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W. REID

GARMENT HANGER

Filed Oct. 24, 1924

FIG. I.

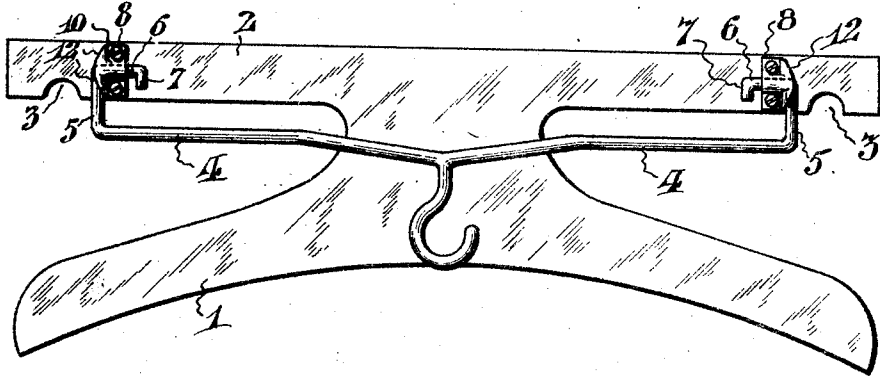


FIG. II.

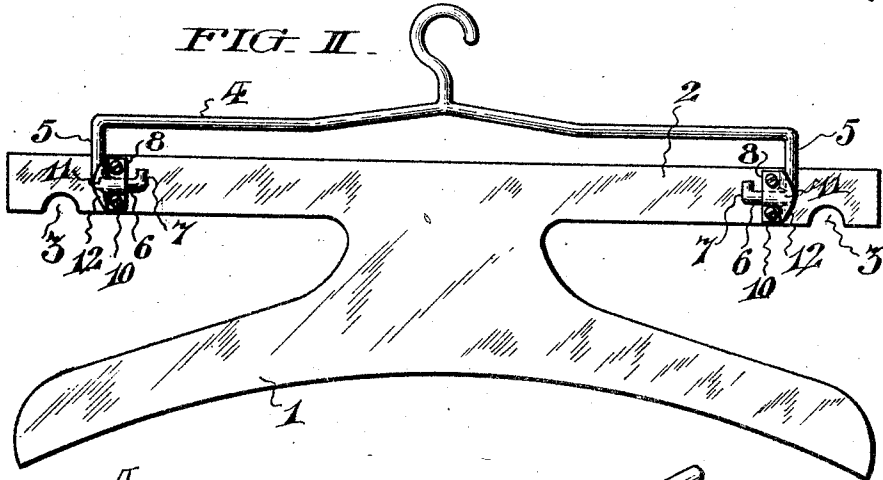


FIG. III.

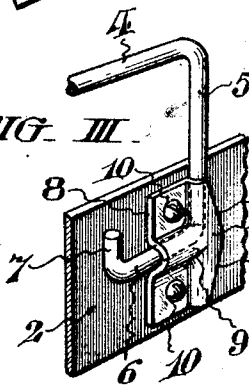


FIG. V.

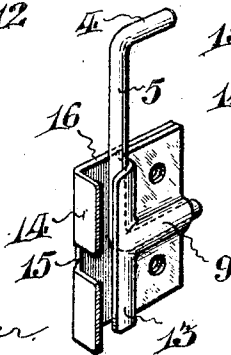
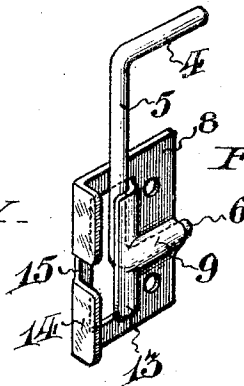


FIG. IV.



WITNESSES:

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GARMENT HANGER.

Application filed October 24, 1924. Serial No. 745,585.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM REID, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment Hangers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to garment hangers, more particularly to a type capable of conversion to use either for double point suspension in wardrobe trunks, or for single point suspension in closets. A hanger of this type is shown and described in a co-pending application Serial Number 698,395, filed by me on March 11, 1924, wherein a pivoted flexible bail serves as the means to enable conversion, said bail being foldable against the hanger when not in use.

One object of the present invention is to provide in connection with a convertible hanger such as referred to, means tending to yieldingly hold the bail in either the folded or unfolded position, yet capable of automatically inducing flexure of the bail so that the hold thereon is released as it is turned from one position to the other.

My invention is further directed toward safe-guarding against the possibility of dislodgment of the bail trunnions from their bearings as the bail responds to flexure in being released as above explained.

Other objects and attendant advantages will become obvious from the detailed description that follows of several typical forms in which my invention may be conveniently embodied.

With reference to the drawings, Fig. I is a side view of my improved garment hanger with the converting bail folded down out of the way.

Fig. II is an illustration similar to the preceding but with the bail turned up into active position in readiness for supporting the hanger in suspension from a wall peg or closet hook.

Fig. III is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the improved device which I employ in attaching the bail to the hanger.

Fig. IV shows a modified type of attaching device; and,

Fig. V an alternative form of the attaching device illustrated in Fig. IV.

In the hanger herein depicted, the usual coat-supporting arch portion 1 is topped by

a trouser or skirt-supporting cross bar 2 which is notched at opposite ends as at 3—3 for registry with the parallel mounting bars or rods of an ordinary wardrobe trunk. With the hanger is associated a pivoted yoke or bail 4 that is, in practice, made from stout spring wire, its opposite extremities being turned perpendicularly as at 5—5, and the terminals of said extremities inwardly and into axial alignment to provide pivot trunnions 6—6. In the form of my invention shown in Figs. I to III, the ends of the trunnions 6—6 are bent laterally as at 7—7 for a purpose which will presently be explained.

As a means for securing the bail 4 to the cross bar 2 of the hanger, I employ a novel form of attaching device comprehensively indicated at 8, one such being provided for each end of said bail. In the simplest embodiment illustrated in Figs. I to III, this attaching device 8 is in the form of a plate which may be constructed from a single piece of metal either as a casting, or a stamping from sheet material, as found most convenient or economical to manufacture. Along its horizontal medial, the plate 8 is ridged as at 9 to take the trunnion 6 of the bail 4, and pierced at opposite sides of said ridge for passage of screws 10, 10, whereby it is secured to the hanger cross bar 2. The margin along one side of the plate 8 is joggled or offset as at 11 to provide a recess for engaging the perpendicularly turned extremity 5 of the bail 4, and thereby to hold the latter in either the folded position shown in Fig. I, or the extended position of Fig. II. The edge of the plate 8 along the joggled portion 11 is given the angular configuration shown characterized by convergent slopes 12—12 that are symmetric with regard to the trunnion axis 6 and, respectively, slantingly overlie the extremity 5 of the bail 4 when the latter is in the positions of Figs. I and II. By this construction it will be seen that as the bail 4 is turned from one position to the other, the leading cam slope 12 will function in cooperation with the corresponding end 5, to automatically spread or flex said bail so that the end 5 will be withdrawn from the holding recess; and, after the high point of the cam is passed, the end 5 will automatically seek the holding notch to the opposite side of the trunnion axis by virtue of the contractive power of the bail 4 in inducing cooperation

with the other of said slopes 12. The trunnion 6 is in each instance safeguarded against dislodgment from the bearing 9 during flexure of the bail, by engagement of its laterally bent end 7 with the contiguous end of said bearing.

The modified form of attachment device illustrated in Fig. IV differs from the first described in that the holding recess is formed by a flap 13 punched out of the body of the plate 8, the edge of said flap being straight and not formed to cam configuration as before. The plate 8, furthermore, is extended beyond the recess and bent perpendicularly to provide a projecting guard flange 14 which lies crosswise of the bearing ridge 9 and parallel to said notch. The guard flange 14 acts as a stop for the end 5 of the bail 4 and thus prevents the trunnion 6 from riding out of the bearing 9 in responding to flexure of said bail,—in this instance effected by forced spreading during turning,—the trunnion 6 being here devoid of the up-turned ends 7 of the preceding type. The guard flange 14 has a central clearance notch 15 in line with the trunnion axis, which, when the bail 4 is swung to the intermediate or central position, will permit the trunnion 6 to be withdrawn from the bearing ridge 9 and said bail removed from the hanger.

This modified construction, it will be particularly noted, renders assembling very easy and convenient, since the attachment devices 8 may be first secured in place adjacent the ends of the cross bar 2 of the hanger, and the bail 4 thereafter sprung into place.

In the alternative form of Fig. V, the guard flange 14 is afforded by a separate plate 16 which is inserted beneath the plate 8, and provided with apertures capable of registry with those of the latter plate so that the same screws 10 may be employed in securing the assemblage to the hanger. Functionally, this alternative form of my invention is identical with the modified type of Fig. IV.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a pivoted suspension bail capable of being folded against the hanger when not in use, means to hold the bail in either the folded or extended position, and means to automatically disengage the bail from the holding means as it is turned from one position to the other.

2. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a pivoted flexible suspension bail capable of being folded against the hanger when not in use, means to hold the bail in either the folded or extended position, and means for automatically flexing the bail to disengage the same from the holding means as it is turned from one position to the other.

3. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a pivoted flexible suspension bail capable of being folded against the hanger when not in use, recessed means for engaging the bail to hold it in either the folded or extended position, and associated means for automatically flexing the bail to withdraw the same from the recess of the holding means as it is turned from one position to the other.

4. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a pivoted flexible suspension bail capable of being folded against the hanger when not in use, recessed means for engaging the bail to hold it in either the folded or extended position, and associated cam means for automatically flexing the bail to withdraw the same from the recess of the holding means as it is turned from one position to another.

5. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a pivoted flexible suspension bail capable of being folded against the hanger when not in use, attaching plates each formed with a central bearing to make a trunnion of the bail, and perpendicular to the bearing with a recess for engaging an adjacent portion of the bail to hold the latter in either the folded or extended position, the edge of the recess providing cam slopes diverging symmetrically with respect to the trunnion axes to automatically effect disengagement from the recess aforesaid as the bail is turned from one position to the other.

6. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a pivoted flexible suspension bail capable of being folded against the hanger when not in use, and attaching plates constructed from sheet metal each with a central rounded bearing ridge to make a trunnion of the bail, and at a perpendicular to the bearing with an offset portion providing a recess for engaging an adjacent part of the bail to hold the latter in either the folded or extended position, said side affording a cam edge with slopes diverging symmetrically with respect to the trunnion axes to automatically effect disengagement from the recess as the bail is turned from one position to the other.

7. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a flexible pivoted bail capable of being folded against the hanger when not in use, said bail ends forming trunnions, attaching devices affording bearings for the trunnions of the bail, means to hold the bail in either folded or expanded position, and means to automatically flex the bail longitudinally for disengagement from the holding means as it is turned from one position to the other.

8. The combination in a convertible garment hanger, of a pivoted flexible suspension bail capable of being folded against the

hanger when not in use, said bail ends forming trunnions, attaching devices affording bearings for the trunnions of the bail, means to hold the bail in either folded or expanded position, means to automatically flex the bail longitudinally for disengagement from the holding means as it is turned from one position to the other, and retaining means to prevent complete withdrawal of the trunnion from the bearing in accommodating itself positionally to the flexure of the bail in turning.

9. As a new article of manufacture an attaching device for suspension bails consisting of a plate affording a trunnion bearing therefor with an associated offset functional as the bail retainer, the edge of said offset

embodying cam means effective to flex the bail during movement from the "in-use" to the "out-of-use" position, and vice versa. 20

10. As a new article of manufacture an attaching device for the bail of a convertible garment hanger consisting of a unitary plate affording trunnion bearing therefor with an associated offset functional as the bail retainer, the edge of said offset embodying convergent cams effective to flex the bail during the movement from the "in-use" to the "out-of-use" position, and vice versa. 25

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, this 21st day of October, 1924. 30

WILLIAM REID.