

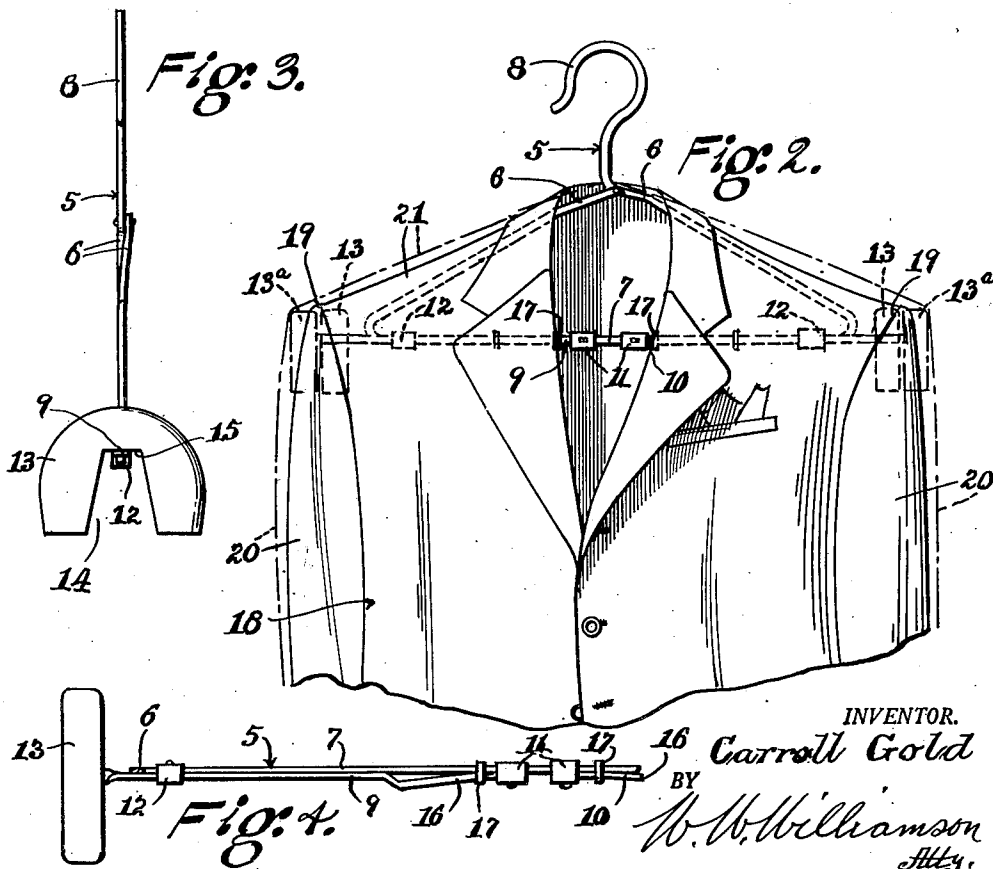
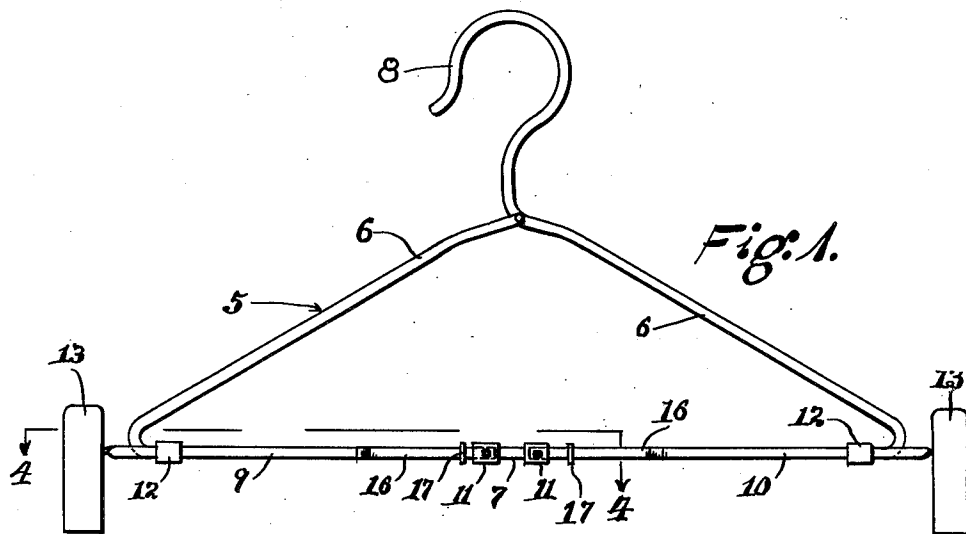
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GARMENT HANGER

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GARMENT HANGER

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My invention relates to new and useful garment hangers, especially coat hangers, and one of the objects thereof is to produce an exceedingly simple and efficient device of this character having shoulder supports which will retain the shoulders of a garment in excellent shape without wrinkles.

Another object of this invention is to produce a garment hanger including longitudinally adjustable arms with shoulder supports on the outer ends thereof to be held in the shoulders of a garment approximately at the location of the arms joining the garment sleeves and body.

A further object of the invention is to provide novel means for holding the adjustable arms of the hanger in any adjusted positions, independently of each other.

A still further object of the present invention is to produce a shoulder support comprising a wide, relatively thin, curvilinear form element having the general shape or outline of a person's shoulder.

With the above and other objects in view this invention consists of the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same I will describe its construction in detail referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view of a garment hanger constructed according to my invention.

Fig. 2 is a similar view thereof, on a reduced scale, with a garment thereon and illustrating two adjusted positions of the slidable arms.

Fig. 3 is an end view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional plan view on the line 4-4 of Fig. 1, with the shoulder support in elevation.

In carrying out my invention as herein embodied 5 represents the garment hanger constructed from any suitable material and including a triangular shaped frame providing inclined supports 6 and a cross-piece 7, with a hook 8 at the upper end where the inclined supports connect with each other.

Extensible or adjustable arms 9 and 10 are slidably mounted on the cross-piece 7 to one side thereof for projection beyond the ends of said cross-piece. One way to slidably mount the extensible arms is to secure a guide 11 on the inner end of each arm embracing and slidable along the cross-piece and secure a similar guide 12

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adjacent an end of the cross-piece 7 embracing and through which the arm slides.

On the outer end of each arm is secured a shoulder support 13 comprising a rather wide, relatively thin, curvilinear form element having the general shape or contour of a person's shoulder in the region of the joint between the arm and body and is produced from wood, plastic or any other material suitable for the purpose. As shown, for purposes of illustration only, each shoulder support has an opening 14 to provide a horizontal surface 15 engaging its respective arm. The opening 14 is deep enough to position the horizontal surface adjacent the upper end or portion of the shoulder support.

It is preferred that means be provided to hold the extensible arms 9 and 10 in their adjusted positions and to accomplish this each arm has a portion bent outward away from the cross-piece to form an angular pressure element 16. A sliding collar 17 encircles or embraces the inner or base end of the pressure element 16 and the cross-piece and when said collar is moved towards the wider spaced part or head of said pressure element the latter will be flexed inward and frictionally bind the arm to the cross-piece under sufficient tension to prevent accidental movement of the arm lengthwise of the cross-piece.

In practice, a garment 18 is placed on the hanger with the arms 9 and 10, or one of them, initially retracted, and then said arms are extended until the shoulder supports 13 are moved outwardly into some projected positions such as suggestively indicated at 13a, Fig. 2. This will insure the positioning of said shoulder supports adjacent the regions of the seams 19 joining the garment sleeves 20 to the garment body 21 and cause the upper part of the back and shoulder portions of the garment to be stretched or drawn rather taut which will eliminate wrinkles or reduce to a minimum the likelihood of wrinkles being produced. After the hanger is once adjusted it may remain in this condition as long as it is used with the same garment.

Ordinary garment hangers, generally, are made very short so that children's, women's and men's coats of all sizes, even to the smallest, can be hung thereon. This causes the shoulders of all but the very smallest garments to droop or hang down unsupported over the ends of the garment hanger and produce undesired and unsightly wrinkles which often result in bulges when the garment is worn. These disadvantages are overcome by use of my improved garment hanger because the garment shoulders and the upper

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ends of the sleeves are adequately supported directly at the seams joining the garment body and sleeves or at the widest possible separated locations within the upper part of a garment. In addition, due to the extended supporting surfaces of the shoulder supports simulating a person's shoulder lines in the region of the joint between the body and arms, the garment will be draped on the hanger similar to the condition as when being worn thus keeping the garment in a tidy condition and the sleeves will hang in a neat manner which will have a tendency to maintain the creases produced by pressing.

Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction herein shown and described as these may be varied within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and useful is:

1. A garment hanger comprising a body portion including a cross-piece at the bottom and having a hook at the top thereof, extensible arms, one at each end of the cross-piece, guides secured to opposite ends of said cross-piece and each embracing an arm slidable therethrough, other guides secured to the inner ends of the arms and slidably embracing the cross-piece, each arm having an offset pressure element of

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angular formation diverging from the cross-piece of the hanger body, a sliding collar embracing said pressure element and the cross-piece to flex said pressure element towards said cross-piece and cause a binding effect to hold each arm in any adjusted position, and shoulder supports secured adjacent their upper ends to the outer ends of said arms, said supports shaped in simulation of a portion of a person's shoulder.

2. The garment hanger according to claim 1 wherein each shoulder support comprises a rather wide and relatively thin curvilinear element having an opening running upwardly from the lower end of said element to a location adjacent the top thereof, and a horizontal surface formed at the upper end of said opening resting on the outer end of an extensible arm.

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