July 29, 1952 F. W. POOLEY 2,605,031

GARMENT HANGER

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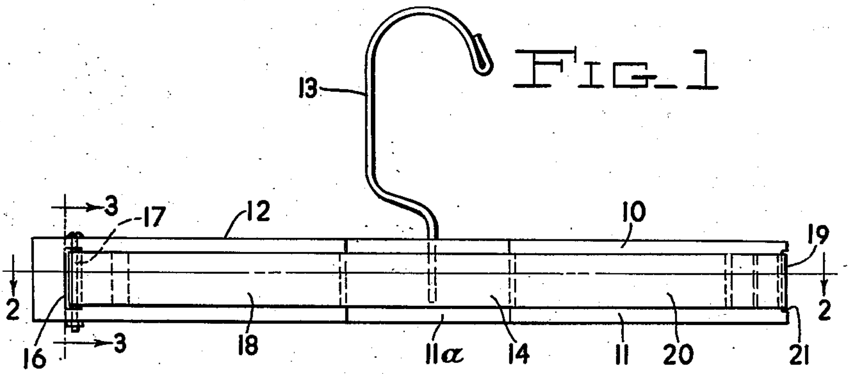

FIG_1

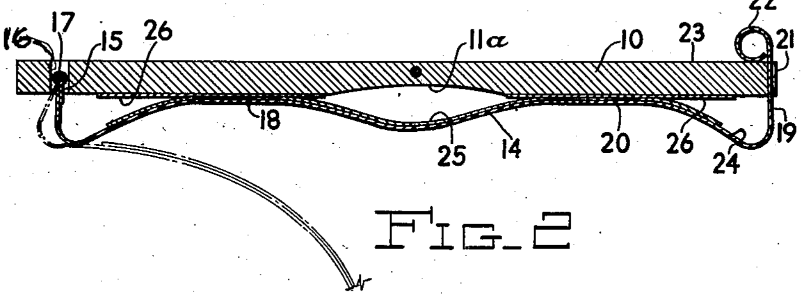

FIG_2

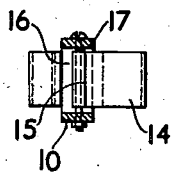

FIG_3

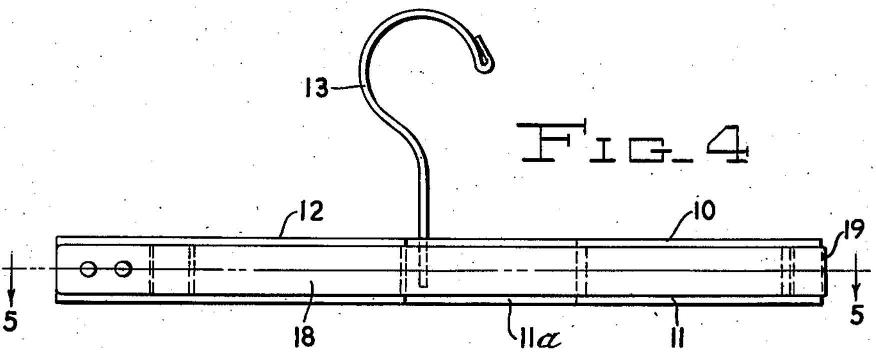

FIG_4

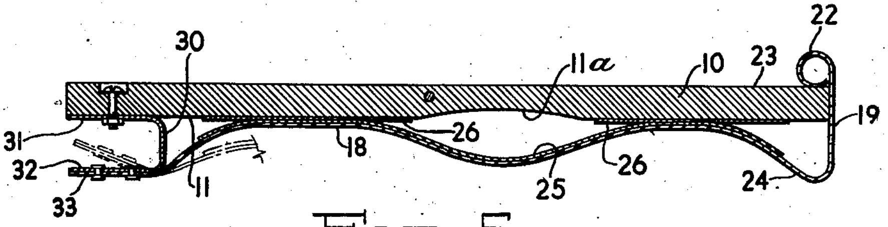

FIG_5

Inventor
FREDERICK W. POOLEY

By

Z. T. Wobensmith 2nd

Attorney

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GARMENT HANGER

Frederick W. Pooley, Philadelphia, Pa.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 223—96)

This invention relates to garment hangers and more particularly to garment hangers for supporting trousers, skirts, and the like.

It is the principal object of the present invention to provide a garment hanger for resiliently clamping garments such as trousers, skirts, and the like.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a garment hanger of the character aforesaid which includes a relatively rigid bar and a resilient clamping element hingedly mounted on the bar for clamping a garment therebetween.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a garment hanger with a horizontally movable resilient clamping element, one portion of which is adapted to be initially brought into clamping engagement with the garment, another portion of which is adapted to be brought into clamping engagement with the garment, and the clamping element locked with both clamping portions in engagement.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an improved garment hanger for trousers, skirts, and the like, having a resilient clamping element of spring metal with a resilient end lock.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a garment hanger having a rigid bar and a resilient clamping element adapted to be brought to clamping position with respect to the bar and with a garment interposed therebetween and which has an improved hinge construction for facilitating the initial clamping of the garment prior to locking.

Other objects and advantageous features of the invention will be apparent from the specification and claims.

The nature and characteristic features of the invention will be more readily understood from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a garment hanger in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view taken approximately on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken approximately on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of another garment hanger in accordance with the present invention; and

Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view taken approximately on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

It should, of course, be understood that the description and drawings herein are illustrative merely, and that various modifications and changes may be made in the structure disclosed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views.

Referring now more particularly to Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings, the garment hanger in accordance with the present invention includes a straight bar **10** which may be of rectangular cross section and is preferably of relatively rigid material such as wood. The central portion **11a** of the inner face **11** of the bar **10** is preferably relieved to accommodate the side seams of trousers to be supported thereby. Intermediate the ends of the bar **10** and extending upwardly from the upper face **12** thereof a supporting hook **13** of wire or the like is provided for suspending the garment hanger from a suitable support such as a rod or hook (not shown).

A resilient strap **14** is provided, of any suitable material such as spring steel. The strap **14** is connected at one end thereof to the bar **10** for pivotal movement and, as illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, one terminal end **15** of the strap **14** is bent back onto itself to provide a portion for engagement, within a slot **16** in the bar **10**, with a vertical pivot pin **17** carried in the bar **10**. The slot **16** may be of the desired width to limit the swinging movement of the strap **14**.

Intermediate its ends and between the central portion of the strap **14** and the terminal end **15** an inwardly convexed or bowed portion **18** is provided. Between the central portion of the strap **14** and the other terminal end **19**, a second inwardly convexed or bowed portion **20** is provided. The terminal end **19** extends along the contiguous end of the bar **10** and is adapted for engagement in a slot **21**. The terminus **22** of the terminal end **19** is preferably formed into a single coil for locking engagement with the rear face **23** of the bar **10** at the end thereof.

The inner face **24** of the strap **10**, at the portions thereof for engagement with a garment preferably has a facing strip **25** thereon of textile fabric or other material for frictional engagement with the garment, and spaced facing strips **26** are also preferably provided on the inner face **11** of the bar **10**.

Referring now to Figs. 4 and 5, the garment hanger there shown is generally similar to that previously described but the strap **14** is provided with a different character of hinged connection to the bar **10**.

A U-shaped hinge piece **30** is secured to the bar **10** on one leg **31** thereof, the other leg **32** being secured to the terminal end **33** of the strap **14**. The end portion **33** of the strap **14** in overlapping relation to the leg **32** provides a portion for manual engagement by the thumb of the user for effecting a wider separation of the convexed portion **18**, and of the strap **14**, from the bar **10**.

The mode of operation will now be pointed out.

In use and when it is desired to hang a garment, the strap **14** is released by moving the terminus **22** to a position to free the terminal end **19** and permit movement of the strap **14** away from the bar **10** about its hinged connection to the bar **10**.

The garment to be mounted is then brought to a position for clamping, with the cuffs, if trousers are to be supported, or the waist band, if a skirt is to be hung, in engagement with the facing strips **26** on the bar **10**.

The strap **14** is then swung about its pivotal connection to bring the convex portion **18** into engagement with the garment for initial holding. The convex portion **18** will be slightly flattened by this engagement. The strap **14** is then flexed to bring the convex portion **20** into engagement with the garment, and this portion will also be slightly flattened. The terminus **22** is moved or snapped to its position at the rear face **23** for holding the strap **14** in resiliently locked engagement.

The garment may be removed upon release of the terminus **22** and forward swinging of the strap **14**.

The hinge connection illustrated in Figs. 4 and

5 permits of a wider separation of the strap **14** from the bar **10**, the separation being effected by manual engagement of the thumb or fingers of the user with the end **33** of the strap **14** at the leg **32**.

With both forms of garment hanger, after the convex portion **18** has been brought into engagement with the garment it may be held in engagement with the thumb while the clamping is completed.

I claim:

1. A garment hanger comprising a relatively rigid horizontal bar, a strap of flat resilient material hingedly connected at one end to one end of said bar for horizontal pivotal movement and having a portion at the other end for resilient locking engagement at the other end of said bar, said strap having end portions disposed outwardly with respect to said bar and intermediate the end portions of said strap having a plurality of spaced convex portions extending towards said bar for resiliently gripping a garment between said strap and said bar, said spaced portions being resiliently movable outwardly from said bar.

2. A garment hanger as defined in claim 1 in which the hinged connection comprises a resilient U-shaped strap connected to said bar and said flat strap.

FREDERICK W. POOLEY.

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