May 6, 1930. P. J. O'SULLIVAN 1,756,953

PENCIL

Filed Oct. 29, 1927

Fig. 1.

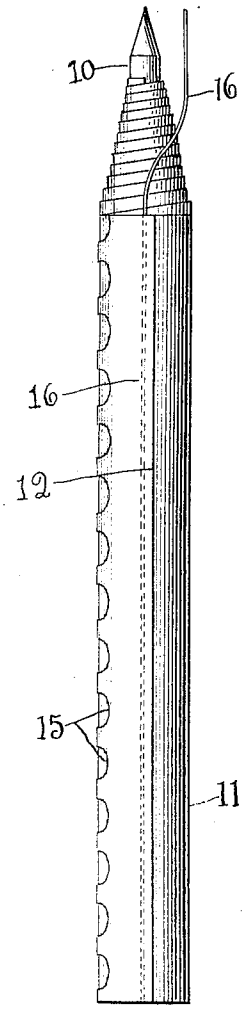


Fig. 2.

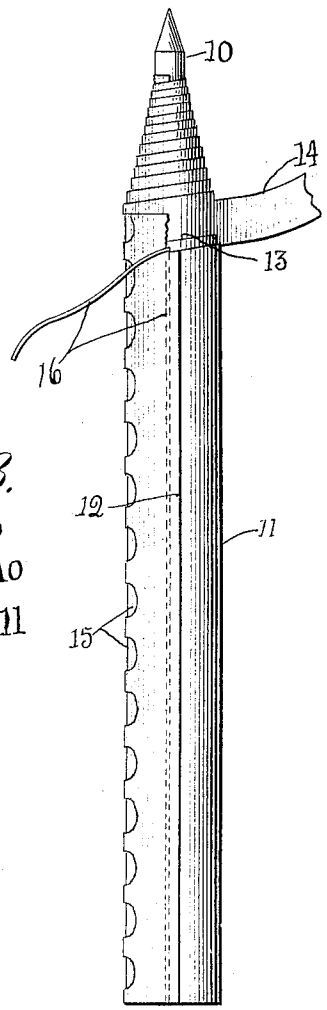
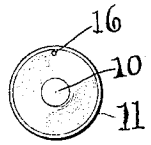


Fig. 3.



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Patented May 6, 1930 1,756,953

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

PATRICK J. O'SULLIVAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO BLAISDELL PENCIL COMPANY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

PENCIL

Application filed October 29, 1927. Serial No. 229,636.

This invention relates generally to pencils and has particular reference to improvements in what are known in the trade as paper pencils.

Pencils of the kind specifically mentioned comprise a lead, crayon or other marking material sheathed by a rolled sheet of paper or corresponding material. In pencils of the kind which are now on the market the sheet of paper is scored or weakened along parallel lines so disposed in the sheet as to cause them to be spirally arranged when the sheet is rolled around the marking material. When it is necessary to expose a fresh portion of the marking material it has heretofore been necessary to use the fingers or some implement to cut or tear the outer layer of the material from one of the cut or weakened lines to another to permit removing the covering material a strip at a time. Such pencils have been on the market for years and are well known.

One of the difficulties in the way of convenient use of such pencils is that it is rather difficult to break or tear the outer layer or wrapper with the fingers, and this is particularly true when the exterior of the pencil is given a coat of varnish, enamel or the like, and an implement for the purpose is not always available.

An object of the invention is to overcome that difficulty by making it extremely easy and convenient to break or tear through the exterior layer or layers of the paper covering to free one of the strips for removal to expose more of the marking material.

With this and other objects in view, the invention consists in a novel construction and relation of elements, the novel features of which are pointed out in the appended claims, and a preferred form of embodiment of which is hereinafter described with references to the drawing accompanying and forming a part of this specification.

In said drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a pencil containing the invention.

Fig. 2 is the same as Fig. 1, except that the former shows the operation of the improvement.

Fig. 3 is an end view of the pencil shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The pencil shown in the drawings comprises a stick of marking material 10 which is sheathed or protected by a sheet 11 of paper or the like rolled around the marking material. The outer edge of the sheet of material may be pasted or glued to the exterior layer of the sheet as at 12 and the exterior may be treated with paint, varnish or enamel of any desired color for ornamental purposes or to protect the wrapping material.

The sheet of wrapping material may be in the form of strips extending spirally when the sheet is rolled up with a separate wrapper for the rolled sheet, or the sheet may be cut, scored or weakened along lines 13 which will readily permit removing the material a strip at a time, as at 14, Fig. 2, the lines mentioned running spirally when the sheet is rolled up and fastened in position. The outer wrapper or layer of the rolled sheet is usually supplied with circular cuts or depressions 15 to facilitate cutting or tearing the outer layer and, at the same time, serving as a guide or marker by which the widths of the strips may be gauged.

The construction described in the two preceding paragraphs is that of a paper pencil which is now on the market and which is generally known in the trade as the Blaisdell pencil.

The improvement made by the present applicant consists in placing under the wrapper, if a wrapper is used, or the layers of the wrapped sheet 11, a flexible element of any suitable material and which preferably has an end exposed which may readily be gripped between the fingers and operated to cut through the sheet 11 from one of the lines 13 to another of said lines to make it possible to unwind or tear off one of the spiral strips 14 of the wrapper. Any suitable flexible material or element may be used, such as a wire or a strip of woven fabric, but in the preferred embodiment illustrated in the drawings a strong thread 16 is used. The thread extends lengthwise of the pencil under or between layers of the wrapper. While the number of layers wound over the thread 16

may be varied within certain practical limits, it is preferred to have the thread extending under the outer layer only.

In the drawings the thread 16 is shown as extending in a straight line parallel to the axis of the pencil, but it is obvious that this is not essential. The thread might be placed on an irregular line between the layers or might be so placed as to extend spirally between the layers if desired, without affecting the satisfactory operation of the improvement.

While the embodiment shown in the drawing and hereinbefore described is very satisfactory for the purposes above stated, the invention is capable of other embodiments, with suitable changes in the construction and relations of the elements, some of which are specifically mentioned above, all coming within the scope of the claims which follow.

What is claimed is:

1. A pencil comprising a piece of marking material, a cover therefor comprising a rolled sheet of spirally disposed strips fastened at their outer ends, and a flexible element extending lengthwise of the pencil under the outer layer of the cover operable to free the outer ends of the aforesaid strips for removal as fresh portions of the marking material are needed.

2. A pencil comprising a piece of marking material, a cover therefor comprising a rolled sheet of material having spirally disposed lines of weakness to permit removing the material a strip at a time, and a flexible element extending lengthwise of the pencil and between layers of the sheet of material, said element having an exposed end by means of which the element may be used to tear the material from one of the aforesaid lines to another.

3. A pencil comprising a piece of marking material and a cover therefor comprising a rolled sheet of material having spirally disposed lines of weakness, and a flexible element disposed lengthwise of the pencil and under the outer layer of the sheet of material, said element having an exposed end by means of which the element may be used to tear through said outer layer from one line of weakness to another by pulling on said element.

4. A pencil comprising a piece of marking material, a rolled sheet of material surrounding the marking material and cut along spirally disposed lines to permit removing the material a strip at a time, and a thread extending lengthwise of the pencil between layers of the sheet of material, said thread having an end exposed to permit tearing the material from one of the aforesaid lines to another by pulling on the thread.

5. A pencil comprising a piece of marking material, a rolled sheet of material covering the marking material cut along spirally disposed lines to permit removing the material a strip at a time, and a thread extending the length of the pencil under the outer layer of the sheet of material, said thread having an end exposed to permit tearing the outer layer of material from one of the aforesaid lines to another by pulling on the thread.

6. A pencil comprising a piece of marking material, a jacket for the marking material composed of a set of spirally wound strips fastened together at their outer ends, and an element extending the length of the pencil under a portion of each of the strips operable to tear through the strips one at a time to free the strips for removal to expose fresh portions of the marking material as required.

7. A pencil comprising a piece of marking material, a jacket for the marking material composed of a set of spirally wound separately removable strips fastened together at their outer ends, and an element extending under a portion of each strip operable to tear through said strip to free it for removal to expose a fresh portion of the marking material.

In testimony whereof I hereto affix my signature.

PATRICK J. O'SULLIVAN.