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GARMENT STRETCHER

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8 Claims. (Cl. 223-69)

This invention relates to a garment stretcher, and more particularly to a garment stretcher which is useful in connection with the drying of articles which have been washed.

An object of the invention is to provide a stretcher of extremely simple construction which facilitates the drying of articles by providing air passages through which air may circulate. A further object is to provide means for stretching garments during drying, etc., while at the same

time avoiding the use of folding parts, to a substantial extent, and while at the same time providing supports which are adjustable to various sizes. Other specific objects and advantages will to appear as the specification proceeds.

The invention is illustrated, in preferred embodiments, by the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a side view in elevation of a stretch-20 ing member embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the leg and foot fins removed; Fig. 3, a side view of the leg fin; Fig. 4, a plan view of the foot fin; Fig. 5, a transverse sectional view, the section being taken

as indicated at line 5 of Fig. 1; Fig. 6, a transverse sectional view, the section being taken as indicated at line 6 of Fig. 1; Fig. 7, a front view in elevation of a modified form of stretcher; Fig. 8, a top edge view of the construction shown in

³⁰ Fig. 7; Fig. 9, a view similar to Fig. 8, but showing the support member folded; Fig. 10, a view of the construction shown in Fig. 9, the view being taken as indicated at line 10 of Fig. 9; and Fig. 11, a transverse sectional view, the section

 $_{35}$ being taken as indicated at line 11 of Fig. 7. In the illustration given in Figs. 1 to 6, inclusive, a flat strip 10, made of laminated wood, metal, or other suitable material, is preferably formed in the desired shape. In the illustration given, the piece 10 is in the shape of a stocking. The foot is provided with a slot [] extending centrally therethrough, and the upper portion of the piece 10 is provided with a vertical slot 12. If desired, the upper portion of $_{45}$ the member 10 may be provided with an opening 13, by which the form can be supported upon a hook or nail, etc. A vertical fin 14, of the shape shown in Fig. 3, is provided with a central slot 15 in its lower portion and may be extended ⁵⁰ through slot 12 of member 10 to the position shown in Fig. 1, the slot 15 of the member 14 receiving a lower portion of the piece 10.

A foot fin 16 is provided at its rear side with a slot 17 and may be extended into slot 11 of 55 piece 10 to the position shown in Fig. 1, the slot

17 of fin 16 receiving the rear or heel portion of the foot of piece 10.

It will be observed that the piece 10 may be provided with foot fins 16 of varying sizes, so that one of the forms 10 may thus be made adaptable to dry stockings of a large number of sizes. Also, the vertical fin 14 may be made of varying widths so as to adapt it for the drying of stockings of varying sizes.

The invention contemplates the use of a set $_{10}$ of leg and foot fins of several sizes to accompany each main support **10**.

It will be observed that the changes in sizes may be made without the use of any folding parts or any metal locking devices, such as latches, 15 etc., and which can readily get out of order. The simplicity of the present construction is such that adjustments can be made readily and without danger of injuring the parts.

In the operation of the device, the fins 14 and 20 16, of the proper sizes, are placed within their respective slots in the member 10 and the stocking is drawn on to dry. The form 10 may then be suspended, the hole 13 receiving a nail or hook. In this position, the air circulates freely from 25 inside and outside of the socket, the spaces between the members 10 and 14, and 19 and 16, providing large passages through which the drying medium passes.

In the construction shown in Figs. 7 to 11, $_{30}$ inclusive, I provide a support adapted for the drying of shirts, sweaters, and other like garments. If desired, the body may be formed of one strip. In the illustration given, I provide two complementary frame bodies **18** and **19**, respec- $_{35}$ tively, which are connected together by hinges 20. Each of the members is provided with an arm portion **21**, provided with a central slot. Through the slot, extends an arm fin **22**.

Secured to the rear side of member 19, is a 40 fixed rib 23, the rib being supported at right angles to the plane of the body member 19 and having a portion 24 extending forwardly through the opening 25, provided between the members 18 and 19. Thus, the member 23 provides an 45 outwardly extending strip on each side of the body members 18 and 19 and cooperates with the fins 22 to maintain the shirt or other garment at a spaced distance from the body members 18 and 19. Thus, air may circulate not only between the sleeves of the shirt, but also between the front and rear sides of the shirt.

The shirt or other garment stretcher, as shown in Figs. 7 to 11, inclusive, may be formed of $_{55}$ laminated wood, or of metal, or other suitable material.

In each and all of the modifications shown, it will be observed that I have provided a form 5 member equipped with slots through which may be passed a slotted fin, and that, by means of this construction, I provide a simple adjustable form which permits the free circulation of air readily throughout the interior of the garment.

10 The stretcher forms are extremely simple in construction and permit folding in compact, flat positions.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only and 15 no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

I claim:

20 1. In a device of the character set forth for the drying of a garment, a body member over which the garment to be dried may be drawn, said member being equipped with a slot, and a removable fin extending through said slot and 25 in angular relation to said body member.

2. In a device of the character set forth, a body member over which the garment to be dried may be drawn, said member being provided with a slot, and a removable fin member also pro-30 vided with a slot, said slots being brought into alignment to lock said fin in angular relation to said body member.

3. A stretcher-dryer for stockings and the like, comprising a flat body member having a foot

35 portion and a leg portion, and removable fins carried by said leg portion and foot portion and extending on opposite sides thereof, said fins and body member being provided with slots for locking said fins to said body member.

4. A stretcher-dryer for shirts and the like, 40 comprising a frame member, said frame member having hinged sections and being provided with a fin secured thereto, said frame having an opening in the central portion thereof through which one side of the fin extends.

5. A stretcher-dryer for shirts and the like, 5 comprising a flat body member hingedly connected at the center, said body member being provided with outwardly extending arm portions, a fin secured to the central portion of said body member, and fins being secured to said arm por- 10 tions and substantially at right angles to said first mentioned fin.

6. In a dryer frame for shirts and the like, a flat body provided with a central opening and hingedly connected at its center, said flat body 15 member being provided with outwardly extending arm portions, a fin member secured centrally to said body member and having a portion extending through said central opening, and fins removably secured to said arm portions. 20

7. In a device of the character set forth for drying garments, a flat body member of generally the contour, in one plane, of the garment to be dried, said member having a central slot extending longitudinally inward from its end, 25 and a fin member extending substantially at right angles to said body member, said fin member having a slot extending longitudinally from its end, the slot of said fin member engaging the sides of said body member and a slot of said body **30** member engaging the sides of said fin member to releasably connect said members together.

8. A stretcher-dryer for shirts and the like, comprising a frame member having hinged sections, each of said sections having an arm por- 35 tion equipped with an angularly related fin, said fins being staggered so as to be one above the other when said sections are folded together about said hinge.

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