United States Patent [19]

Anderka

[11] 3,724,676

[45] Apr. 3, 1973

[54] **STAND FOR A WRITING POINT, ESPECIALLY FOR TUBULAR PENS**

[75] Inventor: **Gerold Anderka**, Hamburg, Germany

[73] Assignee: **Koh-I-Noor Rapidograph, Inc.**, Bloomsbury, N.J.

[22] Filed: **Mar. 12, 1971**

[21] Appl. No.: **123,745**

[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

May 5, 1970 Germany ..... G 70 16 831.9

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **211/69.7**, 211/69.8

[51] **Int. Cl.** **B43k 31/00**

[58] **Field of Search** 211/69.6, 69.7, 69.5, 69.1, 211/99, 69.8

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,675,543	7/1928	Fremon	211/69.7
1,892,523	12/1932	Ferrier	211/69.7
1,777,741	10/1930	Benson	211/69.6
1,629,574	5/1927	Hanle	211/69.7
2,110,007	3/1938	Tefft	211/69.7
747,066	12/1903	Hazeltine	211/69.5
2,957,270	10/1960	Kennamer	211/69.5
3,139,865	7/1964	Aimes	211/69.5
2,307,511	1/1943	Johnson	211/69.7

FOREIGN PATENTS OR APPLICATIONS

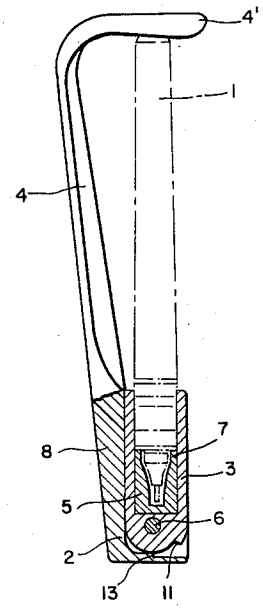
11,969	5/1903	Austria	211/69.5

Primary Examiner—Roy D. Frazier
Assistant Examiner—Abraham Frankel
Attorney—David H. Semmes

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A tiltable stand or holder for a tubular writing instrument, including a pivotable socket for retaining the writing instrument point and an upper horizontally extending bar, engaging the upper end of the writing pen.

2 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures



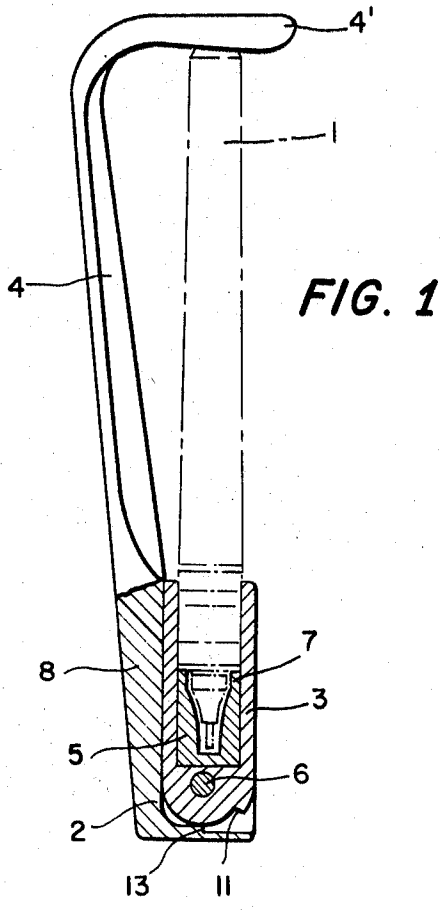


FIG. 1

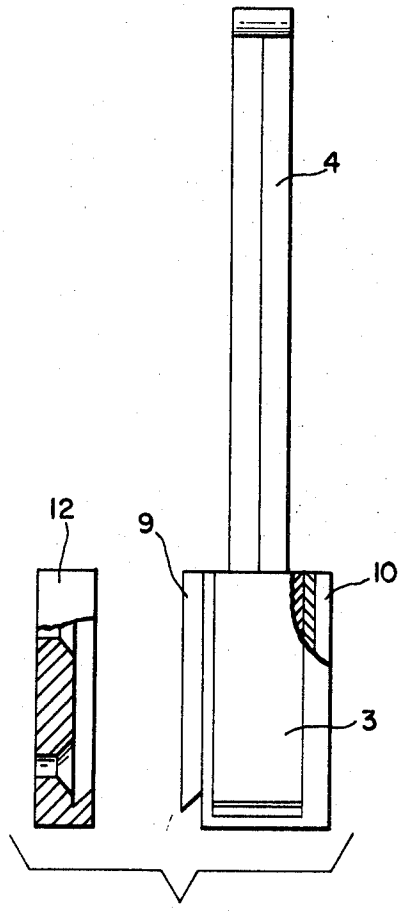


FIG. 2

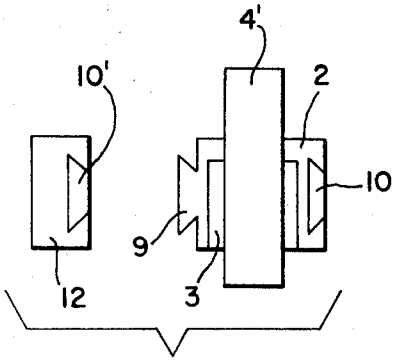


FIG. 3

INVENTOR
GEROLD ANDERKA

BY David N. Lemmes

ATTORNEY

STAND FOR A WRITING POINT, ESPECIALLY FOR TUBULAR PENS

This invention relates to a penholder for a writing utensil, particularly a tube writing pen.

In previously proposed penholders comprising a socket element tiltably mounted in a carrier, for the reception of at least one writing utensil, the socket element is usually designed for the reception of an entire set of writing utensils, such as a set of tube writing pens each pen being for the production of a trace of different thickness. The socket element is tiltable and thus permits the writing utensil to be placed upright irrespective as to whether the penholder stands on a level surface or whether it has been suspended. For the protection of the writing utensils, a covering hood is conventionally provided and placed over the socket element and the writing utensils, this hood being supported on cooperating edges of the carrier. These conventional penholders are rather large and bulky and, together with the covering hood, they cannot be attached for instance to a drawing board.

Another difficulty which arises in such conventional penholders is that the writing utensils are not tightly held or safely retained and that all the writing utensils will therefore fall out of the holder when this is accidentally knocked over. This may result in the writing utensils being damaged or fouled.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a compact penholder for tube writing pens, which will safely retain the writing utensils without at the same time preventing them from being taken out easily.

According to the present invention there is provided a penholder for a writing utensil wherein a socket element for the reception of at least one writing utensil, is tiltably mounted in a carrier, and wherein there is fixed to the carrier a bail of which the upper end extends over so as to be capable of bearing down on the upper end of a writing utensil when the socket element containing the writing utensil is in a retaining position. This form of construction will therefore prevent the writing utensil from being taken out or from falling out whilst the socket element is in retaining position.

In order to prevent the writing point of the writing utensil from drying out, the socket element may contain a receptacle made of a soft elastically deformable material, the upper edge of the receptacle serving as a seating and sealing edge for cooperation with an annular shoulder or collar on the writing utensil. This arrangement ensures that the point of the writing utensil will not touch the bottom of the socket element.

If the distance between the underside of the part of the bail that extends over the end of the writing utensil and the top edge of the receptacle in retaining position is slightly less than the distance between the upper end of the writing utensil and its annular shoulder or collar resting on the top edge of the receptacle, then the upper end of the bail will apply gentle downward pressure and urge the writing utensil down into the yielding receptacle. The writing utensil will thus be safely held in its socket irrespective of the position of the carrier and at the same time the writing point cannot dry out.

Moreover, in order to prevent the upper end of the writing utensil from fouling the upper end of the bail when the writing utensil is tilted into retaining position, the part of the bail that extends over the end of the writing utensil may project beyond the end, and the projecting portion of the part of the bail may have an inclined underside.

The present penholder may be designed to retain the writing utensil in a vertical or horizontal position. For this purpose, the bottom of the carrier and the outer face of the bail may be flat to permit the penholder to stand securely on the underside of the carrier or to lie on the outside face of the bail.

Frequently it may be desirable to attach the penholder to a drawing board or the like. For this purpose, part of the bail may be wedge-shaped to permit it to be slidably inserted into corresponding connecting means on a support and to be removed therefrom whenever desired.

An alternative means of attachment may be the provision of connecting elements on the side walls of the carrier that are parallel to the tilting plane of the socket element, one side wall being provided with a female connecting element and the other side wall with a corresponding male element, the connecting element preferably being of dovetail cross-section. This arrangement permits the penholder to be detachably affixed to a support and several penholders can be detachably connected together to form a set.

In order to enable the invention to be more readily understood, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate diagrammatically and by way of example an embodiment thereof, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a side elevation partly in section of a penholder,

FIG. 2 is a front elevation of the penholder shown in FIG. 1, and

FIG. 3 is a plan view of the penholder shown in FIG. 1.

The penholder shown in the drawings, consists of a carrier 2 in which a socket element 3 is pivotally mounted to tilt about an axis 6. As will be understood from FIGS. 1 and 3 the bottom end of the socket element is embraced by the carrier on three sides. The socket element can be tilted about its axis 6 towards the open side, the tilting being limited by a step 11 striking a projection 13 formed in the carrier 2 (FIG. 1).

Attached to the side of the carrier remote from the open side is a bail 4 with a curved upper end 4' adapted to arch over the upper end of a writing utensil 1 when the socket is in its retaining position, i.e., in the position in which the socket element bears against the inside of the rear wall of the carrier remote from the open side. This is the position illustrated in FIG. 1.

The bottom of the socket contains a receptacle 5 made of a soft and elastically yielding material, such as silicone rubber. The writing utensil which is here only schematically indicated, and which may be a tube writing pen, has an annular shoulder or collar 7 which sealingly rests on the upper edge of the receptacle 5 and thus prevents the writing or drawing point of the writing utensil from touching the bottom of the socket.

For retaining the writing utensil 1 in its socket under gentle pressure, the distance between the top edge of the receptacle 5 and the underside of the arched top 4' of the bail is slightly less than the distance between the annular shoulder 7 and the upper end of the writing utensil. Hence the arched portion 4' of the bail will

apply a gentle pressure to the writing utensil, keeping the annular shoulder 7 in sealing contact with the deformed receptacle.

For removing the writing utensil 1 from its holder, the utensil, together with the socket 3, is tilted clockwise (in FIG. 1) about the axis 6 until the step 11 strikes the projection 13. The writing utensil can then be taken out.

For locating the writing utensil in the holder the utensil, together with the socket is tilted back into the retaining position shown in FIG. 1. This brings the upper end of the writing utensil 1 into contact with the arched portion 4', but the sloping edge of the underside of the arch 4' prevents the end of the pen from fouling the edge by guiding it smoothly underneath the arch which then applies the gentle pressure as above described.

As will be understood by reference to FIG. 1, the underside of the carrier 2 and the outer surface of the bail 4 are flat so that the holder can stand on its base or lie on the outside of the bail. In either position the socket can be tilted to permit the writing utensil to be inserted into the socket without any trouble.

For securing the holder to a support, several possibilities are available. For instance part 8 of the bail 4, which forms part of the holder 2 may be wedge-shaped to permit of its insertion into a suitably contrived receiving means.

Moreover, connecting elements having a dovetail cross-section may be provided on the external walls of the carrier that are parallel with the tilting plane of the socket element. One of the outside walls may be formed with a male connecting element 9, whereas the opposite external wall may be formed with the correspondingly shaped female element 10. As indicated in FIGS. 2 and 3, the male element 9 is insertable into the female element 10' of a support plate 12. This support plate may be attached to a drawing board or to any other suitable base. The female element 10' has the same shape as the female element 10 on the carrier 2. When the penholder has been attached to a support plate 12, a connecting element on another holder similar to the male element 9 can be inserted into the female element 10. In this way two or more holders can be coupled together side by side and held by the same support plate.

It is naturally also possible to join several holders of this kind by coupling their male elements 9 with their female elements 10 without necessarily attaching them to a special support plate. Moreover, the joined holders may be attached to a support means by making use of their wedge-shaped extensions 8.

The carrier and the socket of the present penholder may be conveniently made of a plastics material, preferably a transparent plastics material.

What we claim is:

1. A penholder for a writing utensil comprising:

A. a carrier, including:

i. a bottom portion;

ii. a back portion, both said bottom and back portions having flat external faces adapted for selectively positionally supporting said penholder in an upright or horizontal position;

iii. spaced opposed side portions conjointly forming an open face and end mounting compartment, one said side portion of said carrier having a wedge-shaped extension on the external surface thereof adapted for mounting said carrier to an external support means;

B. an open end writing utensil receiving socket element pivotally mounted in said carrier mounting compartment between said spaced opposed side portions and being tiltable outwardly through said open face to a utensil removing position; and the external walls of said side portions being parallel to the tilting plane of said socket element and provided with connecting extensions, one being a female connecting element and the other a corresponding male connecting element; and

C. a bail extending from said carrier back portion as a continuation thereof, said bail having a flat side as a continuation of said carrier back portion to facilitate horizontal positional support of said penholder, and said bail having an upper angularly disposed free end extending over the upper end of the writing utensil when mounted in said socket element, and in resilient bearing engagement therewith for selectively operatively retaining said utensil in said socket element, and permitting removal therefrom with said socket element tilted outwardly from said mounting compartment, said utensil receiving socket element being generally rectangularly configured and having a generally cylindrical shaped lower end, and means pivotally interconnecting said lower end between said spaced opposed side portions, a raised projection on the interior surface of said bottom portion, a raised step on said lower cylindrical end of said utensil receiving socket element, said projection and said step cooperating upon tilting of said socket element out of said mounting compartment as a positional stop means for the socket element in a writing utensil removal position.

2. A penholder as claimed in claim 1 wherein the connecting elements are dovetailed coupling elements.

* * * * *