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E. D. DAVIS
WATER COLOR PAINT SET

2,565,912

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

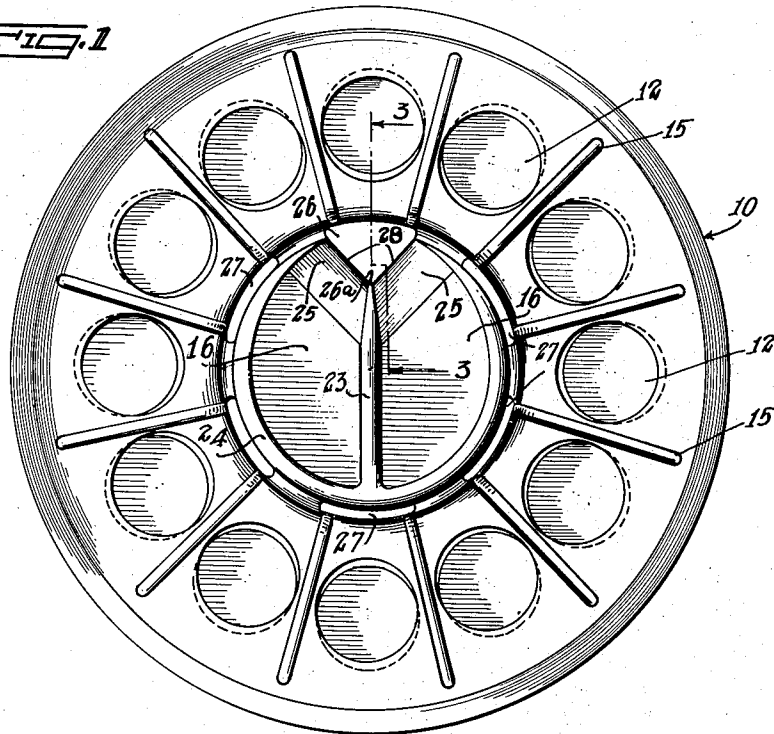
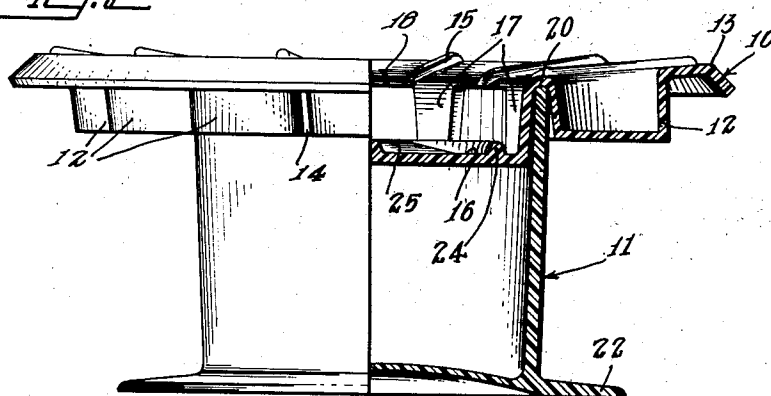


FIG. 2



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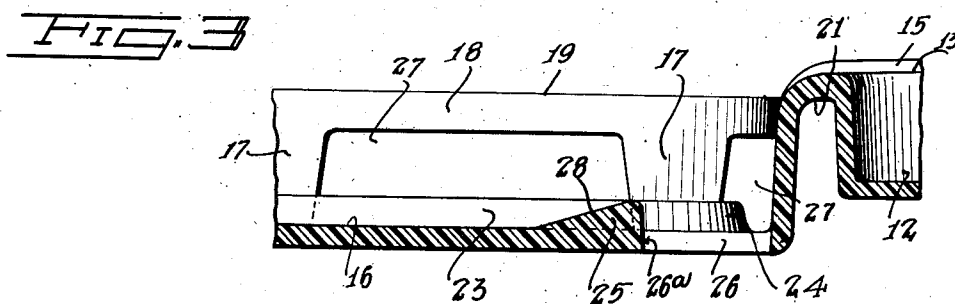
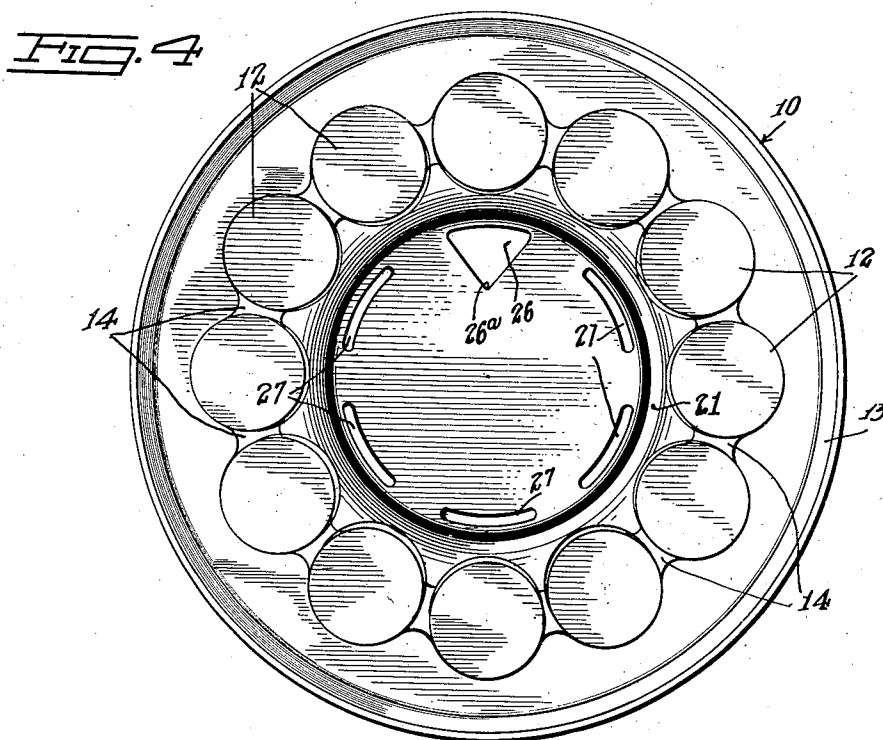
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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WATER COLOR PAINT SET

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13 Claims. (Cl. 41—4)

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This invention relates to water color painting and has particular reference to novel apparatus comprising an improved water color paint set.

Conventional water color paint sets, or "paint boxes" are disadvantageous in several respects, particularly for use by children. The present practice is to put up the paints in cakes which fit into small pans on a shelf in the paint box. The lid of the box is generally divided into sections or panels in which the paints may be mixed. No provision is made for drainage of excess water from the pans, giving rise to the danger of undesirable mixing of paints from adjacent cakes, as well as the danger of spillage onto the work table. The mixing panels are generally quite shallow so that, here again, the danger of spillage is present.

One of the objects of my invention is, therefore, to provide a novel water color paint set having means for drainage of excess liquids.

Another object of my invention is to provide a novel water color paint set in which a water container is made a part of the unitary assembly.

A further object of my invention is to provide a water color paint set which may be safely used by even small children, without danger of spillage of water and/or paints.

A further object of my invention is the provision of a novel water color paint set which is simple in construction and adapted to be manufactured on a quantity basis.

Other objects and advantages of this invention it is believed will be apparent from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a preferred embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is a side elevation thereof, partly in section.

Figure 3 is a sectional view, taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view.

Referring now to the drawings, it will be seen that a preferred embodiment of my invention includes a circular palette, generally designated at 10, which is supported by a water vessel 11.

The palette 10 may be of molded composition, preferably of plastic although other materials would be satisfactory. A number of cup-shaped wells 12 integral with the annular outer portion or shelf 13 of the palette are disposed in a circle about the circular inner portion of the palette. As shown in Figure 4, the wells may be con-

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nected together by means of webs 14 to insure ease of molding and to provide greater strength to the article. Conventional water color paints (not shown) are inserted in the wells 12, and may be either the hard, dry cake type which gradually becomes adhesive to the container or well when wetted in use, or the "semi-moist" type which is put into the container or well in paste form and dries therein.

Means are provided to prevent accidental intermixing of the paints in adjacent wells and, as shown in the drawings, this may include the raised ribs 15, one of which is disposed between each pair of adjacent wells 12.

The circular inner portion of the palette 10 provides paint-mixing means which may include the mixing trays 16. This inner portion is integrally connected to the annular shelf 13 by means of spaced ribs 17, described more fully below.

As shown in the drawings, and particularly in Figure 3, an annular, downwardly-directed flange 18 is provided on the inner edge 19 of the shelf 13. The above-mentioned ribs 17 are integral with this flange 18 and extend downwardly therefrom and thence laterally to merge with the circular central portion of the palette.

The outer diameter of the flange 18 is only slightly less than the inner diameter of the water vessel 11, so that the inner portion of the palette may be nested within the vessel, the palette being supported by the rim 20 of the vessel 11 on the annular seat 21 which is defined by the flange 18 and by a circle tangent to the wells 12. The water vessel 11 may be of conventional shape, but is preferably slightly tapered as shown, and provided with a flanged base 22 as a safeguard against tipping.

It is to be understood that the inner portion of the palette, which provides the mixing trays 16, is depressed with respect to the shelf 13, so that the trays 16 may be contained inside the water vessel 11 and substantially below the rim thereof, as shown in Figure 2. The trays 16 are separated by the central fin 23 and enclosed by the annular dike 24 and dams or ramps 25. A substantially triangular aperture 26 is provided between the trays 16, the purpose of which will be described below. Means are provided whereby excess liquid may drain from the shelf 13, and as shown in the drawings, this may include the sloping disposition of the shelf 13, the aperture 26 and the apertures 27 between the spaced ribs 17. Any excess liquid will gravitate toward the center, then downwardly through the apertures 26 and 27 into

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the water vessel 11. As noted above, the raised ribs 15 prevent accidental intermixing of paints from adjacent wells 12, and further, the ribs 15 aid in channeling excess water through the apertures 26 and 27.

The paints may be mixed in the trays 16 in the customary manner, that is, by wetting the brush (through the aperture 26), taking up one of the desired colors on the brush and depositing it on one of the trays 16, cleaning the brush in the water, and taking up other colors and depositing them in the mixing tray in the same manner until the desired mixture is obtained. As will be understood from the above description, any accidental spillage of paint will drain into the water vessel 11, either through the aperture 26 or apertures 27. The aperture 26 is substantially triangular, as shown, and is provided with a sharp apex 26a, against which the brush may be withdrawn to squeeze the excess water therefrom, as well as to compress the bristles into a sharp point. The brush may be given a broad, flat brushing surface by drawing it against one of the straight sides of the aperture 26.

While the palette 10 is securely supported by the water vessel 11, as described above, it is to be understood that the assembly is not permanent; the palette is easily removed merely by lifting it off the water vessel when it is desired to change the water therein. The curved surfaces 28 of the dams 25, best shown in Figure 3, permit the mixing trays 16 to be cleaned without removing the palette from the water vessel, however, since the trays may be flooded with clear water and then swept clean by brushing the water over the dams and through the aperture 26.

While I have shown and described a specific embodiment of my invention, I do not limit myself to the exact details of the construction set forth, and the invention embraces such changes, modifications and equivalents of the parts and their formation and arrangement as come within the purview of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel, a palette supported by said water vessel above the top edge thereof, said palette having an aperture therein so that a brush may be inserted therethrough into the water vessel, and drainage channels on said palette whereby excess liquid flowing therefrom will drain into said water vessel.

2. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel, a palette supported by said water vessel above the top edge thereof, means on said palette for holding a plurality of water color cakes, and separate drainage channels on said palette from each of said means and leading to said vessel whereby excess liquid will drain into said water vessel.

3. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel having an upper peripheral edge, a palette supported by said water vessel and extending inwardly over said edge, means on said palette for holding a plurality of water color cakes, and a mixing tray integral with said palette and forming the central portion thereof over said water vessel, and within the boundary of said upper peripheral edge said mixing tray having an aperture therein through which a brush may be dipped into said water vessel.

4. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel, a palette supported by said water vessel, means on said palette for holding a plurality of water color cakes, a mixing tray in-

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tegral with said palette and forming the central portion thereof over said water vessel, said mixing tray having an aperture therein through which a brush may be dipped into said water vessel, and drainage channels on said palette arranged to direct excess liquid to drain into said water vessel.

5. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel, a palette supported by said water vessel, said palette including an outer portion and an inner portion, said outer portion comprising a shelf adapted to retain a plurality of individual paint cakes, said shelf being disposed at an angle from the horizontal so that liquids thereon may gravitate toward said inner portion, said inner portion including a horizontal mixing tray, and a plurality of spaced ribs connecting said inner portion to said outer portion, the apertures between said ribs providing passageways through which excess water may drain from said shelf.

6. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel and a palette supported by said water vessel, said palette including an outer portion and an inner portion, said outer portion comprising a shelf extending laterally outwardly of said water vessel and adapted to retain a plurality of individual paint cakes, said inner portion including a horizontal mixing tray, said mixing tray being depressed with respect to said shelf so that said mixing tray nests within the water vessel, and said inner portion having an aperture therein through which a brush may be dipped into said water vessel.

7. In a water color paint set, a palette adapted to be supported on a water vessel, said palette including an outer portion and an inner portion, said outer portion comprising a shelf adapted to retain a plurality of individual paint cakes, said shelf being disposed at an angle from the horizontal so that liquids thereon may gravitate toward said inner portion, said inner portion including a horizontal mixing tray having an aperture therein through which a brush may be dipped, and a plurality of spaced ribs connecting said inner portion to said outer portion, the apertures between said ribs providing passageways through which excess water may drain from said shelf and said tray.

8. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel, a flanged base integral with the water vessel, a palette supported by said water vessel, said palette including an outer portion and an inner portion, said outer portion comprising a shelf extending laterally outwardly of said water vessel and having a plurality of partitioned wells therein, each adapted to retain a paint cake therein, said shelf being disposed at an angle from the horizontal so that liquids thereon may gravitate toward said inner portion, said inner portion including a horizontal mixing tray, said mixing tray being depressed with respect to said shelf so that said mixing tray nests within the water vessel, and a plurality of spaced ribs connecting said inner portion to said outer portion, the apertures between said ribs providing passageways through which excess water may drain into said water vessel.

9. In a water color paint set, the combination of: a water vessel, a palette supported by said water vessel, said palette including an outer portion and an inner portion, said outer portion comprising an annular shelf extending laterally outwardly of said water vessel and having a plurality of partitioned wells therein, an annular,

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downwardly directed flange forming the inside edge of said outer portion, the outer surface of said flange cooperating with said wells to define an annular seat on the underside of said shelf for the rim of said water vessel, the inner portion of said palette including a horizontal mixing tray which is depressed with respect to said shelf so that said mixing tray may nest within the water vessel, said mixing tray having an aperture therein through which a brush may be dipped into the water vessel.

10. In a paint color set, a palette comprising an annular shelf having an annular series of paint receiving depressions projecting therebelow, a downwardly extending annular flange extending from the inner edge of the annular shelf, a tray supported at the lower edge of the annular flange, the inner edge of the shelf adjacent the downwardly extending annular flange forming a rim, the under surface of which provides a supporting surface for the support of the palette upon an annular supporting edge and the annular flange and the downwardly projecting paint receiving depressions of the annular shelf defining a channel therebetween whereby the palette is held from lateral movement when supported by the annular rim.

11. In combination with a water container having an upstanding annular wall within which water may be confined, a paint set including an annular shelf having paint receiving depressions formed therein, said paint receiving depressions extending downwardly from the bottom surface of the annular shelf, the inner edge of the annular shelf providing a supporting rim upon which the shelf may be supported on the upper edge of the annular wall of the water container, a mixing tray extending downwardly from the annular shelf to a position within the annular wall of the water container and below the upper edge thereof, means whereby the mixing tray is supported from the rim of the shelf, the latter said means and said paint receiving depressions of the tray forming together means to prevent lateral movement of the tray when supported on the edge of the water container.

12. In combination with a water container having an upstanding annular wall within which

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water may be confined, a paint set including an annular shelf having paint receiving depressions formed therein, said paint receiving depressions extending downwardly from the bottom surface of the annular shelf, the inner edge of the annular shelf providing a supporting rim upon which the shelf may be supported on the upper edge of the annular wall of the water container, a mixing tray extending downwardly from the annular shelf to a position within the annular wall of the water container and below the upper edge thereof, means whereby the mixing tray is supported from the rim of the shelf, the latter said means and said paint receiving depressions of the tray forming together means to prevent lateral movement of the tray when supported on the edge of the water container, and the mixing tray having an opening through which a paint brush may be inserted into the water of the water container.

13. In a water color paint set of the type adapted to be supported by an open-top water vessel and having a shelf adapted to retain a plurality of individual paint cakes, a horizontal mixing tray portion adapted to be nested within the top portion of the water vessel, said mixing tray portion comprising a pair of mixing trays separated by a central fin and enclosed by an outer raised dike and a pair of upwardly inclined ramps, said ramps intersecting to form a sharp apex and to define, with the shelf, an aperture providing access to the interior of the water vessel.

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