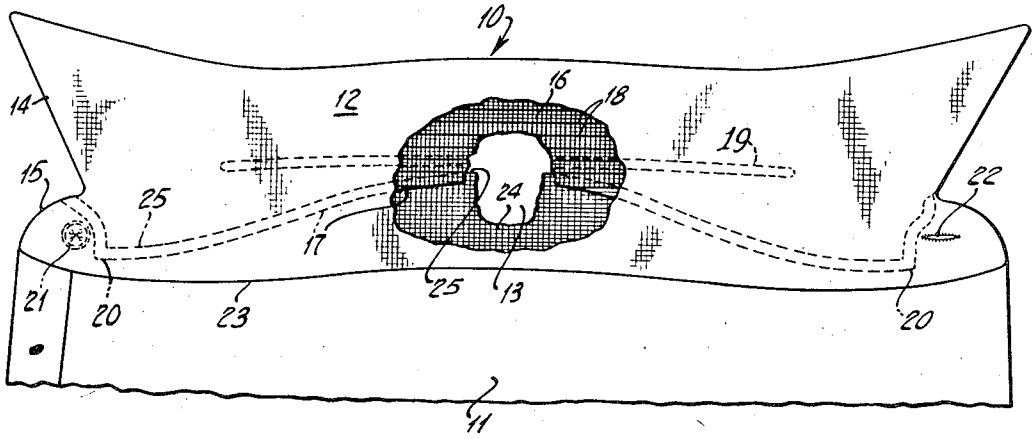
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ONE-PIECE COLLAR

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ONE-PIECE COLLAR

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This invention relates to collars, and more particularly to certain improvements in a fused ply one-piece folded or turn-over collar for attachment to a shirt.

Conventional turn-over collars are usually made of two separate parts, namely, a top and a band, stitched together. In the fused ply type it is customary to fuse only the plies of the top, those of the band being left unfused.

While an attached collar having a fused ply band, with its permanent stiffness, has the advantage of neatness of appearance, especially in hot and humid weather when an ordinary band would wilt, nevertheless it is subject to the disadvantage that buckling in wear is practically unavoidable.

There are a number of objections to the two-piece construction. One of the most important of these is that the thread at the seam joining the top and band must pass through a number of plies, generally nine, with the result that the thread is put under considerable tension. When the collar is softened in washing, the tension of the thread tends unduly to contract and shrink the material between adjacent stitches, thus creating a shortening which cannot be eliminated even with the use of thoroughly preshrunk material.

There objections are avoided in a so-called one-piece collar in which the top and band are integral. A one-piece collar is capable of neatness of apearance and comfort in wearing that is not readily obtainable with a two-piece construction.

One object of the invention is to provide a one-piece collar, of the type described, in which the plies of the band portion are stiffened to a greater extent adjacent its ends than elsewhere so that the ends of the band will remain relatively stiff even in hot and humid weather and thus enhance the neatness of appearance of the collar under such climatic conditions.

Another object is to provide a convertible one-piece attached collar of the type described that may be worn either in the manner of a formal turn-down collar when the shirt is buttoned at the neck, or neatly folded down in the manner of the collar of a sport shirt when the shirt is unbuttoned and left open at the neck.

A further object is to provide a one-piece collar of the type described wherein a portion of the band intermediate its ends is unstiffened so that any buckling that may occur will come in the unstiffened portion without discomfort to the wearer.

Other objects and advantages of the invention

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will appear from the following description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing which represents a conventionalized view of a one-piece collar embodying the invention, attached to a shirt, and laid out flat with parts broken away.

Referring to the drawings, 10 is a one-piece collar attached to a shirt 11, which collar is of the fused ply turn-over type. The collar comprises a top ply 12 and a bottom ply 13 each of which is cut in one piece to include both the collar-top 14 and the collar-band 15.

Disposed between the top and bottom plies is a fusing lining 16 the lower edge of which is defined by the line 17. By the term "fusing lining" is meant a lining of such character that the outer plies will adhere thereto. Any suitable fusing lining may be used such, for example, as one which embodies in its construction strands or yarns 18 of cellulose derivative or other substance that is adapted to be softened and rendered adhesive by treatment with a solvent and/or heat. The lower edge 17 of lining 16 in effect constitutes a line of demarcation between the stiffened and unstiffened areas of the collar. Since adhesion of the plies stiffens the composite, the collar, top and collar-band portion will be stiffened only in the area above that line and will remain substantially unstiffened in the area below. The collar has a foldline 19 along which the bottom ply 13 is free of adhesion to the lining so that the collar-top portion may be folded freely on that line in one manner of wearing the collar.

It will be noted that adjacent the ends of the collar the lining 16 has portions 20 that extend well down into the collar-band, and that from these low points the demarcation line 17 recedes and rises along a curve or slope until in the middle region of the collar it extends up to a point near the foldline 19. Accordingly the collar-band portion will be substantially unstiffened in its middle region but will be gradually stiffened from there down towards its ends.

The fusing lining 16 is preferably cut to avoid the button 21 and button-hole 22 so that the band at these places will be sufficiently flexible and unstiffened to permit of readily buttoning or unbuttoning the collar. Furthermore, the portions 20 of said lining preferably stop short of the lower edge 23 of the collar so as to leave a wholly unfused margin for convenience in stitching the collar to the shirt.

In the band portion, below the fusing lining 16, is a piece of ordinary, non-fusing, lining 24,

the upper edge of which is defined by the line 25. As shown in the drawing, the lower edge 17 of the fusing lining 16 may overlap the upper edge 25 of the non-fusing lining 24 to a slight extent.

Instead of using separate fusing and non-fusing linings, I may employ a single fusing lining covering the entire collar in which case the portion of the lining below the demarcation line 17 may be masked in any known manner to prevent adhesion of the plies below that line.

Where a lining is used that embodies interwoven strands of cellulose derivative, the plies of the collar may first be assembled, stitched and turned, and then subjected to treatment with solvent from the outside to soften the cellulose derivative strands, after which the plies are fused or caused to adhere by application of pressure and heat.

The construction described provides a one-piece collar that is permanently stiffened throughout its collar-top portion and adjacent to the ends of the band portion, which collar may be used convertibly either as a formal turn-down collar or as a sports collar. When worn buttoned as a formal collar, the collar-top is folded along the foldline 19. However, when the shirt is worn unbuttoned at the neck, in the manner of a sport shirt, the collar-top may be readily folded along the demarcation line 17 as a guide.

Various modifications in the construction herein described, and illustrated conventionally in the accompanying drawing, may be made within the scope of the invention defined in the claims.

What I claim is:

1. A one-piece collar of the type described comprising two outer plies each having integral collar-top and collar-band portions, and an intermediate lining containing adhesive substance, said lining providing an area to which the outer plies adhere and an area from which said plies are free of adhesion, said areas extending lengthwise of the collar and being delimited by a line of demarcation that extends down into the band portion through substantially the entire width thereof adjacent the ends of the collar and that rises to substantially the upper limit of the band portion in the middle region of the collar, the band portion being thereby stiffened adjacent the ends of the collar and substantially unstiffened in its middle region.

2. A one-piece collar of the type described comprising two outer plies each having integral collar-top and collar-band portions, and an intermediate lining containing adhesive elements, said collar having a preformed foldline delimiting its collar-top portion, said lining providing an area to which the outer plies adhere except along the foldline and an area from which said plies are free of adhesion, said areas extending lengthwise of the collar and being delimited by a line of demarcation that extends down into the band portion through substantially the entire width thereof adjacent the ends of the collar and that rises to a position below the foldline in the middle region of the collar, the band portion of said collar being thereby stiffened adjacent the ends of the collar and substantially unstiffened in its middle region.

3. A convertible one-piece collar of the type described comprising two outer plies each having integral collar-top and collar-band portions, and an intermediate lining containing adhesive elements, said collar having a preformed foldline delimiting its collar-top portion, said lining having an area to which the outer plies adhere except along the foldine and an area from which said plies are free of adhesion, said areas extending lengthwise of the collar and being delimited by a line of demarcation that extends down into the band portion through substantially the entire width thereof adjacent the ends of the collar and that rises to a position below the foldline in the middle region of the collar, the band and top portions being thereby stiffened adjacent the ends of the collar and the band portion being substantially unstiffened in its middle region, said stiffened and unstiffened portions merging continuously into one another, said collar being adapted to be folded convertibly either along the preformed foldline or along the line of demarcation between the stiffened and unstiffened portions.

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