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Fig.I. 15-K Fig.2. Fiq.3. Fig.4. 25 Fig. 5. 269 15 Fig. C. 27° 28 INVENTOR George C. Deck. BY James athis 13,ª ES 25 13ª Fig.7. ATTORNEY

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15ª 21 22 16

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Fig.10.

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GARMENT HANGER

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6 Claims. (Cl. 223-96)

This invention relates to a garment hanger.

While not necessarily limited thereto, the hanger, according to the present invention, is adapted for use with trousers, and a principal objects thereof is to provide a construction having such characteristics that trousers may be supported thereby for an indefinite period of time without leaving marks or distorting the shape of the cuffs thereof.

Garment hangers now more commonly in use are of such formation that garments suspended thereby for substantial lengths of time not only become rumpled, but 25 often fall from the hangers, resulting in messed and in many instances soiled garments.

It is accordingly a further object of the invention to provide automatic locking means for positively retaining garments in position on the hangers without attendant 30 marking or other damage thereto.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a garment hanger which is highly simple in construction, durable in use, and efficient in operation.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent in the course of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a view partly in elevation and partly in vertical section and showing the hanger in stages of assembly.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the tube or body of the hanger.

Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the tube or body of $_{45}$ the hanger.

Fig. 4 is an elevational view of a modified form of locking and suspension means for the hanger.

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of a portion of the structure shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the suspension wire embodied in the structure of Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is a transverse sectional view on an enlarged scale as observed in the plane of line 7-7 on Fig. 4.

Fig. 8 is an elevational view of the hanger according 55 to Figs. 1 to 3 in closed or locked position.

Fig. 9 is a view similar to Fig. 8, but wherein the hanger is in open position.

Fig. 10 is a fragmental elevational view showing a modified form of suspension wire.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, and first to Figs. 1 to 3 and 8 and 9 thereof, the improved hanger will be seen to comprise a garment-supporting member 10 which, as illustrated, is preferably of tubular form and which may be constructed of plastic, wood, or any other suitable material. 65

The tube 10 is open-ended, and is provided with an aperture 11 in the upper wall portion and adjacent each end thereof, and the lower wall portion is provided with a slot 12 opening through each end of the tube, the inner or closed ends of the slots being disposed relative to 70 apertures 11, as indicated in Fig. 3.

The hanger further comprises a combined body-sus-

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pension means and a garment-retaining means, which is preferably an elongated wire 13 which is bent at spaced points from the center thereof in the provision of legs 14, and the wire intermediate said legs is bent into a 5 double strand hook 15.

The wire suspension means is shown in Fig. 1 in stages of formation and assembly, and after bending the wire as above noted the legs 14 are passed downwardly through the apertures 11 and the alined slots 12, after which the

10 legs 14 are bent as indicated in dotted lines at the right end of tube 10 in Fig. 1 in the formation of open generally U-shape loops 16, each of which includes an inner straight portion or leg 17 which extends through the respective aperture 11 and alined slot 12 and an outer
15 curved portion or leg 18, the loops having bights 19, for a purpose later referred to.

The wire 13 is provided with an ogee bend 20 at the junction of each leg 14 with the intermediate body portion of the wire, and which bends provide inwardly directed camming shoulders 21 for a purpose later referred to.

With the hanger in open position as indicated in Fig. 9, the suspension wire is substantially elevated with respect to the tube, and in which position the hook-carrying intermediate portion 13^{a} of the wire 13 is disposed in spaced parallel relation to the tube such as to permit a garment to be draped over the tube 10 or removed therefrom.

In this open position of the hanger, the bights 19 of the loops 16 engage the upper wall of the tube 10 intermediate the apertures 11 and the ends of the tube, whereby the tube and suspension wire are maintained as a unit.

After draping a garment over the tube 10 the wire suspension means is forced downwardly toward the tube 10, and when the intermediate portion 13^a thereof approaches the tube 10, the camming shoulders 21 spring inwardly, as indicated at the right of Fig. 1, with a resulting frictional interlock with the tube, and such interlock will be sufficient to withstand the weight of a garment suspended from the tube.

In order to provide a more effective locking action between the suspension wire and the garment-supporting tube the loops 16 may be provided with a further bend in the provision of additional shoulders 22, as is indicated in Fig. 10, and which shoulders supplement the shoulders 21 in a locking action.

As is indicated in Fig. 2, the tube 10 may be provided with an elongated rubber strip 23 for providing additional grip between a garment and the supporting tube.

While the intermediate wire portion 13^{a} provides an effective locking action on a garment supported by the tube 10, a more efficient structure may embody a transveresly arched sheet metal member 24, as indicated in Figs. 4, 5 and 7, whereby a garment will be subjected to bearing contact with smooth bearing surfaces as provided by the wall of tube 10 and a cooperating wall of member 24, as will be apparent upon inspection of Fig. 7.

The garment-clamping member 24 is provided centrally thereof with an upwardly extending rib 25 which provides a downwardly opening channel 26, and the suspension wire 13 has the intermediate portion 13^{a} thereof disposed within the channel. The upper wall of rib 25 is provided with a hook-receiving aperture 26^{a} , and an aperture 27 is provided in such wall adjacent each end thereof. The wire portion 13^{a} includes the hook which is upwardly inserted through the aperture 26^{a} , and such portion is flattened as at 27^{a} and provided with apertures 28 for the reception of rivets which also extend through the apertures 27 for securing the wire portion 13^{a} within the channel 26 after the hook 15 is entered through the aperture 26^{a} .

The wire is shown in secured position in member 24 in

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Fig. 4, and the wire legs 14 are assembled with the tube 10, as in the embodiment of Figs. 1 to 3.

From the above description, it will be apparent that a garment hanger is provided which is relatively simple in construction and which is adapted to support garments without any damage thereto.

Having set forth the invention in accordance with certain specific structural embodiments thereof, what is claimed and desired to be secured by U.S. Letters Patent is: 10

1. A garment hanger comprising an elongated opendended tube, and a suspension member including an elongated central portion having a suspension hook intermediate its ends, said suspension member being operatively engaged with the opposite open ends of the tube for limit- 15 and conforming with said tube for disposition of a gared movement laterally thereof toward and from same for clamping a garment between the suspension member and the tube and for releasing same, and cooperating means on said tube and on said suspension member providing a frictional locking engagement between the tube 20and the suspension member within the open ends of the tube when the suspension member is in tube-adjacent clamping position.

2. A garment hanger according to claim 1, wherein said tube is provided with an aperture in the upper wall 25 thereof and adjacent each end thereof, and a slot in the lower wall of the tube beneath each aperture and opening through the respective end of the tube, and said suspension member comprising a wire having a generally Ushape loop on each end thereof and in a vertical plane 30 of the axis of said tube, and the inner legs of said loops

being vertically movable in said apertures and slots and including inwardly directed camming shoulders adjacent the junction between said central portion and said inner legs adapted to engage the inner surface of said upper wall inwardly of said apertures for effecting said locking engagement.

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3. A garment hanger according to claim 2, wherein said loops are provided with additional camming locking shoulders beneath said first camming shoulders.

4. A garment hanger according to claim 2, wherein said tube is provided on the upper wall thereof with a garment-engaging friction member.

5. A garment hanger according to claim 2, together with an arched member secured to said central portion ment therebetween.

6. A garment hanger according to claim 5, wherein said arched member is provided with a downwardly opening channel in which said central portion is disposed, and means rigidly securing said central portion to said arched member.

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