

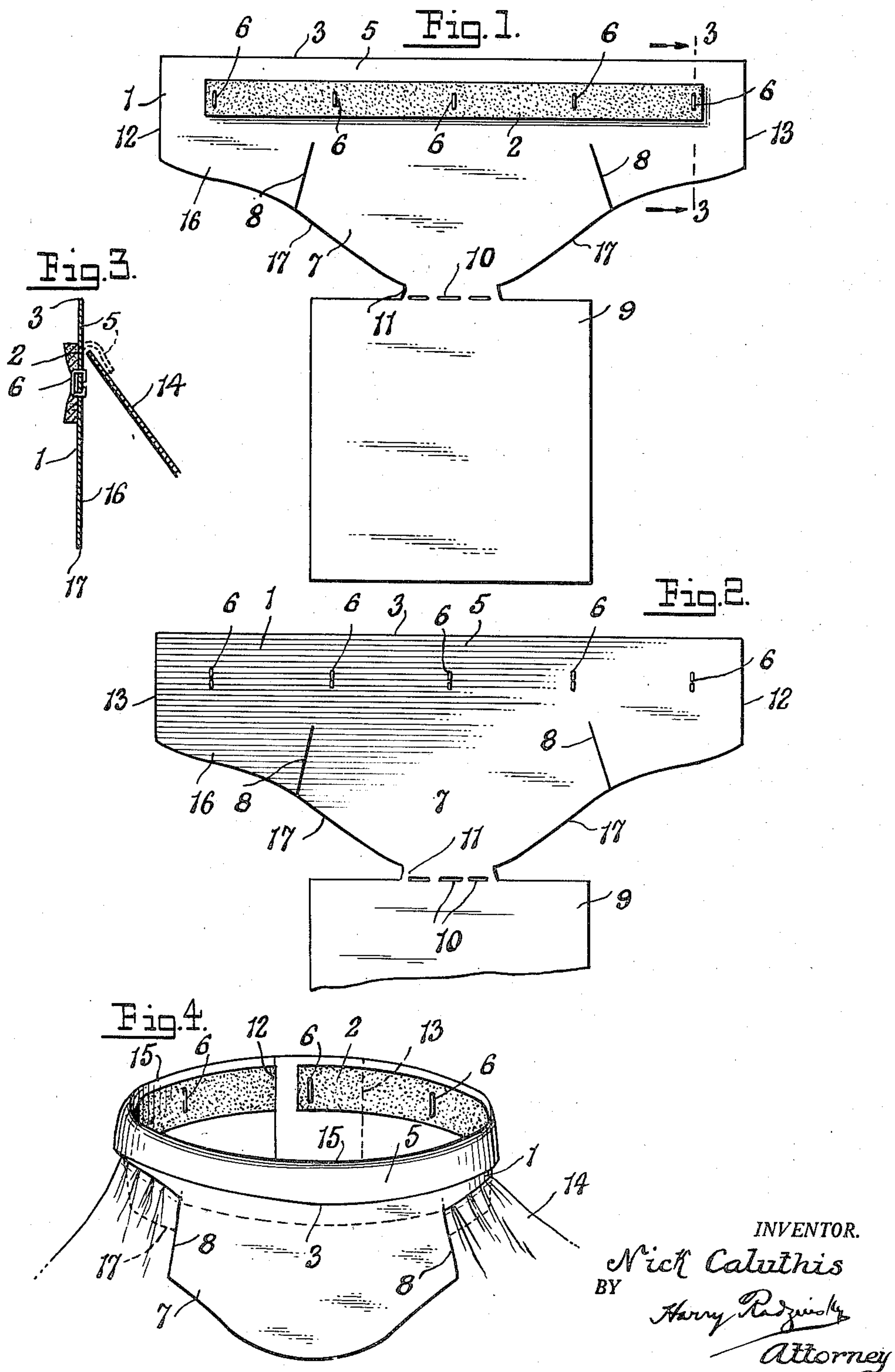
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SANITARY NECK PROTECTOR

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SANITARY NECK PROTECTOR

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2—50)

1

This invention has reference to sanitary protective devices particularly adapted for use by barbers, hair-dressers, dentists, physicians, or in the home, and by means of which the neck and part of the face of the wearer is protected from contact with barbers' and hair-dressers' aprons, cloths or other sheets generally employed when the hair is being treated.

In barber shops, hair-dressing parlors, and other places where the hair is cut or treated, it is customary to place a fabric sheet or cloth about the neck of the person being treated, and the edge of such sheet comes into contact with the neck and chin of the user. The sheet or cloth so used is applied to successive persons being treated and thus is used on a substantial number of persons before being laundered. This is rather unsanitary procedure. In an effort to prevent contact between the neck and the edge or top portion of the sheet or cloth, it has been proposed that a thin strip of paper be wrapped about the neck before the cloth is applied, to thus interpose such a protective strip between the neck and the cloth. The strip employed for this purpose was thin and narrow and generally, unless the cloth was tightly applied about the neck and caused some discomfort to the user, the paper strip slid downwardly, particularly during movements of the user, and again brought the edge of the cloth into contact with the neck.

The present invention proposes a structure which will avoid the deficiencies above pointed out. It contemplates the provision of a device having a top portion which is foldable down over the top edge of the cloth and thus effectively prevents this portion of the cloth from coming into contact with the neck. It further proposes the use of a pad member which comes into contact with the neck and effectively seals the space between the neck and the strip placed around the same and thus prevents the entry of cut hair down into the collar of the user. It further contemplates the provision of a forward extension or flap extending under the chin of the user and being thus interposed between the chin and the cloth and preventing contact of the chin with the cloth.

In addition, the invention has for one of its objects, the provision of a neck-protecting strip which not only effectively prevents contact of the neck and face with the hair-collecting cloth, but also provides a napkin by which the barber or hair-dresser is enabled to brush away the cut hairs or remove excess shaving soap or lotion, thus obviating the use of a brush or other re-

2

peatedly-used, and not often sanitary means often employed for this purpose.

These and other objects are attained by the invention, a more particular description of which will hereinafter appear and be set forth in the claims appended hereto.

In the accompanying drawing, wherein an illustrative embodiment of the invention is disclosed, Fig. 1 is a view looking at the inner face of the protector; Fig. 2 is a view looking at the outer face of the protector, with a portion of the same broken away; Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the device as it appears when in use.

Referring to the drawing, 1 indicates the body of the improved sanitary protector. Since the article is of a single-use type, it is preferably made of a soft paper. It may be made in single ply, or may be of the soft multi-ply paper often known as "facial tissue." The protector includes a neck-encircling strip portion 16 which is narrowest at its ends 12 and 13 and of substantial width at its center, such widest portion constituting a chin-protecting flap member 7.

Secured to the inner face of the strip portion 16 is a soft, protective pad 2 which can be composed of cotton, multi-layered paper, or any inexpensive, soft, pad-like material. This pad 2 is disposed against the neck of the user when the protector is applied and it forms a sealing strip, preventing the entry of hair down into the collar of the user. The pad 2 may be affixed to the inside face of the strip 16 by any suitable fastening means, such as by the spaced staples 6, by a suitable adhesive, or by other known means.

The pad 2 is of considerably less width than the width of the strip 16 and the upper edge of the pad 2 is disposed well below the top edge 3 of the strip to thereby provide a marginal edge portion 5 on the strip between the top edge of the pad and the top edge 3 of the strip. This edge portion 5 provides a portion which extends for the length of the strip 16 which can be down-turned as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3, on the line 15 in Fig. 4, to thus overlie the top edge of the protective sheet or cloth 14 and keep the same from contact with the neck.

As will be noted from Figs. 1 and 2, the lower edge of the strip 16 is provided with a pair of spaced, inwardly-directed slits 8 which converge from the lower edge 17 of the strip in a direction toward the top of the strip. These slits define a flap 7 between them.

The lower edge 17 of the strip 16 is formed

with a central neck portion 11 by means of which it is integrally attached to a rectangular napkin portion 9. The neck 11 is weakened by the tear line 10 on which the napkin 9 may be torn away to thereby separate it from the strip 16 for a purpose to be presently described.

From the foregoing, the operation of the improved protective device will be readily understood. To use the same, the strip portion 16 is wrapped about the neck of the user with the flap portion 7 at the front and located under the chin of the user. The ends 12 and 13 of the strip 16 are overlapped to the required extent at the back of the user's neck and the strip is maintained about the neck by either coupling these overlapped ends together by means of a pin, by a piece of adhesive tape, or by applying the cloth or sheet 14 around the neck of the user over the strip and pinning the cloth in the known manner. When the cloth 14 is applied about the neck on the outside of the strip 16, the strip will have its pad 2 firmly but comfortably held against the neck, and such pad will seal the neck opening against the entry of cut hairs. The top portion of the strip 16, or that part located above the pad 2 and indicated at 5, is then folded down as at 15 to overlie the top edge of the cloth or sheet 14 thus covering this edge and preventing direct contact of the same with the neck. This top edge of the cloth or sheet is also inserted beneath the chin-protecting flap 7, the slits 8 permitting such insertion, so that the flap 7 will thereon be located beneath the chin of the user on the outside of the cloth so that should he bring his chin downwardly, it will contact this protective flap rather than come into contact with the cloth or sheet 14.

Either before or after the protector is applied to the user as above explained, the napkin 9 is detached along the line 10 and is placed aside for use during the barbering or hair-dressing operation. That is to say, after the hair has been cut or treated or after the person has had his hair treated, or has been shaved, this napkin 9 is usable to brush away the cut hair, wipe away excess shaving cream or hair or face lotion, thus obviating the use of towels or brushes which are, in some shops, used more than once and are thus not strictly sanitary.

It will be clear that with the use of an article of the character described, a thoroughly sanitary protector is provided. The shape, size and arrangement of the parts are such that when the protector has been applied about the neck it will maintain its position thereon and prevent contact of the neck with the edge or with other parts of the cloth sheet. The edge of the cloth sheet is confined under the down-turned top portion of the strip 16 and hence prevented from contacting the neck. The front flap 7 on the strip 16 protects the chin from contact with the cloth sheet at all times. In addition, the provision of a napkin on the protector provides the barber or hair-dresser with a sanitary means by which the cut hair may be brushed away or excess soap or lotion removed, or it can be used for other barbering, hair-dressing or medical uses.

While I have herein suggested the use of the

protective article in barber shops, hair-dressing parlors, hospitals or dressing rooms, it will be apparent that it may be used in any environment where an article of this character is desirable or necessary. It will also be apparent that it may be used with or without the attached and separable napkin. Also, in cases where a relatively secure seal between the strip and the neck is not necessary, as in instances where the hair is not being cut, the pad 2 might be omitted. Also, while I have shown the article in a well-defined and specific shape, it will be clear that such might be varied to suit requirements. The device is, of course, intended for single use, after which it is discarded. Hence it is desirable that the same be made in whole or in part of paper or other relatively inexpensive materials, permitting such single, and resultantly wholly sanitary, use.

What I claim is:

1. A sanitary protector comprising, a paper sheet including a neck-encircling strip portion and a napkin or bib portion connected together by a neck, a severance line across said neck by means of which the napkin portion may be detached from the neck-encircling strip portion, the lower edge of the strip portion being slit inwardly at spaced points, the strip being widest in the area located between the slits, a detachable pad attached on the inside face of the strip, the top edge of the pad being located downwardly from the top edge of the strip to provide a portion of said strip above the pad which is foldable downwardly over the edge of a cloth that is fitted about the neck over the strip.
2. A sanitary protector comprising, a neck-encircling strip having a wide center portion and narrower ends, the lower edge of the strip being provided with a pair of inwardly-directed slits defining a flap between them, said flap constituting the widest portion of the strip, an elongated pad attached to the inside face of the strip and spaced downwardly from the top edge of the same, and a detachable napkin attached to the lower edge of the strip and forming a protective apron at the front of the wearer.
3. A sanitary protector comprising, a neck-encircling paper strip having a wide central portion and narrower ends, the lower edge of the strip being provided with a plurality of upwardly-directed slits defining a flap between them, said flap constituting the widest portion of said strip, and a detachable napkin attached to the lower edge of the strip and forming a protective apron at the front of the wearer.

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