

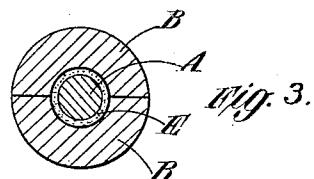
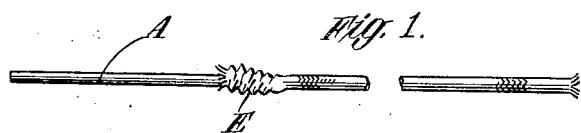
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PENCIL

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PENCIL

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This invention relates to improvements in writing or marking pencils in which the marking substance such as graphite or so called "black lead" is encased in wood or 5 some other material which can be cut away to expose for use a portion of the marking substance, hereinafter for convenience called the lead. In this "sharpening" process the lead commonly breaks not only at the place 10 where it projects from the case but often actually within the case, causing considerable wastage. Occasionally, also, breakage of the lead within the case occurs if the pencil is dropped or subjected to a blow. An object of 15 the present invention is to obviate these defects and to strengthen the construction generally.

According to the present invention, the lead is provided with a covering or sheath of 20 textile fabric or other similar or suitable material treated by an adhesive which sets hard to form a rigid or stiff support for the lead interposed between the latter and the case. Such a sheath is readily cut away with the case to 25 expose the lead while at the same time it protects the latter during sharpening, writing and against external blows, and supports and retains the lead even should it fracture.

Preferably the sheath is formed of textile 30 fabric such as cotton or linen, which may if desired be of relatively coarse texture or loosely woven so as the more readily to absorb the adhesive and retain a suitable quantity of it when considerable pressure is applied to the 35 two halves of the case.

In order that the method of applying such a sheath to the lead of a pencil may be more fully understood, a pencil constructed in accordance with my present invention is illustrated in and described with reference to the 40 accompanying drawings in which:—

Fig. 1 illustrates the method of sheathing the lead or marking substance.

Fig. 2 shows the lead so sheathed on one 45 half of the outer case, and

Fig. 3 is a cross section of the completed pencil.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2 and 3:—

The pencil comprises a lead or rod of marking substance A, two grooved halves B of

the outer case and a preformed tubular sheath E of textile fabric similar to the material largely used for tubular boot laces, corset laces, etc., the material being drawn on loosely over the head A and made tight thereon by pulling the ends. The sheathed lead is then enclosed between the two halves of the outer case B the grooved surfaces of which are coated with adhesive in the usual manner.

To secure the lead more firmly in the case the sheathed lead may be dipped in the adhesive before being placed between the halves of the case.

Where pencils are made with a complete 65 tubular wooden or other case, provided with a central bore, and the marking substance, either in the form of a stick or a plastic mass, is forced into the case, the sheath in accordance with the present invention may first be 70 fitted within the case and fixed by an adhesive and the marking substance then forced into position. The bore of the case, whether the latter be made as a complete tube or in two halves, may be corrugated or roughened the 75 more readily to hold the glue and the sheath in position.

It will readily be appreciated that a pencil constructed in accordance with my present invention will be much less liable to breakage 80 of the lead whether during sharpening or due to external blows.

What I claim is:—

In a marking pencil in which the marking substance is enclosed in an outer case capable 85 of being cut away to expose a portion of the marking substance, the provision of a pre-formed tubular sheath of textile fabric drawn on over the marking substance and impregnated with a hard setting adhesive to form 90 a stiff support for the marking substance interposed between the latter and the outer case.

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