June 27, 1961 A. N. FLORENCE 2,989,807

FINGER KNIFE AND PENCIL
Filed Aug. 28, 1957

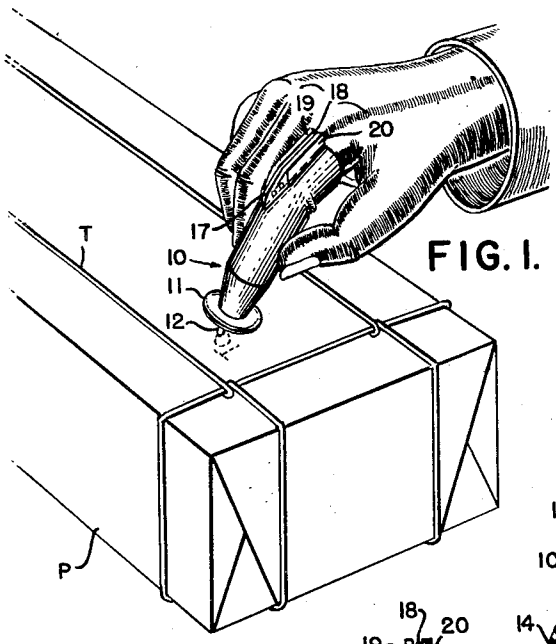


FIG. 1.

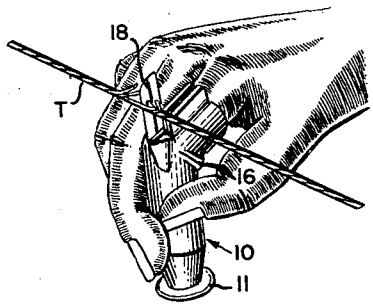


FIG. 2.

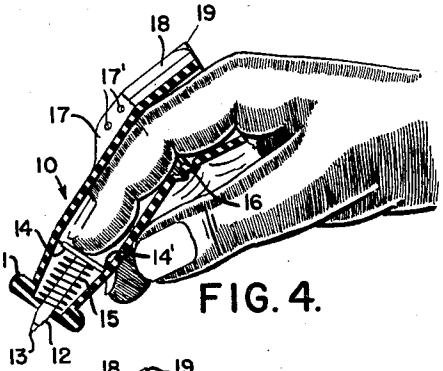


FIG. 4.



FIG. 6.

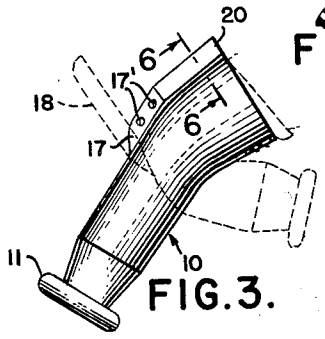


FIG. 3.

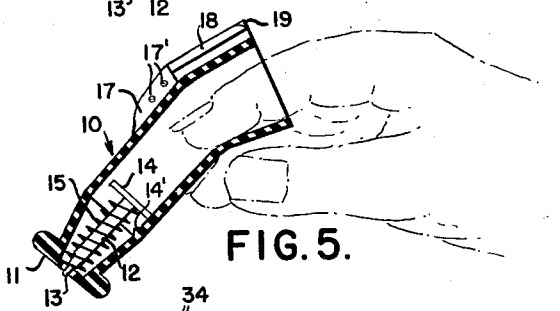


FIG. 5.

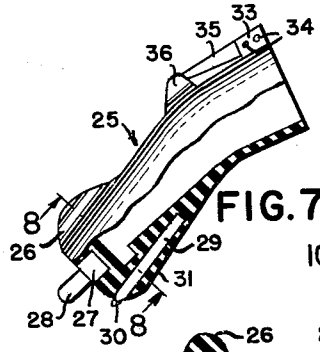


FIG. 7.

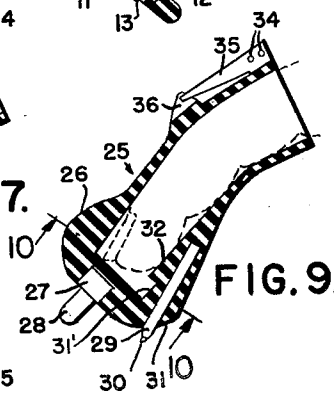


FIG. 9.

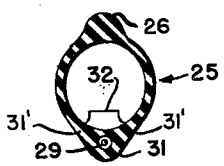


FIG. 10.

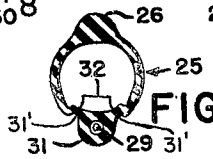


FIG. 8.

INVENTOR.
Albert N. Florence

BY
L. S. Saulsbury
ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 2,989,807 Patented June 27, 1961

2,989,807

FINGER KNIFE AND PENCIL

Albert N. Florence, 3694 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

Filed Aug. 28, 1957, Ser. No. 680,698
1 Claim. (Cl. 30—151)

This invention relates to a finger knife and pencil.

It is the principal object of the present invention to provide a pencil which can be fitted and carried upon the finger of the hand so as to leave the hand free for other use whereby the pencil point can be available and ready for immediate use.

It is another object of the invention to provide a finger pencil adapted for use by shipping clerks.

It is still another object of the invention to provide a finger pencil in which the sleeve that supports the pencil that is adapted to be placed over the finger has sufficient gripping action upon the finger so that the finger upon being fully inserted therein can hold a biased retractable pencil point in its extended and use position from the forward end thereof but is retractable for protection of the point when the pencil is removed from the finger.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a finger pencil formed of a flexible sleeve which as well as having the pencil thereon also has a cutting blade that can be brought into a cutting position by merely curling the finger and which is automatically retractable upon straightening the finger to the writing position.

It is a still further object of the invention to provide a finger pencil, having the above objects in mind, which is of simple construction, inexpensive to manufacture, of pleasing appearance, light in weight, efficient and automatic in use.

For a better understanding of the invention, reference may be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of the pencil according to one form of the invention with the pencil point extended and being put to use to write upon a package,

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the finger pencil flexed by the finger to extend the cutting blade and the blade being applied to a cord to sever it,

FIG. 3 is a side elevational view of the finger pencil with illustration made in dash lines as to the manner in which the cutting blade is extended,

FIG. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of the pencil showing the finger engaging with the retractable pencil point to extend it,

FIG. 5 is a similar longitudinal sectional view with the finger removed from the pencil point and the pencil point retracted,

FIG. 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line 6—6 of FIG. 3,

FIG. 7 is an elevational view of a modified form of the invention with portions broken away to show the interior construction thereof,

FIG. 8 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 8—8 of FIG. 7,

FIG. 9 is a longitudinal sectional view of the finger extended into the finger pencil and depressing the pencil point for use, and

FIG. 10 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 10—10 of FIG. 9.

Referring now particularly to FIGS. 1 to 6, **10** generally represents the finger pencil and sleeve of flexible material such as rubber, open at the rear end and adapted to receive the forefinger of a hand and sufficiently long to cover the two knuckles thereof and sufficiently flexible to permit the curling of the finger. On the outer end of the sleeve is an integral solid ring formation that serves as an eraser. This erasing formation also serves as a guard to give some protection to the retractable pencil device

12 which is forced outwardly through the end of the sleeve and erasure formation **11**. The pencil device has a point **13** and a pressure plate **14** that is engaged by the end of the forefinger when the sleeve is placed thereover to extend the pencil device from the end of the sleeve against the action of compression or return spring **15**, from a retracted position shown in FIG. 5 to a position shown in FIG. 4 and over a holding shoulder **14'**. The friction or tightness of the sleeve upon the finger is sufficient to maintain the sleeve upon the finger even against the action of the spring **15** but the shoulder **14'** will relieve the sleeve of some of the tightness or friction necessary to hold it on the finger. The sleeve is preferably of elastic rubber material so that it is not removable therefrom except by pulling or skinning it from the finger. As the sleeve **10** is flexed by the finger, it will accumulate under the second knuckle as indicated at **16**. A full flexing of the sleeve when the finger is fully extended thereinto will cause a portion **17** on the top of the sleeve and to which by means of rivets **17'**, a cutting blade **18** is rigidly connected, to be angled down so as to lift the cutting blade **18** from between parallel guard portions **19** and **20** so that it can be extended in the manner shown in FIG. 2 to effect the cutting in the manner illustrated of a tie cord T that may surround a package P of FIG. 1. As the finger is again extended the cutting blade will automatically fall back into the space between the guard portions **19** and **20**. Thus, it will be seen that not only can the pencil be used for writing, erasing but also for cutting, so as to thereby render it particularly adapted for use in shipping departments or stores where the user is continually wrapping, tieing and addressing parcels.

Referring now particularly to FIGS. 7 to 10, showing a modified form of the invention, **25** represents a flexible sleeve adapted to be fitted tightly over the forefinger in the same manner as above described with reference to the first form of the invention. This sleeve **25** has an enlarged integral end **26** serving as erasing material and in the end face of which a retaining sleeve **27** for a crayon **28** is tight fitted but which can be removed for replacement with another crayon. In the lower portion of the thickened portion, there is extended a pencil device **29** having a pencil point **30**. The sleeve is weakened on the opposite sides thereof at **31'** to provide a depressible portion **31** carrying the pencil device **29**. This portion of the material is so formed and biased to normally keep the pencil in a retracted position as shown in FIGS. 7 and 8 to allow for the use of the crayon **28** with less chance of breakage to the pencil point **30** but when desired to make use of the pencil point **30**, the outer end of the finger is curled within the sleeve so as to depress a pressure plate surface **32** so as to cause the pencil **29** and its point **30** to be extended downwardly and outwardly as shown in FIGS. 9 and 10 to make better its use for writing and more free of the crayon **28**. As the pressure of the end of the finger is eliminated the pencil **29** will be retracted by virtue of the return action of the weakened sleeve and eraser material at **31**.

Secured to a rigid projection **33** on the upper part of the sleeve **25** and adjacent its open end thereof by means of pins **34** is a cutting blade **35**, the pointed end of which may normally lie within a slotted guard portion **36**. As the finger is curled or flexed in the manner illustrated in FIGS. 2 and 3 the slotted guard portion **36** is drawn away from the end of the blade **35** to expose the sharpened under edge thereof to render it accessible for cutting action. As the finger is straightened the guard will be returned to the blade so that the blade will again be protected.

It should now be apparent that there has been provided a handy finger pencil in which the pencil point is

retractable at times when not in use and to allow for the free use of the sleeve for erasing and cutting with the knife blade and to protect the pencil point when the finger pencil is removed from the finger.

While various changes may be made in the detailed construction, it shall be understood that such changes shall be within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A finger knife comprising a flexible elastic sleeve adapted to tightly fit around the forefinger, said sleeve being of sufficient length to extend upwardly well beyond the second knuckle of the forefinger, one end of a cutting blade secured to the outside surface of the upper part of said sleeve and adapted under the action of the flexing and curling of the finger downwardly to have its cutting edge exposed and made ready for use for cutting action, and a sheath for the blade mounted on the outside surface of said sleeve to receive the blade when said sleeve is unflexed and comprising a pair of spaced and parallel guard portions to receive the blade therebetween.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

365,747	Hoffman	June 28, 1887
540,635	Clark	June 11, 1895
2,151,846	Greneker	Mar. 28, 1939
2,657,670	Coburn	Nov. 3, 1953
2,676,400	Darpinian	Apr. 27, 1954
2,776,646	Spatz	Jan. 8, 1957

FOREIGN PATENTS

4,913	Great Britain	1883
411,917	France	Apr. 21, 1910