening is secured between two plates 57 and 58 which also extend beyond the edge of the slit, forming a recess 59 adapted to receive the tongue 55 of the plate 54. The hinge pintle passes through both of these plates, pivoting the ear 56 therebetween.

Thus it will be apparent that when the hinge is swung about its pintle 52 into its closed position, the tongue 56 will fit between the two plates 57 and 58 to form a tight closure. Another particular function of this hinge member, however, is to maintain the slit in its open position when it is desired to insert or remove garments from the interior of the bag. The ordinary friction of a hinge is sufficient to retain the hinge in its open position when the slit is opened, and the rigidity of the hinge member will retain the two sides of the slit in spaced relation.

From the foregoing description it will be apparent that the applicant has provided a rigid construction for the upper end of the bag, and as the lower portion of the bag will shape itself by its own weight, this frame is sufficient to retain the envelope in its rectangular shape. Furthermore, by means of the interior dust cover 12, applicant has provided an unusually moth-proof and dust-tight construction. The arrangement of the member 16 and the support of the notches 32 provides a very rugged construction for supporting the coat hangers in spaced relation. The simple clamping means for securing all of these elements together is also a great advantage.

The opening and closing of the bag are especially convenient. When the moving element 60 is in the position shown in Fig. 1, the bag is completely sealed. By moving this element to the other end of the slit, the entire closure is opened, and by merely pulling the edges apart, the hinge 15 is opened. The hinge holds the edges apart, so that garments may be readily inserted or removed from the interior. Merely moving the element 60 back down along the slit brings the edges together, closes the hinge, and seals the bag.

The hook member 35 has a particular advantage in that its substantially rectangular general shape will permit its being supported from a single nail by the hook 50 and yet as the crimped portion 40 is substantially in the center of the bag, the bag may be supported from one end without sagging in the center. The rigid hinge member 15 serving to hold the slit open while garments are being transferred is an added advantage in the convenience of this garment bag.

While one form of the invention has been shown and described in detail, the invention is not limited to these details but includes such changes and modifications as come within the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

1. A clothing receptacle comprising in combination, a flexible envelope, a skeleton inner frame, an exterior batten adapted to overlie the central portion of said inner frame, means for securing said envelope between said frame and batten, and support means on said batten adapted to engage a short horizontal support and suspend the bag

therefrom rigidly without permitting it to sag, said support means having an extension adapted to engage a rod support to suspend the bag centrally.

2. A clothing receptacle comprising a flexible envelope, a skeleton frame for the top of the envelope, an interior dust excluding cover adapted to overlie said frame and underlie said envelope, an exterior plate adapted to overlie the central portion of said skeleton frame and means on said frame passing through said cover, envelope and plate to secure them all together, and a supporting hook attached to said plate adapted to suspend the whole from either a lateral or longitudinal support without permitting the receptacle to sag, or tilt forward or downward at the front edge.

3. A clothing receptacle comprising a flexible envelope, a spreader inside the envelope, means connected thereto providing a pair of suspension apertures exterior of said bag and a wire passing through said apertures, one end of the wire forming a supporting hook, and the portion of the wire between said apertures forming a two-point suspension means.

4. A clothing receptacle comprising a flexible envelope, a spreader inside the envelope, means connected thereto providing a pair of suspension apertures exterior of said bag and a wire passing through said apertures, one end of the wire forming a supporting hook, and the portion of the wire between said apertures forming a pair of hooks perpendicular to the first mentioned hook.

5. A clothing receptacle comprising a flexible envelope, a spreader inside the envelope, means connected thereto providing a pair of suspension apertures exterior of said bag and a wire passing through said apertures, one end of the wire forming a supporting hook, and the portion of the wire between said apertures forming a hook with the bight thereof bent downward.

6. A clothing receptacle comprising a flexible envelope, a spreader inside the envelope, means connected thereto providing a pair of suspension apertures exterior of said bag, one of said apertures being located centrally of the top of the bag, and the other at one edge, and a wire passing through said apertures, one end of the wire forming a supporting hook, and the portion of the wire between said apertures forming a two-point suspension means.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

HENRY C. MONTAGUE.