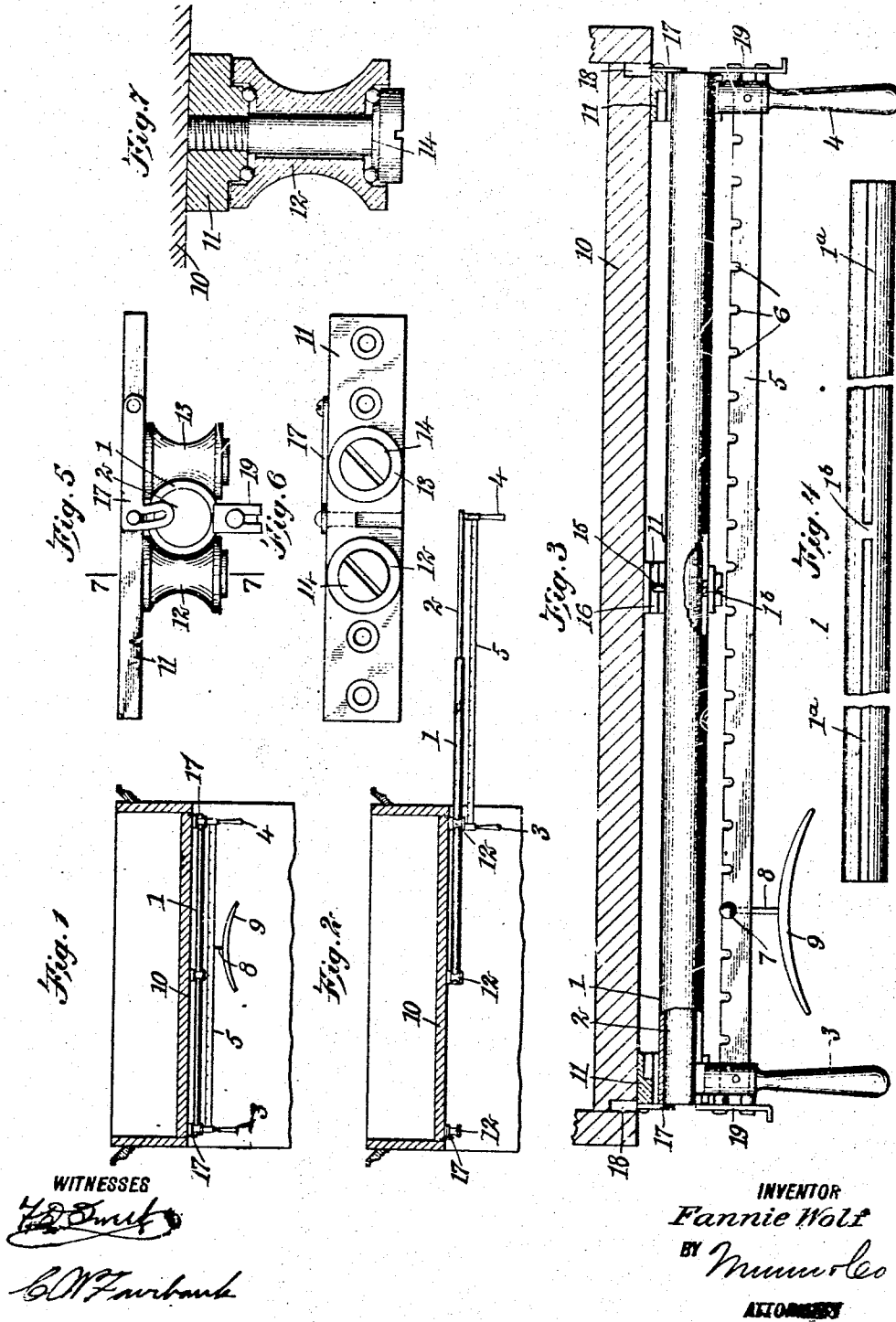


F. WOLF.
SUPPORT FOR GARMENT HANGERS.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 25, 1909.

937,497.

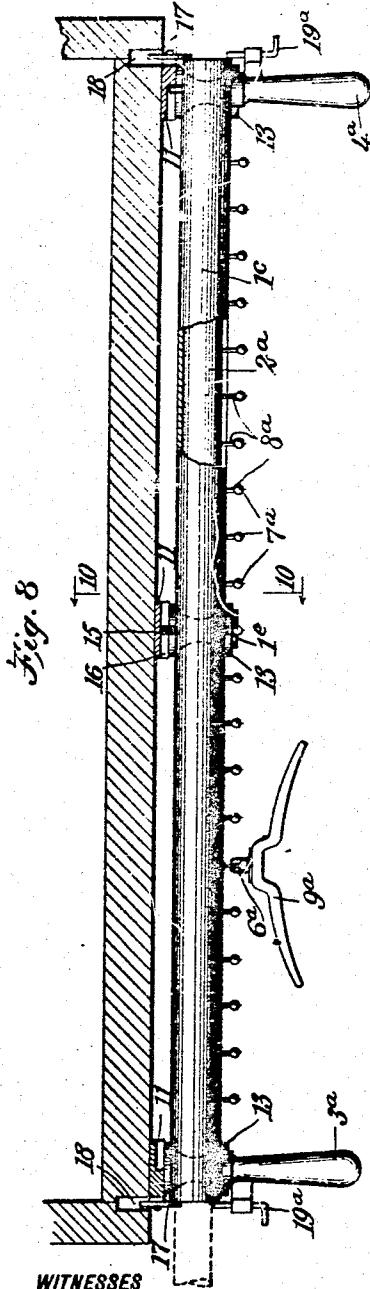
Patented Oct. 19, 1909.
4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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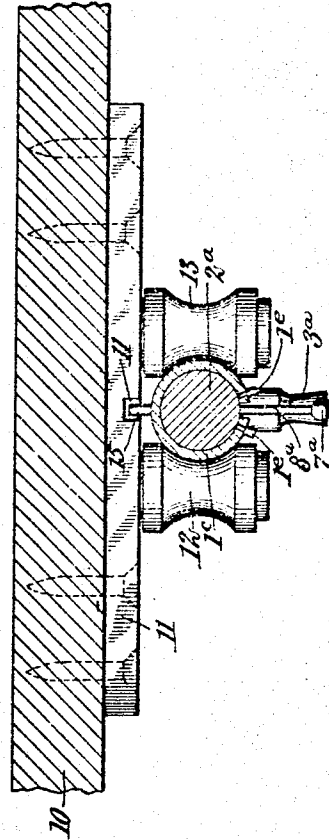
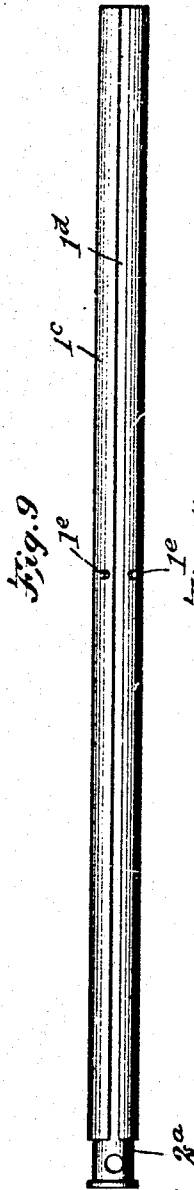
Patented Oct. 19, 1909.
4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES

D. Smith

C. W. Fairbank



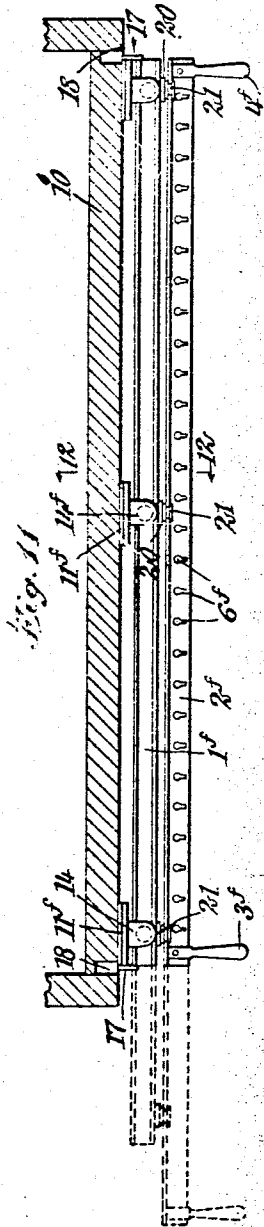
INVENTOR
Fannie Wolf
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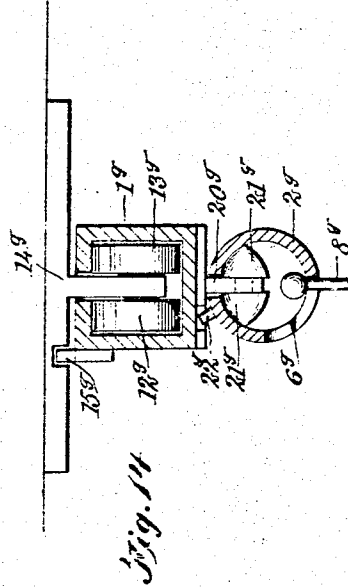
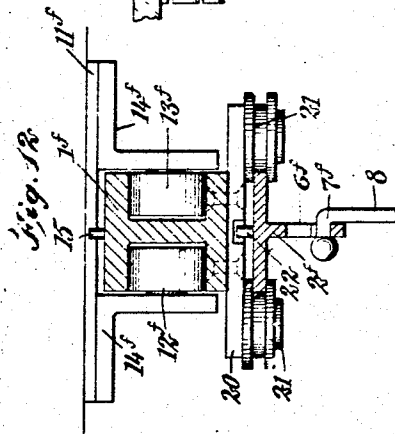
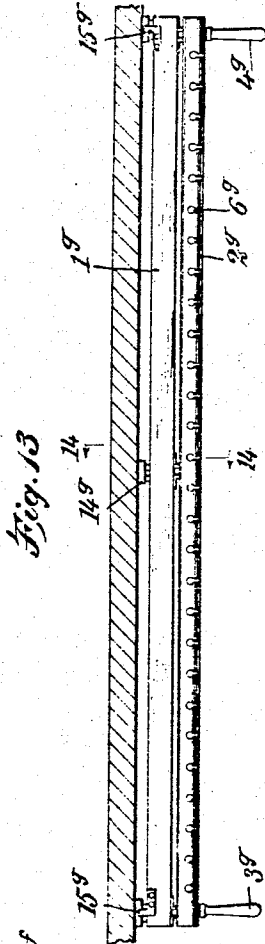
4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

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WITNESSES
[Signature]

C. W. Fairbank



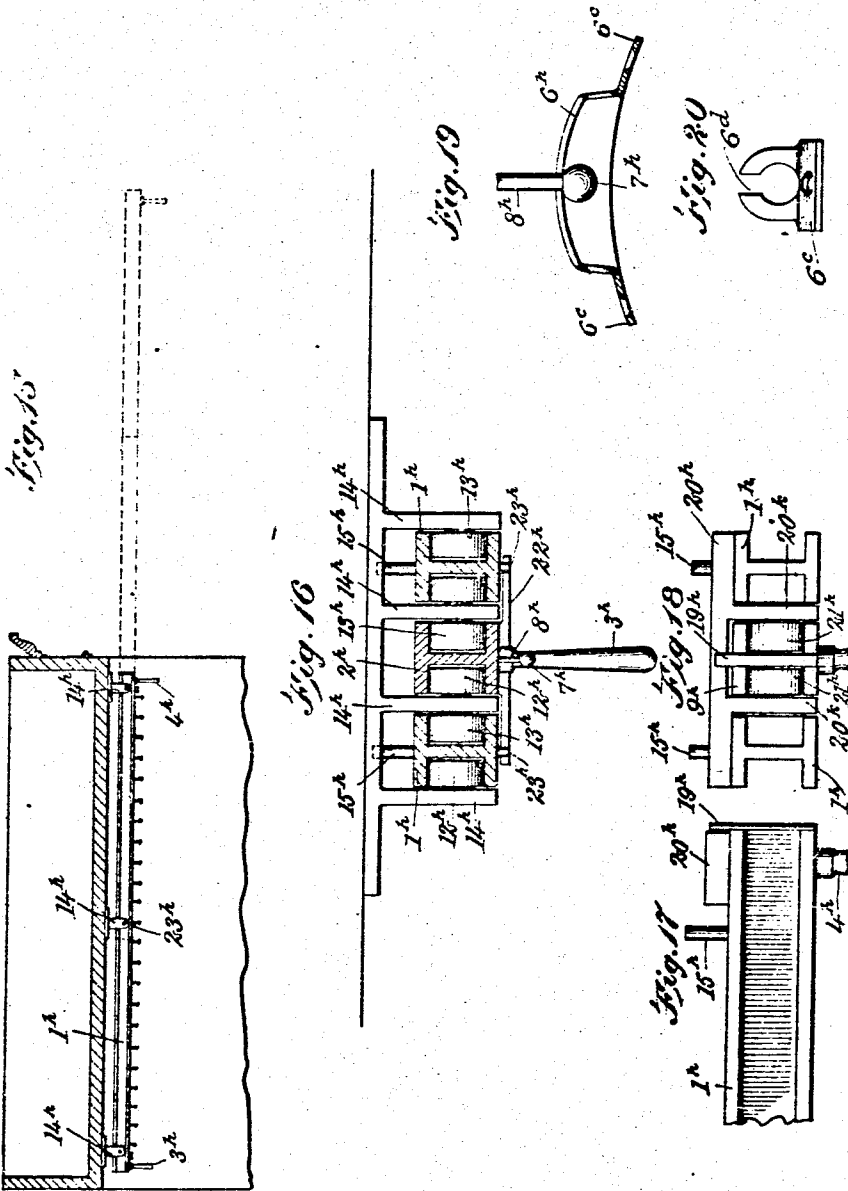
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937,497.

Patented Oct. 19, 1909.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FANNIE WOLF, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SUPPORT FOR GARMENT-HANGERS.

937,497.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 19, 1909.

Application filed March 25, 1909. Serial No. 485,781.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FANNIE WOLF, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Support for Garment-Hangers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in supports for garment hangers, and more particularly to that type of support or carrier adapted to be secured beneath a shelf or within a wardrobe, showcase or the like.

More particularly it relates to that form of support or carrier in which a plurality of rods are employed, one of the rods being longitudinally movable in respect to the overhead support and another of the rods being carried by the first-mentioned one and also longitudinally movable in respect thereto, so that the support may be extended to its full length out from beneath the overhead support. In my improved device several forms of which are illustrated, I provide means whereby either rod may move in either direction from a normal position, so that the rod which supports the garment hangers may move out from beneath the overhead support at either of two opposite edges of the latter. I also provide means whereby each rod may be prevented from moving beyond its normal position after its return thereto, so that if the device be carelessly forced back it will stop at its normal position.

Another important feature of my invention involves the provision of means along the length of one of the rods for not only supporting a plurality of hangers, but preventing their longitudinal movement along the rod. As the rod is suddenly moved longitudinally, the garments will of course sway or swing, but as the hangers cannot slide, they will maintain their original spaced relationship after the rod has been brought to its adjusted position.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, and in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section through a support provided with one form of my improved device, the parts being in normal position; Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the supporting rods in extended

position; Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but on an enlarged scale and with certain of the parts broken away; Fig. 4 is an inverted plan view of the outer rod of the form shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is an end view of a portion of the device shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 6 is an inverted plan view of the parts shown in Fig. 5, the rods being removed; Fig. 7 is a vertical section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 5; Fig. 8 is a view similar to Fig. 3, but showing a different form of construction in which the hangers are connected directly to the inner rod rather than to a separate rod rigid therewith; Fig. 9 is an inverted plan view of the two rods shown in Fig. 8; Fig. 10 is a vertical section on the line 10—10 of Fig. 8; Fig. 11 is a side elevation of a further form in which the tubular bars are replaced by bars angular in cross section; Fig. 12 is a section on the line 12—12 of Fig. 11; Fig. 13 is a side elevation of a form in which one bar is angular in cross section and the other is tubular; Fig. 14 is a vertical section on the line 14—14 of Fig. 13; Fig. 15 is a side elevation of a form in which all of the members are angular in cross section and all lie in the same horizontal plane; Fig. 16 is a vertical section through the form shown in Fig. 15 and on an enlarged scale; Fig. 17 is a side elevation of one of the outer bars shown in Fig. 16; Fig. 18 is an end view of the three bars shown in Fig. 16; Fig. 19 is a longitudinal section through an attachment for a hanger adapted to be used in connection with the device shown in Figs. 8 and 15; and Fig. 20 is an end view of the attachment shown in Fig. 19.

In the specific form of hanger support shown in Figs. 1 to 7, inclusive, I employ two rods 1 and 2, the former of which is in the form of an open-ended tube, while the other is arranged to telescope within the tube. The tube 1 is provided with a slot 1^a extending along its under side and subdivided into two sections by a small connecting piece 1^b, as indicated particularly in Fig. 4. The rod 2 closely fits within the tube 1 and at its opposite ends it is provided with depending handles 3 and 4. Each handle at its upper end is reduced in thickness to permit it to pass freely through the slot 1^a, but to limit the movement of the rod 2 in respect to the tube 1 by its engagement with the stop 1^b. As the stop 1^b is midway between the ends of the tube and the handles 3 and 4 are at the ends of the tube, it is evi-

dent that the rod may be moved in either direction in respect to the tube a distance approximately equal to one-half the length of the rod. Extending from one handle to the other and parallel to the rod 2, is a bar 5 held rigid in respect to the rod 2 and movable longitudinally therewith. The bar is provided with a series of notches 6 in its upper edge and adapted to receive the laterally-turned end 7 of a depending pin 8, the lower end of the pin being connected to a garment hanger 9 of any suitable form and the connection being made in any suitable manner. The laterally-extending end 7 is provided with a knob on its end which prevents the hanger from being detached from the bar until it is lifted up out of the opening. The sudden longitudinal movement of the bar cannot shift the hanger along the length of the bar by reason of the engagement of the support for the hanger in one of the openings or recesses 6. The tube 1 is adapted to be supported adjacent the under surface of a shelf or any other suitable form of overhead support. In Figs. 1 and 2 is shown a portion of a cabinet having a shelf 10 constituting one of many possible forms of overhead supports. This support carries three brackets or hangers for engaging with the tube 1 and permitting it to move longitudinally in either direction a distance approximately equal to one-half its own length. These hangers are so positioned that when the tube 1 is in its normal position, a hanger will come adjacent each end of the tube and a third hanger will come midway between the ends of the tube. In the specific form of hanger shown in Figs. 1 to 7, inclusive, there is provided a top plate 11 and two rollers 12 and 13, each rotatable upon a vertical pivot 14 and each having a concave outer surface. The curvature of the surface of the two rollers from one end to the other is approximately the same as the curvature of the outer surface of the tube 1, and the two rollers of each pair are so mounted that they engage with opposite sides of the tube to support the latter but permit of its longitudinal movement. For limiting the longitudinal movement of the tube, the latter midway between its ends, carries an upwardly-extending stud or projection 15 which may freely pass through a groove 16 in the plate 11 of the center hanger but will contact with the plates 11 of the terminal hangers and prevent further movement of the tube. As the two terminal hangers are mounted adjacent the ends of the tube, it is evident that the tube may be moved from the normal position in either direction for a distance approximately equal to one-half its own length. As the rod 2 is carried by the tube 1 and has movable relationship to the latter, it is evident that the total distance of movement of the rod 2 is approximately

equal to its own length in either direction from its normal position. Upon returning the parts to their normal position after they have been pulled out or extended, it is desirable to limit the movement of the parts and prevent the rods from accidentally passing beyond their normal positions and out in the opposite direction. For accomplishing this, I provide a pivoted catch 17 on each of the two terminal hangers and having a limited movement in respect thereto, so that it may normally drop down into the path of movement of both the rod 2 and the tube 1 and prevent the movement of either the rod or the tube in either direction from the normal. This catch may be readily lifted into a recess or opening directly above the same, so that both the tube and the rod may be pulled out beneath the catch and to the limiting extent. It is not necessary to manually retain the catch in its raised position, as it will be held upward by its engagement with the upper surface of the tube when the latter is drawn out. As soon as the tube and rod are returned to the normal position, they will engage with the catch at the farther end and be stopped from further movement, while the catch at the end from which they have returned may drop into place and lock the parts against accidentally sliding outwardly again.

When the parts have been pulled outwardly to the limiting position, as shown in Fig. 2, and a person grasps the handle 4 and pushes inwardly thereon, it is desirable that when the rod 2 comes to its normal position in respect to the tube 1, it will engage with the latter and force the tube back to its normal position. For accomplishing this, I provide a slide 19 adjacent each of the handles and movable upwardly into the path of the center rod. Both of the catches are normally in their lowered position but they have slot-and-pin connections, so that they may be readily raised when the person grasps the handle to return the parts to their telescoped, inner or normal position. As the slides 19 operate to return the tube 1 with the rod 2, they do not normally prevent the rod from being drawn out of either end of the tube.

Instead of detachably supporting the hangers in spaced relationship from a separate bar carried by the rod 2, I may, if desired, directly support the hangers from the rod 2, eliminating entirely the bar 5. In Figs. 8, 9 and 10, I have illustrated a form in which the outer tube 1^a is provided with a slot 1^a extending throughout its entire length. This tube is limited against longitudinal movement in the same manner as is the tube 1 in Figs. 1 to 7, inclusive, but as the slot 1^a extends the entire length a different means is provided for limiting the longitudinal movement of the rod 2^a. This

rod is provided with handles 3^a and 4^a at its ends and connected to the rod through the slot 1^a, but the upper ends of the handles are of somewhat greater width than the width of the slot. The tube 1^c is provided with two downwardly-extending pins or studs 1^e upon opposite sides of the slot and midway between the ends of the tube, and these pins or studs are so positioned as to lie in the path of movement of the handles 3^a and 4^a. Thus when the rod 2^a is moved in respect to the tube 1^c for a distance approximately equal to one-half the length of the rod, one of the handles will engage with the two studs or pins 1^e and limit further relative movement of the rod and tube. Intermediate the handles 3^a and 4^a, the rod is provided with a plurality of depending pins 8^a spaced apart and rigid in respect to the rod. Each of these pins has an enlarged head 7^a adapted to enter through a keyhole slot in the side of a sheet metal thimble 6^a carried by a garment hanger 9^a. The pins remain rigid with the rod but any hanger may be removed by lifting the same upwardly and then laterally to bring the head 7^a out through the keyhole slot in the side of the thimble. As many hangers may be employed as there are depending pins and any hanger may swing from its pin, but no two hangers can approach nearer to each other than the predetermined limiting distance between pins. In Fig. 8, I have illustrated a slightly modified form of slides or stops 19^a, by means of which the tube may be returned to its normal position along with the rod.

Instead of making both of the bars cylindrical in form and one of them telescoping within the other, as illustrated in Figs. 1 to 10, inclusive, I may, if desired, make both of the rods angular in cross section as illustrated in Figs. 11 and 12. In this form I employ two bars 1^b and 2^b, mounted so as to have the same movements as the tube and rod 1 and 2 of Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive. The rod 1^b is somewhat in the form of an I-beam, that is, it has a vertical web and laterally-extending flanges along both its upper and lower edges. This bar is supported by a plurality of brackets or hangers 14^b, upon which are mounted pairs of rollers 12^b and 13^b. These rollers are of a diameter substantially equal to the width of the grooves between the upper and lower flanges of the bar 1^b, and are disposed within said grooves. The brackets or hangers 14^b may be of any suitable character but are illustrated merely as short angle iron sections secured to a transverse plate 11^b. The bar 1^b is limited in its longitudinal movement by the pin 15 on its upper side intermediate its ends and is held against movement past the normal position by the pivoted catches 17. The bar 1^b at each end thereof and also midway be-

tween the ends, carries transversely-extending bars 20, to the under side of each of which are secured two rollers 21. Each of these rollers is provided with a groove in its peripheral surface and the rollers are so mounted as to receive the edges of the side flanges of the T-bar 2^b. The T-bar may move longitudinally between the rollers but any further movement is prevented. The depending flange of the T-bar is provided with a series of keyhole slots 6^b which may receive and retain the laterally-extending ends 7^b of garment hangers. The hangers are held against movement longitudinally of the bar and can only be removed from the bar by lifting them vertically and then moving the enlarged head out through the enlarged upper end of the keyhole slot. The bar 2^b is limited in its movement in respect to the bar 1^b by an upwardly-extending pin 22 midway between the ends of the T-bar, and movable through a slot in the center transverse bar 20. The pin when in engagement with either of the terminal transverse bars 20 prevents further movement of one bar in respect to the other. The T-bar may have any suitable form of handles 3^b and 4^b secured to the ends thereof, for facilitating the movement thereof.

Instead of making both the bars cylindrical or both angular in cross section, one may be made angular and the other cylindrical as illustrated in Figs. 13 to 14. In these figures, I have illustrated an upper bar 1^c substantially square in cross section, and a lower bar 2^c cylindrical in cross section. The upper bar 1^c is hollow and provided with a slot in its upper edge down through which extend hangers 14^c. Each hanger is provided with oppositely-disposed rollers 12^c and 13^c, which engage with the upper side of the inner surface of the rod upon opposite sides of the top groove. There are three of these hangers provided and the rod is limited in its longitudinal movement by upwardly-extending pins 15^c disposed adjacent opposite ends of the bar and adapted to engage with the central hanger 14^c. The rod 1^c carries depending hangers 20^c at each end thereof and midway between the ends, and each hanger is substantially T-shaped and provided with a depending flange carrying oppositely-disposed rollers 21^c, 21^c. The lower tube 2^c is formed of a tube with a slot extending along the upper edge thereof and through which extends the depending flange of the hangers 20^c. The rollers mounted on said hangers engage with the inner surface of the tube and are preferably substantially conical in form to fit the contour of the interior of the tube. The longitudinal movement of the tube 2^c may be limited by a pin 22^c extending upwardly from the tube midway between the ends thereof and adapted to engage with either of the terminal hangers

20*. Any suitable form of handles 3^s and 4^s may be provided adjacent opposite ends of the tube 2^s and the tube may be provided with a series of keyhole slots 6^s spaced apart along the length thereof. These slots may extend from one side of the tube downwardly to the lower edge and garment hangers may be provided with the enlarged heads directly upon the upper ends of the suspending rods 8^s.

In Figs. 15 to 18, inclusive, I illustrate a form in which there are two outer rods 1^h, 1^h, and a central garment hanger supporting rod 2^h. All of the rods are of substantially the same form in cross section as the rod 1^h of Figs. 11 and 12, and all three of the rods are arranged in substantially the same horizontal plane and supported between four depending flanges 14^h of overhead hangers or brackets. These flanges carry opposed pairs of rollers 12^h and 13^h for engaging within the grooves in the opposite sides of the bars for supporting the latter and permitting of their longitudinal movement. For limiting the longitudinal movement of the outer bars 1^h, 1^h, the latter are provided with upwardly-extending pins 15^h, 15^h, midway between their ends and adapted to engage with either of the terminal brackets 14^h but to freely pass the center bracket. The two outer bars 1^h, 1^h are connected together at one end by a transverse bar 20^h, which is provided with depending flanges 20^s disposed upon opposite sides of the center bar 2^h. These two flanges carry rollers 21^h fitting into the opposite sides of the center bar, so that the two outer bars will constitute a support for the center bar irrespective of the position of the outer bars in respect to the brackets 14^h. The center bar is provided with depending handles 3^h and 4^h at its opposite ends, and adjacent each handle is a cross bar 22^h, which may engage with depending pins 23^h carried by the two side bars midway between their ends. Thus, when the handle 4^h is pulled out half its length the bar 22^h at the opposite end will engage with the pins 23^h depending from the side bars, and cause the side bars to move with the center bar until the movement of the latter is limited by the pins 15^h. For returning the outer bars with the center bar, the latter may be provided with an upwardly-extending lug 19^h for engaging with the transverse bar 20^h. The center bar is provided with a series of depending pins 8^h, each having an enlarged head 7^h similar to the pins shown in Figs. 8 to 10, inclusive. These pins will receive the hanger shown in Fig. 7, or the hanger may be provided with an elongated thimble of the character shown in Figs. 19 and 20. This thimble 6^h is formed of sheet metal stamped to form attached lugs 6^s at its ends and a curved body portion with a slot 6^s extending along the upper edge.

The ends of the body portion are open and the slot is of greater width than the stem of the pin 8^h, but of less width than the head 7^h. The thimble is attached to the garment hanger by screws or other suitable means and may be moved endwise on to a suspending pin to engage the latter and support the hanger. The hanger will be free to rotate but cannot move longitudinally along the supporting bar.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. In combination, a bar, a support permitting the bar to move longitudinally in either direction a limited distance from the normal position, a catch for normally preventing said movement and movable to in-operative position, and a second bar carried by the first bar and movable longitudinally in respect thereto a limited distance in either direction from the normal position.

2. In combination, a bar, a support permitting the bar to move longitudinally in either direction a limited distance from the normal position, means for normally preventing said movement, said means including pivoted catches adjacent the ends of the bar and movable into or out of the path thereof, and a second bar carried by the first bar and movable longitudinally in respect thereto a limited distance in either direction from the normal position.

3. In combination, a bar, a support permitting the bar to move longitudinally in either direction a limited distance from the normal position, a second bar carried by the first-mentioned bar and movable longitudinally in respect thereto a limited distance in either direction from the normal position, and means carried by said second-mentioned bar adjacent the ends thereof for engagement with the first-mentioned bar to prevent the return movement of the second-mentioned bar past its normal position.

4. A garment rack, comprising a plurality of brackets having depending flanges, a plurality of I-bars disposed substantially parallel and spaced apart between said flanges, rollers carried between said flanges and supporting said I-bars to permit their longitudinal movement, means for limiting the movement of one of said bars to a distance substantially equal to one-half its length, and means for limiting the movement of another of said bars in one direction and in respect to the last-mentioned bar to a distance substantially equal to one-half its length.

5. In combination, a bar, a support permitting the bar to move longitudinally in either direction a limited distance from the normal position, means for normally preventing said movement and movable to in-operative position, a second bar carried by

the first bar and movable longitudinally in respect thereto a limited distance in either direction from the normal position, and means for normally preventing the said last-mentioned movement and movable to in-

6. In combination, a bar, a support permitting the bar to move lengthwise a limited distance from the normal position, a second bar carried by the first bar and movable longitudinally in respect thereto a limited distance, and a catch carried by said second bar adjacent the end thereof and movable into alinement with the first-mentioned bar to prevent said last-mentioned movement.

7. In combination, a bar, a support permitting the bar to move longitudinally in either direction a limited distance from the normal position, catches pivoted adjacent the ends of said bar and movable in planes at right angles to the general length of the bar for preventing said movement, and a second bar carried by the first bar and movable longitudinally in respect thereto a limited distance in either direction from the normal position.

8. In combination, a bar, a support permitting the bar to move longitudinally a limited distance from the normal position, a second bar carried by the first bar and movable longitudinally in respect thereto a

limited distance in either direction from the normal position, and catches carried by the second-mentioned bar and movable into alinement with the first-mentioned bar at opposite ends of the latter for preventing said last-mentioned movement.

9. A garment rack, comprising a plurality of brackets having depending flanges, three I-bars disposed substantially parallel and spaced apart between said flanges, means connecting the two outer bars to insure their simultaneous movement, and means for limiting the movement of the center bar in respect to the outer bars.

10. A garment rack, comprising a plurality of brackets having depending flanges, three I-bars disposed substantially parallel and spaced apart between said flanges, rollers carried between said flanges and supporting said I-bars to permit their longitudinal movement, means connecting the two outer I-bars to insure their simultaneous movement, and means for limiting the movement of the central I-bar in respect to the two outer ones.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FANNIE WOLF.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH OFFENBACH,
WILLIAM J. SWEENEY.