

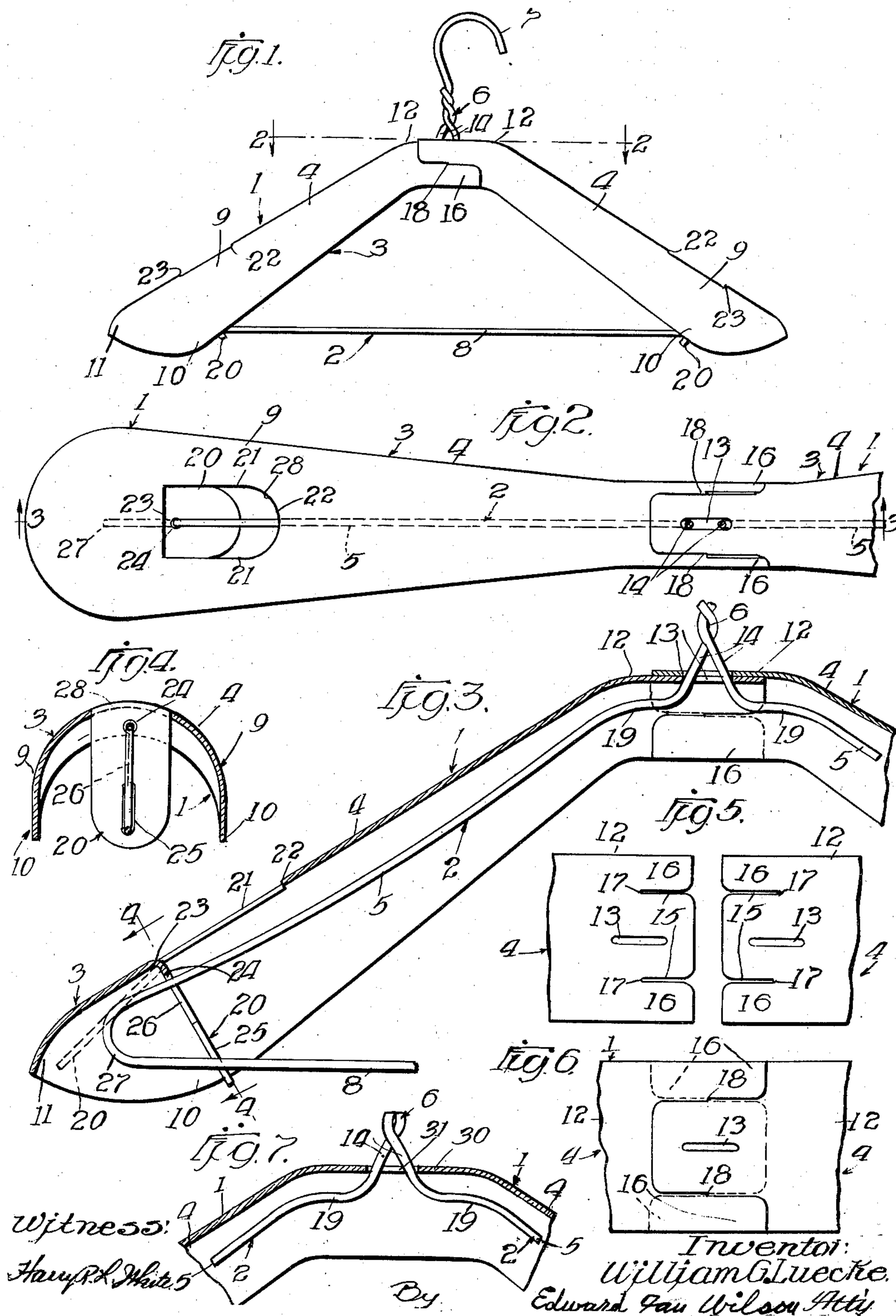
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GARMENT HANGER

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GARMENT HANGER

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8 Claims. (Cl. 223—88)

This invention relates to improvements in garment hangers and has special reference to hangers particularly designed, among other things, for supporting men's coats and women's dresses.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to provide a hanger for the purpose mentioned, which shall make use of the common wire hanger as a foundation but which shall be provided with a relatively wide and long surface, shaped to hold the upper part of a man's coat or a woman's dress in proper extended condition; which shall be long enough to extend out into the shoulder portions of the coat; which extended surface member shall be so interlocked with and braced on the simple wire hanger that it shall be rigidly maintained in its proper relation to the wire hanger; and which shall be capable of being produced, in quantity, at such low cost, that the use of this improved hanger will not add materially to the cost of cleaning and delivering such garments.

A further feature relates to the fact that the extended members are so constructed that they can be nested together, for packing and shipping purposes, thus requiring a minimum of space and being protected against damage.

A further feature relates to the ease with which the extended surface member can be applied to its wire hanger and secured rigidly in place thereon.

Frequently the common wire hangers become rusted and have to be covered to prevent their staining garments hung thereon, particularly ladies' dresses which are made of delicate fabrics and one important advantage resulting from my invention is that the supported garment is protected from direct contact with the wire hanger.

Other features of advantage will appear from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, and in view of the appended claims.

In said drawing:—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a garment hanger embodying the invention in a preferred form;

Fig. 2 is a plan section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary, vertical, longitudinal section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a vertically inclined section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary top plan view of the inner coacting ends of the cover member as shown in Fig. 1, the two cover members being shown in flat condition and separated relation;

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 but showing the two ends slipped together, and

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary section similar to Fig. 3 and showing a slight modification of the invention.

The complete garment hanger 1, as shown in Figs. 1 to 6 inclusive comprises a simple wire hanger 2 and an extended surface cover member 3 which is preferably, as shown, made up of two end members 4 which are preferably, for convenience in manufacture and use, made duplicates of each other.

The wire hanger 2 may, as shown, be made of a continuous piece of wire and formed to provide two oppositely extending and downwardly inclined parts 5 connected together at their upper ends by twisting the two parts together as shown at 6 and one of the ends formed into a supporting hook 7.

The lower ends of the inclined parts are connected together and held in position by a horizontally extending part 8. This form of wire hanger is quite common and is very cheaply produced.

It will be evident that in the use of such a wire hanger the wire has a tendency to mark the garment hung thereon and as such wire hangers are usually made of steel they may and frequently do become rusty and stain garments hung thereon.

The cover member 4 which extends entirely over the wire hanger and extends below the supporting parts all around effectively prevents any contact of the supported garment with the wire hanger.

Each member 4 is preferably made of some light weight relatively cheap material such as papier-mâché or paste-board formed to provide an outer surface 9 which is of a shape which will hold the top portion of a supported garment properly extended and not present any edges to the garment which might form creases or lines therein. In other words the surface 9 is rounded down at its lateral edges as shown at 10 and at its outer end as shown at 11.

Each member 4 is somewhat wider at its outer end than at its inner end to provide relatively large shoulder supporting surfaces at its outer ends as shown.

The inner ends 12 of the two supporting members 4 are each provided with an elongated opening 13 to receive the upper part of the wire hanger as shown at 14 and just below the point 6 of the wire hanger. As shown at 14 the two end portions of the wire begin to spread out be-

fore they are bent outwardly to form the downwardly inclined parts 5.

The elongated openings 13 permit the inner ends of the parts 4 to be threaded upon the upper part of the wire hanger as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. Preferably I form said inner ends so that they can be interlocked laterally together before they are placed on the wire hanger. As shown in Figs. 5 and 6 the inner end portions 12 are each provided with longitudinally extending slits 15 symmetrically arranged on each side and extending out to the extreme ends of these parts.

This construction provides the inner ends 12 of the parts 4 with elongated longitudinally extending tongues 16, one at each side, and permits the two ends 12 to be slid together into overlapping relation and to bring the two openings 13 into register with each other as shown in Figs. 3 and 6. The two tongues 16 on one end 12 are on the inside and the two tongues 16 on the other end are on the outside and the bottom ends 17 of the slots 15 are in contact, at each side, as shown at 18 Fig. 6.

This manner of interlocking the two inner ends of the members holds the inner ends of the parts 4 in closely related position and avoids outwardly extending parts upon which a garment might catch.

As explained the openings 13 permit the support member 1 to be threaded upon the hook 7 of the wire hanger into the position shown in the drawing and, as shown, the slots are short enough so that their ends will contact with the inclined parts 14 of the wire hanger and sustain the parts 4 somewhat above the body of the wire hanger as shown at 19 Fig. 3.

The construction described holds the middle portion of the cover member accurately and firmly in position.

To hold the outer end portions of the members 4 rigidly in position on the wire hanger I provide downwardly extending wire hanger engaging brace members 20 one at each end of the hanger. Preferably, though not necessarily, these brace members are in the form of tongues formed by severing a central portion of each member along two longitudinal lines 21 and a transverse line 22 connecting the inner ends of the two cuts 21. The outer end 23 of this partly severed part forms a hinge upon which the tongue can be forced down within the member 4.

The tongue 20 is provided with an opening 24 spaced slightly inwardly from the hinge 23, to receive the inclined adjacent part 5 of the wire hanger and a somewhat elongated central longitudinal slot 25 near its free end to receive the lower horizontal part 8 of the hanger and these two openings are connected by a slit 26 so that the tongue 20 can be forced over the adjacent end 27 of the wire hanger 2 into the inwardly inclined position shown in the drawing. The fact that the tongue 20 has to be swung outwardly to the position shown in dotted line Fig. 3 in order to be assembled with the wire hanger produces a certain amount of tension or spring effect at the hinge 23 which tends to retain the tongue 20 in its final position as shown in Fig. 6 in full lines. The opening 24, provided in the tongue 20, for the upper part 5 of the wire hanger 2 being spaced inwardly from the hinge 23 causes said opening to be spaced downwards from the outer surface 9 of the part 4 thus retaining the part 5 of the wire hanger 2 spaced downwardly within the part 4. This construction prevents any garment sup-

ported on the hanger from contacting with the wire hanger through the opening 28 formed by the removal of the tongue 20.

The parts 4 of the extended cover member are long enough so that their downwardly curved outer ends 11 extend beyond the adjacent ends 27 of the wire hanger thus providing a hanger, especially for a man's coat, which is long enough to extend into the shoulder parts of the coat and support the coat so as to prevent the formation of shoulder wrinkles.

The outer end portions of the cover member 3 being of considerable lateral width and considerably wider than the thickness of the hanger at its top prevents the crowding of garments together when many of them are hung on a rod support and thus prevents the garments from being so pressed together that they become wrinkled and out of shape.

The parts 4 being duplicates of each other obviously reduces the cost of manufacture and simplifies the assembling of the device. Furthermore the members 4 being more or less yielding can be solidly nested together for storage and shipment and will serve to protect each other.

While I prefer to form the outer cover member of two duplicate end parts as described it will be understood that as shown in Fig. 7 the cover member may be made in a single piece that is the two end parts integrally joined at their inner meeting ends as shown at 30 Fig. 7. It will be obvious that many of the advantages of the invention are preserved in this one piece form particularly as to a central opening 31 to permit the cover to be threaded over the hook 7 the bracing tongues 20 for the outer ends of the cover and the nesting of the parts for storage and shipment.

As many modifications of the invention will readily suggest themselves to one skilled in the art I do not limit or confine the invention to the details of construction and operation herein shown and described except within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. In a garment hanger of the kind described a hanger formed of wire to provide two oppositely extending and downwardly inclined supporting parts, their lower ends integrally connected by a horizontally extending part, and the wire formed into a suspension hook extending above the connection of the two inclined parts, in combination with an extended surface member, formed to fit within the upper part of a man's coat or woman's dress and retain it, when hung thereon, in proper extended shape, the extended surface member having a central opening enabling it to be applied to the wire hanger by passing the suspension hook therethrough, and also provided with tongues partly severed from the main body and spaced inwardly from its outer ends provided with openings for receiving both the inclined and horizontal parts of the wire hanger as and for the purpose specified.

2. The invention defined in claim 1, and said extension member extending appreciably beyond the said tongues and the ends of the wire hanger and sufficient to extend into the shoulder portions of a man's coat as and for the purpose specified.

3. The invention as defined in claim 1, and said tongues provided with slits to receive the parts of the wire hanger and provide upper and lower contacting edges as and for the purpose specified.

4. The invention defined in claim 1, and said extended surface member being made of two end

parts provided at their inner ends with co-operating interlocking parts as and for the purpose specified.

5 5. The combination with a one piece wire hanger of the kind described and having a suspension hook at its top, of an extended surface member having an opening to receive said hook, and tongues, one at each side, hinged at their upper ends to said member and spaced inwardly an appreciable distance from the outer ends thereof, said tongues each provided with a single slit arranged and adapted to receive the upper and lower members of the wire hanger and to interlock therewith to prevent relative movement both
10 vertically and laterally.

15 6. The improvements herein described and comprising a common single piece wire hanger of the kind shown in combination with a cover therefor, the supporting surface of the cover being curved transversely and formed to fit within the upper part of a garment such as a man's coat or a lady's dress and hold same in extended

condition, and parts spaced appreciably inwardly from the ends of the cover hinged thereto and formed to interlock with both the upper and lower members of the wire hanger, as and for the purpose specified.

5 7. The invention as defined in claim 6, said tongues being formed out of the body of the cover and hinged thereto at their outer ends and arranged and adapted to be swung down on said outer hinged ends to engage the wire hanger. 10

8. The invention as defined in claim 6, said tongues being formed out of the body of said cover by being partly severed therefrom and integrally joined at their outer ends to the body of the cover, and provided with a slit, one end of which is spaced inwardly from the hinged end and adapted to receive the inclined part of the wire hanger and hold said cover member spaced above said inclined part of the wire hanger as and for the purpose specified. 15 20

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