May 1, 1956 M. SULLIVAN 2,743,702

CHOKE COLLAR

Filed April 6, 1955

Fig. 1.

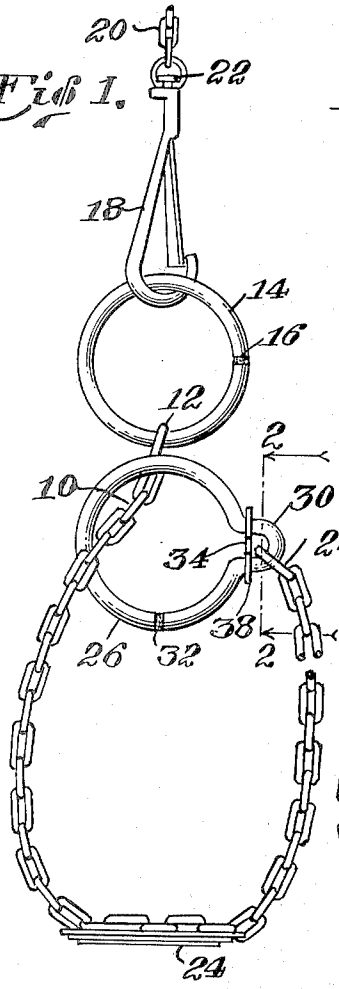


Fig. 3.

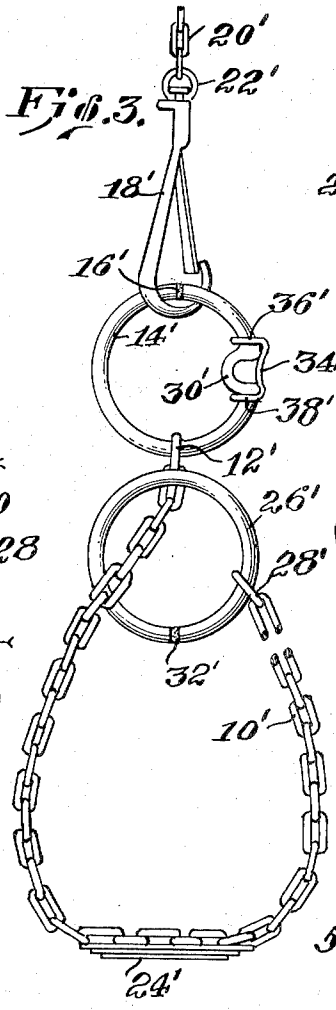


Fig. 4.

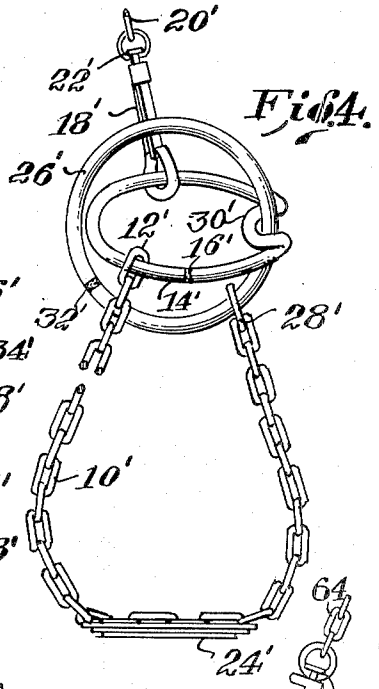


Fig. 5.

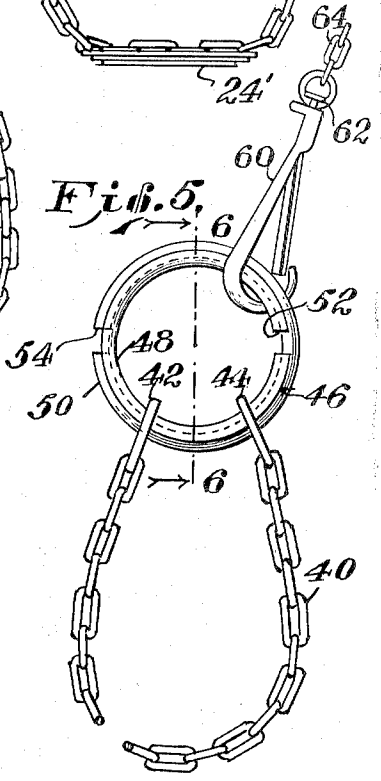


Fig. 2.

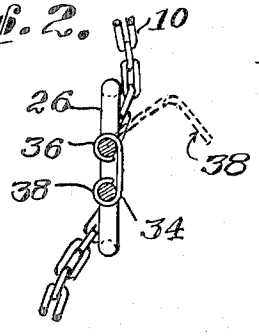
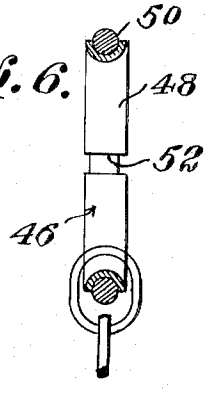


Fig. 6.



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2,743,702

CHOKE COLLAR

Michael Sullivan, Youngstown, Ohio

Application April 6, 1955, Serial No. 499,633

9 Claims. (Cl. 119—106)

This invention relates to a choke collar for use on dogs, cattle, sheep and other domestic animals, employing a chain or other flexible element that is employed for use about the animal's neck.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a choke collar that does not require in its application the passing of the collar over the head of the animal.

Another object is the provision of a choke collar, the length of which is about the size of the animal's neck. In fact, the neck of the animal, such as a dog, may be measured in order to supply the choke colllar of the right size to fit the dog's neck for which it is intended.

A further object is to provide a choke collar having locking means therefor for preventing unintentional disengagement of the one ring from the chain when the flexible neck encircling element is in slack position.

An additional object is to provide a choke collar having a locking element that is constructed to eliminate all strain on the locking element during employment of the collar as a choke about the neck of an animal.

Other objects of the invention will appear hereinafter.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of one form of the choke collar;

Figure 2 is a detail view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 1 of a second form of the invention;

Figure 4 is an enlarged view of the Figure 3 form with a part removed, and showing the manner of applying or removing the choke collar with the lock member removed;

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 1 of a third form of choke collar; and

Figure 6 is an enlarged detail view taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

Referring to the form shown in Figures 1 and 2, a chain or other flexible element, hereinafter referred to as "chain" is indicated by the numeral **10**. The end **12** of the chain is permanently connected to the closed ring **14**, the latter having its ends welded at **16**. A snap hook **18** connected to a lead **20** may be attached to the ring as shown in Figure 1. The snap hook is provided with the usual swivel **22**.

Mounted on the chain by screws or rivets, as shown, is an identification tag **24**, which may be constructed in accordance with the invention shown and described in my Patent No. 2,648,150, granted August 11, 1953, although other identification means may be substituted therefor.

The chain passes through a second closed ring **26**. The ring 26 is provided with a U-shaped portion **30** to which the opposite end 28 of the chain is fastened. To pass ring 14, end 28 must be slid on ring **26** out of the U-shaped portion 30. The open ends of ring **26** are welded solidly and permanently by the weld **32**.

In order to close the loop of the U-shaped portion **30**, I provide a lock member **34**. One form that such lock member may take is that shown in Figures 1 and 2, wherein it comprises a straight intermediate portion extending across the legs of the U-shaped portion. The straight portion is provided with an eye **36** which is connected to the upper of these legs, and there is a second eye **38** that may be clenched about the lower leg as seen in these figures, when end **28** has been slid from the circular part of the ring to its U-shaped portion, as shown in the drawings.

It will be understood that the relative outside diameter of ring **14** and the inside diameter of ring **26** are such that ring **14** can pass through ring **26** only prior to the time when eye **38** is clenched about the lower leg of the U-shaped portion to close the same. As the eye **36** is preferably permanently attached to the U-shaped portion, the loop of this portion is open until such time as it is desired to prevent the ring **14** passing through ring **26**. At this time the eye **38** is clenched over the lower leg of the U-shaped member. The lock member may be composed of a thin bendable metal, including steel or copper, or a suitable metal alloy.

The U-shaped or notched portion, such as shown at **30** in Figure 1, may be made on either ring 14 or **26**, and the said U-shaped portion may be such that it extends outwardly from the ring or it may extend inwardly within the inner circumference of its ring, but the relative sizes of the rings must be such, in any of these constructions, that one ring may pass through the other ring only when the U-shaped portion of one ring is open, such as is shown in Figure 4. Identification tag **24** will readily pass through either ring **14** or **26**.

Referrring to the second form of the invention shown in Figures 3 and 4, wherein, for illustrative purposes, the top ring is provided with the U-shaped portion which portion extends inwardly of the ring, the chain or flexible member is shown at **10'**. The upper end of the chain is connected at **12'** to the ring **14'** whose ends are welded at **16'**. A snap hook **18'** is connected to a lead **20'** by a swivel **22'**, and the chain has an identification tag **24'** fastened thereto by bolts or rivets.

The second closed ring **26'** is slightly larger than ring **14'**, and to it is attached at **28'** the other end of the chain.

In the construction shown, the upper, smaller ring is provided with an inwardly extending U-shaped portion. As will be seen by referring to Figure 4, ring **14'** can only pass through ring **26'** when the loop of the U-shaped portion is open as shown in this figure. The U-shaped portion may be closed by the lock member **34'**, the central portion of which, when the member **34'** is in place as shown in Figure 3, extends across the open part thereof. The eyes **36'** and **38'** of the member **34'** are bent to encircle circumferential portions of the ring. This member **34'** is slightly different than its corresponding part **34** shown in Figures 1 and 2, in that the eyes extend substantially at right angles to the central part that closes the loop of the part **30'**, but are otherwise the same, and the parts of both Figures 1 and 3 perform the same function.

The two forms shown in Figures 1 to 4 allow for both chains to be of the same size as the animal's neck, and do not require the threading of a looped chain over the head of the animal.

The chain in either form is wrapped or placed around the animal's neck in the same manner that a horse collar is placed around the neck of a horse. Lock member **34** or **34'** has not been applied at this time. Ring **14** is then threaded through ring **26** in the Figure 1 construction, or ring **14'** is threaded through ring **26'** in the Figure 3 construction, as shown in Figure 4. Lock member **34** or **34'** is then applied to the U-shaped portion **30** or **30'**, respectively.

With the parts in this position and with the chain of

each figure encircling the neck of the animal, it may be led around by grasping the lead **20** or **20'**. The chains **10** or **10'** should preferably be of such length as to be of only slightly larger circumference than the circumference of the animal's neck so as to form a snug fit with the rings engaging each other.

The lock member **34** or **34'** prevents the smaller ring from assuming its original position by sliding through the larger ring. Thus the chain, even when the lead is released and slack is allowed in the chain, cannot be pulled over the animal's head as the loop of chain is too small to pass over its head.

It will be noted in both forms that, with the lead pulled to choke position, the chain imposes no strain on the lock member.

Referring to the third form of the invention shown in Figures 5 and 6, the chain **40** is provided with ends **42** and **44** that are attached to the ring means **46**, the latter comprising a pair of split rings **48** and **50**, with split ring **48** partially surrounding and being rotatable within split ring **50**. Ring **48** is provided with an opening **52** and ring **50** has an opening **54**.

When one of the rings is partially rotated relative to the other ring until openings **52** and **54** are in alignment, the end or ends of the chain may be inserted, or if previously inserted within said rings, may be withdrawn therefrom. The snap hook of a lead, such as shown in Figure 1, may be snapped over the rings. As shown in Figure 5, a snap hook **60** is connected to a lead **64** by the usual swivel **62**. It will be understood that the length of the chain in the third form also is such that it forms a snug fit with the neck of the animal to which it is applied.

It will be understood that I desire to be limited only to the extent set forth in the claims. Accordingly, the word "chain" includes any flexible element such as a rope. Other means for closing the U-shaped portion shown in Figures 1 to 4 may be used. Either ring of these figures may be provided with the U-shaped portion, and the rings may be round, square-sided, or oval if they perform their function in the combination, i. e., one cannot pass through the other unless the locking means has been opened.

I claim:

1. A choke collar for animals comprising a chain having ends, ring means comprising ring members adapted to be engaged by said chain ends to form a loop in one position of said ring members and chain, and lead means for engaging said ring means, at least one of said ring members having manually operated means permitting movement of one end of said chain through one of the ring members to free said one end of said chain from one of said ring members to thereby break the chain loop and permit disengagement of said choke collar from the neck of an animal.

2. A choke collar for animals comprising a chain having ends, ring means adapted to be engaged by said chain ends, and lead means for engaging said ring means, said ring means comprising a plurality of rings to form a closed loop in one position of said chain and rings, one of said rings having a U-shaped portion including an open loop, whereby one of said rings may pass through the other ring to thereby break the chain loop and permit disengagement of said choke collar from the neck of said animal, and means preventing said one ring from passing through said other ring comprising a locking member extending across the loop of said U-shaped member.

3. A choke chain for animals comprising a closed ring, a second closed ring of larger size than said first ring, a chain having its respective ends connected to said rings to form a closed loop in one position of said chain and rings, one of said rings having a notch forming a recess whereby one of said rings may pass through the other ring to thereby break the chain loop and permit disengagement of said choke collar from the neck of said animal, and means for closing said recess to thereby prevent passage of one of said rings through said other ring, and a lead attached to one of said rings.

4. A choke chain for animals comprising a closed ring, a second closed ring of larger size than said first ring, a chain having its respective ends connected to said rings to form a closed loop in one position of said chain and rings, one of said rings having a notch forming a recess whereby one of said rings may pass through the other ring to thereby break the chain loop and permit disengagement of said choke collar from the neck of said animal, and means for closing said recess to thereby prevent passage of one of said rings through said other ring, and a lead attached to one of said rings, said means for closing said recess comprising a locking member having eyes at its opposite ends, said eyes extending around said ring adjacent the recess thereof.

5. A choke chain for animals comprising a closed ring, a second closed ring of larger size than said first ring, a chain having its respective ends connected to said rings to form a closed loop in one position of said chain and rings, one of said rings having a notch forming a recess whereby one of said rings may pass through the other ring to thereby break the chain loop and permit disengagement of said choke collar from the neck of said animal, and means for closing said recess to thereby prevent passage of one of said rings through said other ring, and a lead attached to one of said rings, said recess comprising a U-shaped portion extending outwardly of the ring of which it forms a part.

6. A choke chain for animals comprising a closed ring, a second closed ring of larger size than said first ring, a chain having its respective ends connected to said rings, one of said rings having a notch forming a recess whereby one of said rings may pass through the other ring, and means for closing said recess to thereby prevent passage of one of said rings through said other ring, and a lead attached to one of said rings, said means for closing said recess comprising a locking member having eyes at its opposite ends, said eyes extending around said ring adjacent the recess thereof, said recess comprising a U-shaped portion extending outwardly of the ring of which it forms a part.

7. A choke chain for animals comprising a closed ring, a second closed ring of larger size than said first ring, a chain having its respective ends connected to said rings to form a closed loop in one position of said chain and rings, one of said rings having a notch forming a recess whereby one of said rings may pass through the other ring to thereby break the chain loop and permit disengagement of said choke collar from the neck of said animal, and means for closing said recess to thereby prevent passage of one of said rings through said other ring, and a lead attached to one of said rings, said recess comprising a U-shaped portion extending inwardly of the ring of which it forms a part.

8. A choke chain for animals comprising a closed ring, a second closed ring of larger size than said first ring, a chain having its respective ends connected to said rings, one of said rings having a notch forming a recess whereby one of said rings may pass through the other ring, and means for closing said recess to thereby prevent passage of one of said rings through said other ring, and a lead attached to one of said rings, said means for closing said recess comprising a locking member having eyes at its opposite ends, said eyes extending around said ring adjacent the recess thereof, said recess comprising a U-shaped portion extending inwardly of the ring of which it forms a part.

9. A choke collar for animals comprising a chain having ends, ring means adapted to be engaged by said chain ends, and lead means for engaging said ring means, said chain means comprising a pair of concentric rings, means connecting said rings for relative rotation thereof, and said rings each having an opening whereby when said

openings are in alignment said chain and said lead means may be engaged or disengaged from said rings.

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