G. W. VAN DECAR.

NECK AND WRIST WEAR.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 13, 1918.

1,270,673. Patented June 25, 1918.

FIG. 1.

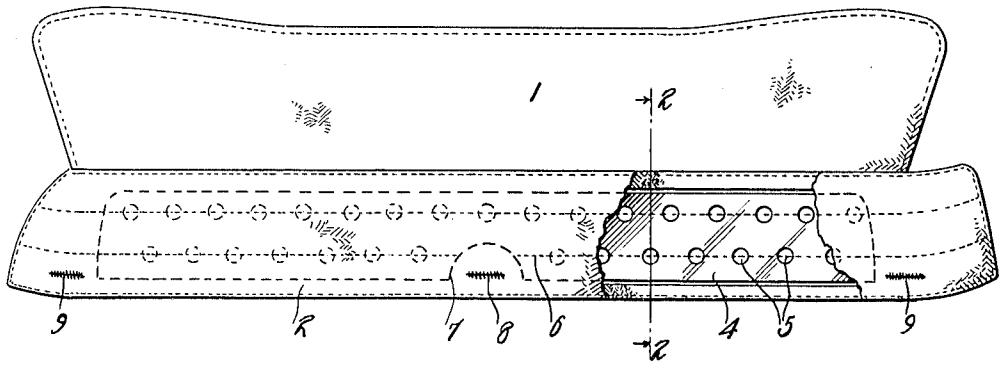



FIG. 2.

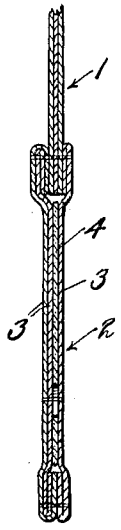
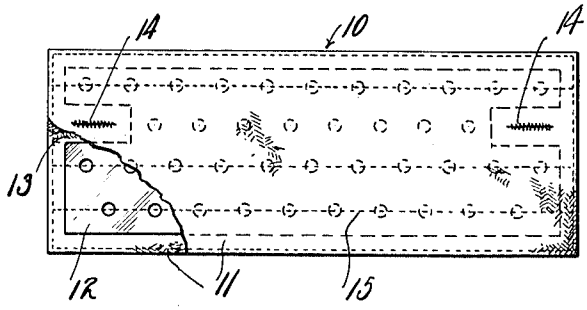



FIG. 3.




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WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. VAN DECAR, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

## NECK AND WRIST WEAR.

1,270,673. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 25, 1918.

Application filed February 13, 1918. Serial No. 216,861.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. VAN DECAR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Troy, in the county of Rensselaer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Neck and Wrist Wear, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to neck and wrist bands for garments and more particularly to those of soft collars and cuffs.

The main object of the invention is to provide bands for shirts, soft collars and cuffs, with combined stiffening and shrinkage preventing means which will serve effectively to hold the band against shrinkage in size and to form a spring to prevent the collar or cuff from hugging the neck or wrist of the wearer, permitting circulation of air as in laundried starched collars and cuffs. This device is also designed to hold collars in an upright position when worn without sacrificing the comfort of a soft collar.

Another object is to provide a stiffener of this character which will not be injuriously affected by moisture and the ordinary heat employed in laundrying operations.

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 understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 represents a plan view of a soft collar embodying this invention laid out flat for convenience in illustration, parts being broken away to show the interior construction,

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a soft cuff constructed in accordance with this invention with parts broken out to show the interior construction.

In the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, in which the invention is shown applied to a soft collar, 1 represents the top or outer flap of the collar, and 2 the neck band or stand thereof, both of which are of ordinary design. The band 2 is composed of a plurality of plies 3, three being here shown, although obviously two may be equally well used when the combined stiffener and shrinkage preventer 4 constituting this invention is employed.

This stiffener 4, which may be formed of one or more strips of celluloid is placed between the plies of the neck band and stitched as shown at 6, said band being provided with a plurality of apertures 5 for ventilation. As shown, the plurality of rows of stitching 6 are employed which are designed to permanently hold the celluloid strip 4 in operative position in the neck band of the collar, thus causing it to form a permanent part of the collar. The celluloid strip may be readily penetrated by an ordinary sewing machine needle and it is to be understood that the term "celluloid" covers all forms of this material such as pyrolin, zylonite, etc.

The strip 4 as shown in the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 1, has a cutout portion or recess 7 arranged around the button hole 8 formed at the back of the neck band of the collar, and said strip at its opposite ends terminates short of the front button holes 9, but obviously it may extend beyond these button holes if found desirable and recessed around them in the same manner as it is at the rear of the collar.

In Fig. 3, the invention is shown applied to a soft cuff 10 which is composed of a plurality of superposed plies of cloth or any suitable fabric 11, between which is disposed an interlining 12 of celluloid which extends substantially from end to end of the cuff, having recesses 13 at its opposite ends which encompass the button holes 14 in the cuff so as to provide for the easy buttoning without interference by the stiffener or interlining. This interlining 12 is stitched through the cuff by rows of stitching 15 in the same manner that the stiffener 4 is applied to the neck band of the collar and forms a permanent part of the cuff.

It is well known that all soft collars shrink from one-fourth to one-half an inch in size when laundried, and one of the primary objects of this invention is to overcome this shrinkage which is effected by the use of the celluloid strips above described which operates to perform three functions, to wit:— as shrinkage preventers; as means for holding the outer ply or flap 1 of the collar against crushing, avoiding a mussed appear-

ance, which usually is presented by collars of this character after they are worn a short time, and which also prevents hugging of the collar band around the neck of the wearer, permitting free circulation of air in a manner similar to the bands of laundried starched collars and which, yet, does not in any way interfere with the comfort provided by a soft collar.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the advantages of the construction and of the method of operation will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains and while I have described the principle of operation of the invention together with the device which I now consider to be the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that the device shown is merely illustrative and that such changes may be made as are within the scope of the claimed invention.

I claim:—

1. A band for shirts, collars and the like composed of a plurality of plies of fabric with a strip of celluloid permanently secured between the plies, said plies completely inclosing said strip whereby a non-shrinkable band structure is provided and said strip prevented from removal from said band.

2. A band for shirts, collars and the like composed of a plurality of plies of fabric with a strip of celluloid permanently secured between the plies by stitching through the fabric and the celluloid whereby a non-shrinkable unitary band structure is provided.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. VAN DECAR.

Witnesses:
H. P. Thompson,
John J. Smith.