April 11, 1950 J. H. ROTHERAINE 2,503,844

GARMENT HANGER

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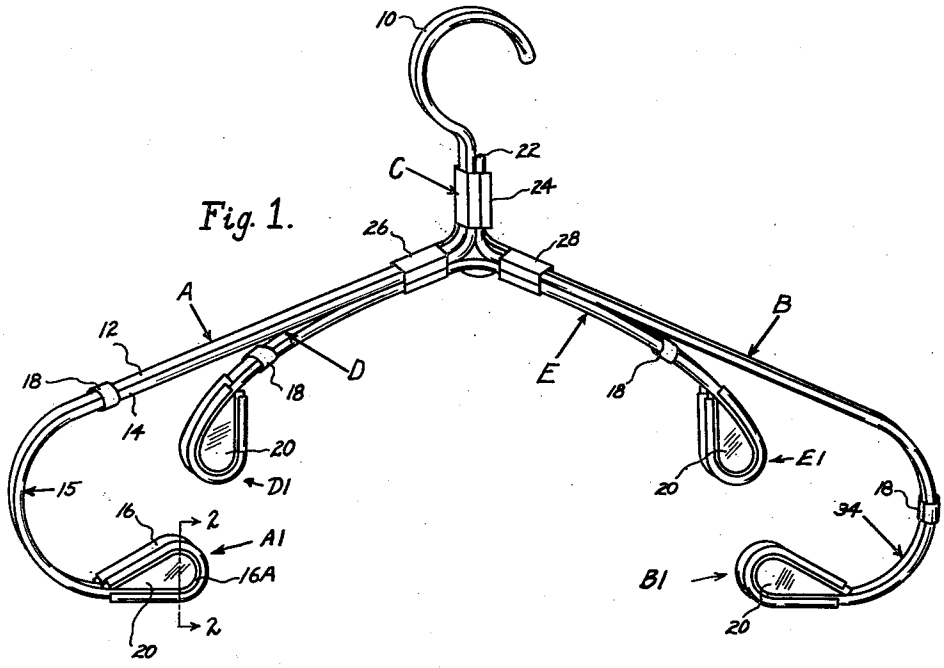

Fig. 1.

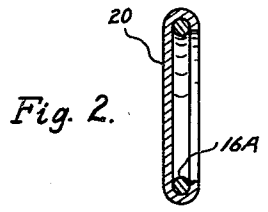

Fig. 2.

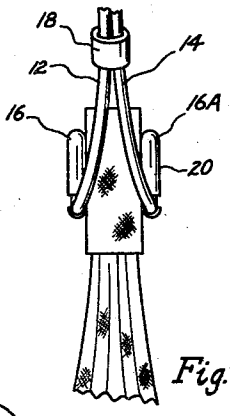

Fig. 4.

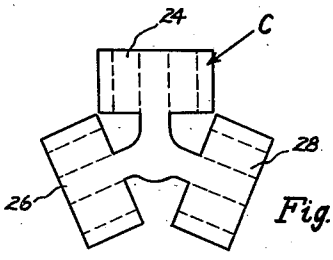

Fig. 3.

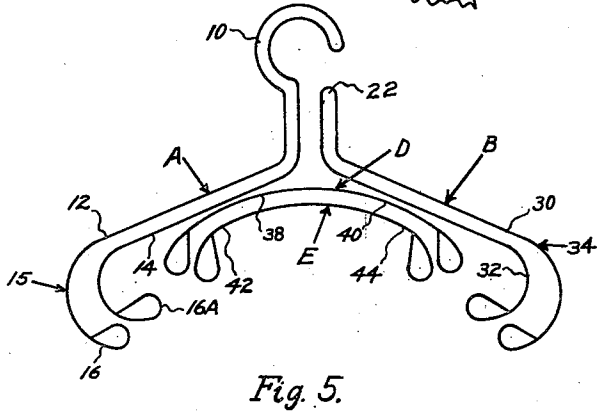

Fig. 5.

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GARMENT HANGER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 223—91)

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My invention relates to a garment hanger, and relates particularly to a garment hanger which will also serve as a stretcher of the garment.

Heretofore, garment hangers have been made of the type to support a coat by draping it over the hanger, and the hanger also supports trousers either by means of clamps or by placing the trousers or skirt over the hanger cross bar. These hangers have advantages, such as cheapness and ease of placing garments thereon and they are popularly used.

Hangers, also, have been made to stretch the garment, but they have not been able to support a coat while stretching a pair of trousers or a skirt.

It is an object of my invention to provide a garment supporter which will retain and stretch a pair of trousers and which, also, will support a vest and coat.

Another object of my invention is to provide a garment hanger which is made of wire which will not crease nor will it cut into the held garment.

Another object of my invention is to provide a garment hanger which is easily handled, so that a garment may be inserted thereon and which will have releasably gripping jaws.

Other objects of my invention are to provide an improved device of the character described, that is easily and economically produced, which is sturdy in construction, and which is highly efficient in operation.

With the above and related objects in view, my invention consists in the details of construction and combination of parts, as will be more fully understood from the following description, when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawing in which—

Fig. 1 is a front view of a garment hanger embodying a stretcher as well as a garment supporter.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 showing only one jaw of the clamp A1.

Fig. 3 is a wire tie member in its preformed condition.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary end view of the device of Fig. 1 grasping a garment.

Fig. 5 is an exaggerated exploded view in single line diagram of each of the wires comprising the garment hanger.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, I show a garment hanger made of wire, which wire is approximately ⅛ inch in diameter and which, for the purposes of appearance, may be nickel

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plated or lacquered, in order to enhance the appearance of the hanger by making it more attractive and also rust-proof.

A wire, generally designated as A, is bent at its center to form a hook 10 whereby the garment supporter may be suspended, and from the hook the wire is bent to form parallel arms 12, 14 on which a coat or vest may be hung. The arms 12, 14 of wire A are curved inwardly near their ends in a C shape as at 15, and then the tip 16, 16A of each arm 12, 14 is bent to form an oval, eye, or circle. It is to be noted that there are two tips or ends 16 and 16A, of wire, parallel to one another, which form a clamp A1.

A loop or locking slide 18 encircles both and slides along arms 12, 14 of the wire, and the ends 16, 16A forming clamp A1 are sprung from one another, and in order to lock a garment therebetween, the clamp or locking slide 18 is moved towards the oval end of each wire. On each oval end 16, 16A, I place a substantially flat piece of metal or plate 20, which serves as the cover for that particular end of the wire. Each of the flat covers 20, on ends 16, 16A, face one another and are parallel to one another so that when a garment is hung between them, the holding plates clamp but will not indent, mar, or cut the fabric of the garment which is being held.

A second wire, designated as B, forms the other side of the garment hanger and it is bent at the center 22 to have overlapping, parallel portions, which are engaged by one arm 24 of a rigid Y-shaped holding clamp, generally designated as C, which is in the shape of an inverted Y.

The clamp C has two other clamping arms 26 and 28 which will be hereinafter further described.

The wire B running parallel to itself as wires 30, 32 is shaped to extend laterally outwardly to support a portion of a garment such as a coat; and adjacent its ends the wire is curved inwardly as at 34; and the tips of each wire 30, 32 are overturned or oval shaped.

The wires 12, 30 are in substantially one plane and the wires 14, 32 are substantially in another vertical plane. Separate flat pieces of metal or plates 20, engage each oval end of the wires 30 and 32, which flat pieces are similar to the hereinbefore described covers or plates 20, all of which are employed for the same purpose. The ends of each plate partially encircle the wire to be self sustaining. A second locking slide 18 is telescoped over arms 30, 32 of the wire B so that as the lock 18 is moved towards the end, it brings the flat metal covers 20, 20 on each wire 30, 32

adjacent one another as clamp B1 to lock a portion of a garment therein.

A third piece of wire, generally designated as D, is grasped by the side arms 26 and 28 of the Y clamp, and from the center extending to each side in the same plane are side arms 38, 40 which lie beneath the arms formed on wires A and B. The tip of each of the arms 38, 40 is bent in an oval manner similar to end 16 of arm A. A cover plate 20, also, covers the tip of each arm 38, 40.

A fourth piece of wire, generally designated as E, is complemental to the wire arm D and it has arms 42 and 44 parallel to arms 38 and 40, respectively, of wire D. The ends of each of the arms 42 and 44 are oval shaped and are covered with non-marring plates 20. A locking slide 18 is telescoped by arms 38, 42 and another locking slide 18 is telescoped by arms 40, 44.

The arms 38, 42 form a clamp D1 and arms 40, 44 form a clamp E1.

The wires A, B, D and E are held together by the Y clamp C to form a double skirt hanger and stretcher as well as a coat hanger. The above is achieved by the arm 24 of Y clamp C holding wires A, B, together at a point below the hook 10, the arm 26 of the Y clamp C holds the wires A, D, and E together adjacent the center of the hanger, and arm 28 of the Y clamp C holds wires B, D and E together adjacent the center of the hook. Hence a unitary coat hanger is formed.

The wires A, B, D, and E all have a certain degree of resiliency and the wires are formed to serve as arms of a coat hanger and also to serve as locking jaws with the wires A forming one set of jaws A1, the wire B forming another set of jaws B1, and the ends of the wires D and E forming sets of jaws D1 and E1. The complemental arms of clamp A1, that is, the arms which press against a side of a garment, are 12 and 14; a second clamp B1 is formed of arms 30, 32; arms 38, 42 form clamp D1 and arms 40, 44 form a clamp E1. Hence a pair of trousers may be held at one end by clamp A1 and the other end of the trousers is held by clamp B1 and at the same time a skirt may be held at one end by clamp D1 and the other end of the skirt is held by clamp E1.

In operation to hang a skirt on the ends of the coat hanger, the sliding locks 18, 18 are moved towards the Y member, the garment is placed between the clamping ends of clamp A1 of wires A and then locked by sliding hook 18 towards the ends of the wires A, thus locking one portion of the garment in place. The wires are slightly sprung or stressed inwardly, that is, towards one another, and clamp B1 tightened about the skirt thereby tightly grasping two ends of the garment. When the holding external pressure is released, the wires will have a tendency to spring outwardly, thereby stretching the garment as well as holding it.

The wires of each complemental holding clamp must be bent so that the sliding lock 18 tends to bring the plates 20 on the ends adjacent one another.

As a modification of my invention, I may place a separate rigid cross-bar between the ends of the wire hanger and the cross-bar tightly grasps the garment when the sliding ring 18 tightens the bars.

As another modification of my invention, I may omit the wires D and E and I still will have a combined coat and skirt or trouser hanger and stretcher.

Although my invention has been described in considerable detail, such description is intended as being illustrative rather than limiting, since the invention may be variously embodied, and the scope of the invention is to be determined as claimed.

I claim as my invention:

1. A garment hanger comprising a plurality of strands of wire, one wire bent upon itself to have its center form a suspending hook, the ends of said wire substantially parallel to one another to form a pair of jaws to serve as a holding clamp, a locking slide adapted to embrace both parallel portions of said wire, whereby said pair of jaws may be locked together, a second wire bent upon itself to have a central portion and its ends substantially parallel to one another to form a second pair of jaws to serve as a second holding clamp, a second locking slide adapted to embrace both parallel portions of said wire whereby said second pair of jaws may be locked together, and means to hold the center portions of each of said wires together whereby the clamping jaws of each wire are spaced apart to form the ends of a garment hanger, the ends of each wire being downturned to be resilient whereby the clamps may be bent towards one another when attaching the clamps to a garment so that when the force of bending the clamps is released the clamps will stretch the article held therein.

2. My invention as set forth in claim 1 including the ends of each wire being looped upon itself, an individual plate being mounted upon each of said looped ends to present a smooth surface, and each plate overlapping each side of the wire to present a smooth surface.

3. My invention as set forth in claim 2 wherein each wire is adapted to be inclined downwardly from the center whereby it provides a coat supporter arm, and each wire being sufficiently resilient whereby it may be stressed and whereby it resumes its original position after the stress is removed.

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