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STIFFENER FOR COLLARS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SAUL, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stiffeners for Collars, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to apparel, and particularly to collars, and the invention has for an object the provision of a novel collar stiffener in which provision is made for ventilation and the construction of which will minimize the deposit of moisture upon the collar or stiffener.

It is an object of this invention to produce a flexible stiffener for collars having a novel configuration at its ends to insure close fitting of the collar at the end buttonholes; and the invention furthermore contemplates the provision of a collar with a stiffener which will facilitate the movement of a necktie when the tie is to be adjusted after the collar has been arranged on the neck band of the shirt to which it may be applied.

It is a further object of this invention to produce a stiffener of the character indicated having ears which engage parts of the collar to prevent buckling or movement of the stiffener after it is in place, or while the necktie is being adjusted.

It is a still further object of this invention to produce a collar having novel means for engaging the ears just mentioned, and in the production of which novel means the advantageous results are attained.

The invention preferably contemplates the provision of a one-piece relatively rigid and yet flexible indestructible collar lining or stiffener which is concealed when being worn and which is so protected that it will not come in contact with the body of the user, the said device proving effective to retain the collar in proper shape to hold it against turning or wilting; the said stiffener being perforated to prevent moisture caused by perspiration from accumulating on the interior surface of the collar lining.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in the details of construction, and in the arrangement and combination of parts to be herein after more fully set forth and claimed.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this application, wherein like characters denote corresponding parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 illustrates a view in elevation showing a collar with a stiffener applied thereto;

Figure 2 illustrates an edge view of the stiffener;

Figure 3 illustrates an enlarged detail sectional view of the collar and stiffener;

Figure 4 illustrates a transverse sectional view of the stiffener;

Figure 5 illustrates a view in elevation of the stiffener;

Figure 6 illustrates an enlarged detail view of a fragment of a modified form of stiffener; and

Figure 7 illustrates an enlarged detail sectional view of a modified arrangement of the material of the collar.

In these drawings, 10 denotes the usual three ply collar construction, the inner ply 11 of which has a portion 12 that is removed from the main portion thereof, and this portion 12 has its ends turned in and secured to the other plies of the collar by the stitching 13. Those portions of the outer ply from which the section 12 is detached have their ends turned in and secured on the under side of the inner ply by stitching 14, thus strengthening the structure and forming finished inner ends 15 and 16 of the inner ply of the collar.

The stitching of the section 14 to the other plies of the collar retains the strength of the collar at the buttonhole 17, and pockets are formed between the inner ply and the middle ply of the collar for the insertion of the stiffener 18, the said stiffener preferably having rounded edges 19 and 20 to guard against undue wear on the collar by the use of the stiffener.

The ends of the stiffener are also curved, as shown at 21, in order that they will conform closely to the contour of the neck of the user and tend to retain the collar in place. The ends of the stiffener are also bifurcated, as shown at 22, and the furcations at each end straddle the buttonhole in order that stiffening material may be projected to the ends of the collar.

The stiffener is provided with perforations or apertures 23 of appropriate configuration in order that ventilation will be afforded and the accumulation of moisture
will be prevented. The stiffener or lining also has ears 24 at the upper edge thereof which are bent outwardly to engage the outer surface of the inner ply, and in the formation of these ears, recesses 25 are produced which constitute clearances for the edges of the inner ends of the inner ply, a condition which serves to prevent buckling of the lining or stiffener during the manipulation of the tie, and as shown in Figure 1, the lining or stiffener covers the buttonhole and prevents the necktie coming in contact with the head of the button by which the collar is secured in place, so that in the adjustment of the collar, free movement is afforded and no binding or retarding action results.

In the manufacture of the device, the inventor prefers that it shall be made of celluloid and it can be stamped from celluloid sheets and then shaped to the configuration desired at the ends, and the ears can also be set by slightly softening the celluloid as with heat, a process which is well known to those skilled in the art, although the device can be molded initially in the configuration desired.

In the modification shown in Fig. 6, the stiffener or lining 26 is of the same general construction as that heretofore described, except that it may have a buttonhole 27 which will align with the buttonhole of the collar, so that under certain conditions, the lining will be secured by the button, but those are details of construction which may be changed to suit particular requirements.

In the modification shown in Fig. 7, the three ply collar 28 has the outer and inner plies 29 and 30 treated in a manner like that described for the treatment of the inner ply in connection with the disclosure of Fig. 1, and when this expedient is resorted to, two pockets 31 and 32 are produced which may be employed for the reception of the stiffener or lining. In this last mentioned form, the inner ends of the plies will be stitched as shown at 33 and 34, to produce the same effect as that embodied in the ends 15 and 16 of that form shown in Fig. 1.

The utility for the construction shown in Fig. 1 is that the collar can be reversed and the stiffener can be applied to either pocket.

I claim:

1. In a stiffener for collars, a member of relatively rigid but flexible material, ears formed on the upper edge of the member in spaced relation to each other, the said member having recesses between the ears and the edge of the member forming clearances, and a collar having a portion of the outer side of the neckband removed in that part of the collar adapted to fit at the back of the neck, the edges of the outer side of the neckband fitting between the ears and the edge of said member whereby the member is prevented from slipping with relation to the collar to which the member is applied.

2. In a stiffener for collars, a member of relatively rigid but flexible material, a collar having an opening at the rear on the outer side of the neckband and a pocket on each side of the opening, a stiffener having its ends inserted in the pockets, and means carried by the stiffener for engaging the edges of the outer side of the neckband at the opening for anchoring the stiffening member in position.

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