

June 10, 1969

I. V. SNOW

3,448,903

SKIRT HANGER

Filed Nov. 6, 1967

Fig. 1

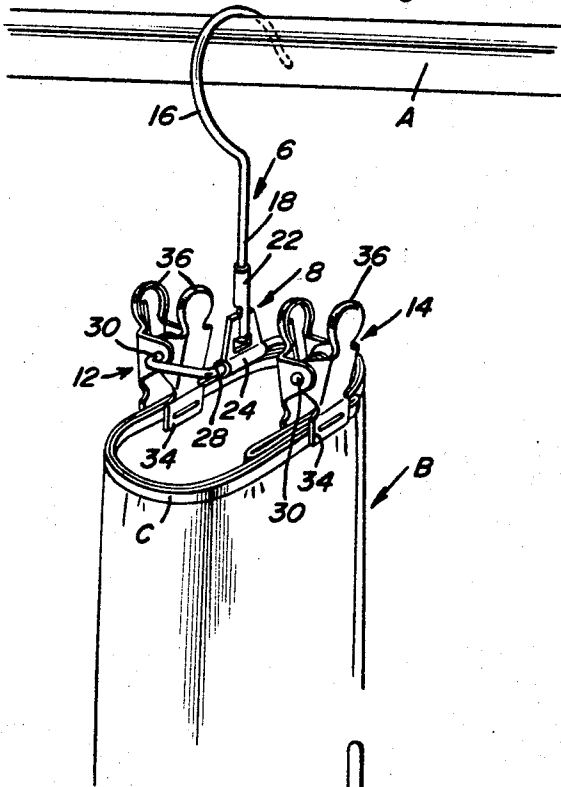


Fig. 2

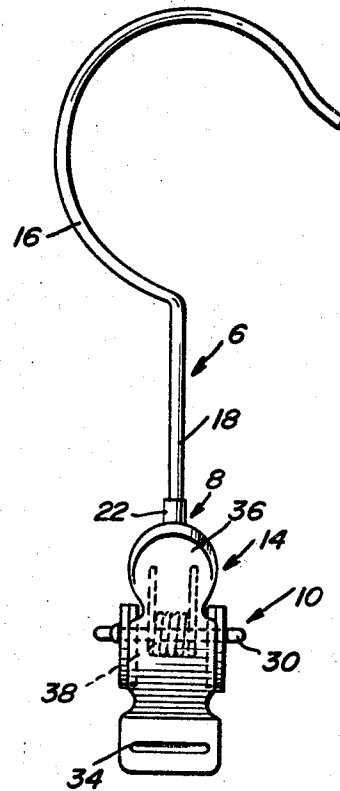


Fig. 3

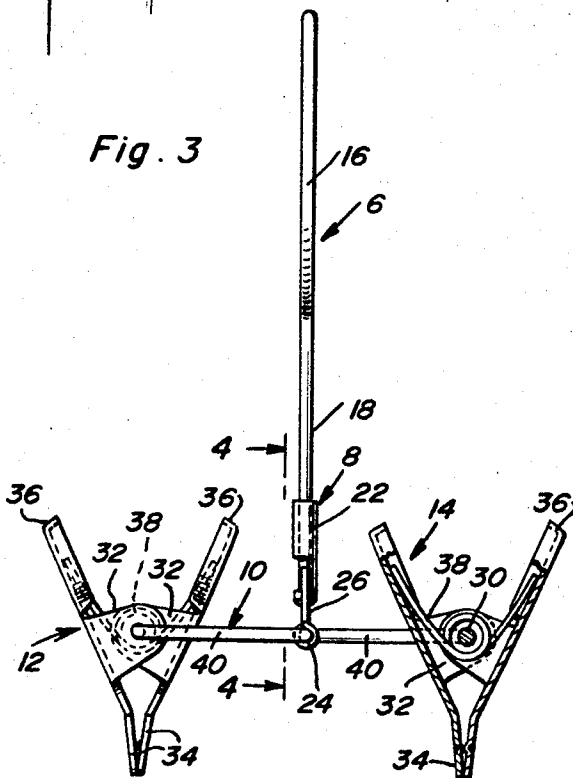
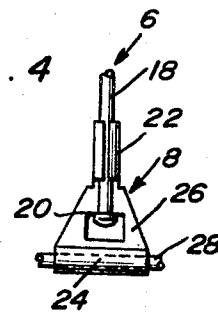


Fig. 4



Imogene V. Snow

INVENTOR.

BY *Alma A. O'Brien*
and *Harvey B. Jackson*
Attorneys

1

3,448,903

SKIRT HANGER

Imogene V. Snow, 122 Wedgewood Drive,
Eugene, Oreg. 97402

Filed Nov. 6, 1967, Ser. No. 680,917

Int. Cl. A47j 51/14

U.S. Cl. 223-96

4 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This skirt hanger is preferably, but not necessarily, made from five oriented components; namely, a hook having a depending suspension shank; a unique coupling unit swivelly joined to the lower end of the shank, a novel rod providing a special bracket; and a pair of twin jaw spring-biased garment clasps or clamps pivoted on journal-like end portions of the bracket. The median parts of the bracket provides a shaft and renders the bracket self-leveling. The clasps are adjustable. The over-all device is an innovation in that it is easy-to-use, and, being compact and convenient, lends itself to feasible but reliable usage in limited quarters and places difficult of access.

This invention relates to a garment hanger which is expressly, but not necessarily, designed and structurally adapted to suspend a skirt in its natural position and wherein, to the ends desired, it is equipped with a pair of companion pivotally adjustable spring-biased clasps which grip the waistband and sustain it in a straight line without stretching the material out of shape.

As will be hereinafter more clearly evident, it is the general objective of the instant concept to provide a hanger wherein the coacting component parts are oriented and coordinated in close-coupled relationship in a manner to insure compactness and convenience, to conserve space, reduce the likelihood of wrinkling to an appreciable minimum, to accommodately support single or multiple garments, and to suspend the supported garment with a minimum of exposure.

Briefly, the hook unit is formed from a suitable rod bent upon itself to provide a hook to hang over a pole or other support and a companion depending shank, headed at its lower end. The lower headed end portion is swivelly mounted in a vertical sleeve constituting a component of a one-piece sheet metal or equivalent coupling unit. The lower portion of the coupling unit is fashioned into a complementary horizontal sleeve which constitutes a bearing. The bearing serves to accommodate the median shaft portion of a substantially S-shaped balanced rod which constitutes a self-leveling bracket. The shaft portion is cradled and mounted for limited angular rotation in the bearing sleeve. The respective free end portions of the bracket are in a plane common with each other and with the shaft portion and are in close spaced parallel relationship. These terminal end portions constitute journals and the paired ears of the opposed closely related twin waistband clasps are pivotally mounted on the journals.

Novelty is predicated on swivelly mounting the lower end of a headed shank in a vertical sleeve part of a dual sleeve coupler and, more particularly on the use of the horizontal sleeve as a bearing for the shaft portion of a self-leveling rod-type clasp-equipped bracket.

Additional novelty is predicated on the bracket, which is fashioned from a length of rod stock, wherein the median portion provides the mounting and rocking shaft and wherein the oppositely directed lateral free end portions provide mounting members for the spring-biased close-coupled clasps.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter

2

described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a view in perspective showing the improved multipurpose garment hanger and how it is constructed, is hung, for example, from a clothes closet garment pole and how the skirt is doubled for compactness and the waistband is conveniently clamped by the opposed close-coupled clasps.

FIG. 2 is an end elevational view on a larger scale of the hanger by itself.

FIG. 3 is a view similar to FIG. 2 but at right angles thereto and with a portion of the clasp at the right broken away and shown in section.

And FIG. 4 is a detail view taken approximately on the plane of the section line 4-4 of FIG. 3 looking in the direction of the arrows.

By way of introduction to the description of the details it is to be pointed out that the twin clasp hanger can be ideally used to support skirts. It functions to allow the skirt to drape and fall in its natural position (much as it does when being worn). It permits the waistband to be held level and in a straight line without the likelihood of the fabric or material stretching itself out of shape. In fact, it achieves the desired result so well that the possibility of wrinkling is reduced to a minimum. Accordingly, there is no need to press one's skirt after each wearing.

In FIG. 1 the relatively stationary support means comprises a clothes closet garment pole A. The suspended garment comprises a skirt B which is shown folded upon itself in order to locate the waistband C for supported use in the manner illustrated.

The over-all garment hanger comprises the aforementioned upper unit 6, coupling means 8, bracket means 10 and duplicate companion spring-biased clasps or clips 12 and 14.

With reference in particular to the unit 6 this is formed from a suitable length of rod which is bent upon itself to provide a hook 16 and a depending straight shank 18 having a headed lower end 20 as shown best in FIG. 4. The lower end portion of the shank is operatively connected to the coupling unit or means 8 which is preferably made from sheet metal or equivalent sheet material. This means comprises (FIG. 4) a split sleeve 22 which is vertically disposed and which swivelly mounts the lower headed end of the shank. The horizontal sleeve 24 provides a bearing and is connected to the sleeve 22 by way of an appropriate triangular or similar apertured web 26.

With reference now to the bracket 10 this part is formed from a single length of suitable rod stock and it will be noted that when the rod is completely bent it is substantially S-shaped in plan. It embodies a central straight portion which is defined as a shaft 28 and which is mounted for angular rotation or oscillation in the bearing sleeve 24. This renders the over-all bracket substantially self-leveling. The respective oppositely directed terminal end portions 30 provide spindles or journals on which the overlapping paired ears 32 are hingedly or pivotally mounted. The clasps are of more or less conventional form and are preferably but not necessarily made from metal and each clasp has paired jaws 34 and upstanding outwardly diverging fingergrrips 36 which are normally spread apart by the coiled spring means 38 (FIG. 3). The bends or bent portions which connect the journals 30 with the ends of the shaft 28 are conveniently designated by the numeral 40.

It is reiterated that the headed lower end of the shank 18 is fastened to and swivelly joined with the coupling means 8 by way of the vertical assembling and swivelling sleeve 22. This permits the hook to be turned at any angle desired depending on the space which is available. It may be desired instead of attaching the hook to a rod

3

A, to simply hang it on a doorknob or any convenient support member (not shown). By cradling the over-all bracket 10 it will be seen that it lends itself to positioning at the desired angle depending on the availability of space and whether the various garments are hung close together or might be subject to wrinkling because of crowded or congested conditions. Then, too, the fact that the clasps 12 and 14 are lockable on their respective members 30 it will be seen that whatever adjustment is necessary is possible. It follows that the hanger well serves the over-all purposes for which it is intended. Accordingly a more extended description is deemed to be unnecessary.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A garment hanger comprising, in combination, a one-piece rod member bent upon itself between its respective ends and forming an S-shaped bracket, said bracket embodying a centralized shaft portion provided at its respective ends with coplanar oppositely right-angularly disposed complemental end portions, and a pair of like free terminal end portions, said terminal end portions disposed in a plane common with each other as well as said oppositely right angularly disposed end portions and centralized shaft portion and being situated in close spaced parallelism on diametrically opposite sides of said centralized shaft portion and providing clasp mounting journals, a pair of like spring-biased dual-jaw clasps operatively mounted on and carried by the respective journals and cooperatively confronting each other and having manually manipulable opposed gripping jaws capable of gripping and suspending a garment, a hanger hook for said bracket having a depending shank dis-

4

posed in a plane at right angles to the plane of said bracket, and coupling means interposed between and operatively uniting a lower free end portion of said shank and a balanced median part of said centralized shaft portion.

2. The garment hanger defined in and according to claim 1 and wherein said coupling means embodies a bearing disposed in a plane below and at right angles to the long axis of said shank, said centralized shaft portion being rotatably mounted in said bearing, whereby said bracket is substantially self-leveling and serves to balance and equalize the relationship of the respective coplanar clasps for uniform suspension of the clasped garment.

3. The garment hanger defined in and according to claim 2 and wherein said coupling means also embodies an upstanding sleeve constituting a socket member, the lower end of said shank being rotatably operatively mounted in said socket member.

4. The garment hanger defined in and according to claim 3 and wherein said clasps are provided with lateral paired overlapping ears, said ears being connected with and operatively mounted on their respectively cooperative journals.

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

2,918,201	12/1959	Marrocco	223—95
2,939,588	7/1960	Nalle	211—113
3,281,027	10/1966	O'Konogi	223—96 XR
3,370,715	2/1968	Kolozsvari	211—119 XR

JORDAN FRANKLIN, *Primary Examiner*.

G. H. KRIZMANICH, *Assistant Examiner*.

U.S. Cl. X.R.

241—454; 224—42.21