April 21, 1959 C. A. CALDER 2,883,094

LAY DOWN COLLAR SUPPORT

Filed Nov. 7, 1957

FIG. 1.

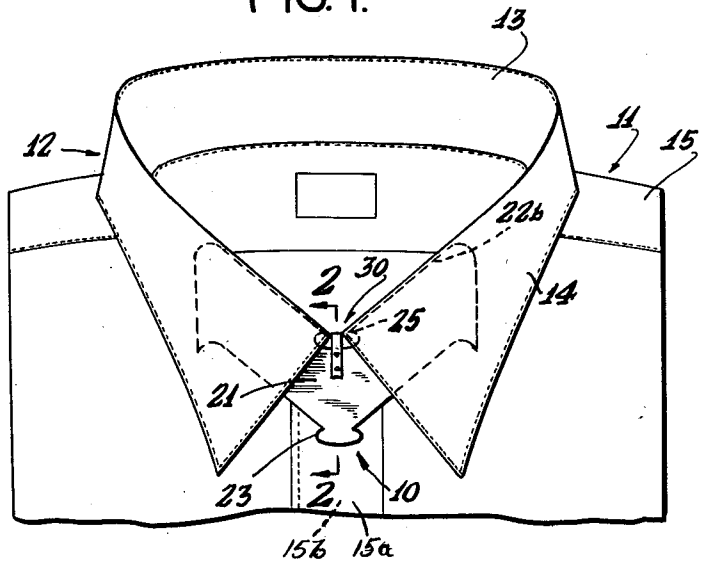


FIG. 2.

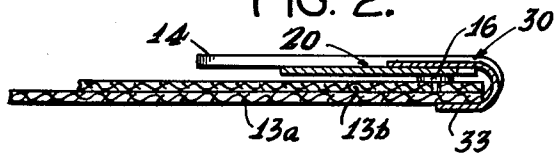


FIG. 3.

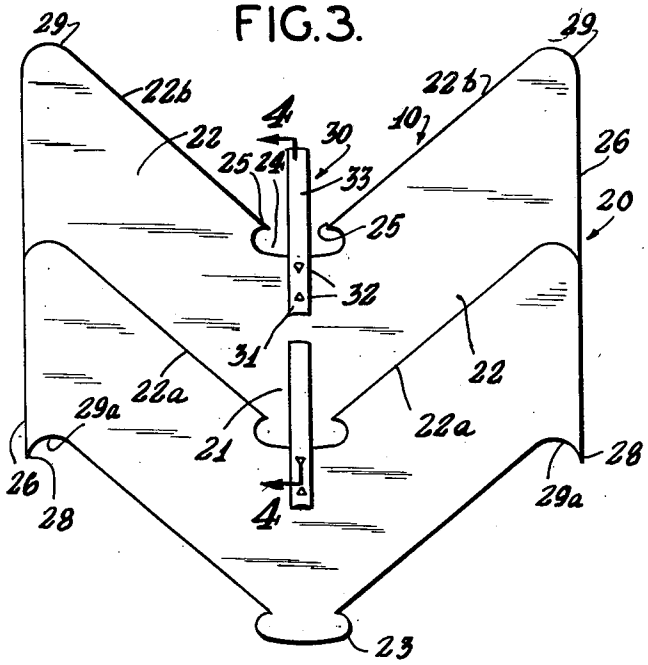
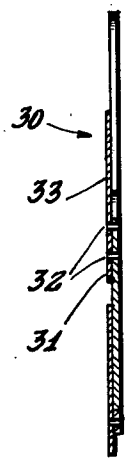


FIG. 4.



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LAY DOWN COLLAR SUPPORT

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4 Claims. (Cl. 223—83)

This invention relates to collar supports for shirts with lay down collars.

In Patent 2,248,849 there is disclosed a collar support for stand-up collar as processed by commercial laundries. Such a collar support is not suitable for shirts with lay down collars. It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a collar support which can be used satisfactorily with laundered lay down collars.

When shirt collars are processed on standard laundry collar presses, they are most generally damp and have a tendency to fold over at the front collar portions giving a wilted, wrinkled appearance. When starch is added to the collar, this condition not only gives discomfort to the wearer but also detracts from his appearance. The collar support embodying the present invention prevents such fold over of the collar fronts by permitting them to set into a die cut recess, snug up against a metal tab, so that the inclined edges of the support contact well up under the inner folds of the collar. Locking the support in position by means of the metal tab helps the collar to dry in its proper shape.

An object of this invention is to provide a collar support of the character described provided with points to engage under the folds of the collar against the front of the shirt to bring the front neck portions together, to shape the collar and hold the collar in shaped condition.

Yet a further object of this invention is to provide a highly improved collar support of the character described, that shall require no trimming, that shall be extremely economical to manufacture, and which shall have rounded outer upper corners to prevent snagging when inserting the support into the collar.

Yet a further object of this invention is to provide a collar support of the character described which shall be easy to apply, which shall keep laundered lay down collars of shirts smooth, and which shall yet be practical and efficient to a high degree in use.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described and of which the scope of invention will be indicated in the following claims.

In the drawings forming a part of this application and accompanying the same;

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a shirt with lay down collar provided with a collar support in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional side view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the collar support; and

Fig. 4 is a cross-section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, **10** designates a collar support embodying the invention. In the drawing **11** designates a shirt provided with a lay down collar **12**. The collar **12** comprises a collar band **13** from which extends a fold-over collar portion **14**. The collar

12 extends from a shirt body **15** having front overlapping shirt portions **15***a* and **15***b*. The inner collar band **13** has overlapping collar portions **13***a*, **13***b*. A button **16** stitched to the collar band **13***a* is buttoned to a button hole in collar band portion **13***b*.

In lay down collars the collar **12** is substantially flattened down against the shirt. The collar support **10** is for the purpose of preventing fold-over of the collar and to retain the collar smooth and flat.

Each collar support **10** comprises a die-cut piece of cardboard **20** having a central apex portion **21**, and upwardly inclined similar, symmetrically disposed arms **22**. The arms **22** have parallel lower and upper edges **22***a* and **22***b*. At the bottom of the apex **21** is a tab or handle **23**, of somewhat bulbous shape.

One tab **23** of one collar support forms the notch **24** of the next adjacent collar support. The notch **24** being bulbous in shape forms points **25**. The points **25** engage the inner surfaces of the fold of the collar adjacent the front of the collar as shown in Fig. 1. The upper corners of arms **22** are rounded as at **29**. However, each of the rounded corners **29** of the collar support forms a round notch **29***a* of the next adjacent collar support as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing. The rounded notches **29***a* terminate in points **28**. Both the rounded corners **29** and corners **29***a* extend to the outer parallel edges **26** of the piece of cardboard **20**.

In the drawing the collar support is shown in substantially actual size. The width of the collar support is about 4½ inches. This is for dress shirts. For sport shirts the width from edge **26** across to edge **26** is 5 inches. The vertical height of the cardboard at any point is 1½ inches for dress shirts and 2 inches for sport shirts. The upper edges **22***b* of the cardboard piece **20** engages the inside of the fold between the collar band **13** and the fold-over collar portion **14** as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing to keep the collar smooth and to prevent fold-over due to dampness. The handle or tab **23** also covers up poorly laundered spots on the shirt.

It will be noted that the collar support when used is not curved but remains in a flat plane. It will be noted furthermore, that a plurality of member **20** may be made from the elongated strip of cardboard without necessity for trimming. No part of the cardboard between adjacent pieces **20** is wasted or has to be trimmed. The rounded corners **21** prevent snagging upon insertion of the collar support. It will be noted that the roller support of Patent 2,248,849 is considerably wider than the collar support herein and also that it must be curved for insertion into a standup collar. Furthermore, in said patent the angle of the inclined arms is considerably wider than the angle of the collar support herein. In the present collar support the angle between the edges **22***b* is about 100°. The angle could vary from 65° for sport shirts to from 100 to 110° for dress shirts.

Fixed to the central portion **21** of member **20** is a flexible metal strip **30**. The strip **30** has a lower portion **31** overlying the central portion of member **20**. Said lower portion **31** is fixed to the cardboard sheet **20** by pressing prongs **32** into the cardboard. Extending upwardly from portion **31** is a portion **33** which passes through the notch **24** and thereabove said portion **33** is folded over the upper edges of the overlapping collar band as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawing to hold the collar support in place with the collar.

Having thus fully described the invention what is claimed as new and for which it is desired to secure United States Letters Patent is:

1. A support for a lay down collar of a shirt, comprising a flat cardboard sheet of V-shape having an apex portion and upwardly and outwardly inclined arms, said sheet being formed with a notch at the upper portion of

its apex, said notch having a constricted neck at the mouth of the notch and being enlarged in opposite directions inwardly of the neck, thereby providing spaced collar gripping portions projecting inwardly toward each other at the constricted neck of said notch.

2. The combination of claim 1, in combination with a flexible tab attached to the apex of said sheet and having a portion projecting upwardly beyond said notch and bisecting said notch.

3. The combination of claim 2, said inwardly projecting spaced portions being pointed.

4. The combination of claim 3, the upper edges of said arms being parallel to the lower edges thereof, the outer edges of said arms being parallel to one another, and the angle between said arms being 100° to 110°, and the width of the sheet between the parallel end edges of said arms being between 4 and 5 inches, and said sheet having a tab at the lower end of said apex similar to the shape of said notch.

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