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Attorney.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. BERRY, OF NEWTON, ILLINOIS.

TROUSERS-STRETCHER.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN H. BERRY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newton, in the county of Jasper and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Trousers-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clothes forms and more particularly to combined trousers stretchers and coat hangers.

The object of the invention is the provision of a simple, comparatively inexpensive and efficient device of this character upon which the trousers may be placed and held in proper position so as to regain their form and to take out any bagginess at the knees.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of means for adjusting the trousers forms for any size of trousers leg and means for preventing the trousers from riding up upon the form and still further means for holding the forms in adjusted position when placed in the trousers.

Further objects of the invention will appear as the following specific description is read in connection with the accompanying drawings which form a part of this specification, and in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of one of the forms shown in extended position. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the device applied to a trousers leg. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

In the use of this invention, two of the stretchers shown in the drawing will be used, only one of which however, will be provided with the coat hanger, but as both of them will be otherwise identical, the description of the single one which follows will be sufficient to describe the structure and operation of both.

1 and 2 represent the side members, both of which are sharpened on their outer edges as at 3 to form the crease in the trousers leg and both members have the extensions 4 to which is secured the coat hanger device 5 having the laterally extending shoulder loops 6 and the supporting loop 7 arranged thereabove.

Pivoted to the inner sides of the members 1 and 2 are the separate arms of toggle joints 8, 9 and 10, all of which are provided with adjusting apertures 11 for the reception of a connecting bolt 12 which also is adapted to receive and hold in position the operating rod 13 having a handle or manipulating knob 14 upon its upper end. These toggle joints 8, 9 and 10 may be adjusted so as to secure any desired separation of the members 1 and 2 for different widths of trousers legs and each is operated simultaneously to spread the members 1 and 2 apart by the downward action of the rod 13 which it will be seen is centrally connected to the toggle joints.

In order to keep the side members in separated relation, there is pivoted on either side of the operating rod 13, to the upper toggle lever 8, a pair of pawls 15 which engage rack teeth 16 formed upon the inner sides of the members 1 and 2. The upper ends of these pawls are connected together by a spring 17 which normally forces their ends into the rack teeth and are kept from displacement by plates 18 which are secured to the side members 1 and 2 and overhang the inner edges thereof for the full length of the rack teeth.

Frequently in stretchers of this type, owing to the wedge-shape or tapering position of the side members, the trousers will ride up on the stretchers until they become loose and the stretchers ineffective and in order to prevent this I secure to the lower ends of the members 1 and 2, the laterally projecting pins 19 and 20 which extend outwardly and downwardly from the outer lower ends of the members and are adapted to enter the fabric and prevent the trousers from riding up on the members 1 and 2.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is—

In a trousers stretcher, oppositely disposed side bars, a plurality of pairs of stretcher members pivoted to the side bars, an operating rod, pivots centrally connecting the pairs of stretcher members and the rod, rack bars formed on the side members,



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pawls carried by one of the pairs of stretcher members, means to throw the pawls into engagement with the rack bars, means to guide the pawls upon the rack bars, and a pair of  
5 fabric engaging pins carried by the side members for preventing the legs of the trousers from slipping up on the side members.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN H. BERRY.

Witnesses:

MILTON BROOKS,  
A. F. CALVIN.