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PENCIL-SERVING MEMORANDUM PAD- HOLDER

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This invention relates to improvements in a memorandum pad-holder having a cover which may be caused to swing open by manipulation of a catch and relates more particularly to an arrangement by means of which a pencil within the device is caused to swing angularly to a limited extent with the cover into an attitude in which the pencil is served to the user to enable it to be grasped readily for use in writing and thereafter to be returned readily to its place in the device preliminary to closing of the latter with the pencil therein. The term "pencil" as employed in this description and in the accompanying claims is intended to include not only a pencil but a pen or any other writing instrument.

An important object of the invention is the provision of such a device with such a pencil-serving arrangement.

Another important object is the provision of such an arrangement wherein the pencil is forcibly held precisely at a predetermined angle to serve it to a user when the device is open.

Another important object is the provision of such an arrangement wherein the means for thus forcibly holding the pencil at a predetermined angle include means functioning also in opening the device.

Another important object is the provision of means in a memorandum pad-holder enabling a memorandum pad to be easily inserted into and removed from the holder.

The foregoing and other objects are derived from this invention of which a preferred embodiment is shown in the accompanying drawings for illustrative purposes without, however, limiting the invention to that particular embodiment.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device according to a preferred embodiment of this invention, the device being shown in its open condition.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of said device in closed condition.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view substantially on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a similarly enlarged view sectionalized at the same plane as Fig. 3; the device, however, being partly open.

Fig. 5 is a similarly enlarged view sectionalized at the same plane as Figs. 3 and 4; the device, however, being fully open.

Fig. 6 is a similarly enlarged sectional view substantially on the line 6—6 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 7 is a top plan view of the base plate of the device illustrated in Figs. 1—6.

The illustrated device comprises chiefly a base 10, a cover 12, a cross-rod 14 pivotally interconnecting said base and cover at their back ends, a tubular pencil-retainer 16 pivotal upon said rod, a pencil 17 removably disposed in said pencil-retainer, a torque spring 18 normally urging the cover toward its open position, shown in Figs. 1 and 5, a latch 20 pivoted to the base 10 and yieldably held by a tensioned coil spring 22 in manually releasable latching association with a latch detent 24 formed on a front end flange 25 of the cover 12 to hold the device closed as in Figs. 2, 3 and 6, a torque spring 26, somewhat like spring 18, for yieldably urging the pencil-retainer 16 away from the cover to an extent positively limited by abutment of a lug 28 on said retainer with the bottom edge of a back end flange 30 of the cover 12, and a memorandum pad 32, a bottom cardboard or sheet 34 of which is engaged underneath opposed, parallel retainer flanges 36 struck up from the base 10, to hold the pad fixedly in the device.

The base 10, cover 12, pencil-retainer 16, and latch 20 may advantageously be of suitable sheet metal, formed as illustrated, and as herein described. The cover, as shown, has side flanges 38 and the base has struck-up lugs 40 and the cross-rod 14 extends through aligned apertures in the flanges 38 and lugs 40 to effect the pivotal connection of the base and the cover. The cover's flanges 25, 30 and 38 are all of about the same width, said flanges giving to the cover a depth sufficient to enable the cover to enclose the pad 32 upon the base 10.

The pencil-retainer 16 may be D shaped in cross-section, as best seen in Fig. 6, and may have aligned holes at opposite sides of its inner end through which the rod 14 freely extends. The coils of torque spring 26 extend about the rod 14 between side portions of the pencil-retainer adjacent to the latter's mentioned aligned holes. One end 42 of said spring bears against the inside face of the cover 12 and the other end 44 of said spring seats within an inner corner of the pencil-retainer 16, thereby being off center and clear of interference with the pencil 17. The spring 18 is structurally similar to spring 26 but the ends 46 and 48 of spring 18 bear respectively against the inside surface of the cover 12 and against the top surface of the base 10.

The base 10 is formed with an elongate recess 50 to accommodate therewithin portions of the pencil 17 and the pencil-retainer 16 when the device is closed. The latch 20 has a pair of tongues 52 struck down therefrom and seated or hooked into apertures 54 in the base 10 and the ends of the tension spring 22 are hooked to the back end of latch 20 and to a lug 56 struck down from the base 10 to hold the latch normally in its latching position as shown in full lines in Fig. 3. A part of the base 10 is cut out as at 58 to provide space for the main or coiled portion of spring 22.

It may be noted, from Fig. 3, that when the device is closed, the bottom edge of the cover's flange 30 is substantially spaced from lug 28 of the pencil-retainer. Hence, at that time, both springs 18 and 26 are applying a torque force tending to open the device because the bottom end of spring 18 is pressing directly against the base while the bottom end of spring 26 is pressing the pencil-retainer against the base.

To open the device to render the pad 32 accessible for use, the user presses downwardly on the top portion 60 of the latch 20, pivoting the latter as indicated in broken lines in Fig. 5, thereby releasing the cover 12 to respond to the torque successively in both springs 18 and 26 and thereby start moving upwardly toward its open position.

When such upward movement of the cover progresses to the point illustrated in Fig. 4, the bottom edge of the cover's back flange 30 engages lug 28 so that continued upward movement of the cover causes the pencil-retainer 16 (and the pencil 17 in it) to pivot upwardly in unison with the cover until the latter and said retainer reach their positions shown in Fig. 5 in which the device is fully open and the pencil is held and served to the user at a desired precise angle. Thus, it may be understood that both springs 18 and 26 function during a first part
of the upward movement of the cover, when the lever-
age of the weight of the cover is most effective and
strong spring force is most needed, while thereafter only
spring 18 has any cover-moving effect, thereby reducing
the force continuing to move the cover upwardly and
minimizing or obviating any shock as the cover reaches
its fully open position.

To close the device, the user manually swings the cover
to its closed, latched position.
The sheets and bottom sheet or cardboard of pad
32 are preferably gummed together in a well-understood
manner at either the top or the bottom small side of
the pad so that a replacement pad may easily be in-
serted by sliding the pad's bottom sheet or cardboard
dindsightly underneath the flanges 36. If desired, a ca-
endar card 62 or other information card may be held
in place within the cover underneath the upper ends of
the springs 18 and 26.

It should be realized that the disclosed concepts may
be utilized in various other structural arrangements with-
out, however, departing from the invention as set forth
in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A pencil-serving memorandum pad-holder compris-
ing a base member having means for locating a pad
thereon, a cover member pivoted upon said base member,
a pencil-retainer pivoted between said members, cover-
opening means yieldably urging said cover continuously
toward its open position, holding means coating with
and between said cover member and said pencil-retainer
to yieldably hold said pencil-retainer in intimate associa-
tion with said base when said cover is in closed position,
pencil-retainer actuating means integral with said cover
member and coating with said retainer during a latter part
of opening movement of the cover to pivot said retainer
away from said base, and manually releasable latch
means for holding the cover closed upon the base;
said holding means coating with and between the two
said members to aid said cover-opening means in urging
the cover toward its open position only prior to the men-
tioned latter part of said opening movement of the cover,
and said holding means coating with said pencil-retainer
actuating means and the pencil-retainer to hold the latter
between and spaced from both said members when the
cover is in open position.

2. A pencil-serving memorandum pad-holder compris-
ing a base member having means for locating a pad ther-
one, a cover member pivoted upon said base member, a
pencil-retainer pivoted between said members, cover-
opening means yieldably urging said cover continuously
toward its open position, holding means yieldably hold-
ing said pencil-retainer in intimate association with said
base when said cover is in closed position, pencil-re-
tainer actuating means integral with one of said mem-
ers and coating with said retainer during a latter part
of opening movement of the cover to pivot said retainer
away from said base, and manually releasable latch
means for holding the cover closed upon the base; said hold-
ing means coating with the two said members to aid
said cover-opening means in urging the cover toward its
open position only prior to the mentioned latter part of
said opening movement of the cover, and said holding
means coating with said pencil-retainer actuating means
to hold the pencil-retainer between and spaced from
both said members when the cover is in open position;
said holding means coating with said cover member and
coating with said retainer during a latter part of
opening movement of the cover whereby to leave the
said cover-opening means as the sole means for com-
pleting the opening movement of the cover.

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