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PENCIL AND METHOD OF FINISHING SAME

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Figs. 1-8

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The invention relates to an improvement in the art of finishing or coating pencils comprising a marking material, such as graphite or crayon, enclosed in an elongated sheath or body portion composed of wood, paper or composition, usually round or polygonal in cross-section. The periphery of the body portion is commonly finished or coated with a glossy paint or other coloring material. The object of the present invention is to produce a pencil of this character having a more attractive and distinctive appearance by applying to the coat of coloring or finishing material an outer or secondary coat of finishing material in a novel and attractive manner. To this end the invention consists in the improved pencil and in the method of finishing the same hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating the preferred form of the invention and indicating a suitable device for practicing the improved method of finishing the pencil,

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the improved pencil produced by the method of

the invention; Fig. 2 is a front end elevation of the pencil shown in Fig. 1, but on an enlarged scale; Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are fragmentary cross-sections through the pencil on a greatly enlarged scale, Fig. 3 showing the periphery of the body portion of the pencil before the application of any paint or finishing material thereon, Fig. 4 showing the pencil with a primary coat or layer of finishing material, and Fig. 5 showing the pencil with two coats of finishing material applied thereto; Fig. 6 is an end elevation on an enlarged scale of the wiping device, by means of which the novel effect in the finishing of the pencil is attained; Fig. 7 is a longitudinal section taken in the line 7-7 of Fig. 6; and Fig. 8 is a cross-section of the wiping device and showing a pencil passing therethrough, the figure being on a scale larger than Figs. 6 and 7 to bring out more clearly the action of the device in finishing the pencil.

The improved pencil as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 8 is in general of usual form and construction and consists of a centrally located "lead" or other marking material enclosed in a sheath or body portion of wood or composition. On one end of the pencil is mounted a ferrule for holding an eraser. The pencil illustrated in the drawing is substantially round in cross-section and its periphery is knurled into a series of substantially parallel longitudinally-extending arc-shaped divisions or ridges. As is usual in pencils of this type the surface of the body portion of the pencil is provided with a coat or layer of finishing material, usually a glossy paint or the like of pleasing color, which is indicated at 16 in Figs. 4, 5 and 8.

The improved method of finishing the pencil, constituting one feature of the present invention, consists in applying to the coat or layer of finishing material 16 an outer or secondary coat of finishing material in such manner that, when the pencil is finally finished, as shown in Fig. 1, the secondary coat occupies the depressions 18 between the ridges 15, as shown in Fig. 8, and also occurs as longitudinally-extending spiral stripes 20 superposed upon and traversing the ridges 15, as shown in Fig. 1. The outer or secondary coat 17 of finishing material may be of any desired color and is preferably of a color or shade which contrasts with the color or shade of the primary layer or coat 16 so as to present a pleasing and distinctive appearance in the finished pencil.

When the primary coat or layer 16 of finishing material has been applied to the unfinished body portion 11 of the pencil it is permitted to dry thoroughly. The outer or secondary coat 17 of finishing material is then applied evenly over the primary coat 16, as indicated in Fig. 5. Then before the outer or secondary coat 17 has opportunity to dry or become hardened it is forced through a wiping device which permits the part of the outer or secondary coat occupying the depressions 18 to remain therein, as indicated in Fig. 8, and also permits the longitudinally-extending spiral stripes 20 to remain on the tops of the ridges 15, as indicated in Fig. 8.
cated in Fig. 1, the remainder of the outer or secondary coat 17 being wiped away.

The device for removing the longitudinally-extending spiral strips of undried finishing material 17 from the tops of the coated divisions or ridges 15 of the pencil to leave the longitudinally-extending spiral strips 20 and to leave the part 19 of the coat 17 occupying the recesses 18 comprises a resilient member 22 provided, in the illustrated embodiment of the invention, with a central hexagonal hole 23 somewhat smaller in diameter than the diameter of the pencil, as will be understood by comparing the dimensions of the end elevation of the pencil shown in Fig. 2 with the hole 23 in the member 22 as illustrated in Fig. 6. The member 22 is conveniently in the form of a truncated cone having parallel faces 24 and 25 and is adapted to be mounted in a correspondingly shaped hole in the upper end of a support 26. The hexagonal hole 23 through the member 22 is provided with a flaring mouth 27 in the face 24 of the larger diameter so as to facilitate the entry of the pencil into the hole 23, as illustrated in Fig. 7.

To wipe the undesired portions of the undried outer or secondary coat 17 of finishing material from the pencil, one end of the pencil is entered into the hole 23 at its flaring mouth and the whole pencil is pushed through the hole by a rectilinear force directed against the other end of the pencil. When the pencil has entered the hole 23 fully, as illustrated in Fig. 8, the sides of the pencil push equally outwardly radially in all directions against the sides 28 of the hole 23, and distort them, as shown in Fig. 8, thereby causing the sides 28 to conform to and hug tightly the periphery of the body portion 11 of the pencil except at the corners 29 of the hole 23. Thus the sides 28 of the hole 23 remove the outer coat 17 of finishing material except at the joints or depressions 18 between the ridges 15 and at the corners 29 of the hole 23. Insomuch as the knurled ridges 15 are spirally formed on the periphery of the body portion 11 of the pencil, the snug engagement of the sides 28 of the hole 23 with the periphery of the body portion of the pencil causes the pencil to rotate slightly as the pencil is pushed through the hole 23, thereby causing the finishing material occupying the corners 29 of the hole 23 to be left as the spirally-extending ridges 20 superposed upon and traversing the ridges 15 of the body portion 11 of the pencil. The angularity of the spiral stripes 20 depends partly upon the relative size of the pencil and the opening 23 and partly upon the rapidity with which the pencil is forced through the member 22. The number of spiral stripes 20 to be formed on the periphery of the pencil depends upon the number of sides in the polygonal hole or opening 23.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is:

1. A pencil of the character described, comprising, an elongated body portion provided on its periphery with longitudinally-extending spiral rounded ridges abutting one another, a primary coat of finishing material entirely covering the periphery of the pencil, and a secondary coat of finishing material partially covering the periphery of the pencil, said secondary coat partially filling the depressions between the ridges and also extending as longitudinal spiral stripes traversing the ridges.

2. A pencil of the character described, comprising, an elongated body portion provided on its periphery with longitudinally-extending spiral ridges abutting each other, a primary coat of colored finishing material entirely covering the periphery of the pencil, and a secondary coat of colored finishing material partially covering the primary coat, said secondary coat being of a color contrasting with the color of the primary coat and partially occupying the depressions between the ridges, and also extending as longitudinal spiral stripes traversing the ridges.

3. The method of finishing cylindrical pencils which consists in forming on and wholly covering the periphery of the pencil longitudinally-extending, spiral, rounded ridges abutting each other, applying to the periphery of the pencil a primary coat of finishing material and permitting it to dry, applying to the primary coat a secondary coat of finishing material, and then before the secondary coat dries removing from the tops of the ridges longitudinally-extending, spiral strips, so that the remainder of the secondary coat occupies the depressions between the ridges and appears on the ridges as longitudinally-extending spiral stripes.

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