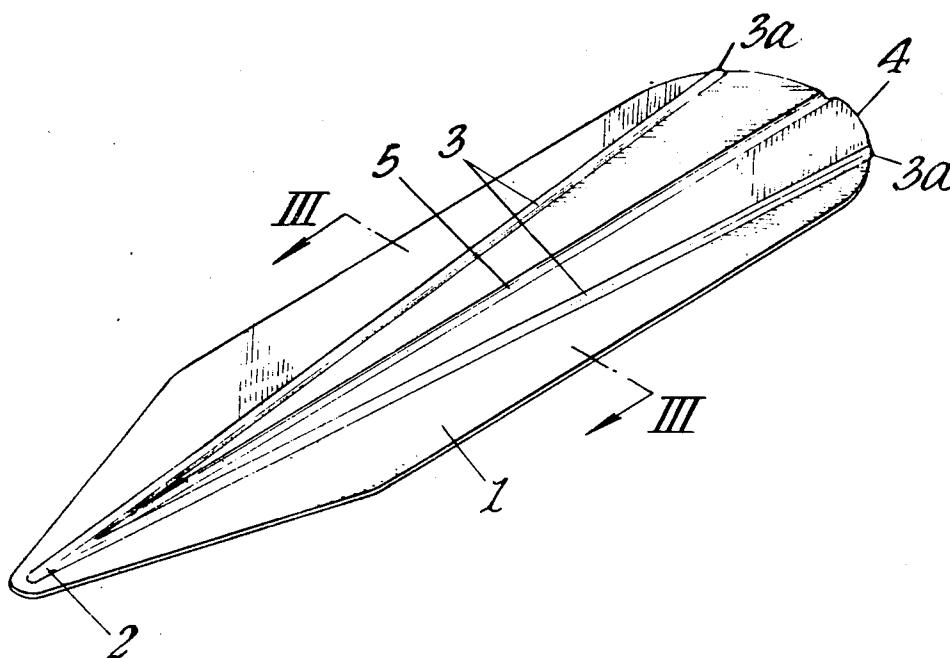


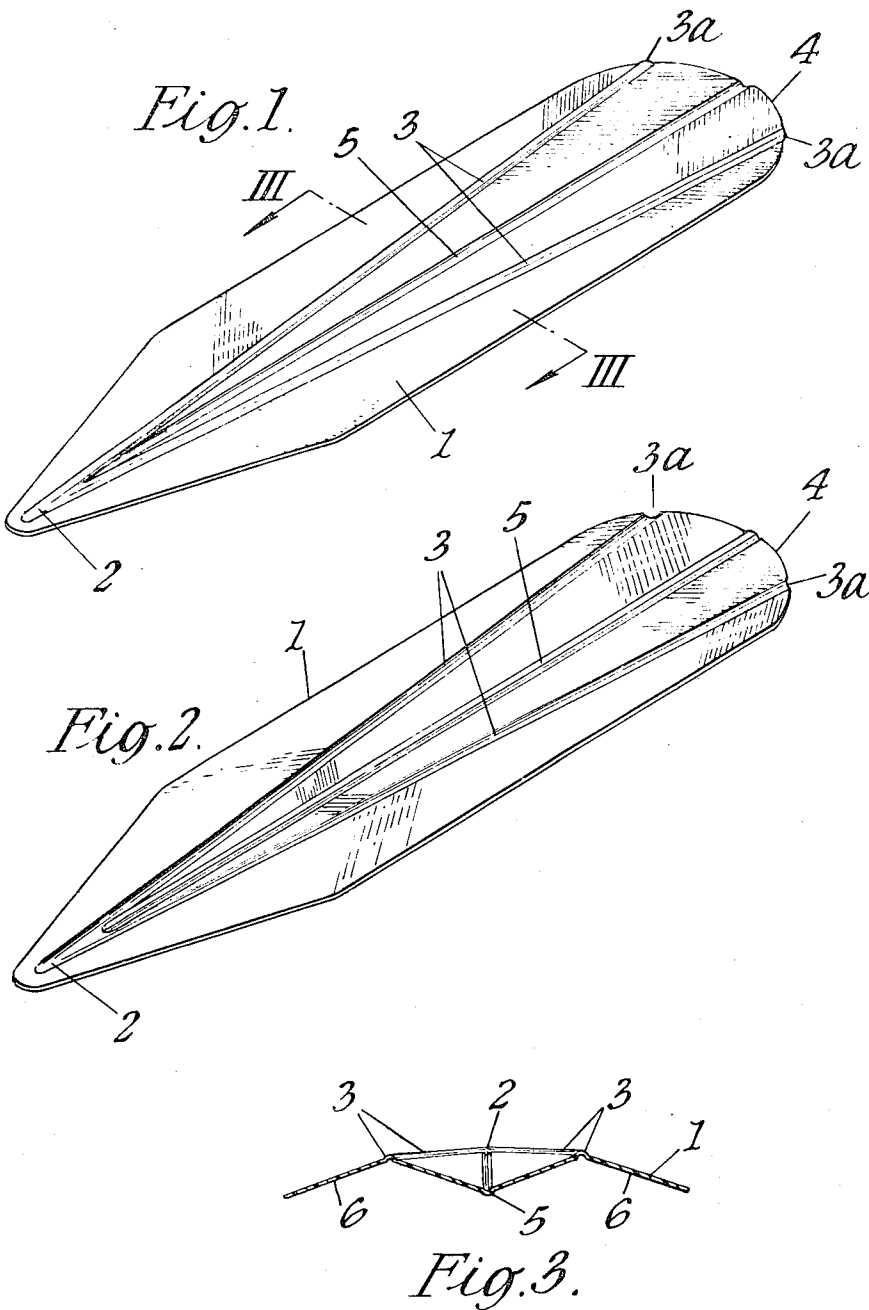
Snare et al.

[45] **Aug. 29, 1972**

[58] **Field of Search**.....2/132, 255-258,
2/261

4 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures





INVENTORS
VICTOR SNARE
ALFRED LEONARD CLAYTON
By *Emory L. Groff* ATTORNEY

MEANS FOR STIFFENING SHIRT COLLARS

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

United Kingdom Application No:36727/69 dated 5
July 22, 1969.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to means for stiffening 10
the meeting front edges of soft shirts collars, i.e. the edges of the pointed parts of the collar between which a tie is worn.

Although the invention is primarily concerned with 15
stiffeners for collars of collar-attached shirts it may advantageously also be applied to stiffeners for soft collars which are separate from and adapted to be connected to the collar bands of shirts.

The object of the invention is the provision of an improved stiffener which is very simple and inexpensive 20
to make and which will act to retain the pointed front end of a collar comfortably and neatly in a set position while permitting said end to yield in a controlled manner with movement of a wearer so that it is not forcibly urged towards the shirt front to such an extent as to rub unduly against the shirt front and wear a hole 25
in the latter.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to the present invention there is provided a stiffener for a front pointed edge of a soft shirt collar which comprises a flat thin narrow strip of resilient sheet material formed with a single V-shape rib pressed out from one face thereof and pointing longitudinally 35
of the strip, and with a second but straight rib which is pressed out from the other face and extends longitudinally of the stiffener and centrally of the width thereof and on an axis which intersects the apex of the V-shape rib pressed out from the first mentioned face of the stiffener.

Preferably, the material from which the stiffener is made is a thin and almost film-like transparent sheet of flexible plastics material such as a polyester which is 45
sufficiently flexible to yield and bend with the neck movements and yet sufficiently stiff due to the added resistance to bending resulting from the provision of said straight rib to ensure that the point of a collar is maintained in a required set position.

The apex of the V-shape rib terminates on a blunt pointed end of the stiffener and one end of the straight rib terminates on said apex of the V-shape rib. The opposite end of the stiffener is simply rounded, i.e. semi-circular.

The outer ends of the limbs of the V-shape rib terminates at or adjacent to the longitudinal edges of the stiffener.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view looking towards one side of the stiffener,

FIG. 2 is a similar view looking towards the other side, and

FIG. 3 is a transverse section drawn to a larger scale and taken on the line III—III of FIG. 1.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to said drawings, the stiffener 1 is made from a thin and almost film-like sheet of flexible plastics material, such as a polyester, which is sufficiently flexible to yield and bend with neck movements so that in particular, the blunted pointed end 2 will not cause a pointed part of the collar in which it is fitted to rub unduly against a shirt front and wear a hole in the latter. This stiffener 1 is formed with a single elongated V-shape rib 3 having a length which is substantially equal to the length of the stiffener. This V-shape rib is pressed out from one face of the stiffener (FIG. 1) and has its apex terminating at the point 2 of the stiffener and its mouth terminating adjacent a rounded and normally upper end 4 of the stiffener.

The face of the stiffener opposite to that having the V-shape rib 3 is formed with a single straight rib 5 (FIG. 2) which is pressed out from this face and extends longitudinally of the stiffener and centrally of the width thereof on an axis which intersects the apex of the V-shape rib 3.

The pressing out of the rib 5 from one face of the stiffener results in the transverse section of the stiffener between the limbs of the V-shape rib 3 assuming a very shallow V-form (FIG. 3) with the parts 6 between the said limbs 3 of the V-shape rib 3 and the outer longitudinal edges of the stiffener sloping in the opposite direction.

The provision of the single straight rib 5 and the consequent formation of the stiffener into the cross section illustrated in FIG. 3 imparts a desired rigidity to the stiffener which yieldingly resists flexing of the stiffener in such a manner as to permit desirable controlled flexing of the stiffener in a pointed front end of a collar in which it is incorporated but not to such an extent as to rub unduly against the shirt front and wear a hole in the latter.

As shown, the outer ends 3a of the limbs of the V-shaped rib terminates at or adjacent to the longitudinal edges of the stiffener 1 at said rounded end 4.

We claim:

1. A stiffener for a front pointed edge of a soft shirt collar comprising a flat thin narrow strip of resilient sheet material formed with a single V-shape rib pressed out from one face thereof and pointing longitudinally of the strip, and with a second but straight rib which is pressed out from the other face and extends longitudinally of the stiffener and centrally of the width thereof and on an axis which intersects the apex of the V-shape rib pressed out from the first mentioned face of the stiffener.

2. A stiffener as claimed in claim 1 wherein the apex of the V-shape rib terminates on a blunt pointed end of the stiffener and one end of the straight second rib terminates on said apex of the V-shape rib.

3. A stiffener as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer ends of the limbs of the pressed out V-shape rib terminate at or adjacent to the longitudinal edges of the stiffener.

4. A stiffener as claimed in claim 1, wherein the material from which the stiffener is made is a thin and almost film-like transparent sheet of flexible plastics material as a polyester which is sufficiently flexible to

yield and bend with neck movements and yet sufficiently stiff to ensure that the point of a collar is maintained in a required set position.

* * * * *

5

10

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

60

65