April 19, 1932. J. REIX 1,854,625

PEN SUPPORT

Filed April 15, 1929

Fig 1

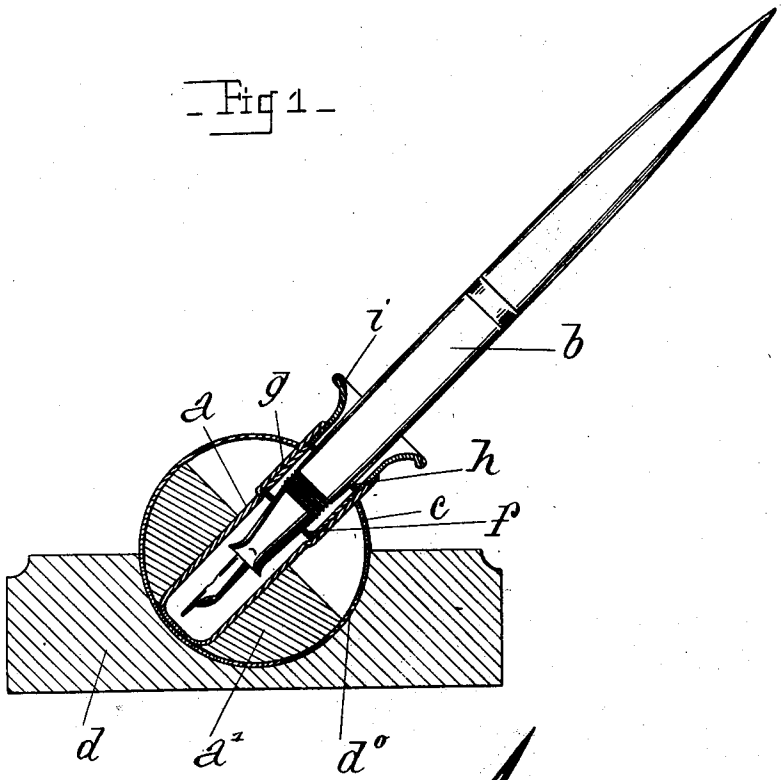
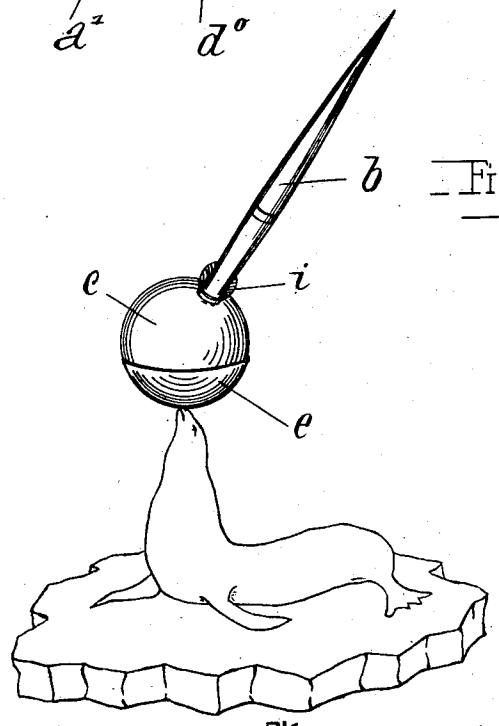


Fig 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PEN SUPPORT

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The present invention relates to sockets movable on a support and adapted for the insertion of objects such as fountain pens, pencils and the like, and its chief object is to provide sockets which correspond to practical requirements.

Herein the socket is mounted in a suitably weighted ball which is disposed in a support and is so arranged that when the article is inserted into the said socket and the latter is placed in the proper angular position with reference to the said support or base, the said ball will remain in this position upon its support.

The invention comprises various modifications which will be further specified, relating to certain forms of construction, and chiefly, as a new manufactured product, a socket (or sockets) of said construction embodying the principles of the invention, as well as the parts in use and the special tools for the manufacture.

The following description shows various embodiments of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a vertical section of a ball which is movable in a support and is adapted for the insertion of a fountain pen, according to the invention.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a socket mounted in a support which is otherwise constructed.

According to the invention, and chiefly with reference to a preferred form of construction, in the shape of a rotatable socket in which a fountain pen or the like may be engaged at its active end, the construction is as follows:

The socket *a* consists firstly of a tube closed at one end, known per se, this being provided with means by which the pen *b*, when engaged at its active end in said socket and held at a sufficient height to prevent the pen from touching the closed end of the socket, will be held against lateral displacement.

The apparatus comprises secondly a ball *c* disposed for the radial engagement of the socket *a*, which is secured in any suitable manner. The ball is thus arranged to carry the socket and the pen, and when it is mounted in a suitable support, to be further mentioned, it will be maintained in equilibrium in all positions of said socket. For this purpose, the ball has a sufficient weight, and it is for instance weighted by a mass of lead *a'*, the ball being made hollow for this purpose.

Thirdly, the support for the said ball comprises a recess for the ball, which support may be variously constructed. As shown in Figure 1, the device comprises a base *d* having a spherical recess d^o of the same radius as the ball, its height being however less than this radius. The device may have the form shown in Figure 2, comprising a concave member *e* corresponding to the shape of the said ball; said member is distinct from the lower base of the apparatus, and it is rigidly supported by any suitable means. The device may further comprise an element such as a base plate mounted on feet, an inkstand, a cigarette box, or the like, comprising a circular opening whose edges support the ball.

This construction affords a socket adapted for the insertion of a fountain pen or like object such as a lead pencil or the like, which is held in any angular position with reference to the device supporting the ball, while at the same time the ball will be held against all improper displacement.

The aforesaid arrangement may be employed, or, preferably in the usual case in which the end of the fountain pen has two different diameters, with the smaller diameter next to the end, means can be provided by which the object will be maintained in the said socket by its two different parts. Such means may be variously arranged. As shown in Figure 1, the socket may contain a washer *f* in contact with a shoulder formed in the socket and whose internal diameter is the same as the smaller part of the object; a ring *g* is provided whose inner diameter exceeds that of the other part, said ring being inserted into the socket, in contact with said washer *f*; a second washer *h* is mounted in the socket and is in contact with the upper end of the ring *g*, its inner diameter being the same as that of the large-diameter part of the said object. At the end is mounted

a funnel-shaped (or other) member *i* which presses together the set of washers and the ring; said member is threaded and is screwed into a tapped part of the socket, thus making contact with the washer *h*. By this arrangement, a pen which corresponds to the size of the washers can be readily inserted into the socket and removed, and the same is true for any other article corresponding to suitable washers, these being inserted into the said socket for each particular case.

Obviously, the invention is not limited to the constructions herein specified, and these may be suitably modified.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:

1. A support for a writing implement comprising a base having a recess of substantially circular shape, a ball partly solid and bearing directly in the recess of the said base, a socket integral with the said base for receiving the said writing implement, the said ball being of sufficient dimension and weight for remaining in equilibrium on the base when the said writing implement is inserted in the said socket, and means in the socket for maintaining the writing implement in position, the said means comprising two washers, a ring maintaining these two washers at a certain distance, and a fixing member.

2. A support for a writing implement comprising a base having a recess of substantially circular shape, a ball partly solid and bearing directly in the recess of the said base, a socket integral with the said base for receiving the said writing implement, the said ball being of sufficient dimension and weight for remaining in equilibrium on the base when the said writing implement is inserted in the said socket, and means in the socket for maintaining the writing implement in position, the said means comprising two washers, a ring maintaining these two washers at a certain distance, and a threaded member adapted to be screwed to a threaded member of the socket and securing the two washers and the ring against a projection of the said socket.

3. A support for a writing implement comprising a base having a recess of substantially circular shape, a hollow ball bearing directly in the recess of the said base, a substantially segmentally shaped solid mass inserted in the said ball and substantially filling the lower portion of it when the ball is inserted in the base, and a socket integral with the said ball for receiving the said writing implement, the said mass substantially entirely through its own action imparting to the ball sufficient dimensions and weight for remaining in equilibrium on the base when the said writing implement is inclined at an angle to the horizontal.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification.

JEAN REIX.