

PATENT SPECIFICATION



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Complete Left : Dec. 29, 1924.

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Shin Guards and the like.

We, JAMES COOMBES, trading as Williams, Thomas and Company, of Byron Street Works, Leeds, and GEORGE DALE, of 72, Coldcotes Avenue, Leeds, both British subjects, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention comprises improvements in or relating to shin guards and the like such as are worn by players participating in the game of football, hockey or similar games where such protection is required, the object of the invention being to provide increased comfort to the wearer and obviate the possibility of the guard chafing or otherwise injuring the limb on which it is worn.

The class of guard to which the invention has more particular reference is that embodying a series of upwardly extending spaced canes or like ribs having suitable padding on the rear side thereof, the canes and padding being fixedly encased between covering sheets of suitable fabric.

In this class of guard the disadvantage has hitherto existed in that the lower ends of the canes are disposed close to the bottom of the pad and form a stiff unyielding bottom edge, which edge presses hard upon the ankle of the wearer and, during the course of a game, frequently either breaks the skin or causes the ankle to become sore as a result of such pressure.

The principal feature of the invention consists in the provision in a guard of the above-mentioned type of a pad situated at the bottom of the guard and extending below the lower ends of the canes or the like, said pad forming a soft and yielding edge adapted to protect the ankle of the wearer from injury.

In accordance with the known method of construction the guard comprises an outer casing composed of front and rear sheets of cotton, leather or other appro-

priate fabric sewn together at their edges, the size and shape of said casing being varied to suit existing requirements. Between these fabric sheets forming the casing are inserted a series of parallelly or substantially parallelly disposed lengths of cane or equivalent stiff ribs such as steel strips, said canes being arranged vertically and suitably spaced apart. On the rear side of the canes or ribs, *i.e.*, on that side adapted to be positioned nearest the leg of the wearer, a suitable thickness of soft or resilient padding is inserted, the guard being sewn completely through from front to rear in vertical rows between the canes.

In applying the present invention to a guard as above, the front and rear sheets or parts of the outer casing are extended a short distance below the lower ends of the canes or the like, and between said extensions a quantity of cotton wool or other approved padding material is inserted and retained in position by sewing up the casing. Conveniently, the additional pad thus provided extends transversely across the complete width of the lower part of the guard, the major portion of said pad being of equal width, and the ends thereof being tapered and curving upwardly so as to merge into the side edges of the guard. A row of stitching extending across and through the guard between the bottom pad and the lower ends of the canes constitutes a hinge for affording said pad a certain amount of movement relative to the main part of the guard.

Dated this 13th day of October, 1924.

ERIC POTTER,

Patent Agent,

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Commerce Chambers, Parliament Street,
Nottingham,

Agent for the Applicants,

[Price 1/-]

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Shin Guards and the like.

We, JAMES COOMBES, trading as Williams, Thomas and Company, of Byron Street Works, Leeds, and GEORGE DALE, of 72, Coldcotes Avenue, Leeds, both British subjects, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

10 This invention comprises improvements in or relating to shin guards and the like such as are worn by players participating in the game of football, hockey or similar games where such protection is required, the object of the invention being to provide increased comfort to the wearer and obviate the possibility of the guard chafing or otherwise injuring the limb on which it is worn.

20 The class of guard to which the invention has more particular reference is that embodying a series of upwardly extending spaced canes or like ribs having suitable padding on the rear side thereof, the canes and padding being fixedly encased between covering sheets of suitable fabric.

In this class of guard the disadvantage has hitherto existed in that the lower ends of the canes are disposed close to the bottom of the pad and form a stiff unyielding bottom edge, which edge presses hard upon the ankle of the wearer and, during the course of a game, frequently either breaks the skin or causes the ankle to become sore as a result of such pressure.

Prior to this invention it has been proposed to provide an athletic boot or shoe having an extension of the tongue piece thereof adapted to fit detachably around the shin of the wearer, said extension being padded and having incorporated therewith a plurality of projecting ribs the padding extending below the said ribs. It is to be understood however that this invention does not relate to that type of shin guard adapted to be attached to an athletic boot or shoe.

50 A guard has also previously been proposed having a layer of felt or like soft material extending slightly beyond the edges of a lamina of corrugated metal or similar hard material and enclosed within a cover.

55 It has also been proposed to provide a separate layer of felt or like impact absorbing material secured to the back

and projecting beyond the edges of a guard of known construction.

In the present invention the necessity for a separate and additional layer of felt or like soft material is eliminated and according to this invention a shin guard or the like is provided embodying a series of upwardly extending spaced canes or like ribs enclosed with a backing of suitable padding material within a cover or casing, characterised by the provision of a soft or yielding pad situated at the bottom of the guard said pad being formed by extending the outer cover of the guard below the canes filling said extension with soft material and securing the lower edges of the outer cover by stitching or otherwise.

For the purpose of more fully describing the nature of this invention, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Fig. 1 is a front view of a guard in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the guard.

In accordance with the known method of construction the guard comprises an outer casing 1 composed of front and rear sheets of cotton, leather or other appropriate fabric sewn together at their edges, the size and shape of said casing being varied to suit existing requirements. For example, the casing may be formed of a front sheet 1 of leather and a rear sheet 2 of cotton fabric, and between these sheets forming the casing are inserted a series of parallelly or substantially parallelly disposed lengths of cane 3 or equivalent stiff ribs such as steel strips, said canes 3 being arranged vertically and suitably spaced apart. On the rear side of the canes or ribs, i.e., on that side adapted to be positioned nearest the leg of the wearer, a suitable thickness of soft or resilient padding 4 is inserted, the guard being sewn completely through from front to rear by vertical rows of stitches 5 between the canes 3.

In applying the present invention to a guard as above, the front and rear sheets 1 and 2 or parts of the outer casing are extended a short distance below the lower ends of the canes 3 or the like, and between said extensions a quantity of cotton wool 4a or other approved padding material is inserted and retained in posi-

tion by sewing up the casing sheets. Conveniently, the additional pad 6 thus provided extends transversely across the complete width of the lower part of the guard, the major portion of said pad 6 being of equal width, and the ends thereof being tapered and curving upwardly so as to emerge into the side edges of the guard. A row of stitching 5a extending across and through the guard between the bottom pad 6 and the lower ends of the canes 3 constitutes a hinge for affording said pad a certain amount of movement relative to the main part of the guard.

The two side edges of the guard may be curved laterally outwards at their upper part as at 7, and within said outwardly curved parts comparatively short canes or ribs may be assembled.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of our said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, we declare that what we claim is:—

1. A shin guard or the like embodying a series of upwardly extending spaced canes or the like ribs enclosed with a

backing of suitable padding material within a cover or casing, characterised by the provision of a soft or yielding pad situated at the bottom of the guard said pad being formed by extending the outer cover of the guard below the canes filling said extension with soft material and securing the lower edges of the outer cover by stitching or otherwise.

2. A shin guard or the like as claimed in the first claim and in which the outer cover or casing is stitched between the lower extremities of the canes or ribs and the pad so as to form a hinge connection between the said pad and the main part of the guard.

3. A shin guard or the like constructed substantially as hereinbefore described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 22nd day of December, 1924.

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

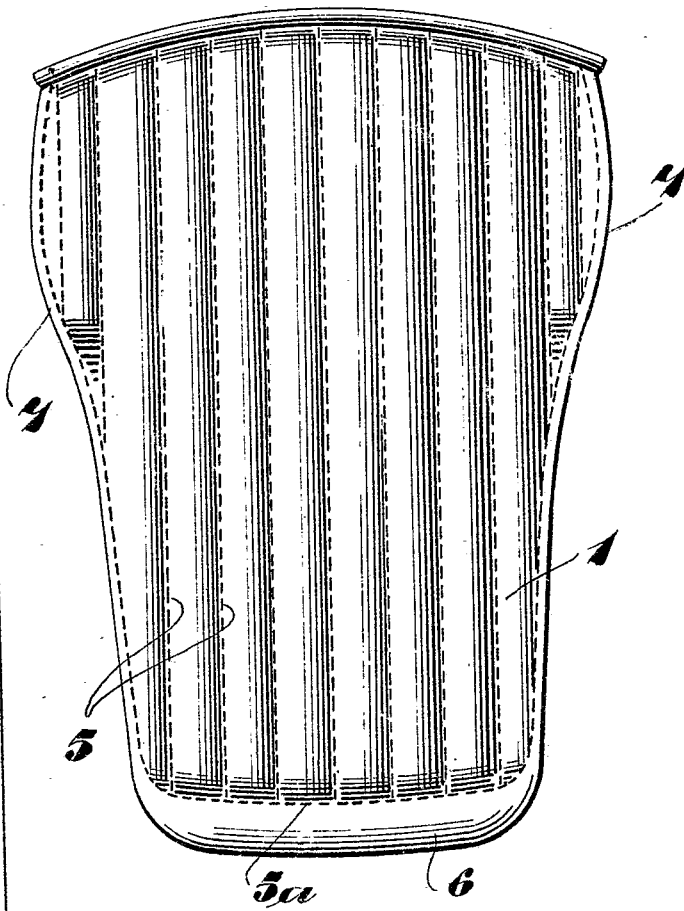


FIG. 1.

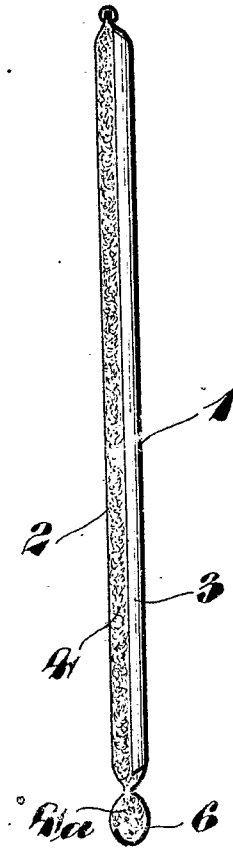


FIG. 2.