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M. DOLAS
ARTIST'S MAULSTICK
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2,496,276

FIG. 1.

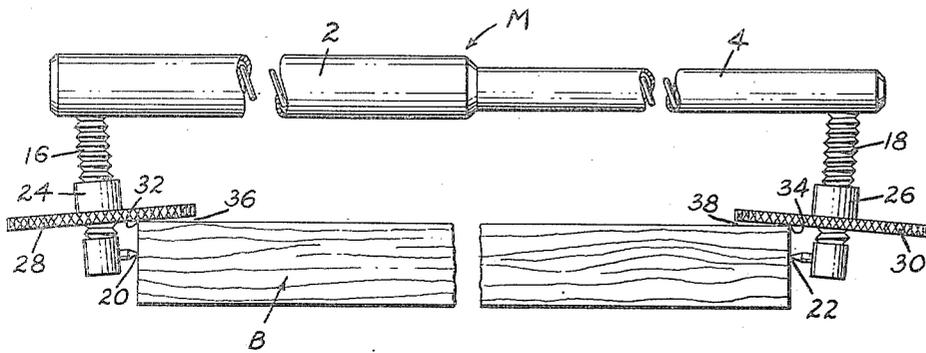


FIG. 2.

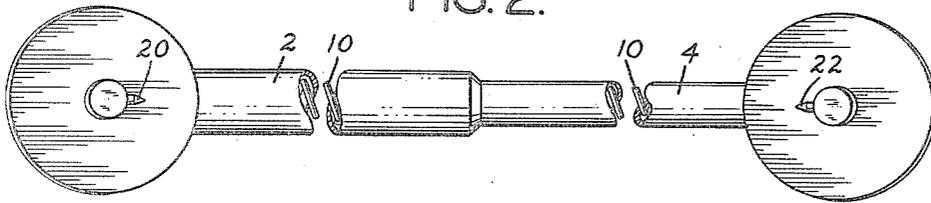


FIG. 3.

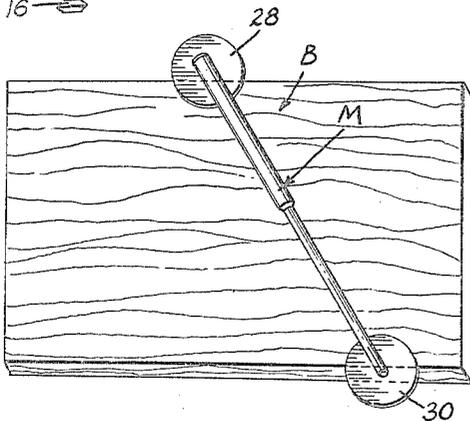
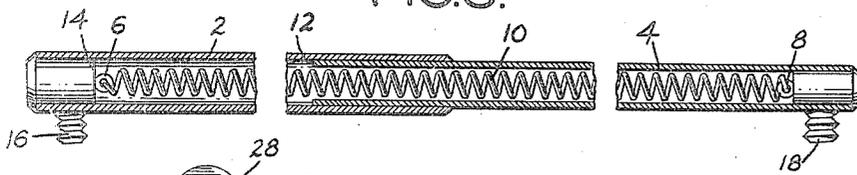


FIG. 4.

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ARTIST'S MAULSTICK

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3 Claims. (Cl. 41-4)

1

This invention relates to an artist's maulstick, that is, a hand rest for an artist while he is painting or drawing.

When the artist is working, i. e., drawing, painting, etc., especially when he is doing fine or detailed work, he often requires a support on which to rest or steady his hand. One form of maulstick commonly used is a wooden or light metal rod with a rubber end. In using such a prior art device the artist holds the rod with one hand by pressing the rubber against the work and rests his other hand upon the rod as he is working. This common form of maulstick requires the use of both hands and does not leave one hand free for the manipulation of a palette, paints or other work which might be necessary while the artist is working with the other hand.

It is an object of the invention to provide a maulstick which may be firmly secured to a work support, such as a drawing board, at any position and with firm engagement so as to provide a steady support for the artist's hand while working.

Other objects of the invention will be apparent from the following description of a preferred embodiment of the invention taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view showing a work support with the maulstick in position thereon;

Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the maulstick before it is mounted on the work support;

Fig. 3 is a view partly in section of a portion of the maulstick showing the means for holding it in engagement with the work support, and

Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic perspective view of the maulstick in relation to the work support.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, in Figs. 1 and 4 there is shown a work support, such as a drawing board, generally indicated as B, and the maulstick generally shown at M. As is apparent from Figs. 1 and 4 the maulstick extends across the work support B and is spaced from the upper surface thereof so as not to be in engagement with the work on the surface of the support. The maulstick may be positioned parallel to the sides or parallel to the top and bottom of the work support or at any angle for engagement with the sides or with the top and bottom. The artist may rest his hand on the maulstick at any position along its length while working with painting or drawing instruments.

Referring more particularly to the construction shown, the maulstick comprises two members 2 and 4, which are slidably mounted, so that

2

the member 4 slides inside the member 2. Mounted near the respective outer ends of the slidable members 2 and 4 are hooks or other fastening means 6 and 8 respectively on which a spring 10 is fastened. The spring is of such a length and tension as normally to hold the member 2 in a position overlapping the member 4. The lengths of the slidable members are such that the end 12 of the member 4 engages the abutment 14 of the member 2 when the maulstick is in closed position.

The slidable members may be pulled apart so that in extended position the maulstick is approximately twice as long as in closed position and, if desired, means may be included to prevent the slidable members from being pulled completely apart. The spring is such as to permit full extension of the slidable members.

Mounted near the opposite ends respectively of the slidable members 2 and 4 are extension members 16 and 18. Near the end of each extension member are engaging points 20 and 22. When the maulstick is to be applied to the work support, the slidable members are pulled so that the engaging points 20 and 22 are further apart than the work support. In this position the maulstick is placed over the work support in the desired location relative to the work to be done. Upon releasing, the tension of the spring pulls the slidable members together and causes the points 20 and 22 to engage firmly into the work support. The tension of the spring is such as to firmly engage the points into the wood or other material on which the work is mounted, and hold them in engagement.

In order to provide greater rigidity for the maulstick in its applied position, two circular members are provided having collars 24 and 26 and discs 28 and 30, preferably with knurled edges, as illustrated. The interior of the collars 24 and 26 are provided with threads which coact with threads on the extension members, so that the circular members may be moved up and down along the extension members 16 and 18 by rotation. When the maulstick is initially applied to the work support, the threaded members will be turned so as to occupy a position near the middle of the extension members 16 and 18 or near the ends adjacent the slidable members 2 and 4. After the maulstick is applied in a desired location the discs may be turned so as to bring their surface into firm engagement with the edges of the work support, as shown at 32 and 34. This prevents the rotation of the maul-

3

stick about the engaging points 20 and 22 and holds the maulstick firmly in position.

As is illustrated in Fig. 1 in the preferred embodiment, the extension members 16 and 18 are positioned at slightly less than right angles to the slidable members 2 and 4, and inclined slightly towards the center. Because of this construction the discs 28 and 30 engage only the ends of the work support and leave spaces 36 and 38 so as not to engage or mar the paper or other work which may be mounted on and extend near the edges of the work support.

It will be obvious that my invention may take forms other than the specific preferred embodiment included herein for illustrative purposes, and all such embodiments as fall within the scope of the following claims are intended to be within the invention.

I claim:

1. As an article of manufacture, a device comprising two elongated members in telescopic relation and slidably mounted relative to each other, tension means engaging said elongated members for urging them endwise relative to each other, members extending laterally from the opposite ends of the elongated members provided with pointed elements, said tension means acting to urge the pointed elements toward each other into contact with the sides of a support on which the device is to be mounted, and means on said laterally extending members movable for engagement with the surface of the support.

2. As an article of manufacture, a device comprising two tubular elongated members in engagement with each other and slidably mounted

4

relative to each other, a spring for urging said members in overlapping position, means extending from the opposite ends of the slidable members at less than a right angle, engaging points on said extension means, said spring acting to urge the engaging points into contact with the sides of a support on which the device is to be mounted, and means on said extension members movable for engagement with the edges of the support.

3. As an article of manufacture, a device comprising two tubular rod-shaped members mounted one within the other and slidably mounted relative to each other, a spring for urging said members in overlapping position, threaded extension members projecting from the opposite ends of the slidable members at less than a right angle, engaging points on said extension members, said spring acting to urge the engaging points into contact with the sides of a support on which the device is to be mounted, and threaded discs rotatably mounted on said threaded extension members for engagement with the edges of the support.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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