

Feb. 14, 1933.

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1,897,078

TROUSERS HANGER

Filed June 29, 1931

Fig. 1.

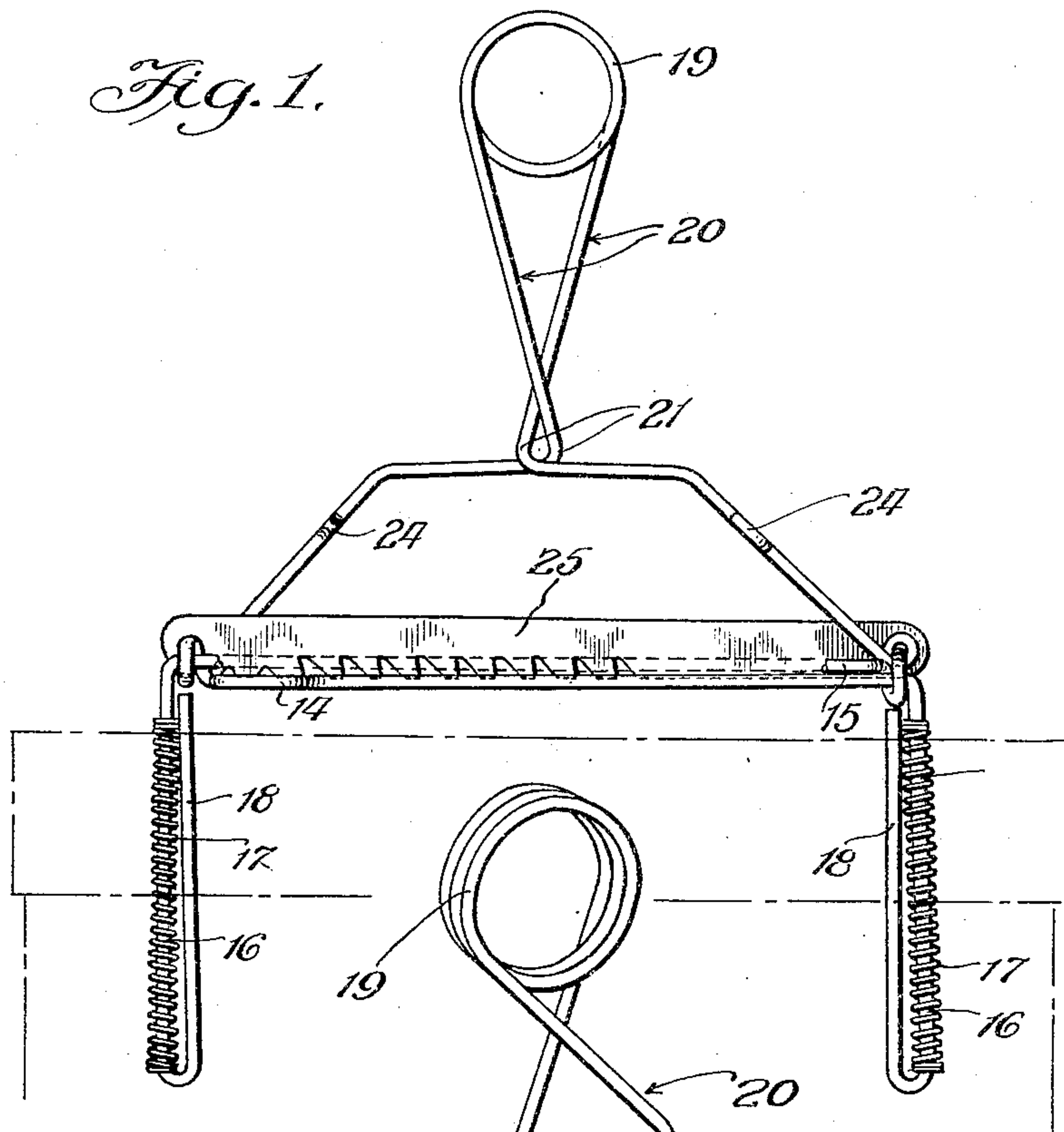
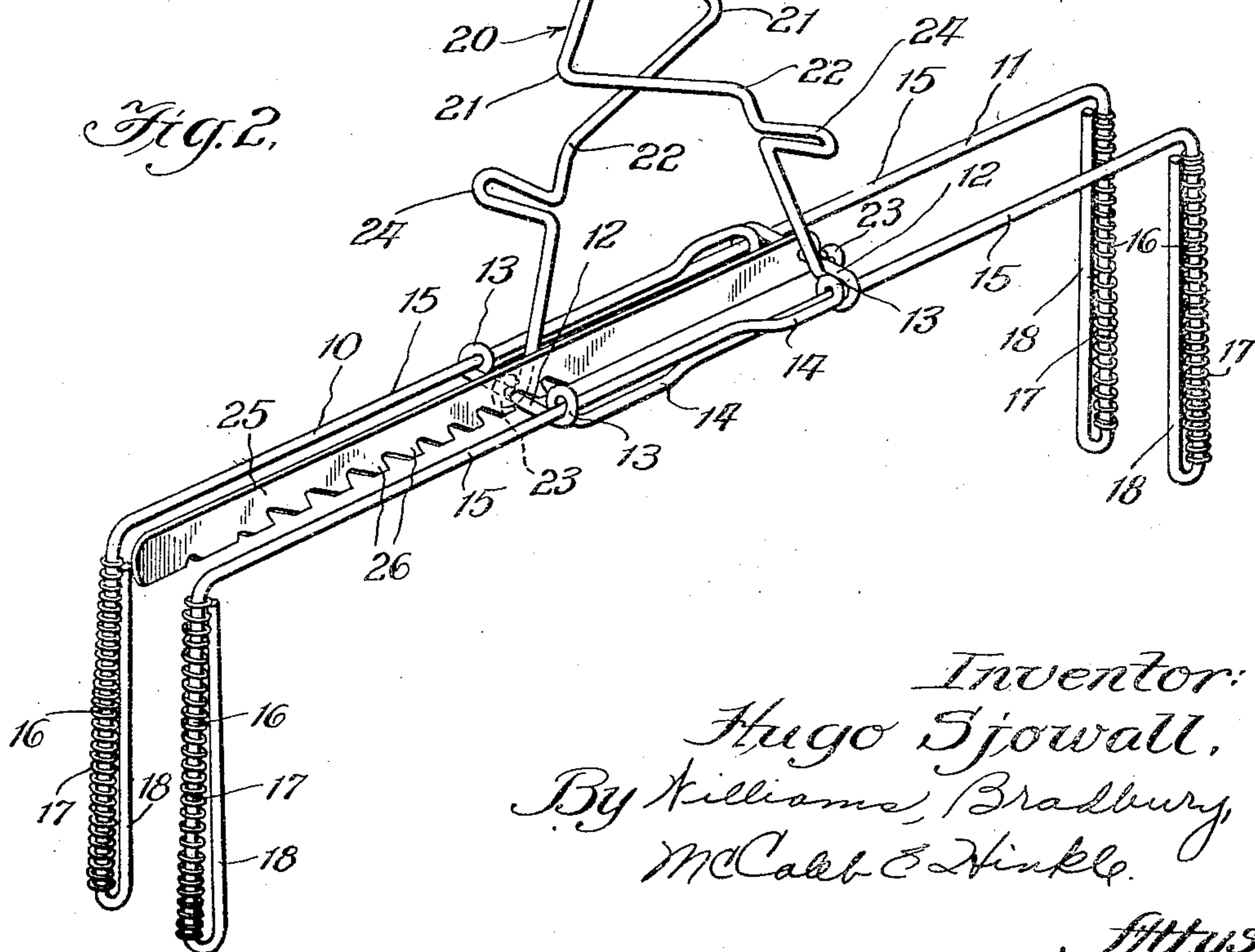


Fig. 2.



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TROUSERS HANGER

Application filed June 29, 1931. Serial No. 547,476.

This invention relates to trousers hangers, and particularly to hangers which are provided with downwardly extending arms which are adapted to enter the trousers legs and thereby engage trousers so that they may be hung up by the hanger.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide an improved trousers hanger.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved trousers hanger which is adapted to be expanded by one hand after it is inserted in the trousers legs.

A further object of the invention is to provide a trousers hanger provided with means for automatically holding same in expanded condition, said means being readily releasable to enable the hanger to be withdrawn from the trousers.

Other objects, advantages and capabilities will hereinafter appear from the following description of a preferred embodiment of the invention, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 shows an elevation of a trousers hanger embodying the invention in collapsed condition a trousers leg being shown in dot and dash lines to illustrate the manner in which the hanger is inserted therein; and

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the hanger in expanded condition.

Referring to the drawing, the improved hanger comprises two relatively slidable frame members 10 and 11 which may suitably be formed from single pieces of wire. Each frame member comprises a central length 12, at each end of which the wire is formed into small loops 13 which lie in the vertical plane of the length 12. Beyond the loops 13 the wire is provided with outwardly directed bends 14 from which extend the parallel main lengths 15 of the frame members. It will be noted that these main lengths 15 of one frame member pass through the loops 13 of the other frame member so that these two members are mounted together for free relative sliding. It will be noted in Fig. 2 that the loops 13 of the frame member 10 are directed downwardly while the loops 13 of the frame member 11 are directed upwardly so that the main lengths 15 of the frame member 10 are lo-

cated above the main lengths 15 of the frame member 11.

The wires of which the frame members are formed are bent downwardly to provide arms 16 which are adapted to enter the trousers legs. It is preferred to provide the arm 16 with friction members 17 so that they may more positively engage the fabric. The friction means may suitably take the form of fine wire coiled around the arms 16. The extreme ends 18 of the wire are turned upwardly parallel to and adjacent the arm 16, thereby holding the friction means 17 in position and also bringing the rough cut ends of the wire into a protected position where they can do no injury to the garments or to the hands of the user.

Resilient means are provided which tend to collapse the frame members 10 and 11 into the position shown in Fig. 1. This resilient means may preferably take the form of a coil spring 19 formed of wire, the ends 20 of which are relatively long and are bent as shown in Fig. 2. The ends 20 are bent at 21 substantially 90 degrees and are further bent at 22 so as to direct the outward portions of the lengths 20 downwardly towards the lengths 12 of the frame members 10 and 11, to which the extremities of the lengths 20 are secured by bending as shown at 23. Intermediate the bends 22 and the extremities 23, the lengths 20 are provided with finger pieces 24, suitably formed by bending the wire stock outwardly and inwardly so as to provide closed loops. It will be noted that the portions of the lengths 20 between the bends 21 and 22 are oppositely arranged relative to the positions of the lengths 20 adjacent the coil 19. This arrangement tends to keep these portions in contact and tends to maintain the lengths 20 in a single plane.

Means are provided to maintain the hanger in expanded condition against the action of the spring 19. Such means may suitably comprise a ratchet rack bar 25 preferably formed from a strip of sheet metal. The rack bar 25 is provided adjacent one end with an opening through which the central length 12 of the frame member 10 passes. The bar 25 extends between the lengths 20 over the

central length 12 of the frame member 11, and is provided along its lower edge with ratchet teeth 26. The faces of the ratchet teeth 26 are cut so that they pass freely over
 5 said central length 12 when the frame members 10 and 11 are extended by the finger members 24 and prevent collapsing movement when the finger pieces are released. To
 10 collapse the hanger, it is merely necessary to displace the ratchet bar 25 upwardly. The lengths 20 prevent excessive upward movement of the ratchet bar 25 so that the latter can always be brought into operative position by turning the hanger towards the vertical.
 15

The operation is as follows:

The hanger is collapsed in the manner indicated above, and the arms 16 are inserted in the open bottom ends of the trousers legs.
 20 This operation may suitably be effected upon the surface of the table or the like so that the arms 16 may be readily located opposite the creases. The hanger is then extended by pressing the finger members 24 together so
 25 as to cause the arm 16 to engage the trousers legs. The hanger is then tilted slightly towards the vertical position which causes the rack 25 to engage the central length 12 of the frame member 11, if it is not already in engagement therewith. The appropriate tooth
 30 26 engages said length 12 and prevents collapsing of the hanger. The trousers may then be supported upon a nail or other suitable support by means of the coil spring 19.

35 It is to be understood that the device may be modified in many ways within the scope of my invention. Thus, for example, only one pair of arms 16 may be provided and the device may be otherwise altered so as to adapt
 40 it for supporting ladies' skirts and other garments. Furthermore, while I have shown the frame members 10 and 11 and the spring 19 formed of separate lengths of wire, they may
 45 all be formed of the same length suitably bent to accomplish this purpose. Other modifications may be made in the device, within the terms of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

50 1. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of means adapted to enter a trousers leg, resilient means tending to move said trousers engaging means to approach each
 55 other, manually operated means for extending said trousers engaging means, and means adapted to maintain said trousers engaging means in extended condition.

60 2. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of frame members secured together in slidable relation, arms carried by said members adapted to be inserted in a trousers leg, a spring tending to collapse said frame members, and a ratchet bar mounted on one frame
 65 member and adapted to engage the other

frame member to maintain said members in extended condition.

3. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of frame members secured together in slidable relation, arms carried by said members adapted to be inserted in a trousers leg, a spring tending to move said frame members in the direction to decrease the distance between said arms, and means for preventing
 75 said movement.

4. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of wire frame members, each comprising short central length and major lengths extending therefrom in parallel relation, each frame member comprising loops adjacent
 80 said central length in which the major lengths of the other frame member are received, the ends of the major lengths being turned downwardly to provide arms adapted to be inserted in trousers legs, a spring adapted
 85 to act on said frame members, and a ratchet bar mounted on one frame member and adapted to engage the other frame member to maintain said frame members in desired condition of adjustment against the action of
 90 the spring.

5. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of wire frame members, each comprising a short central length and major lengths extending therefrom in parallel relation, each
 95 frame member comprising loops adjacent said central length in which the major lengths of the other frame member are received, the ends of the major lengths being turned downwardly to provide arms adapted to be inserted in trousers legs, a spring connected
 100 to said central lengths, and a ratchet bar pivotally mounted on one central length and adapted to engage the other central length to maintain said frame member in desired
 105 condition of adjustment against the action of the spring.

6. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of wire frame members, each comprising a short central length and major lengths
 110 extending therefrom in parallel relation, each frame member comprising loops adjacent said central length in which the major lengths of the other frame members are received, the ends of the major lengths being
 115 turned downwardly to provide arms adapted to be inserted in trousers legs, a coil spring having extensions connected to said central lengths and normally tending to move said frame members into extended condition, and
 120 a ratchet bar pivotally mounted on one central length and adapted to maintain said frame in desired condition of adjustment against the action of the spring, while permitting manual collapsing movement of the
 125 members against the action of the spring.

7. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of wire frame members, each comprising a short central length and major lengths
 130 extending therefrom in parallel relation, each

frame member comprising loops adjacent said central length in which the major lengths of the other frame members are received, the ends of the major lengths being turned
5 downwardly to provide arms adapted to be inserted in trousers legs, a coil spring having extensions connected to said central lengths and normally tending to move said frame members into extended condition, and
10 a ratchet bar pivotally mounted on one central length and adapted to maintain said frame in desired condition of adjustment against the action of the spring, while permitting manual collapsing movement of the
15 members against the action of the spring, said extensions of the spring being bent to provide finger members whereby the frame members may be collapsed.

8. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a
20 pair of frame members secured together in slidable relation, arms carried by said members adapted to be inserted in a trousers leg, and a ratchet bar mounted on one frame member normally tending to engage the other
25 frame member, said ratchet bar being adapted to permit the extension of one frame relative to the other and being adapted to prevent collapse of said frames under the force applied to the arms by the trousers leg, until
30 manually released.

9. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of wire frame members interconnected to slide one upon the other, arms carried by said members adapted to be inserted in a
35 trousers leg, and a ratchet bar pivotally mounted on one frame member and adapted to engage the other frame member, said ratchet bar having sawlike teeth adapted to permit free extension of the frames one relative to the other, and prevent relative collapse
40 of the frames until the ratchet bar is manually elevated.

10. In a trousers hanger, in combination, means adapted to enter the trousers leg, resilient means tending to move said trousers
45 engaging means to approach each other, manually operated means for extending said trousers engaging means, and means adapted to maintain said trousers engaging means in
50 a plurality of extended relations.

11. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a pair of frame members secured together in slidable relation, arms carried by said members adapted to be inserted in a trousers leg,
55 a spring tending to move said frame members in the direction to decrease the distance between said arms, and means for preventing said movement adapted to maintain said arms spaced at an adjusted distance.

60 In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 26th day of June, 1931.

HUGO SJOWALL.