Dec. 20, 1955 M. M. JURINIC 2,727,325

EGG PAINTER

Filed Feb. 9, 1954

Fig. 1

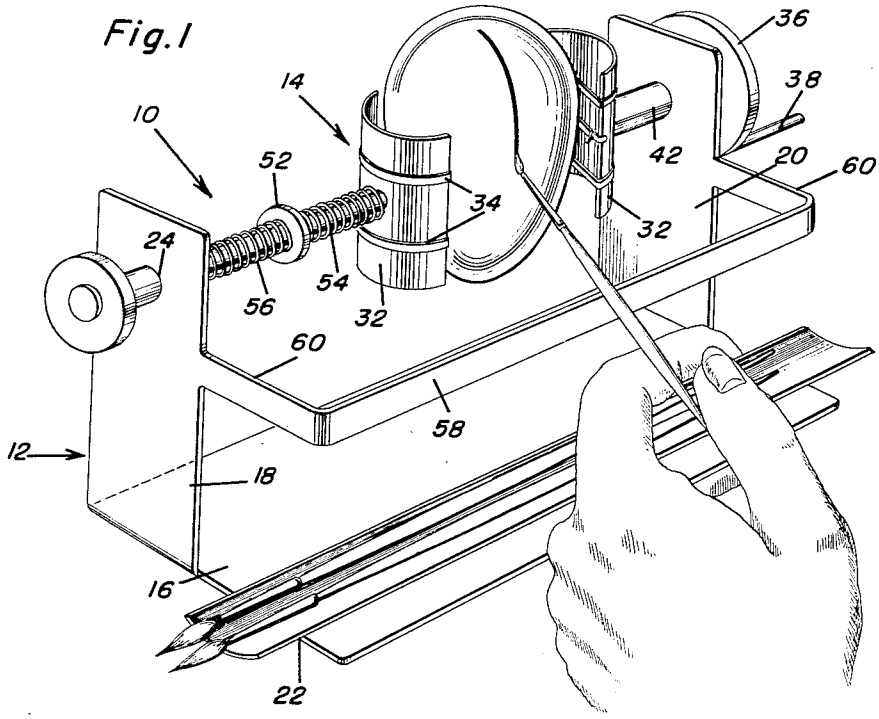
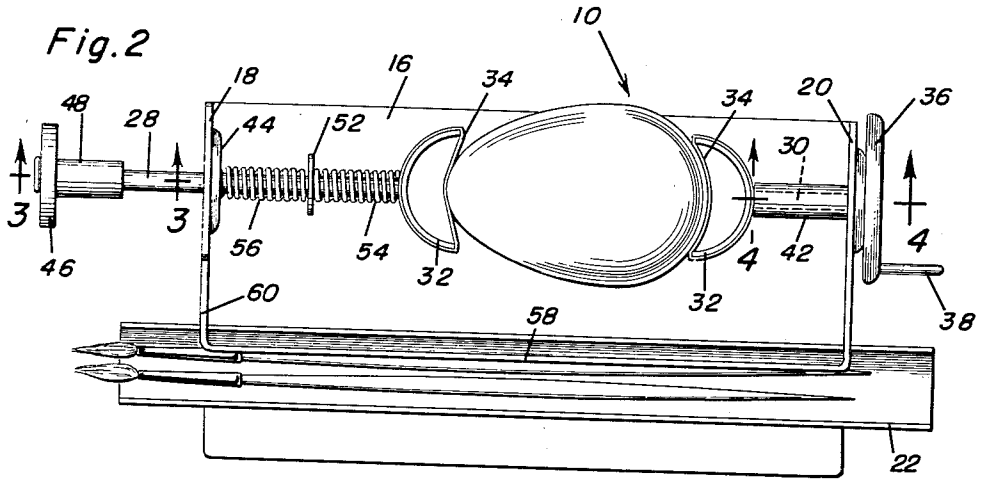


Fig. 2



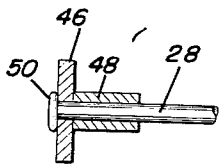


Fig. 3

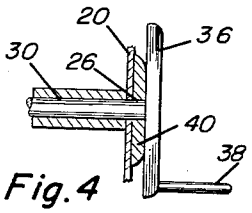


Fig. 4

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EGG PAINTER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 41—4)

The present invention relates to a device for retaining fragile articles while decorating the same.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a device for supporting articles such as eggs or the like without breakage while decorating the same, which device permits rotation of the article to various positions during the decoration thereof.

A very important object of the invention is in the provision of a novel clamping jaw construction for retaining fragile articles whereby the opposing faces of the jaws are resiliently deformable to conform to the shape of the article being retained between the jaws and at the same time cushion the article against breakage.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a fragile article decorating device including means for supporting a brush or the like during the decoration of the article whereby the brush may be held in position while the article is being rotated to provide a line around the article.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a simple and effective means for rotating the article when mounted on the device.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the fragile article supporting and decorating device constituting the present invention in use;

Figure 2 is a top view of the device;

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view of one of the details of the device taken substantially along the plane of section line 3—3 of Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is cross sectional view of a second detail of the device taken substantially along the plane of section line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Primarily, the device constituting the present invention is designed for the painting of eggs and the like; however, as the description proceeds, it will be obvious that the utility of the device is not so limited and that the device will be equally applicable in the decoration of many fragile articles.

In the drawings, the device is designated generally by the numeral **10**. Basically the device comprises a supporting frame **12** supporting an article clamping structure **14**.

The supporting frame **12** comprises an elongated rectangular base **16** having flanges **18** and **20** projecting upwardly from the opposite ends thereof. These flanges are of equal length and size, being of less width than the width of the flat base **16** so that the forward portion of the flat base is provided free of any end obstructions. Extending longitudinally along the forward portion of the base and preferably, although not necessarily, projecting beyond the ends of the base is a brush-holding trough for holding brushes to be utilized in the decoration of an article supported on the device.

Adjacent their upper ends, the flanges **18** and **20** are provided with longitudinally aligned apertures **24** and **26** respectively. Rods **28** and **30** are journalled through the respective apertures **24** and **26** and project toward one another in overlying relation to the base **16**. To the inner end of each of the shafts **28** and **30** respectively, the jaw member **32** is attached. As shown each jaw member **32** consists of an arcuate plate curved to a substantially semi-cylindrical shape with the concave faces of the jaws opening toward one another. Flexible, resilient straps **34** are secured to each of the jaws **32** in any suitable manner and extend chordally across the concave surface of each jaw to thereby provide the jaws with resiliently deformable opposing faces. As shown in the drawings, the resilient straps **34** are in the form of rubber bands which are simply slipped over the jaw members **32**.

The outer end of the rod **30** has a disk **36** secured thereto which disk in turn has an eccentric handle member **38** secured thereto. Washer **40** interposed between the disk **36** and the outer face of the flange **20** prevents binding as the disk and consequently the shaft **30** are rotated by moving the handle **38**. Due to the securement of one of the jaws **32** to the inner end of the shaft or rod **30**, rotation of the disk **36** is transmitted to this jaw. Sleeve **42** around the shaft **30** abuts at its opposite ends against the jaw **32** and the inner face of the flange **20** to retain the shaft **30** against sliding movement.

Shaft **28** on the other hand, slides freely through the aperture **24** as well as being rotatable in this aperture. Washer **44** mounted on the inner face of the flange **18** serves to reenforce and guide the shaft in its longitudinal sliding movement. At its outer end, the shaft **28** is provided with a knob **46** having a hub or sleeve **48** through which the end of the shaft **28** projects. The end of the shaft **28** is swaged outwardly or otherwise formed at **50** to prevent the knob **46** from being pulled off this end of the shaft.

On the portion of the shaft **28** disposed in overlying relation to the base **16** a washer **52** is loosely disposed. Resilient coil spring **54** concentrically surrounds the portion of the shaft between the washer **52** and the jaw member **32**. A second resilient coil spring **56** concentrically surrounds the portion of the shaft **28** between the washer **52** and the washer **44** on the flange **18**. These springs **56** and **54** consequently react against the jaw **32** on the shaft **28** and the inner wall surface of the flange **18** to continually urge the shaft **28** into overlying relationship with the base **16** thereby moving the jaws **32** toward one another. Knob **46** serves as a stop to limit the inward movement of the shaft **28**.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2, a steadying bar **58** is disposed above the forward portion of the base in laterally offset relation to the rods or shafts **28** and **30**. The end portions of the bar **58** are bent as at **60** at right angles to the length of the bar and attached integrally or otherwise to the flanges **18** and **20**.

To mount an egg between the jaws, the shaft **28** is simply retracted to spread the jaws **32** from one another and the egg placed between the jaws and the knob released so that the surface of the egg contacts the resilient straps **34** and is retained in position between the jaws. Then, to decorate the egg, a brush may be rested on a steadying bar **58** and the handle **38** rotated thereby rotating the egg and providing a straight line around the egg. Of course, other decorations may be obviously applied with the brush while the egg is supported between the jaws. To release the egg, washer **52** may be simply moved toward washer **44** to compress the spring **56** and

permit the egg to be removed from the jaws without breakage.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A device for retaining fragile articles while decorating the same including a supporting frame, article clamping means on said supporting frame, said clamping means including a pair of jaws relatively movable toward and away from one another for clamping an article therebetween, resiliently deformable opposing faces thereon to conform to the shape of an article clamped therebetween, and means rotatably mounting said jaws on said supporting frame for movement toward and away from one another, said mounting means including a pair of rods journaled on said supporting frame and being secured at their inner ends to said jaws, at least one of said rods being slidably mounted on said supporting frame, and resilient means urging said slidably mounted jaw in one direction, said supporting frame comprising a substantially flat base, flanges projecting upwardly from opposite ends of said base, said rods being journaled in said flanges in alignment with one another and overlying said base, and a steadying bar disposed above said base in laterally offset relation to said rods, said bar being attached to said flanges.

2. A device for retaining fragile articles while decorating the same including a supporting frame, article clamping means on said supporting frame, said clamping means including a pair of jaws relatively movable toward and away from one another for clamping an article therebetween, resiliently deformable opposing faces thereon to conform to the shape of an article clamped therebetween, and means rotatably mounting said jaws on said supporting frame for movement toward and away from one another, said mounting means including a pair of rods journaled on said supporting frame and being secured at their inner ends to said jaws, at least one of said rods being slidably mounted on said supporting frame, and resilient means urging said slidably mounted jaw in one direction, said supporting frame comprising a substantially flat base, flanges projecting upwardly from opposite ends of said base, said rods being journaled in said flanges in alignment with one another and overlying said base, and a steadying bar disposed above said base in laterally offset relation to said rods, said bar being attached to said flanges, said jaws each comprising an elongated plate arcuated to provide a concave and a convex face, the concave faces of said jaws being opposed to one another, said resilient faces comprising resilient bands embracing each of said jaws and having portions thereof extending chordally across said concave surfaces.

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