

June 2, 1953

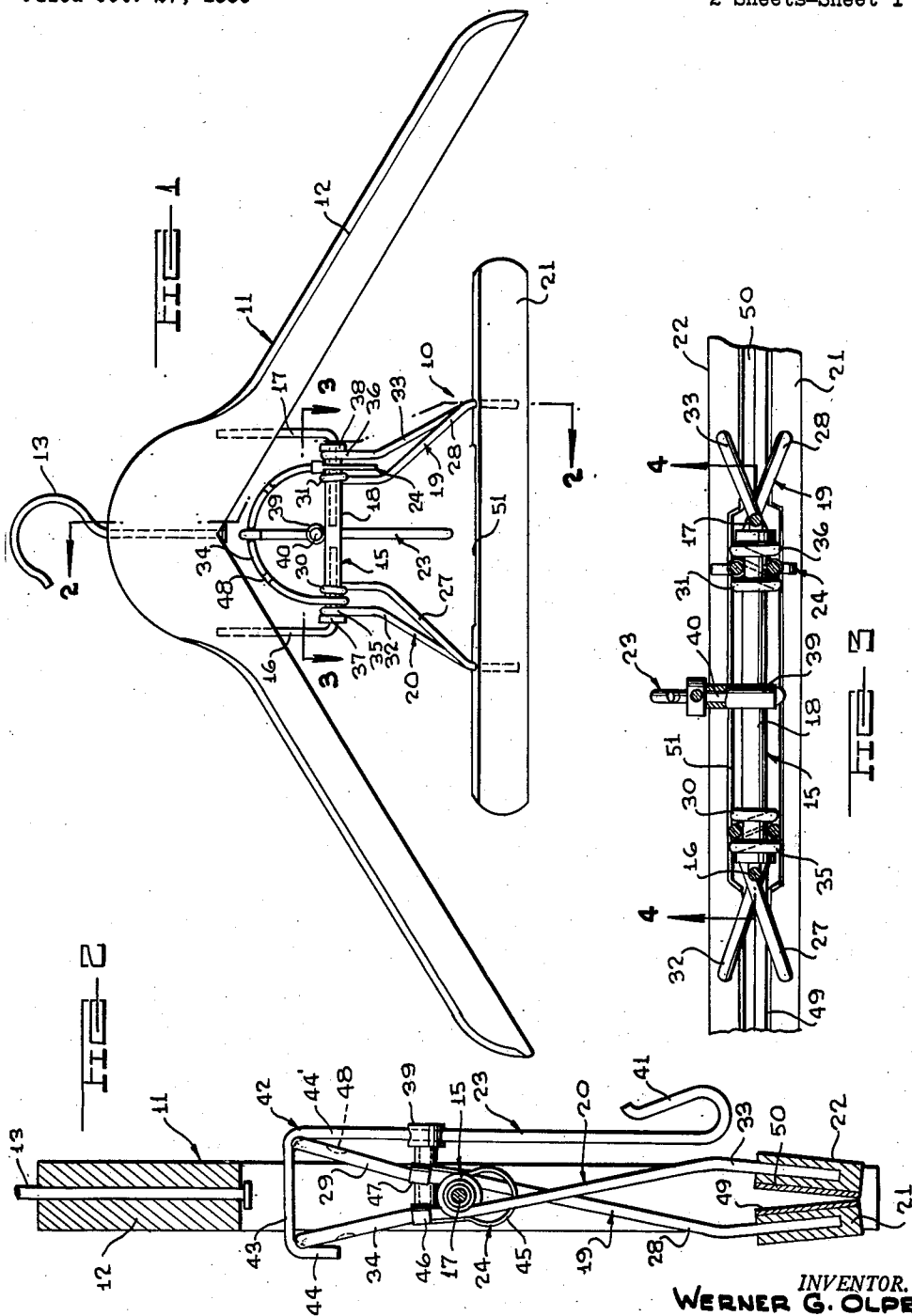
W. G. OLPE

2,640,633

GARMENT HANGER OF THE CLAMP TYPE

Filed Oct. 27, 1950

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.
WERNER G. OLPE

BY

McMorrow, Berman & Davidson
ATTORNEYS

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FIG 4

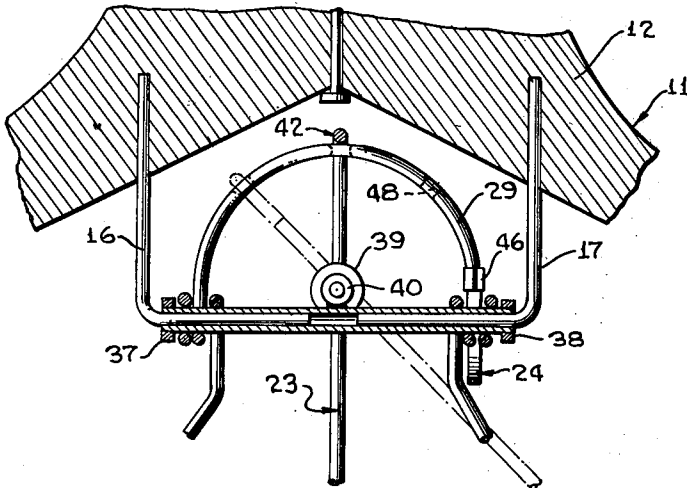


FIG 5

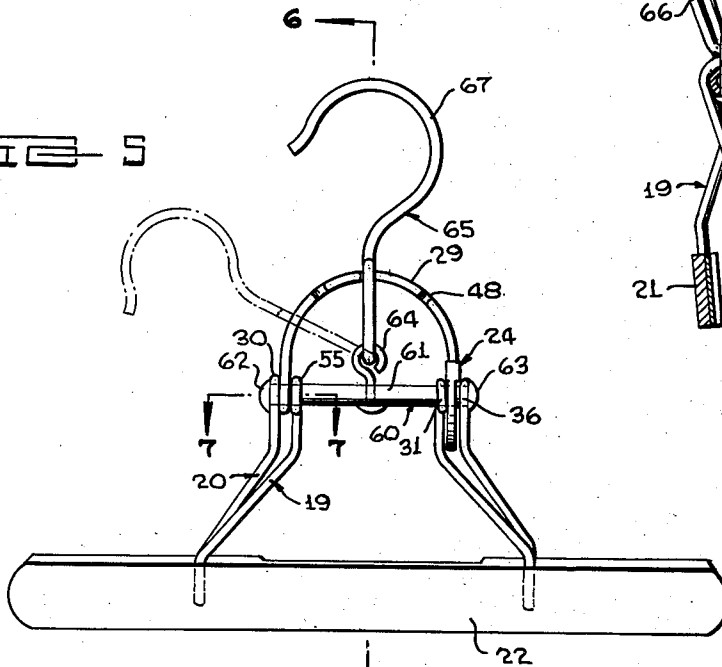


FIG 7

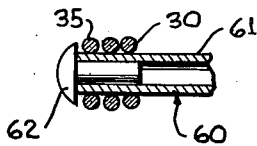
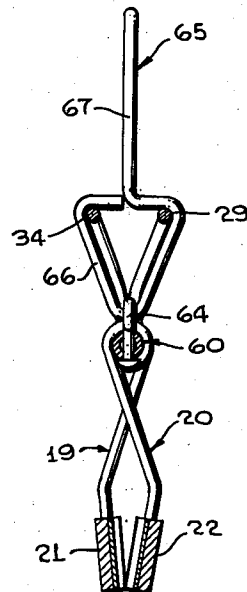


FIG 8



INVENTOR.
WERNER G. OLPE

BY

McMorrow, Burman + Davidson
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GARMENT HANGER OF THE CLAMP TYPE

Werner G. Olpe, Jamaica, N. Y.

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6 Claims. (Cl. 223-91)

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This invention relates to clamping devices, and more particularly to a garment hanger of the clamp type.

An object of this invention is to provide a garment hanger of the clamp type for hanging men's trousers, ladies' skirts, and other articles of wearing apparel in the desired creased condition.

Another object of this invention is to provide a garment hanger of the clamp type including means for selectively varying the clamping force thereof to thereby particularly adapt the hanger to dependently carry articles of wearing apparel of varying thicknesses and weights.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a garment hanger of the clamp type including means for locking the clamping bars thereof in clamping engagement with apparel of any of a wide variety of thicknesses.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a garment hanger of the clamp type which can be manually manipulated and can be incorporated in combination with a conventional coat hanger.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a garment hanger of the clamp type which is relatively simple in structure and cheap to manufacture.

The above and still further objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent upon consideration of the following detailed description of the invention, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the garment hanger of the present invention;

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken substantially along the line 2-2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken along the line 3-3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along the line 4-4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a side elevational view of a modified form of the garment hanger of the present invention;

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken along the line 6-6 of Figure 5; and

Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken along the line 7-7 of Figure 5.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, wherein like reference numerals have been used throughout the several views to designate like parts, there is shown the garment hanger of the present invention, generally designated by the reference numeral 10, incorporated in combination with a conventional coat hanger 11 including a hanger body 12 and a suspension hook 13.

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The garment hanger 10 embodies a support 15 including the L-shaped arms 16 and 17 and the pivot tube 18. One leg of each of the L-shaped arms is pressed into a pre-drilled hole provided in the hanger body 12, and the other legs of the arms 16 and 17 are arranged in end-to-end spaced relation with respect to each other and support the pivot tube 18.

Arranged in criss-cross relation with respect to each other is a pair of levers 19 and 20, each of which is mounted intermediate its ends on the pivot tube 18 of the support 15 for pivotal movement about an axis extending longitudinally of the pivot tube 18. A pair of arcuate members 29 and 34 are positioned longitudinally of and face away from the support 15 and are connected to the levers 19 and 20 respectively, the arcuate members extending outwardly at an angle to the vertical plane passing through the support. Extending longitudinally of and carried by the levers 19 and 20 below the crisscross point of the latter are a pair of clamp bars 21 and 22 which are movable into clamping engagement with respect to a garment positioned therebetween in response to the movement of the arcuate members 29 and 34 toward each other.

Engaging the arcuate members 29 and 34 of the levers 19 and 20 is a latch bar 23 which is positioned longitudinally of the levers and has one end mounted on the support 15 for rocking movement about an axis extending transversely of the latter.

Suitable resilient means, generally designated by the reference numeral 24 are operatively connected to the levers 19 and 20 for normally biasing the ends engaged by the latch bar 23 away from each other. Accordingly, upon rocking the latch bar 23 from the upstanding position illustrated in Figure 4 to an inclined position shown in phantom in Figure 4, the levers 19 and 20 are released to pivot under the action of the resilient means 24 into positions for the insertion between the clamp bars 21 and 22 of articles of clothing of varying thicknesses.

The lever 19 is constructed of a single length of wire having end adjacent portions bent to form a pair of divergent legs 27 and 28, the intermediate portion bent to form an arcuate keeper 29 for engagement with the latch bar 23, and a connecting portion between each leg 27 and 28 and the arcuate keeper 29 bent to form pivoting eyelets 30 and 31 which are circumposed about the pivot tube 18. The lever 20 is similarly constructed of a single length of wire having divergent legs 32 and 33, the arcuate member or keeper 34 confronting the arcuate keeper 29 of the lever 19,

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and pivoting eyelets 35 and 36 circumposed about the pivot tube 18 contiguous to and spaced outwardly of the eyelets 30 and 31 of the lever 19.

The assembly of the levers 19 and 20 is maintained against lateral displacement of the pivot tube 18 by means of the spaced abutments 37 and 38 carried by the tube. It is to be noted that the levers 19 and 20 are pivotally supported at a point approximately one-third the distance between the highest point of the arc of the keepers 29 and 34 and the clamp bar-connected ends of the divergent legs 27 and 28 and 32 and 33. This ratio is selected so that movement of the keepers 29 and 34 away from each other a distance of approximately one inch will cause approximately a three-inch movement of the clamp bars 21 and 22 away from each other. The ratio may be increased when it is desired to increase the relative spacing of the clamp bars 21 and 22 in response to smaller displacements of arcuate keepers 29 and 34 with respect to each other. It has been found that a 3-to-1 ratio is particularly desirable for hanging skirts, and a 4-to-1 ratio is particularly desirable for hanging trousers.

The latch bar 23 is pivotally supported intermediate its ends by means of the sleeve 39 which is secured to the pivot tube 18 of the support 15 and the pivot pin 40 which is rotatably journaled within the sleeve 39 and secured to the latch bar 23. As clearly shown in Figure 2, the lower end of the latch bar 23 is bent into the shape of a hook 41 to provide means for the suspension of belts and the like. The upper end of the latch bar 23 is bent to form an L-shaped clamping hook 42 including a leg 43 disposed at right angles to the main portion 44' of the clamp bar 23 and a depending leg 44 arranged in spaced, parallel relation with respect to the main portion 44' of the clamp bar 23. The leg 44 engages within the seats 48 provided in the arcuate keeper 34, while the main portion 44' of the latch bar 23 engages within the adjacent seats 48 of the arcuate keeper 29.

The resilient means 24 includes a strip 45 fabricated of resilient wire, carrying the clips 46 and 47 contiguous to its ends. As clearly shown in Figure 2, the clip 46 is circumposed about the adjacent portion of the lever 20, while clip 47 is circumposed about and engages the adjacent portions of lever 19. The resilient means 24 biases arcuate keepers 29 and 34 of levers 19 and 20 away from each other, to thereby urge clamping bars 21 and 22 into the divergent position illustrated in Figure 2. The arrangement of clamping bars 21 and 22 with respect to each other is selected so that the bars are in spaced, parallel relation with respect to each other when supporting garments therebetween.

As clearly shown in Figures 1 and 4, the arcuate keepers 29 and 34 are provided with spaced seats 48 at select point along their lengths for engagement with the jaw 42 of the clamp bar 23, to thereby maintain the arcuate keepers 29 and 34 in a select position of their movement away from each other.

The confronting faces of the clamp bars 21 and 22 are covered with the felt strips 49 and 50 and an intermediate portion of each of the clamp bars 21 and 22 is cut away inwardly, as indicated by the reference numeral 51, Figure 1, to provide clearance for the seams of trousers.

In actual use, the article of clothing to be supported is positioned between the clamp bars 21 and 22. To effect the insertion of the article of clothing between the clamp bars 21 and 22, the

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locking bar 23 is locked into a position substantially parallel to the pivot tube 18 of the support 15, wherein the clamp bars are free to move away from each other under the pressure exerted by the resilient means 24. After inserting the article of clothing between the clamp bars, the lock bar can be rocked into engagement with any one of the seats 48 provided on the arcuate keepers 29 and 34. It is to be noted that engaging the lock bar 23 in the seat provided at the high points of the arcuate keepers 29 and 34 will exert a maximum clamping pressure on the article of clothing.

In Figures 5, 6 and 7 there is shown a modified form of the hanger of the present invention which is particularly adapted for hanging trousers and skirts. The modified form embodies the levers 19 and 20, and the clamp bars 21 and 22, both of which are constructed and arranged as previously described. The levers 19 and 20 are carried by a support 60 which includes a pivot tube 61. The pivot tube 61 is hollow throughout its length and carries the abutments 62 and 63 which maintain the levers 19 and 20 against lateral displacement on the support 60. As clearly shown in Figure 7, the abutments 62 and 63 embody headed bolts which are press fitted into the adjacent open ends of the pivot tube 61.

Carried intermediate the ends of the pivot tube 61 of the support 60 is an eyelet 64 which pivotally supports a combination locking bar and suspension hook 65. As clearly shown in Figure 6, the combination locking bar and hook 65 is formed of a single length of wire having an end adjacent portion bent into a triangularly-shaped yoke 66 which is selectively engageable with the seats 48 provided on the arcuate keepers 29 and 34 of the levers 19 and 20. The other end adjacent portion of the length of wire is bent to form the hook 67 for suspendingly supporting the skirt and trousers hanger.

When using either embodiment of the invention, the clamp bars 21 and 22 may be extended to a position wherein the garments can be placed therebetween. The simplicity of the construction and ease of assembly of the devices of the present invention provide an attractive low cost and efficient hanger unit.

It is readily apparent that numerous other modifications of the clamp-type hangers of the present invention can be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A garment hanger of the clamp type comprising a support, a pair of levers arranged in criss-cross relation with respect to each other positioned longitudinally of said support and each mounted intermediate its ends on said support for pivotal movement about an axis extending longitudinally of the latter, a pair of arcuate members positioned longitudinally of and facing away from said support and connected to said levers, said arcuate members extending outwardly at an angle to the vertical plane passing through said support, a pair of clamp bars extending longitudinally of and carried by said levers below the crisscross point of the latter and movable into clamping engagement with a garment supported therebetween in response to the movement of said arcuate members toward each other, and means engaging said arcuate members for holding said arcuate members in select positions of movement toward each other.
2. A garment hanger of the clamp type com-

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prising a support, a pair of levers arranged in criss-cross relation with respect to each other positioned longitudinally of said support and each mounted intermediate its ends on said support for pivotal movement about an axis extending longitudinally of the latter, a pair of arcuate members positioned longitudinally of and facing away from said support and connected to said levers, said arcuate members extending outwardly at an angle to the vertical plane passing through said support, a pair of clamp bars extending longitudinally of and carried by said levers below the crisscross point of the latter and movable into clamping engagement with a garment supported therebetween in response to the movement of said arcuate members toward each other, means engaging said arcuate members for holding said arcuate members in select positions of movement toward each other, resilient means operatively connected to said levers for normally biasing said arcuate members away from each other.

3. A garment hanger of the clamp type comprising a support, a pair of levers arranged in criss-cross relation with respect to each other positioned longitudinally of said support and each mounted intermediate its ends on said support for pivotal movement about an axis extending longitudinally of the latter, a pair of arcuate members positioned longitudinally of and facing away from said support and connected to said levers, said arcuate members extending outwardly at an angle to the vertical plane passing through said support, a pair of clamp bars extending longitudinally of and carried by said levers below the crisscross point of the latter and movable into clamping engagement with a garment supported therebetween in response to the movement of said arcuate members toward each other, a latch bar positioned longitudinally of said levers and having one end mounted on said support for rocking movement about an axis extending transversely of the latter, said arcuate members being disposed concentrically with respect to the transverse axis of said latch bar, and means carried by the other end of said latch bar and selectively engaging said arcuate members for holding said members in select positions of movement toward each other.

4. A garment hanger of the clamp type comprising a support, a pair of levers arranged in criss-cross relation with respect to each other positioned longitudinally of said support and each mounted intermediate its ends on said support for pivotal movement about an axis extending longitudinally of the latter, a pair of arcuate members positioned longitudinally of and facing away from said support and connected to said levers, said arcuate members extending outwardly at an angle to the vertical plane passing through said support, a pair of clamp bars extending longitudinally of and carried by said levers below the crisscross point of the latter and movable into clamping engagement with a garment supported therebetween in response to the movement of said arcuate members toward each other, a latch bar positioned longitudinally of said levers and having one end mounted on said support for rocking movement about an axis extending transversely of the latter, said arcuate members being disposed concentrically with respect to the transverse axis of said latch bar,

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means carried by the other end of said latch bar and selectively engaging said arcuate members for holding said members in select positions of movement toward each other, and resilient means operatively connected to said levers for normally biasing said members away from each other.

5. A garment hanger of the clamp type comprising a support, a pair of levers arranged in criss-cross relation with respect to each other positioned longitudinally of said support and each mounted intermediate its ends on said support for pivotal movement about an axis extending longitudinally of the latter, a pair of arcuate members positioned longitudinally of and facing away from said support and connected to said levers, said arcuate members extending outwardly at an angle to the vertical plane passing through said support, a pair of clamp bars extending longitudinally of and carried by said levers below the crisscross point of the latter and movable into clamping engagement with a garment supported therebetween in response to the movement of said arcuate members toward each other, a latch bar positioned longitudinally of said levers and having one end mounted on said support for rocking movement about an axis extending transversely of the latter, said arcuate members being disposed concentrically with respect to the transverse axis of said latch bar, and means carried by the other end of said latch bar and selectively engaging said arcuate members for holding said members in select positions of movement toward each other, each of said levers including a single length of wire having end portions bent to form divergent legs, an intermediate portion bent to form said arcuate member, and a connecting portion between each leg and said arcuate member bent to form a pivoting eyelet.

6. A garment hanger of the clamp type comprising a support, a pair of levers arranged in criss-cross relation with respect to each other positioned longitudinally of said support and each mounted intermediate its ends on said support for pivotal movement about an axis extending longitudinally of the latter, a pair of arcuate members positioned longitudinally of and facing away from said support and connected to said levers, said arcuate members extending outwardly at an angle to the vertical plane passing through said support, a pair of clamp bars extending longitudinally of and carried by said levers below the crisscross point of the latter and movable into clamping engagement with a garment supported therebetween in response to the movement of said arcuate members toward each other, means engaging said arcuate members for holding said arcuate members in select positions of movement toward each other, resilient means operatively connected to said levers for normally biasing said arcuate members away from each other, said resilient means comprising a strip fabricated of resilient material, and a clip carried contiguous to each end of said strip and engageable about an adjacent one of said levers.

WERNER G. OLPE.

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