June 16, 1953 S. F. STEIN 2,641,765

GARMENT CUFF

Filed March 28, 1949

Fig. 1.

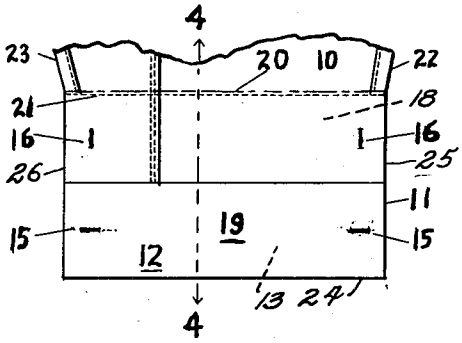


Fig. 2.

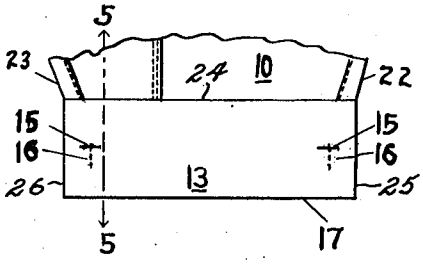


Fig. 3.

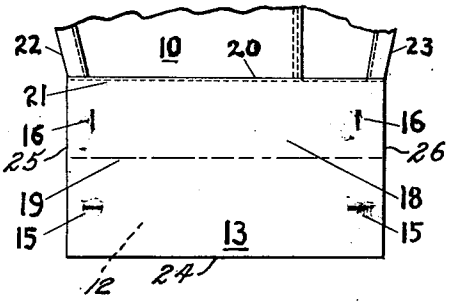


Fig. 4.

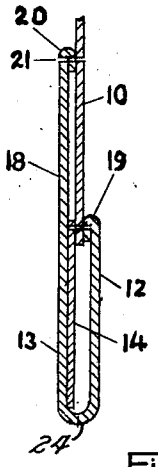


Fig. 5.

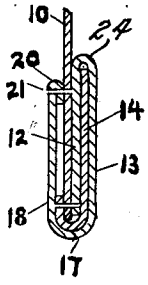


Fig. 6.

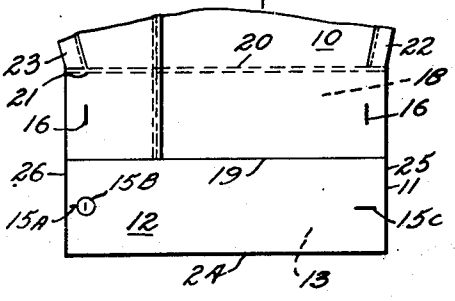
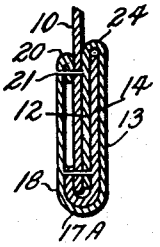


Fig. 7.



INVENTOR

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GARMENT CUFF

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—123)

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My invention relates to garments and particularly to shirts, blouses and jackets comprising sleeves having wrist encircling cuffs at the ends thereof. The object of my invention is to construct a cuff in such a manner whereby the sleeve length may readily be altered to meet the requirement of a particular wearer.

Taking men's dress shirts as an example, the sleeve lengths of same generally range from 31 inches to 35 inches. A shirt having a sleeve length shorter than 31 inches is very seldom produced by shirt manufacturers. This situation is consequently confronted with a difficult problem to meet the requirement of persons demanding sleeve lengths shorter than 31 inches. This difficulty is definitely obviated by the novel cuff construction set forth in detail in the present specification.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 illustrates a portion of a shirt sleeve comprising a "plain cuff," extended in flat form to render a clear illustration, showing the outside of the cuff;

Fig. 2 illustrates the cuff shown in Fig. 1, converted into the form of a "French cuff";

Fig. 3 illustrates the innerside of the cuff shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 illustrates on enlarged scale a cross section on line 4—4 of Fig. 1, showing the innerside ply of the cuff, its complementary outer ply and the intermediary stiffening therebetween.

Fig. 5 is a cross section on line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Figure 6 illustrates a cuff structure comprising a button attached thereto for closing the plain cuff as well as when it is converted to a French cuff; in either case only one of the lower button holes will be employed;

Figure 7 shows diagrammatically the fold of the French cuff as having been changed to a different line than what is shown in Figures 1 and 5, as will be explained further in the specification.

Referring to the drawings:

10 represents a portion of a shirt sleeve; 11 represents a cuff known as a "plain cuff," showing the cuff tailored in accordance with my invention as it normally appears. Let us assume the sleeve length is 31 inches, and the wearer requires a sleeve length that measures 28½ inches. In this event, as shown in Fig. 2, the cuff 11 is folded over upward, taking thus the form of a cuff known as a "French cuff," and assuming that the width of cuff 11 was 2½ inches when in the form of a "plain cuff," the sleeve length is thus shortened to 28½ inches when the cuff takes the form of a "French cuff." Should a person require a 29½ inch sleeve length, a "plain cuff" of a 32 inch sleeve would meet such a requirement.

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It will be seen that in order to render cuff 11 capable of being manipulated in the manner described herein, the cuff construction must necessarily be practicable to be interchanged at will from a "plain cuff" to a "French cuff" or vice versa. My cuff construction described herein renders such a manipulation possible and which cannot be accomplished with the ordinary construction of cuffs, be it either a "plain cuff" or "French cuff" construction, as will be explained.

To produce a "French cuff" as ordinarily constructed, the cuff comprises two plies, each ply being equal to substantially twice the dimension of a "plain cuff" of ordinary construction. It is clearly seen that it would definitely be undesirable to convert the ordinary "French cuff" into the form of a "plain cuff," because in that case, the latter would be wholly out of proportion in comparison with the dimension which a "plain cuff" calls for. Therefore a "French cuff" necessarily is to remain a "French cuff" when made in the customary way. And in the same manner, a "plain cuff" is inevitably destined to remain as it is and cannot be suitably converted into a "French cuff," because the innerside ply of the ordinary "plain cuff" has not sufficient material to permit a desirable fold formation, appropriable to a "French cuff" mode.

Referring further to the drawings, 12 represents the outerside ply of cuff 11; 13 represents the innerside ply thereof; 14 represents the intermediary stiffening ply between plies 12 and 13. Button holes 15 in relation with button holes 16 are provided to be suitably engaged by cuff links or other fastening devices when cuffs are worn in the form of "French cuffs" to close the cuff. However, when the cuffs are worn in the form of "plain cuffs," button holes 15 would be all that would be employed. Button holes 16 are preferably positioned vertically in relation with button holes 15, for the reason that fold 17 associated with the "French cuff" formation could thus be changed to a different fold line 17A when desired, in order to prevent excessive wear at that point which may cause the cuff material to fray or wear out when the material is folded always on the same line (see Figure 7).

It will be seen that the outer ply 12, is of the same dimension (about 2½ inches) as would be required for the formation of a "plain cuff," and this dimension is that which is required for the formation of a "French cuff" in accordance with my invention. However, the innerside ply 13 is

provided with an extension 18, which extends a suitable distance towards the innerside of the sleeve up further than the adjacent attached edge 19 of outer ply 12.

The extension 18 serves to cover the unsightly surface comprising shirring, folds, pleats and seams that are normally present at the place of attachment of the sleeve's lower end to the adjacent end edge of the cuff, it also conceals the wrong side of the sleeve material which often differs in appearance from the right side which would be showing at the wearer's wrist if extension 18 be absent thereat. The end edge 20 of extension 18 may be suitably attached to the sleeve material 10 by a line of stitching 21, or by blind stitching or other attaching means. Extension 18 may be formed of a separate piece of material which will serve the purpose described and may also be cut on bias. However, it is preferred that extension 18 and ply 13 be formed of a single piece of material. Plies 12 and 13 may be formed either of a single piece of fabric or of separate pieces suitably joined at the end of the cuff.

Referring to Figure 6, instead of cuff links and other devices, the button and button hole arrangement may be used, and with the adaptation of the "French cuff" mode, the button 15B will pass through each of button holes 16, when it will engage with the adjacent button hole 15C. In this case a shank button having a suitable neck construction would be desirable. Of course, with the above mentioned arrangement a button 15B would be employed for the purpose instead of button hole 15A.

Button holes and buttons or cuff links may be dispensed with and a clamp device may be employed for closing the cuff at the wearer's wrist. Such a device will clamp two thicknesses of the cuff in case of a "plain cuff" and four thicknesses in case of a "French cuff."

The foregoing cuff construction solves a problem that has been a difficult problem to solve for a long time after numerous attempts have been made to secure an acceptable solution to the problem of sleeve lengths of shirts, blouses, jackets and other kinds of garments to which my invention may apply.

When the cuff closure comprises the button and button hole arrangement as described and as shown in Figure 6, it will be noted that when the cuff is worn in the form of a "plain cuff," this arrangement presents the rounded barrel cuff fashion, in such a manner as a "plain cuff" is generally worn. However, in the event that the latter be converted into a "French cuff" the cuff closure automatically changes to the fashion appropriate to a "French cuff." The four adjacent edges which pertain to a "French cuff" construction extending outwardly in relation to the wearer's wrist.

Instead of using a shank button as described above, the ordinary two or four-hole button may as well be used, which would be sewed by the ordinary button-sewing machine usually employed for sewing all the other buttons of the shirt, thus eliminating the necessity of employing a special clamp device generally used for attaching shank buttons. Of course, it depends on the thickness of the material of the cuff in order to determine what kind of buttons are to be used.

22 and 23 are complementary bound edges which constitute the usual cuff vent of the sleeve.

The end edge of the plain cuff is designated by numeral 24; numerals 25 and 26 designate respective side edges of the cuff structure extending from the end edge 24 to the bound edges 22 and 23 respectively.

While I have shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, it is understood that the same is susceptible of modification in various forms without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. I therefore desire that what I claim be given broad interpretation and be limited only by the prior art pertaining thereto.

I claim:

1. The combination with a sleeve of a garment of a convertible cuff construction, comprising an external ply of cuff material having one edge thereof secured on a line adjacent the free end of the sleeve and extending beyond the free end of said sleeve, said ply providing a free edge to the cuff, an interior ply of cuff material extending from said edge within said sleeve and having an edge secured to said sleeve internally thereof on a line substantially spaced from said free end of the sleeve, the portion of the external ply between said first line of securement and the said free edge being of a width to provide a plain cuff, the cuff construction being foldable outwardly and upwardly about the first line of securement with the interior ply exposed to provide a french cuff.

2. The combination with a sleeve of a garment of a convertible cuff construction, comprising an external ply of cuff material having one edge thereof secured on a line adjacent the free end of the sleeve and extending beyond the free end of said sleeve, said ply providing a free edge to the cuff, an interior ply of cuff material extending from said edge within said sleeve and having an edge secured to said sleeve internally thereof on a line substantially spaced from said free end of the sleeve, the portion of the external ply between said first line of securement and the said free edge being of a width to provide a plain cuff, the cuff construction comprising opposed side edges and being foldable outwardly and upwardly about the first line of securement with the interior ply exposed to provide a french cuff, a button adjacent one side edge of the cuff attached to the exterior ply, a button hole adjacent the opposite side edge of the cuff for engagement with said button, button holes above the upper edge of said exterior ply suitably spaced from the aforesaid former button hole and the aforesaid button, respectively.

3. The combination with a sleeve of a garment of a convertible cuff construction, comprising an external ply of cuff material having one edge thereof secured on a line adjacent the free end of the sleeve and extending beyond the free end of said sleeve, said ply providing a free edge to the cuff, an interior ply of cuff material extending from said edge within said sleeve and having an edge secured to said sleeve internally thereof on a line substantially spaced from said free end of the sleeve, the portion of the external ply between said first line of securement and the said free edge being of a width to provide a plain cuff, the cuff construction being foldable outwardly and upwardly about the first line of securement with the interior ply exposed to provide a french cuff and fastening means above the upper edge of said exterior ply to engage in separable relation with complementary means below said upper edge for maintaining the french cuff in its folded position.

4. The combination with a sleeve of a garment of a convertible cuff construction, comprising an external ply of cuff material having one edge thereof secured on a line adjacent the free end of the sleeve and extending beyond the free end of said sleeve, said ply providing a free edge to the cuff, an interior ply of cuff material extending from said edge within said sleeve and having an edge secured to said sleeve internally thereof on a line substantially spaced from said free end of the sleeve, the portion of the external ply between said first line of securement and the said free edge being of a width to provide a plain cuff, the cuff construction being foldable outwardly and upwardly about the first line of securement with the interior ply exposed to provide a french cuff, and fastening means spaced above the upper edge of said exterior ply to engage in separable relation with complementary means spaced below said upper edge, the arrangement of the fastening means being such that provides for changing the fold line of the french cuff and to maintain said cuff in the changed folded position.

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