July 29, 1952 M. I. GLASS ET AL 2,604,877

NOVELTY WRITING INSTRUMENT

Filed June 15, 1950

FIG. 1

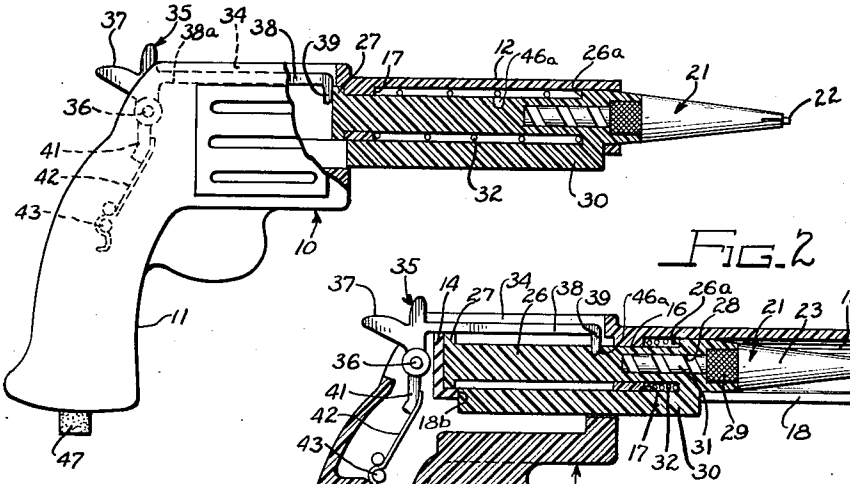



FIG. 2

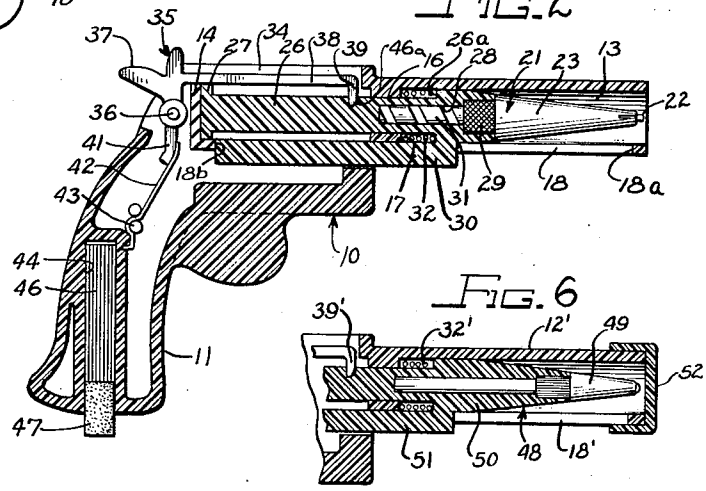



FIG. 6




FIG. 3

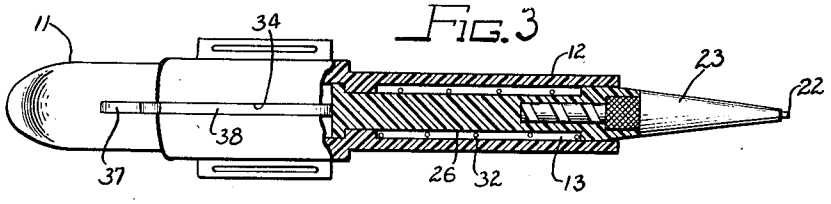



FIG. 4

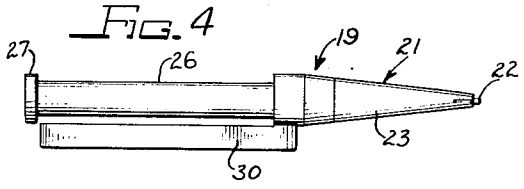
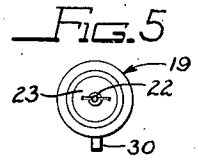



FIG. 5




Inventors
Marvin I. Glass
John W. Ehemann

by: Mart R. Kraus
Atty.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## NOVELTY WRITING INSTRUMENT

Marvin I. Glass and John W. Ehemann, Chicago, Ill., assignors to H. Fishlove & Co., Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Application June 15, 1950, Serial No. 168,226

1 Claim. (Cl. 120—20)

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This invention relates to novelty writing instruments such as pencils and pens and more particularly to such devices embodied in the representation of a firearm or the like.

One of the objects of this invention is the provision of a mechanical pencil or pen embodied in the representation of a gun or the like with the writing element being adapted for retraction within the barrel of the gun when out of use and adapted for projection forwardly to in use position.

Another object of our invention is the provision of a device of the foregoing character which is simple in construction, which is economical to manufacture and which provides a high degree of amusement and interest value to the user and to others.

Other and further objects and advantages of our invention will become apparent from the following description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view partly in section, showing a writing element in the form of a mechanical pencil, the same being projected forwardly to in use position.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross section view showing the mechanical pencil retracted within the barrel of the gun to out of use position.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view and partly in cross section and showing the mechanical pencil in the same position as in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an elevational view of a detail of construction embodying the mechanical pencil and Fig. 5 is an end view thereof.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary cross sectional view of a modified embodiment in which the writing element is a ball point pen.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 10 indicates generally a body portion which is here illustrated as in the representation of a revolver, although it is to be understood that the invention may be embodied in the representations of other desirable objects. The body portion 10 includes a handle portion 11 and a barrel portion 12. The barrel 12 is provided with a bore 13 which extends from the open mouth of the barrel to the rear wall 14. Substantially intermediate the bore 13 there is provided a constriction 16 forming a bearing surface and an annular shoulder 17. The barrel 13 is provided with a slot 18 in the bottom thereof, the said slot beginning at a point 18*a* spaced from the end of the barrel and terminating rearwardly thereof at point 18*b* located within the handle portion, with the points 18*a* and 18*b* serving as shoulders or stops for a purpose as will be hereinafter explained.

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Received within the bore 13 for reciprocation therein is a pencil assembly indicated generally by the number 19. The said assembly includes a mechanical pencil portion, indicated generally by the numeral 21, of conventional construction and of the type in which the lead 22 may be projected and retracted as desired, as by rotation of the conical tip 23. The pencil portion 21 is mounted in one end of a cylindrical body portion 26 having a head 27 at the opposite end thereof. The said pencil portion in the embodiment illustrated includes a portion 31 and knurled cylindrical portion 29 both of which portions are received in the stepped bore 28 of the body portion 26 so as to lock the pencil and the body portions 21 and 26 in fixed relation. Depending from the body portion 26 is a member 30 which extends through the slot 18 and is adapted to be engaged as with a finger to effect retraction of the pencil assembly 21 as will be hereinafter explained. Carried on the body portion 26 is a coil spring 32 which abuts, at one end, a shoulder 26*a* on the body portion 26 and at the other end a shoulder 17 in bore 13. As will be apparent, the spring 32 serves to normally urge the pencil assembly 19 to the position illustrated in Fig. 1 in which position the pencil is ready for use.

The body portion 10 is provided at the top thereof with a slot 34 and immediately therebelow in registering alinement therewith is a simulated firearm hammer, indicated generally by the numeral 35, pivoted as at 36, the said hammer having a thumb engaging portion 37 and an arm 38 terminating in a finger portion 39 which serves as the latching element. The said simulated firearm hammer is provided with a depending portion 41 which is engaged by a flat spring 42 anchored in the handle portion, as at 43, the said spring serving normally to urge the simulated firearm hammer 35 in a clockwise direction for latching position, such movement being limited by abutment of the arm 38 on a shoulder 38*a* provided in the handle portion 11.

The handle portion 11 is provided with a chamber 44 adapted to receive a plurality of pencil leads 46 and an eraser 47 which serves normally to retain the leads 46 within the chamber.

In the modified embodiment illustrated in Fig. 6, the structure of the body and barrel are identical with those heretofore described and primed numerals are employed to indicate corresponding parts. The modified construction resides in the provision of a ball point pen assembly 48 comprising a ball point pen 49 mounted in one end of a slideable member 50 having a depending por-

tion 51 extending through slot 18'. A cap 52 may be provided as a closure member for the open end of the barrel 12'.

The operation of our device should be apparent from the foregoing description but briefly stated, it is as follows. In normal out of use condition, as illustrated in Fig. 2, the pencil assembly 19 is shown in retracted position, within the bore 13. Thus, no portion of the pencil assembly 19 is visible and the appearance of the device is as that of a toy pistol. In the position illustrated in Fig. 2, the finger 39 is engaged in a recess 46a provided in the body portion 26. Thus, the finger 39 serves as a means of locking the pencil assembly in out of use position, it being apparent that the finger 39 is retained in the recess 46a by the spring 42 acting on the simulated firearm hammer 35. In order to project the pencil assembly forwardly to in use position, as illustrated in Fig. 1, the thumb engaging portion 37 is engaged by a thumb to rock the arm 38 in a counterclockwise direction a sufficient amount to disengage the finger 39 from the recess 46a and thus permit the spring 32 to urge the pencil assembly to the right. Upon release of the simulated firearm hammer 35 the spring 42 urges the arm 38 in a clockwise direction such that the finger 39 is caused to abut the head 27 and thereby to serve as a locking means to retain the pencil assembly in projected position and in condition for use. When it is desired to retract the pencil assembly within the bore 13, the portion 30 may be engaged as with a finger to move the pencil assembly to the left until the finger 39 engages with the recess 46a to lock the pencil assembly in the position illustrated in Fig. 2. It will be apparent that a suitable clip attached to the body portion 10 may be provided in order that the device may be carried as in a pocket and secured therein against inadvertent displacement.

We claim:

A novelty writing instrument comprising a body having a barrel, said barrel having a longitudinal slot, a slidable member carrying at one end a writing element and being telescopically received within said barrel, spring means within said barrel normally urging said writing element to a projected position exteriorly of said barrel for writing, a spring biased latching member pivotally mounted in said body rearwardly of said slidable member, said latching member having one end thereof engageable in a recess in said slidable member for locking said slidable member in a position wherein said writing element is retracted within said barrel against the tension of said spring means, said latching member having a finger engaging portion disposed exteriorly of said body and adapted to be digitally manipulated to release said slidable member whereby said writing element is projected to a position for writing, said end of said latching member when said writing element is projected being engaged with the rearward end of said slidable member to lock said writing element in projected position, said slidable member having an element extending through said slot and adapted to be manually engaged upon disengagement of said latching member from said slidable member for retracting said writing element within said barrel.



MARVIN I. GLASS.
JOHN W. EHEMANN.


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