May 31, 1932. O. ZIMMERMANN 1,861,171

PENHOLDER

Filed May 24, 1929

Fig. 1.

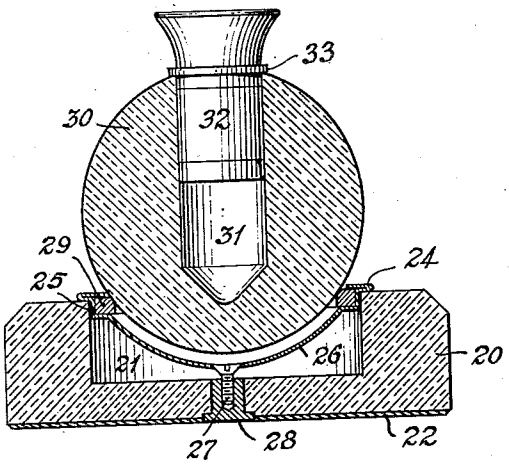


Fig. 4.

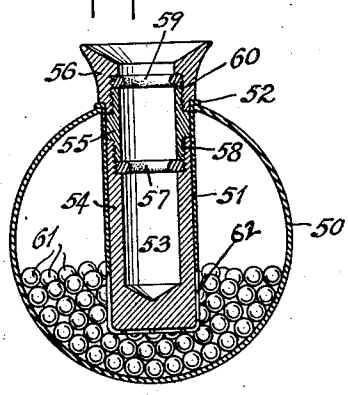


Fig. 2.

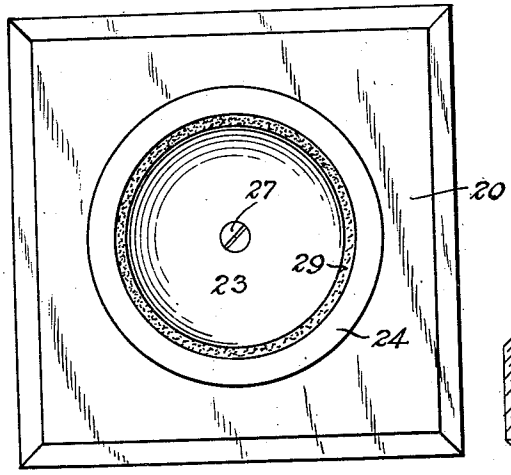
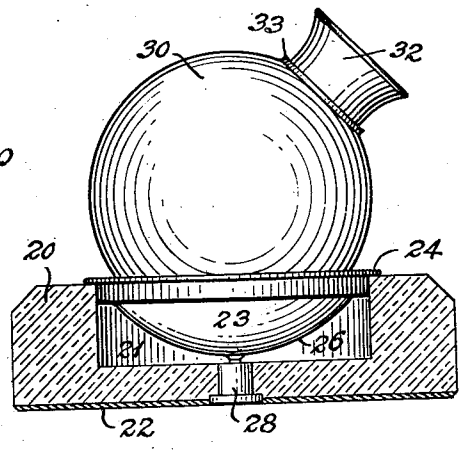


Fig. 3.



WITNESS

E. V. Rasmussen

BY

INVENTOR

OTTO ZIMMERMANN

Miesen & Schrenk

ATTORNEYS

Patented May 31, 1932 1,861,171

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

OTTO ZIMMERMANN, OF HANAU, GERMANY

PENHOLDER

Application filed May 24, 1929. Serial No. 365,823.

This invention relates to pen holders, and more particularly to desk pen holders especially adapted for the reception of pens of the fountain pen type.

A primary object of the present invention is to provide a pen holder wherein the parts are separable and the movable part is capable of being moved and adjusted universally and of being held solely by friction in any adjusted position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a pen holder wherein the movable member or part is large enough to receive a pen-holding tube within its confines and is heavy enough to coact with a frictional seat for the establishment of a stable grip or hold.

Another object of the invention is to provide a pen holder which can be manufactured in an easy manner, which has a simple construction, and which has an attractive appearance.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which Fig. 1 is a sectional view of one embodiment of my invention; Fig. 2 shows a plan view of the base of the pen holder illustrated in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a side elevation of Fig. 1, partly in section, with the pen-holding member inclined from the perpendicular; and Fig. 4 represents a modified pen-holding member.

Referring more particularly to Fig. 1 the reference character 20 designates a base of my improved pen holder. The base is preferably made of some heavy material such as metal, stone or the like. In the present instance, onyx is used for the base because of its attractive appearance. To the bottom of the base a felt mat 22 is affixed to prevent scratching of a desk or other piece of furniture upon which the pen holder may be placed. In the upper part of base 20 a hollow cavity or hole 21 is cut. The hole 21 is illustrated as having a cylindrical shape although other appropriate shapes may be used.

Mounted in cavity 21 is an insert 23 of metal or other suitable material. The insert preferably is so constructed as to provide a flange or shoulder 24 adapted to engage the surface of base 20 contiguous to the periphery of the cavity and to provide a channel 25 adjacent to the flange 24. The central portion of the insert is preferably developed as a bowl or spherical concavity 26. At the center of the bowl a screw 27 projects through the insert to engage a lug 28 so as to secure insert 23 fixedly and tightly to the base 20.

Within channel 25 a friction ring 29 of soft rubber or the like is seated to provide a frictional seat. On this seat a relatively large and heavy body 30, preferably of spherical shape, is placed. The body has a spherical bottom and a cylindrical bore 31. Firmly seated in the bore is a pen tube 32 held from slipping downwardly into bore 31 by collar or shoulder 33. This pen tube may be of any suitable type, especially adapted for the reception of fountain pens. To eliminate any possibility of the pen tube being accidentally removed or dropping out, the tube can be cemented or otherwise bonded or sealed in the bore.

By the aforesaid arrangement of elements a desk pen holder is provided which has a body member capable of being moved in any direction in the rubber seat and which has sufficient frictional drag between the movable body member and the base member to hold the body member in an adjusted position and to resist the turning or tilting effect of the fountain pen mounted in the pen tube.

In some instances, I may use a modified body member such as illustrated in Fig. 4. The modified body member has a hollow shell 50, preferably of spherical shape and metal character. Projecting in the shell is a tubular member 51 which is secured by a flange 52 to the outer surface of the shell. Within this tubular member a modified pen tube 53 is seated or sealed. This tube consists of a closed bottom member 54, an intermediate ring 55 and a mouth ring 56.

A pen-gripping washer 57 of rubber is clamped between bottom member 54 and intermediate ring 55 by screwing the latter two parts together by means of threads 58

while a second pen-gripping washer 59 is clamped between the mouth ring 56 and the intermediate ring 55 by screwing the two rings together by means of threads 60. These two rings can grip the head of a fountain pen and can hold the pen firmly in position.

To give stability to body member 50, I add heavy ballast such as buck-shot 61 to the interior of the hollow shell 50. The shot is added to the shell through tubular member 51 before the pen tube is sealed therein. Openings 62 at the bottom of tubular member 51 permit the shot to pass into the space within the shell. With this arrangement relatively large body members can be made from sheet metal and filled with buck-shot to give weight thereto. The modified body member can be used in place of the body member illustrated in the other figures of the drawings.

It is to be observed that although I have described specific embodiments of my invention, the invention is not to be restricted to such particular embodiments. Various modifications in detail and in the arrangement of the parts may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the invention.

I claim:

A pen holder comprising a base having an open shallow concavity, substantially less than a semi-sphere, in the upper surface thereof, a metal insert mounted in said concavity and provided with a relatively narrow frictional element fixedly incorporated in the periphery of said metal insert, a relatively large, heavy body of substantially spherical shape seated in said insert, the extent of the surface of said body in contact with the surface of said element being sufficient to retain said body frictionally seated, while permitting practically universal motion of said body, within said insert, the extent of the surface of said body not in contact with the surface of said element being sufficient to permit of the body being grasped by the hands for the purpose of removing the same from said base, and a pen tube embedded in, and frictionally retained within, said body for receiving the head portion of a pen and permitting the remainder of the pen to project outwardly from said body.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

OTTO ZIMMERMANN.