June 11, 1935.

L. D. BECHT

2,004,362

SHIRT BOARD

Filed Aug. 22, 1932

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

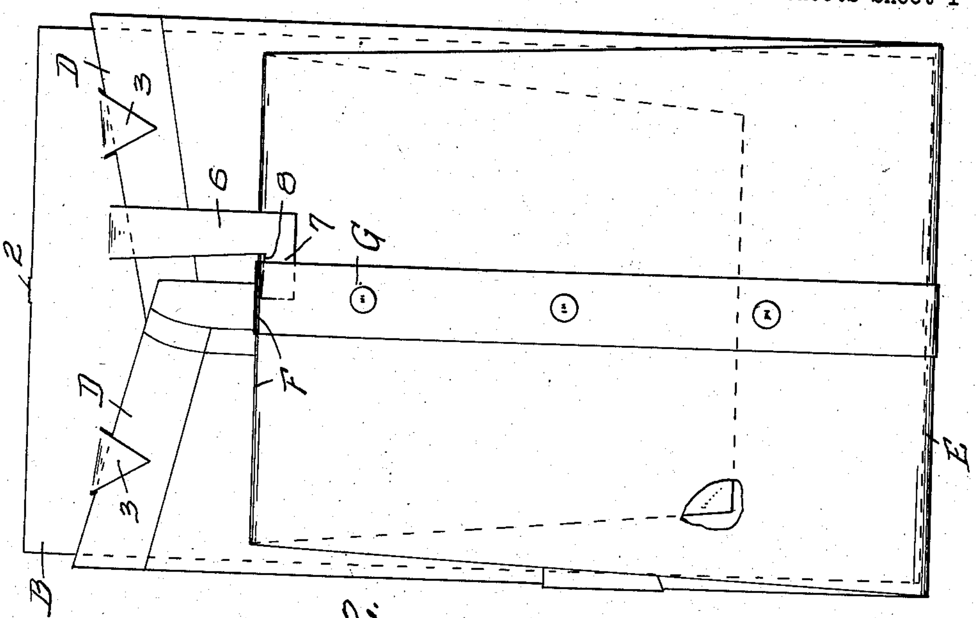

Fig. 2.

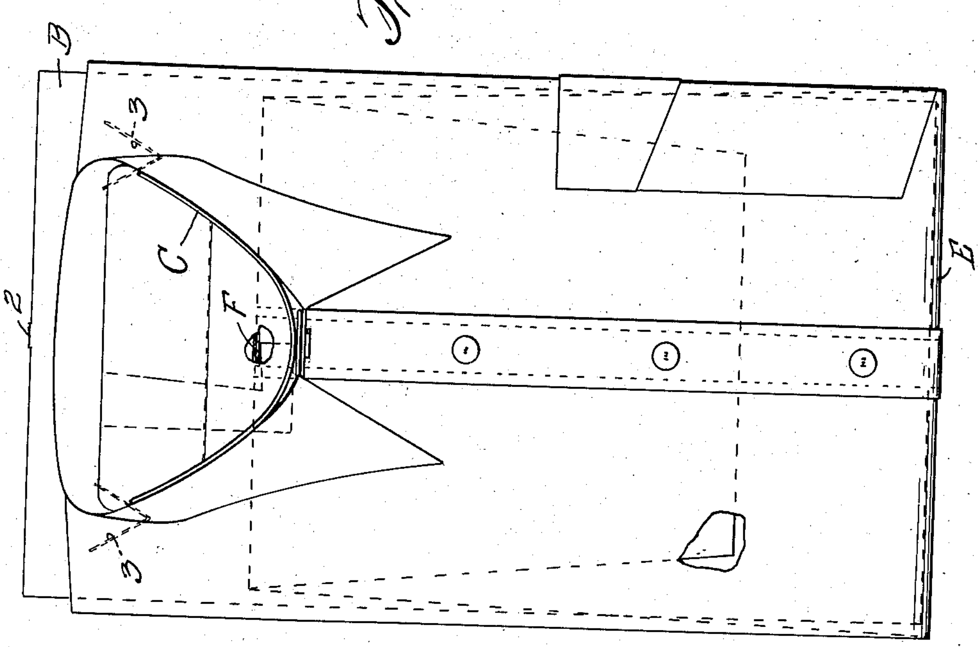

Fig. 1.

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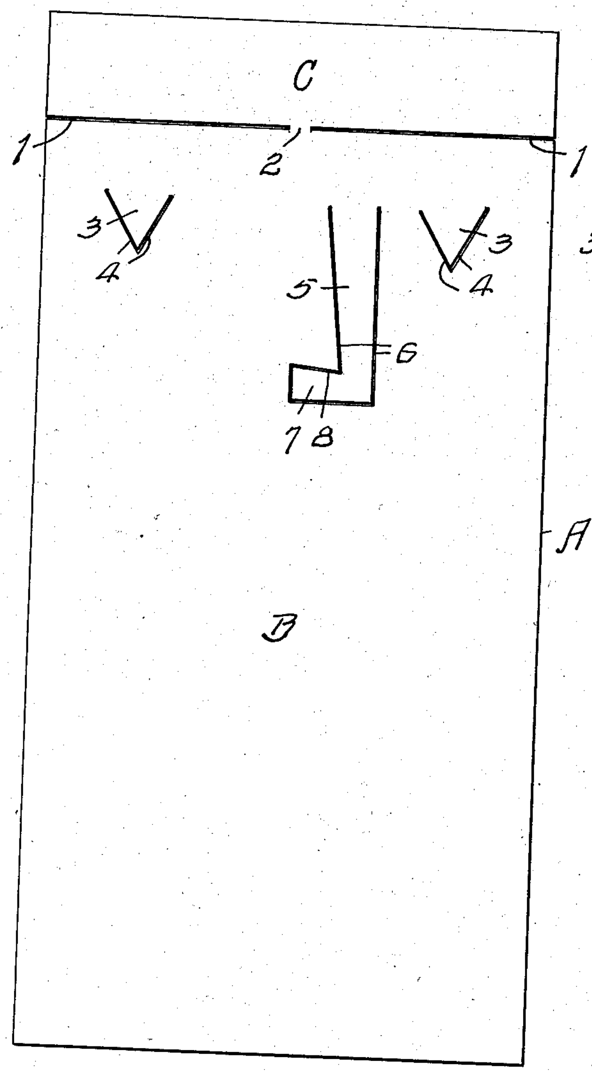
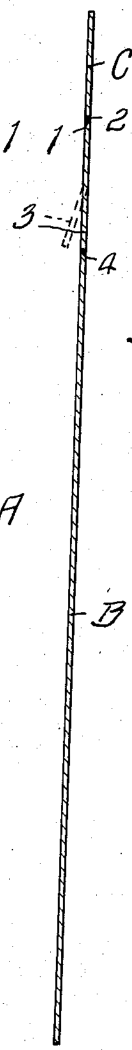
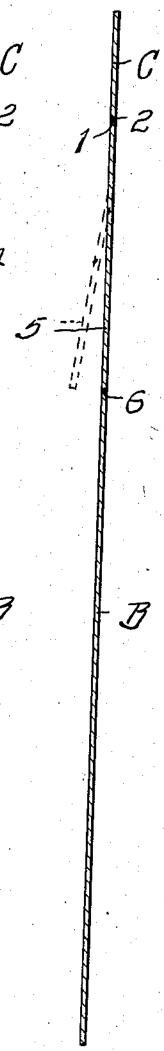
2 Sheets-Sheet 2







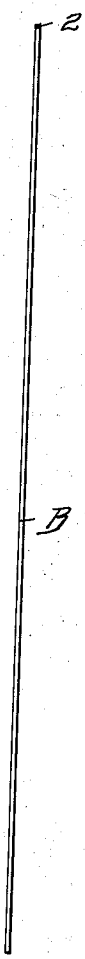
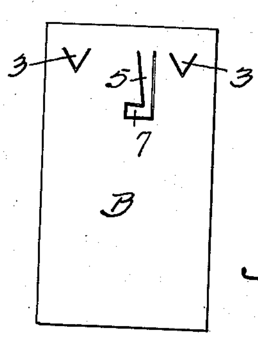


Fig. 3. Fig. 4. Fig. 5. Fig. 6.



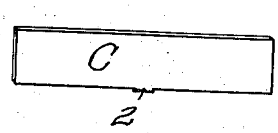


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,004,362

SHIRT BOARD

Louis D. Becht, St. Louis, Mo.

Application August 22, 1932, Serial No. 629,811

5 Claims. (Cl. 223—18.6)

This invention relates to means to preserve the appearance of freshly ironed shirts by preventing same from becoming wrinkled, and, has particular reference to shirt boards employed in laundries.

The object of my present invention is the provision of a shirt board, which is a distinct and practical improvement to overcome certain practical objections to, and defects in, the present types of shirt boards now used by laundries to be disposed between the folds of newly ironed shirts to prevent them from being wrinkled in delivery to the customer.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a shirt board, which eliminates the necessity of using paper bands and pins to hold a laundered shirt in its folded position.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a shirt board having a collar form as a detachable part thereof.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a paper shirt board having hold down fingers, or shirt grippers formed thereon, by a cutting die, to grip the shoulder portions of shirts, and also an arm formed thereon designed to engage a transverse fold of the shirt at the overlapped front buttoned portion thereof to further prevent slipping of the shirt upon the board.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a shirt board which possesses advantages in points of simplicity and efficiency, and, at the same time proves itself comparatively inexpensive in cost of manufacture.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel features of construction, arrangement and combination of parts hereinafter more fully described and finally pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

Referring to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, wherein like characters of reference denote similar parts throughout the several views:

Fig. 1 is a front view of a folded shirt applied to my improved shirt board and showing the collar form detached therefrom and positioned within the shirt collar.

Fig. 2 is a rear view of a folded shirt mounted and secured to my improved shirt board.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a shirt board embodying the features of my invention.

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof, taken through one of the shirt hold down fingers, or grippers.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view taken through the anti-slipping arm.

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the shirt board with collar form detached.

Fig. 7 is a detail of the detached collar form.

Fig. 8 is a plan view of a shirt board without a collar form attachment.

In carrying out the aim of my invention, I employ a sheet of suitable resiliently flexible paper board designated generally, as A, and which is illustrated as rectangular in form, but which may deviate from this form without departing from the invention.

The sheet, or board A is slit near one end thereof as at 1, 1, which divides the sheet into a shirt board B and an attached collar form C which is the same width as the board. The slits are transverse of the board and do not extend quite to the longitudinal medial line thereof, thus providing a connecting strip 2, which unites the shirt board B with the collar form C. Thus, it will be observed, that the collar form C is always an integral part of the shirt board, which can be readily detached from the shirt board B when it is desired to use the same.

A plurality of suitable hold down or shirt shoulder grippers 3 are formed near one end of the shirt board B and near the side edges thereof by slitting the paper board, as at 4. The slits shown, are V-shaped and are formed with suitable cutting dies. The shape of the grippers 3 may be of any other suitable design, yet serve the purpose intended, as is manifest. The grippers 3 are formed longitudinally of the board adjacent the corners thereof nearest the collar form C.

A single arm like member 5 is also formed near the same end of the shirt board B that the grippers 3 are formed, by slitting the board, as at 6. The arm 5 is provided at its free end with a laterally directed extension 7, thus the arm 5 serves in the capacity of a hook, or notched member, as will be apparent hereinafter. The arm 5 is articulated to the board between the grippers 3.

The board B is applied to the shirt in the following manner.

When the ironed shirt is flat and non-folded, the board B is positioned on the back of the shirt opposite the bosom and collar portions thereof. Next, the side portions of the shirt body and the sleeves are then folded over the shirt board in the same manner that shirts are now folded over the present style of plain shirt board, and, following this operation, the free ends of the grippers 3 are sprung out of a plane with the shirt board B and the edges of the shoulder portions D of the shirt are inserted between the

grippers 3 and the shirt board B. The tension of the grippers 3 is sufficient to prevent accidental slipping of the shirt longitudinally on the board and positively prevents slipping of the shirt in one direction on the board B. The body of the shirt is then folded over one end of the board, as at E and the tail of the shirt is folded under to provide the fold edge F. The arm 5 is next sprung out of a plane with the shirt board B and the lateral extension 7 thereof is slipped into the space between the overlapped bottom portion G of the shirt so that the inclined edge portion 8 of the lateral extension 7 of the arm 5 will engage the front of the shirt at the fold edge F, which prevents the shirt from slipping longitudinally in the opposite direction on the shirt board.

It will be thus observed, that the grippers 3 prevent the folded shirt from slipping in one direction longitudinally of the shirt board, and that the arm 5 and lateral extension 7 thereof prevents the folded shirt from slipping in the opposite direction longitudinally on the shirt board, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

Either before, or after folding a newly ironed shirt on the shirt board B, the operator detaches the collar form C from the board B, by tearing it therefrom and inserts it into the neck opening formed by the collar I of the shirt, and as clearly illustrated in Fig. 1.

By securing a folded shirt to a shirt board, as herein described, it is evident, that I eliminate the use of pins, now commonly used by laundry workers for pinning the folded over sleeve sections of the shirt, and I also eliminate the use of the usual paper band for holding the folded body and tail portions of the shirt against displacement on the shirt board.

I not only eliminate the use and cost of the pins and bands, but I also eliminate the work and time of the girls in pinning the shirts and applying the bands to the shirts.

By the use of my improved shirt board and collar form, it is evident that the elements necessary for attaching a shirt to a shirt board are integral and formed initially in a single unit, thus avoiding the necessity of one having to reach for separated parts in order to carry out the operation of folding a shirt on a shirt board.

Where the boards are to be used for shirts having detachable collars, the shirt board B can be made, if desired, without the collar form C as a part thereof, thus saving the extra length of material that would be necessary where the collar form is a detachable part of the shirt board B.

The many advantages of the herein described invention will readily suggest themselves to those skilled in the art to which it appertains.

From the foregoing description, it is evident that a simple device for this purpose has been disclosed, but it is to be understood that I do not desire to restrict, or limit myself to the very details of the construction shown and described, which is merely illustrative, it being obvious that changes, not involving the exercise of invention, may be made without conflicting or departing from the spirit of the invention within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A shirt board comprising a sheet of resiliently flexible paper stock around three edges of which a shirt is folded, flexible means integral with and longitudinally of the board for gripping the folded shoulder portions of the shirt and flexible hook shaped means integral with the board intermediate the first means for engaging a folded portion of the body of the shirt.

2. In combination with a shirt board made from paper board stock having a pair of spaced grippers near one end thereof, of a gripper articulated to the board between said pair of spaced grippers and a lateral shirt fold engaging projection on the free end of said gripper.

3. Means for preserving a newly ironed folded shirt in proper condition, comprising a rectangular board around three edges of which the shirt is folded, said board having opposed spaced grippers disposed within the bounds of the board for gripping the folded shoulder portions of the shirt and a notched member integral with and articulated to the board intermediate the shoulder grippers for engagement with a transverse fold of the tail portion of the shirt to prevent slipping of the shirt on the board in an opposite direction.

4. A device of the class described, comprising a flat rectangular paper board around three edges of which a shirt is folded, spaced grippers as integral parts of the board and disposed within the bounds of the board and longitudinally thereof for gripping the shoulder portions of the shirt to prevent slipping of the shirt longitudinally in one direction on the board, a member integral with and articulated to the board intermediate the shoulder grippers, and a lateral projection on the free end of said member for engaging a transverse fold of the tail portion of the shirt to prevent slipping of the shirt in an opposite direction on the board.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a rectangular board of paper stock, a rectangular tab articulated to one end of the board and formed by slitting the board transversely from the side edges thereof, a pair of tabs articulated to the board adjacent two corners thereof and formed by slitting the board, an elongated tab articulated to the board and formed by slitting the board, and a lateral projection on the free end of the elongated tab.

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