Feb. 17, 1953 T. F. MARCHIONDA 2,628,755

GARMENT BAG SUPPORTING AND ELEVATING DEVICE

Filed April 13, 1951

FIG. 1.

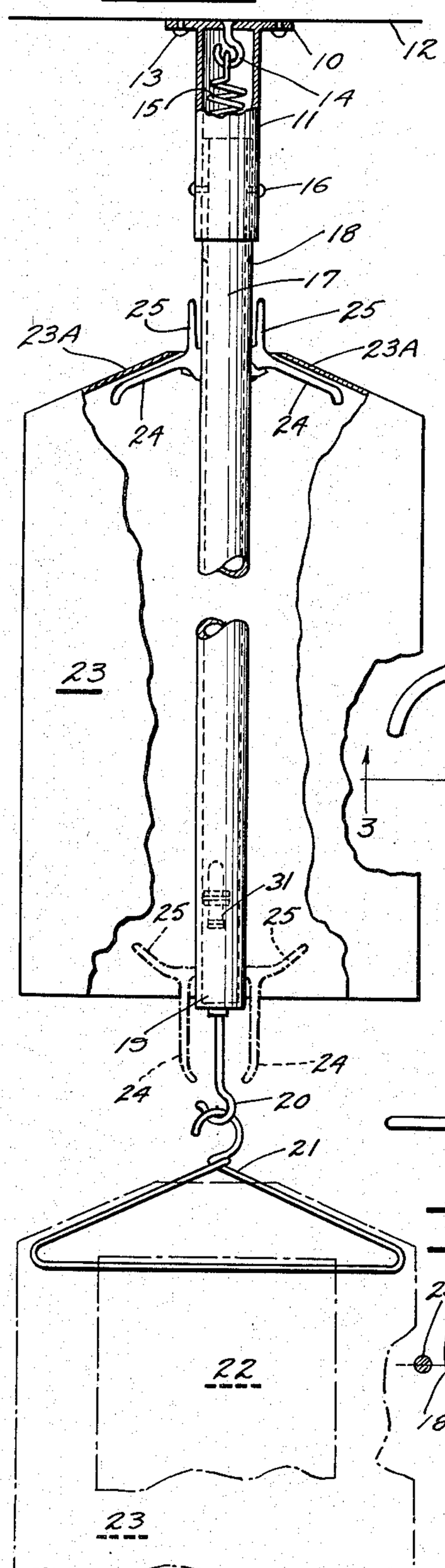



FIG. 2.

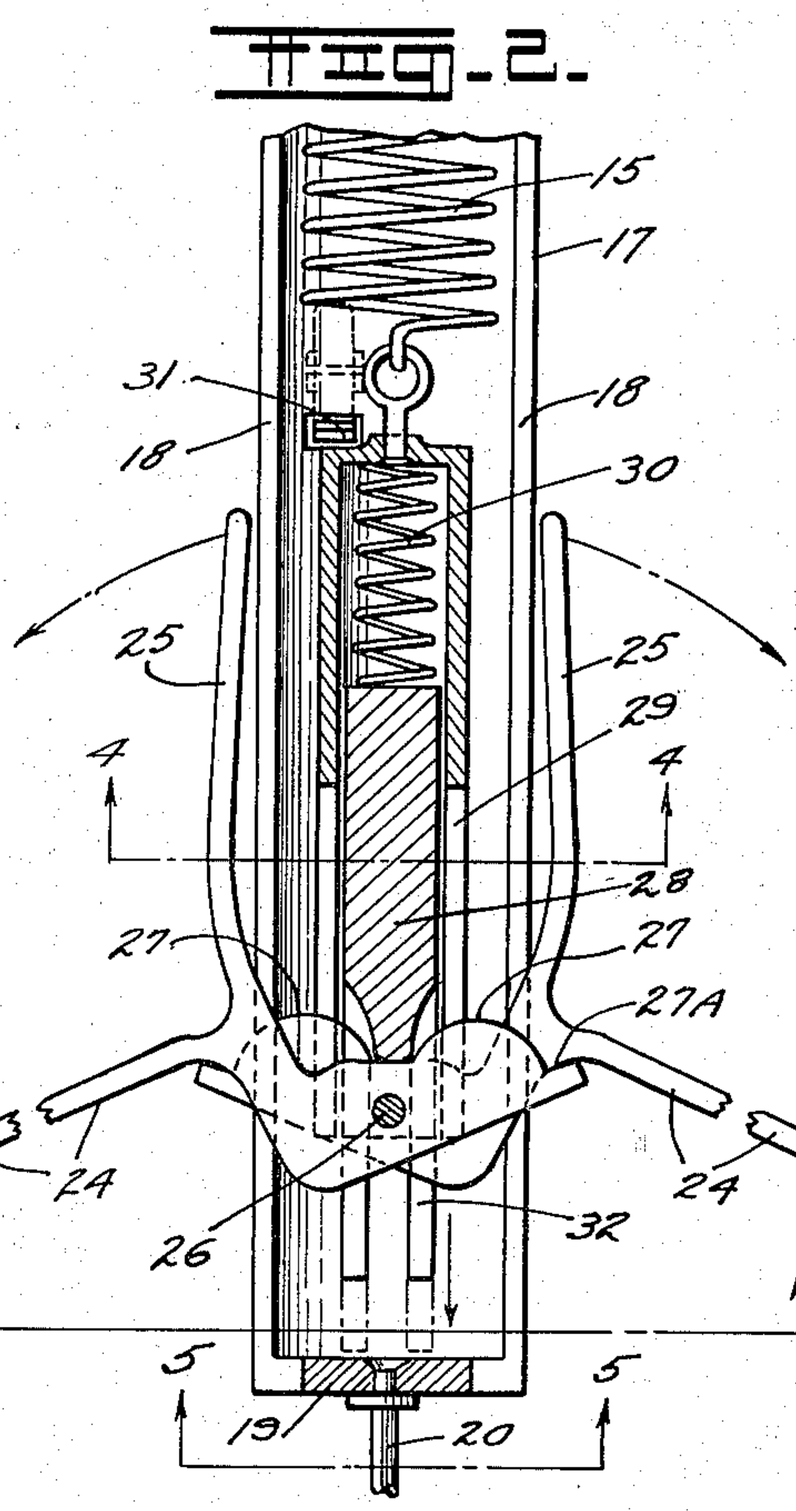



FIG. 3.

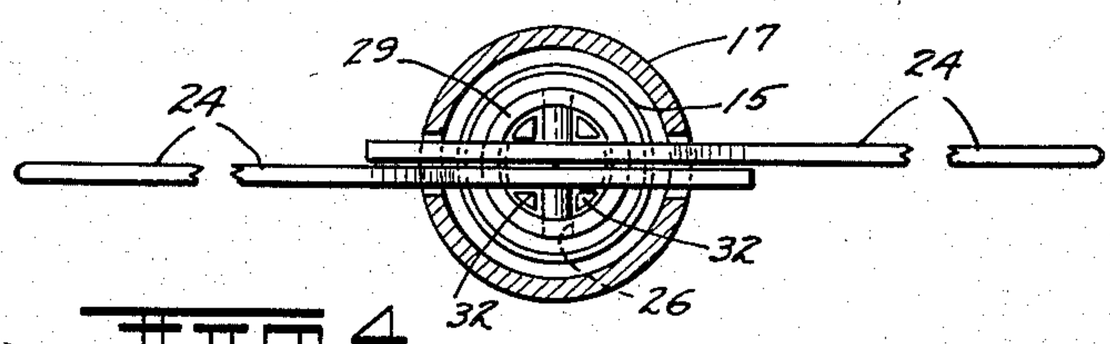



FIG. 4.

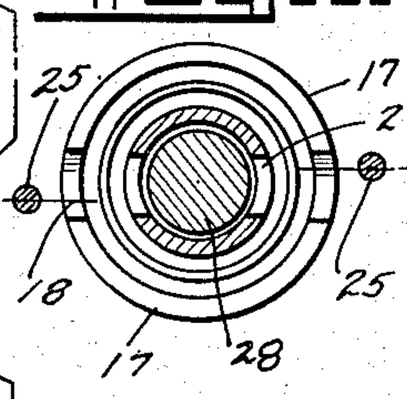
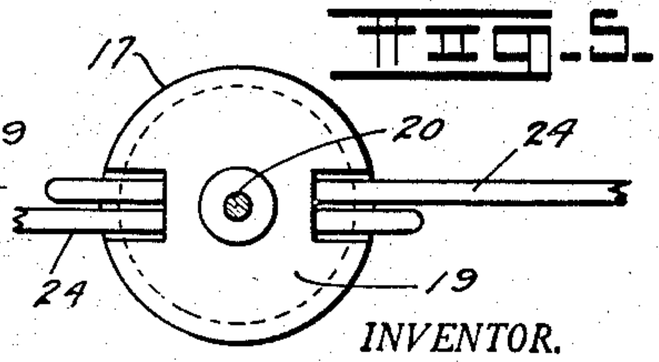



FIG. 5.

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## GARMENT BAG SUPPORTING AND ELEVATING DEVICE

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Application April 13, 1951, Serial No. 220,863

5 Claims. (Cl. 226—18)

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This invention relates to a garment bag supporting and elevating device and more particularly to a garment bagger incorporating means for automatically engaging a garment bag and elevating the same to facilitate the placing of a garment on the garment bagger.

The principal object of the invention is the provision of a garment bag supporting and elevating device having means for automatically engaging and elevating a garment bag.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a garment bag supporting and elevating device which may be economically formed of a few easily fabricated parts which may be easily installed and operated for its intended purpose.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a garment bagger including a vertically movable element having movable arms thereon capable of expanding so as to be self-retaining in the upper portion of a garment bag.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a garment bagger incorporating a vertically movable element having arms for engagement in a garment bag and means for holding the vertically movable element and arms in lowermost position in the garment bag.

The garment bag supporting and elevating device shown and described herein comprises an improvement in the art relating to devices facilitating the application of garment bags to garments and particularly those which have been dry cleaned and pressed, hung on clothes hangers and then covered with a protective garment bag such as is customary in the dry cleaning industry.

The garment bag supporting and elevating device shown and described herein specifically comprises an improvement over the garment bagger disclosed in my co-pending application for patent Serial No. 208,357 filed January 29, 1951.

Mechanical devices have been heretofore proposed for engagement with a garment bag to elevate the same and permit a garment on a clothes hanger to be positioned therebeneath and the garment bag subsequently lowered thereover. Such devices have not met with commercial success for the reason that they have invariably utilized mechanical means such as clamps, pulleys, chains, cables and the like requiring manual operation and rendering the devices cumbersome and incapable of rapid use for their intended purpose. Additionally their constructions rendered them prohibitive in cost. The present invention relates to a garment bagger which overcomes these particular problems and enables a

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simple and efficient garment bagger to be produced and used and avoids these and other objections.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being the intention to cover all changes and modifications of the example of the invention herein chosen for purposes of the disclosure, which do not constitute departures from the spirit and scope of the invention.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side view of the garment bagger showing a garment bag in elevated position thereon and broken lines thereon showing a garment bag in lowered position with respect thereto.

Figure 2 is an enlarged vertical section illustrating the lower portion of the garment bagger shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a horizontal section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a horizontal section taken on line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a bottom elevation taken on line 5—5 of Figure 2.

By referring to the drawings and Figure 1 in particular it will be seen that the garment bagger comprises a horizontal mounting bracket 10 having a depending sleeve 11 secured thereto. The mounting bracket 10 is apertured and adapted to be secured to a supporting bracket such as a ceiling 12 by a plurality of fasteners 13. The mounting bracket 10 has a hook 14 positioned thereon and located within the sleeve 11 and is adapted to support a coil spring 15.

The sleeve 11 has oppositely disposed apertures near its lower ends with set screws 16 therein for securing the uppermost end of a tubular body 17 which is thereby adjustably positioned within the sleeve 11 and normally extends downwardly a considerable distance therebelow. The tubular body 17 has longitudinally extending, oppositely disposed slots 18—18 in its sides which extend from a point near its uppermost end to its lowermost end. The lowermost end of the tubular body 17 is closed as by a closure 19 and is provided with a depending hook 20. The hook 20 is adapted to support a coat hanger 21 which ordinarily carries a garment 22.

A garment bag 23 is shown in Figure 1 of the drawings in elevated position on the tubular body 17 and is shown held in such position by a pair

of oppositely disposed, outwardly extending arms 24—24 which are shown in solid lines in elevated position holding the garment bag 23 above the hook 20, the arms 24—24 extending out of the tubular body member through the oppositely disposed longitudinally extending slots 18—18.

In the lower portion of Figure 1 of the drawings the arms 24—24 are shown in dotted lines in retracted position, it being observed that in retracted position they are on a vertical plane and positioned adjacent the hook 20 so that the garment bag 23 can be threaded upwardly over the hook 20, the arms 24 and the bottom 19 of the tubular body 17 to a point where the uppermost portion of the garment bag 23 overlies the arms 24. It will be observed that the arms 24 each have a sidewardly projecting portion 25, which sidewardly projecting portions are inclined slightly upwardly as seen in dotted lines in the lower part of Figure 1 of the drawings. It will be observed that as the garment bag 23 is moved upwardly over the arms 24, as hereinbefore described, it will engage the sidewardly extending portions 25 and move the same vertically.

The innermost ends of the extending portions 25 are pivoted on a common pivot 26 on a tubular body member 29, as best shown in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings, and it will be seen by referring to Figure 2 that when the extending portions 25 are moved upwardly they will move toward one another on an arc based on the pivot 26. Each of the innermost ends of the extending portions 25 on the arms 24 has an oppositely disposed, upstanding cam portion 27 which, upon being moved outwardly and downwardly (as the arms 24 are moved upwardly and inwardly), will cause the ends 27A of the cams to be disengaged from beneath a tensioning plunger 28 which is movably positioned in the tubular body member 29 and spring urged downwardly by a secondary coil spring 30. The arms 24 are thus urged to substantially horizontal position as shown in the upper portion of Figure 1 of the drawings, and in Figure 2 by the movement of the tensioning plunger 28 against the cams 27 on the upturned ends of the arms 24.

The movement of the arms 24 to substantially horizontal position and the extensions 25 to substantially vertical position, as shown in Figure 2 of the drawings, permits the garment bag 23 to be moved vertically over the tubular body 17, as heretofore described, the action automatically causing the arms 24 to engage the inclined shoulder portions 23A of the garment bag and thereby support the same. When the garment bag has been so positioned, a push button release 31 is manually operated and which release has heretofore engaged the top of the body member 29 and thereby permits the spring 15 to elevate the body member 29 to which the arms 24 are pivoted by the pivot 26. The garment bag 23 is thus rapidly elevated with respect to a device and to a point such as shown in the upper portion of Figure 1 of the drawings where the hook 20 is exposed therebeneath. The garment hanger 21 with the garment 22 may then be positioned on the hook 20, the garment bag 23 grasped and pulled downwardly over the hanger 21 and garment 22, which action will cause the body member 29 to move downwardly in the tubular body 17 as the garment bag 23 is still supported on the arms 24 which are held in substantially horizontal position by the pointed lower end of the plunger 28.



The plunger 28 is provided with four depending legs 32 which comprise the material remaining in the plunger 28 after four circumferentially spaced, longitudinally extending slots are formed therein, two of which permit the cams 27 to move with respect thereto and the other two of which provide clearance for the pivot pin 26. The lowermost portion of the legs 32 will engage the closure 19 on the end of the tubular body 17, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 2 of the drawings, and will therefore cause the plunger 28 to stop its downward travel while the tubular body 29 will continue its downward movement until the cams 27 are able to move with respect to the then slightly elevated plunger 28 whereupon the continued downward urging of the garment bag will cause the arms 24 to move to substantially vertical position and thereby permit the garment bag to be pulled completely away from the garment bagger and down over the top portion of the hanger 21 as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings. The push button release 31 will again engage the top of the tubular body 29 and held in lowermost position for a subsequent garment bagger operation.

The construction thus disclosed comprises a substantial improvement over garment baggers heretofore known and over the garment bagger shown in my aforesaid co-pending patent application.

It will further be observed that the device is capable of being relatively inexpensively made with a minimum number of moving parts as the moving parts comprise only the tubular body member 29, the plunger 28 and the arms 24 with their outwardly extending portions 25 and inward cam sections 27. The device is practically self-operating as the positioning of a garment bag over the depending arms 24 when they are in retracted position (as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings) and enables the same to be brought into direct engagement with the extending portions 25, which action causes the release of the plunger 28 as the cams 27 move away from the ends 27A thereon.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A garment bagger comprising in combination a vertically positioned tubular member having oppositely disposed longitudinally extending slots in the sides thereof, means on the upper end of the tubular member for securing it to an overhead support, and a hook on the lower end of the tubular member for supporting a garment hanger, a coil spring secured to the uppermost end of the garment bagger and lying within the tubular member, a tubular body member secured to the lower end of said spring, said tubular body member having a pair of oppositely disposed slots in its side walls, a plunger disposed in said tubular body member, the lower end of the plunger having two pairs of oppositely disposed slots formed therein at right angles to one another, one of said pairs of slots registering with said pair of slots in the tubular body member, a pair of arms pivoted to said tubular body member, the other pair of slots in said plunger providing clearance for the pivot on which said pair of arms swing, cams formed on said arms and engaging said plunger whereby the arms are retained in substantially horizontal position by said plunger engaging said cams thereon and in substantially vertical position when said plunger engages a different surface in said cams, sideward ex-

tensions on said arms at substantial right angles to said arms, said arms and extenions lying outside the tubular body member and acting to hold a garment bag.

2. The garment bagger set forth in claim 1 and further characterized by the inclusion of a spring in the tubular body member normally biasing said plunger downwardly toward said cams on said arms.

3. The garment bagger set forth in claim 1 and further characterized by the formation of a latch in said tubular member normally engaging the upper end of said tubular body member and holding it in lowermost position in said tubular member.

4. The garment bagger set forth in claim 1 and further characterized by the positioning of said arms in side-by-side relation on a common



pivot in the lower slotted end of said tubular body member and wherein the lowermost portions of the plunger extend below the adjacent portions of the arms to engage the bottom of the tubular member and elevate the plunger to disengage said plunger from said cams and permit the arms to move to substantially vertical position.

5. The garment bagger set forth in claim 1 and further characterized by the formation of the cams on the arms in positions adjacent said pivot and spaced horizontally with respect to one another for the reception of the plunger therebetween.

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No references cited.