Feb. 16, 1954 H. GORDON 2,668,956

COLLAR STIFFENER

Filed March 7, 1952

Fig. 1.

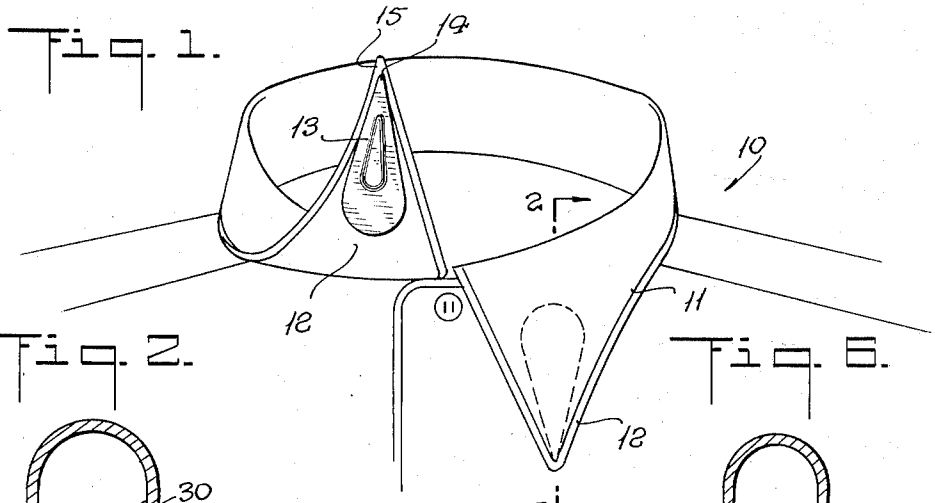


Fig. 2.

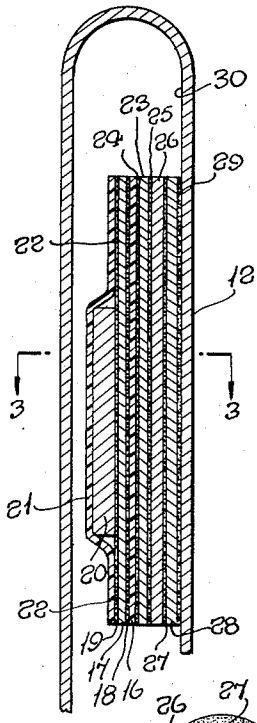


Fig. 3.

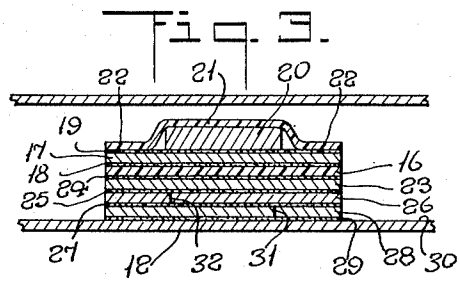


Fig. 6.

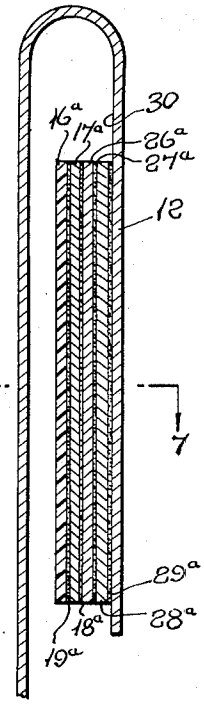


Fig. 7.

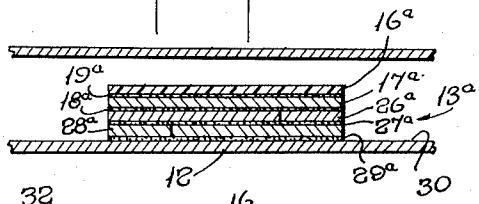


Fig. 4.

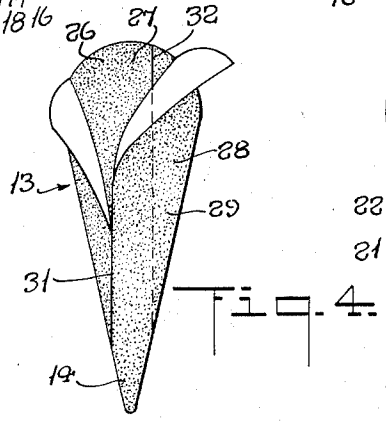
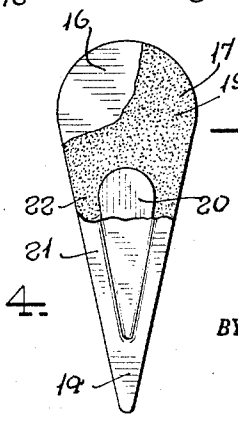


Fig. 5.



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COLLAR STIFFENER

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6 Claims. (Cl. 2—132)

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This invention relates to collar stiffeners. It is particularly directed to stiffeners or supporters to be used on men's shirt collars for the purpose of keeping the collar edges down and in place.

With many of the conventional types of collar stiffeners there are defects and disadvantages which outweight much of their usefulness. One type of necessity needs pockets in the collar. Another has gripping edges which rip into the collar fabrics, and yet others are expendable and must be discarded after only slight use.

It is therefore an object of the instant invention to provide a highly improved collar support that will be adhesively attached to the under sides of the collar flaps of a shirt so as to maintain them in position.

A further object of this invention is to provide a device that will be semi-flexible in nature and weighted so that when attached to the collars, the latter will not only be held downwardly and in place but will also prevent the collar from wrinkling.

A still further object of this invention is to provide an attachment which can be adhesively attached to the under side of the collar tips and has layers of adhesive material thereon for that purpose so that when the outer layer is worn out, the latter may be peeled off, thus exposing a fresh adhesive surface and so on until a plastic base is met, at which time refills can be obtained therefor.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a semi-flexible, weighted, adhesive collar support of the character described which will be inexpensive and easy to manufacture and will be convenient, light, durable and simple to manipulate, and yet practical and efficient to a high degree.

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 arrangements 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 accompanying drawings in which is shown various illustrative embodiments of this invention,

Fig. 1 is a top perspective view of the device embodying the invention, showing the device as attached to the collar of a shirt, with one corner thereof upturned;

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

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Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the structure shown in Fig. 1 and illustrating the bottom surface of the device with one of the adhesive layers partly peeled off;

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the device, partly cut away to expose various parts;

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view similar to Fig. 2 and illustrating a modified construction; and

Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, 10 illustrates a shirt attached to which is a collar 11, having pointed wings 12. In Fig. 1, there is illustrated on the under side of the upturned collar wing 12, a device 13 embodying the invention and attached thereto. The same comprises a device with substantially a "tear drop" outline. In proper alignment, the point 14 thereof corresponds with the point 15 of the shirt collar.

The collar stiffener device 13 comprises a layer of resilient, semi-stiff material 16. Said resilient, semi-stiff layer 16 is shaped in the form of a tear drop or heart with a rounded top. Adjacent to layer 16 is layer 17 corresponding to the shape of layer 16 and having adhesive surfaces 18 and 19. Layer 17 adheres at its surface 18 to layer 16. Centrally located atop layer 17 and attached to the adhesive surface 19 thereof is a weight 20 made of plastic or other weighty material, and being similar but smaller in shape than the aforesaid layers. Covering weight 20 is a plastic cover 21 which fits over the weight and conforms to and adheres to the adhesive surface 19 at the surface area 22 surrounding the base of weight 20.

Again adjacent the opposite side of the resilient, semi-stiff layer 16, from that heretofore described, there is a layer 23 having adhesive surfaces 24 and 25. Layer 23 conforms to the shape of layer 16 and adheres thereto by the adhesive surface 24. Attached to layer 23 by adhering to the surface 25 thereof and conforming to the shape thereof is another layer 26. Layer 26 has an adhesive surface 27 which faces away from layer 16. Adhering to the surface 27 of layer 26, and conforming to the shape thereof, is layer 28 having an adhesive surface 29 which faces away from layer 16.

When in use, the invention is attached by means of its adhesive surface 29 to the inside surface 30 of the shirt collar wing. In such attachment, the pointed end of the invention is oriented to that of the inside point of the collar wing. Being semi-stiff, as well as weighted, it

can be seen that the collar is thus kept unwrinkled and lying flat.

When the adhesiveness of the outer layer 28 begins to wear off, the layer is unpeeled and discarded, as shown in Fig. 4. Each adhesive layer is made up of two perfectly matching parts which meet along axes 31 and 32, which axes do not underlie each other. As layer 28 is pulled off by exerting an upward pressure along axis 31, layer 26 is exposed and so on until the semi-stiff sheet 16 is exposed. When this occurs, refills of adhesive layers are obtained to attach to the body of the invention. It is seen that detaching the layers by pulling them up at their axes is relatively simple.

Referring now to Figs. 6 and 7, there is shown an apparatus 13a embodying the invention and illustrating a modified construction. The device consists of a semi-stiff layer 16a similar to layer 16. A layer 17a, similar to layer 17 and having adhesive surfaces 18a and 19a, similar to surfaces 18 and 19, is adhesively attached by surface 19a to layer 16a. A layer 26a, similar to layer 26 and having an adhesive surface 27a, similar to surface 27, is adhesively attached to layer 17a by surface 18a thereof and with surface 27a facing away from layer 16a. A layer 28a, similar to layer 28 and having an adhesive surface 29a, similar to surface 29, is adhesively attached to layer 26a by surface 27a thereof and with surface 29a facing away from layer 16a.

It is understood that the modified construction of the invention comprises all of the elements and features of the originally described invention except that it omits the weight 20 and plastic covering 21. This modified construction, it is seen, can be used on short collars, where a weight would produce a bulky effect.

The term collar stiffeners or supporters used in this specification is intended to mean collar straighteners or rectifiers.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of this invention are achieved and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawings is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A collar supporter consisting of a resilient, semi-stiff layer of material shaped in the form of a "tear drop" with one end tapered to a point, a second layer of material having both of its surfaces coated with an adhesive substance, said second layer conforming to the shape of said semi-stiff layer and adhesively adhering thereto, a third layer of material with only one adhesively coated surface conforming to the shape of said second layer and attached thereto by means of the adhesively coated surface of said second layer facing said third layer, a fourth layer of material having a single, adhesively coated surface conforming to the shape of and attached to said third layer by means of the said adhesively coated surface of the third layer facing said fourth layer and with the adhesively coated surface of said fourth layer facing away from said resilient, semi-stiff layer.

2. A collar supporter consisting of a flexible, semi-stiff layer of material shaped in the form of a "tear drop" with one end tapered to a point, a second layer of material having both of its surfaces coated with adhesive substance, said second layer conforming to the shape of said semi-stiff layer and adhesively adhering thereto, a third layer of material with only one adhesively coated surface conforming to the shape of said second layer and attached thereto by means of the adhesively coated surface of said second layer facing said third layer, a fourth layer of material having a single, adhesively coated surface conforming to the shape of and attached to said third layer by means of said adhesively coated surface of the third layer facing said fourth layer and with the adhesively coated surface of said fourth layer facing away from said flexible, semi-stiff layer, a fifth layer of material having both surfaces coated with adhesive conforming in shape to said semi-stiff, flexible layer placed on the surface of said semi-stiff, flexible layer opposite the surface facing layers second, third and fourth and adhering thereto by means of its own adhesively coated surface facing said semi-stiff layer, a weight symmetrical to but smaller than said fifth layer, said weight being centered on said fifth layer, being properly oriented with respect to all the underlying layers so that it faces in the same direction thereof, and adhering to the surface of said fifth layer due to the latters adhesively coated surface facing said weight, a plastic covering placed over said weight and conforming to the shape of said fifth layer and attached thereto at the adhesively coated surface thereof which surrounds the outline of said weight adhering to the center thereof.

3. The combination of claim 1, and with said third and fourth layers each being made of two exact fitting parts which have their meeting lines along longitudinal axes and with the axes of said third and fourth layers not directly underlying each other.

4. The combination of claim 2, and with said third and fourth layers each being made of two exact fitting parts which have their meeting lines along longitudinal axes and with the axes of said third and fourth layers unaligned.

5. The combination of claim 3, and with said outer third and fourth layers being readily peeled off one at a time by pulling at each part of the individual layer along their meeting place at their longitudinal axis, said third and fourth layers being replaceable.

6. The combination of claim 2, and with said third and fourth layers each being made of two exact fitting parts which have their meeting lines along longitudinal axes and with the axes of said third and fourth layers unaligned, said third and fourth layers being readily peeled off one at a time by pulling at each part of the individual layer along their meeting place at their longitudinal axis, said third and fourth layers being replaceable.

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