G. H. WEINRICH.

ORNAMENTAL TRAY AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 24, 1920.

1,396,484.

Patented Nov. 8, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

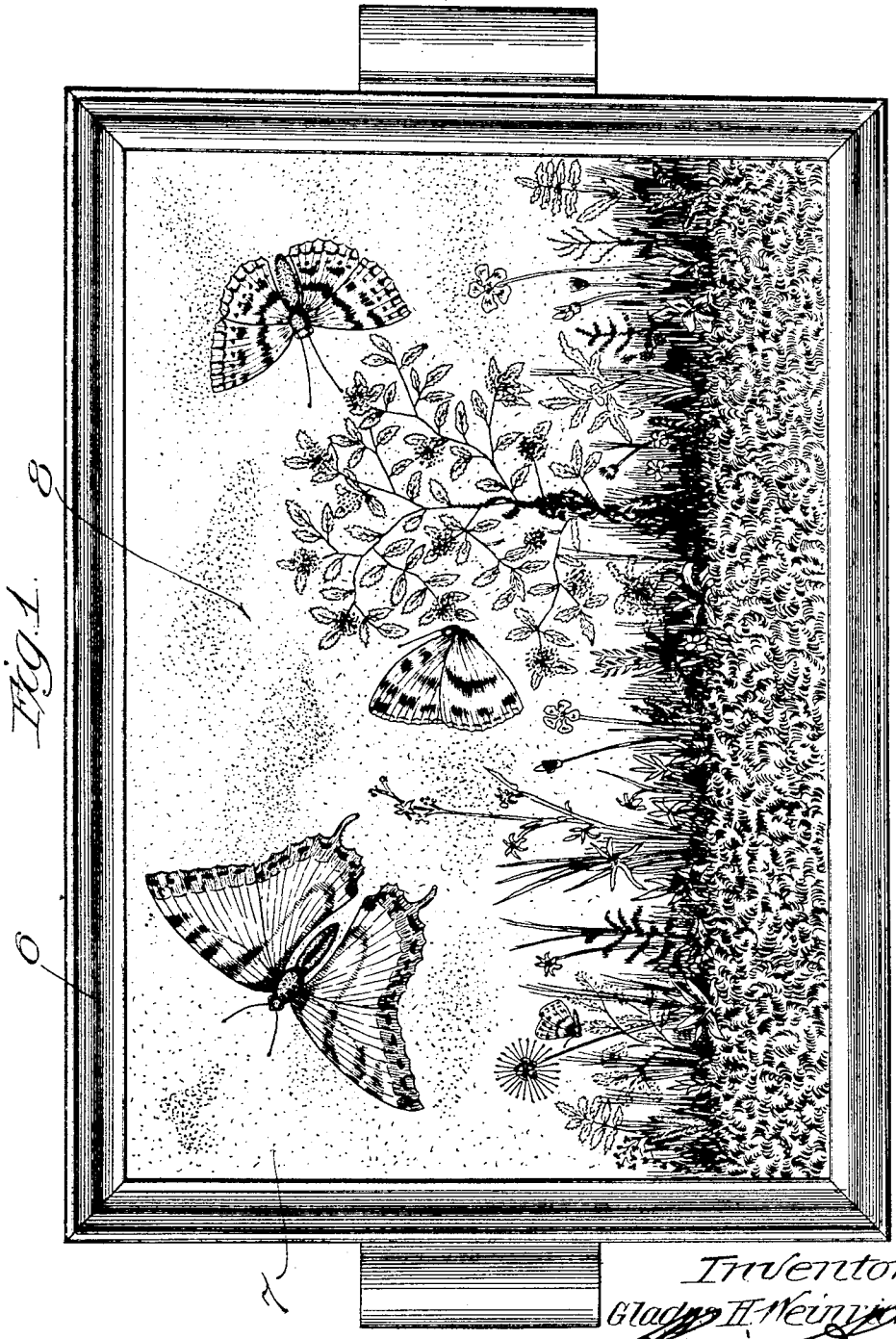


Fig. 1.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

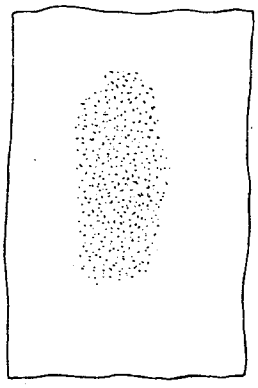


Fig. 4.

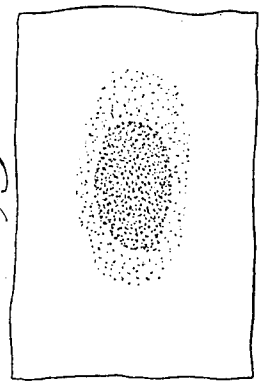
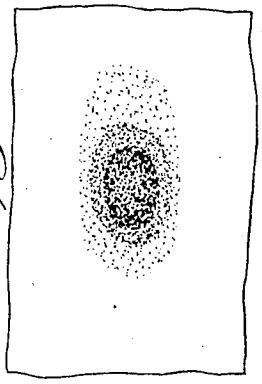


Fig. 5.



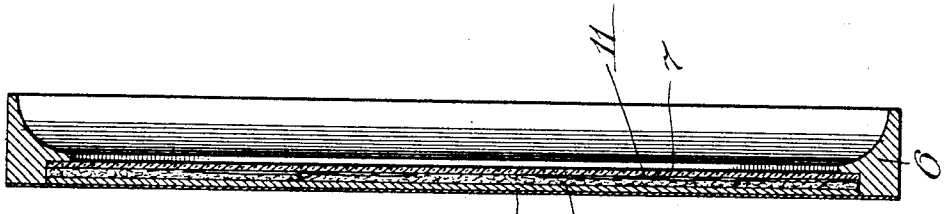


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GLADYS H. WEINRICH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

ORNAMENTAL TRAY AND THE LIKE.

1,396,484. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 8, 1921.

Application filed February 24, 1920. Serial No. 360,573.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GLADYS H. WEINRICH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ornamental Trays and the like, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention has to do with improvements in trays of that type in which a scene or picture is depicted through the glass plate or cover of the tray. The features of the invention are particularly well adapted for use in connection with artistically designed trays, but it will presently appear that they are not limited to use in connection with pictures and other artistic articles. Nevertheless, for purposes of convenience in illustration and description, I have shown the features of the invention as embodied within the tray.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a construction and process for performing the same such as to insure the production of a background of sky or the like of unusually beautiful and realistic appearance, and in this connection particularly to make provision for the establishment of realistic cloud effects or the like.

Another feature of the invention has to do with a construction and a process for practising the same whereby it is possible to secure the aforementioned cloud effects in color, and to cause the colors to shade or tone off in very natural and beautiful manner.

Other objects and uses of the invention will appear from a detailed description of the same, which consists in the features of construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 shows a face view of a tray embodying the features of the present invention, said tray being provided with a picture or adornment embodying a sky effect according to the features of the present invention;

Fig. 2 shows a vertical cross section corresponding to Fig. 1; and

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 show in succession fragmentary face views of three consecutive or successive developments of a small section of sky, built up according to the present invention.

I will state in the first place that simply for purposes of convenience the tray is shown as provided with a frame 6 and a glass face 7, behind which is built up and located the picture or adornment according to the present invention. The illustration includes a number of butterflies and growing plants of different kinds standing against a common background or sky effect 8. Manifestly, the decoration or adornment of the tray may take the form of any selected arrangement of butterflies, bees, birds, or other winged creatures, as well as trees, bushes, shrubs, flowers, and other growing plants.

It will be observed, however, that the butterflies or other creatures and many of the growing plants stand out against the common background or sky effect 8 so that the resulting effect and its beauty and naturalness depend very largely upon the manner and process by which said sky effect is built up. I will now describe the same in detail:

On a suitable card or backing 9, I first place a layer or cushion of cotton or other material of such thickness as to give the desired cushioning effect, so that the various creatures and plants, when set onto the same, may embed or impress themselves into said cushion when the glass plate 7 is finally put into place. Ordinarily, a cushion of from one-eighth to one-fourth inch in thickness, or even thicker, will be found suitable for this purpose, and the cushion itself will be built up or made from plain white cotton. Without further decoration or adornment, it will be evident that the background would be absolutely plain and lifeless and unattractive. In order to secure a realistic and artistic background or sky effect, I have recourse to the following procedure:

If the sky tones are to be blues and reds, corresponding, for example, to a sunset, with cloud effects scattered over the sky, I first prepare a bundle or batch of cotton dyed a suitable tone of blue, and another bundle or batch dyed a suitable tone of red or pink. Ordinarily the colors used for this purpose need not be very deep, and it is usually best to make use of relatively soft tones. Having prepared the batches of colored cotton as above explained, I next take a small wad or portion of the blue, for example, and, drawing the same out into very thin and elongated shreds, I lay such shreds successively on the cotton background at the desired points, taking care to lay the shreds on in the first place at those points where it is desired to have the lightest tones. In

like manner I may continue the treatment of the background by the use of the red cotton, taking care to shade the colors off into each other at the points where they join or come together, and even in some cases overlapping the two colors, so that a tone effect is secured which is the resultant of both. I then proceed with the operation by subsequently laying on additional shreds of the two colors, taking care each time to draw the cotton out into very thin and relatively transparent portions, and taking care to lay down the additional shreds at those points where the tone is to be deepened or emphasized.

By the use of relatively thin shreds of the colored or tinted cotton or other fibrous material it is possible to produce a resulting background in which the tone or shade at any point is more or less the resultant of the different layers or shreds which have been successively laid into place, the depth of the tone being increased up to any desired point, and the shading or varying of the tones from one point to another being very delicately secured. By this means the observer, looking at the completed background, is enabled to look through the more or less transparent layers of shreds, so that he sees a resulting effect depending at each point largely upon the number of layers or shreds which have been successively laid into place. In this way a very beautiful and softly graduated tone effect may be produced.

Referring to Figs. 3, 4 and 5, I have shown, simply by way of illustration, the manner in which the tone at a given spot on the background may be successively deepened by adding on successive layers or shreds of the tinted material. After the background has been built up in the manner just above explained, the various butterflies or other creatures may be set into place, and the plants or flowers may be completed; and finally, the glass cover 7 may be set over the entire illustration, compressing the same down with sufficient firmness at all points to more or less embed the creatures and flowers or plants in the relatively soft background. This arrangement is emphasized, for example, at the point 11 in Fig. 2, wherein it will be observed that one of the plants is depressed into the background a distance depending more or less upon its thickness.

While I have herein mentioned the use of cotton as the material used in building up the background, and have also mentioned certain colors or dyes, still it will be understood that I do not limit myself either to the use of cotton or to said colors, since manifestly other materials and colors may be used to great advantage in some cases. Nevertheless, I have found by experience that cotton is a very satisfactory material for this purpose.

I claim:

1. The method of producing a background sky effect for ornamental trays and the like, which consists in first establishing a cushion backing of substantially white fibrous material, preparing two separate batches of fibrous material one of which is tinted a substantially uniform tone of blue throughout its mass, and the other of which is tinted a substantially uniform tone of pink or red throughout its mass, thereafter building up the desired color scheme and arrangement on the white background by successive applications of finely divided portions of tinted fibers from the two batches, applying such material in finely separated portions and by successive applications at different points on the background, to thereby build up at each point on the background a color tone and shade which is the resultant of the several applications of material from the two batches at such point, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The method of producing a background sky effect for ornamental trays and the like, which consists in first establishing a backing of substantially white material, preparing two separate batches of fibrous material one of which is tinted a substantially uniform tone of one color throughout its mass, and the other of which is tinted a substantially uniform tone of another color throughout its mass, thereafter building up the desired color scheme and arrangement on the white background by successive applications of finely divided portions of tinted fibers from the two batches, applying such material in finely separated portions and by successive applications at different points on the background, to thereby build up at each point on the background a color tone and shade which is the resultant of the several applications of material from the two batches at such point, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

GLADYS H. WEINRICH.