July 17, 1928. 1,677,767

G. W. GOODRIDGE

PENCIL CARRIER

Filed Dec. 17, 1926

Fig.1.

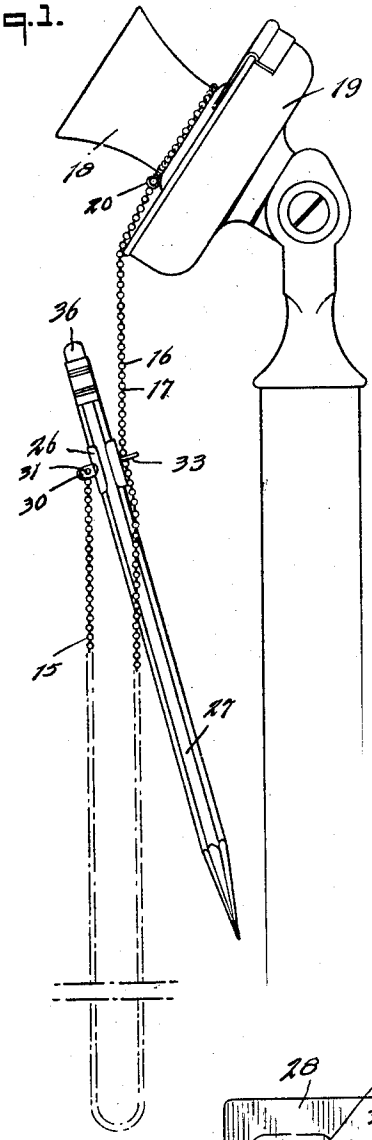


Fig.2.

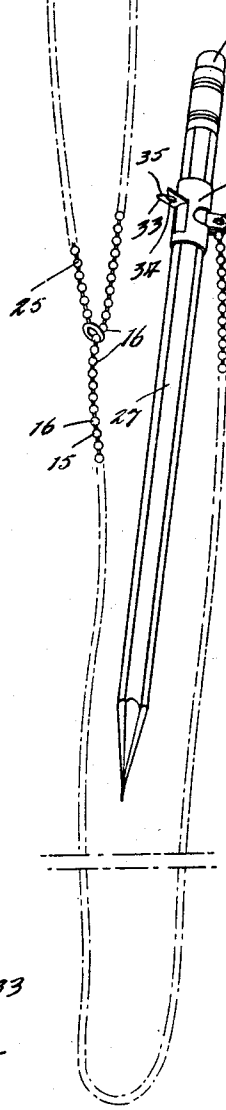


Fig.3.

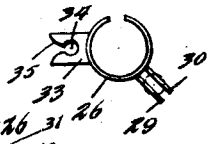


Fig.4.

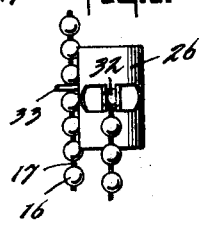


Fig.5.

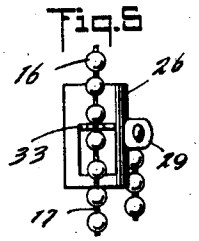
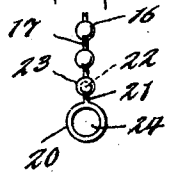


Fig.6.



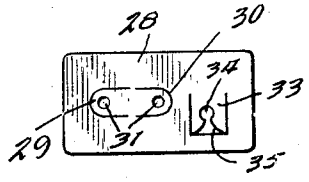


Fig.7.

INVENTOR

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BY

ATTORNEYS

Patented July 17, 1928. 1,677,767

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GILBERT W. GOODRIDGE, OF FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE BEAD CHAIN MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

PENCIL CARRIER.

Application filed December 17, 1926. Serial No. 155,494.

My invention relates to a pencil carrier, and particularly to a carrier chain provided at one end with appropriate means for attachment to a suitable support, and at its other end for detachably engaging a pencil intermediate its ends. The object of my invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive construction for the purpose, and of such character that (1) at its supporting end the chain may be secured by a slip noose connection, although the noose loop, once adjusted, is automatically locked against reduction in diameter; (2) that the pencil is engaged at the opposite end of the chain at a point intermediate the ends of the pencil so that the eraser end thereof is not obstructed; and (3) that when not in use the pencil may be hung from the suspending chain in out of the way position by readily detachable engagement with the chain. In addition to these general objects, my invention also contemplates certain specific features of construction hereinafter described or shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of portion of a telephone transmitter illustrating the application of my chain attachment thereto;

Fig. 2 is a side view of the chain detached from the transmitter;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged end view of the pencil-holding clip at one end of the chain;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation thereof illustrating the chain connections;

Fig. 5 is a similar view, but at right angles to Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is an end view of the slip noose ring at the pencil end of the chain; and

Fig. 7 is a plan of a blank from which the pencil-holding clip is formed.

The present pencil carrier is formed from a length of bead chain 15, which is of the type illustrated in my joint, prior Patent No. 1,548,677, dated August 4, 1925, and comprising, as there shown, hollow balls 16 interconnected by dumb-bell links 17. In order to form adjustable means for attaching the chain at one end to a suitable support, for example to the mouth piece 18 of a telephone transmitter 19, I provide a slip ring 20 struck from sheet metal and provided at one point in its margin with a shank 21 having a head 22 adapted to enter and be engaged by a ball 23 at one end of the chain length. The diameter of the opening 24 of the ring 20 is such that the latter may be freely passed over the balls 16 of the chain. The thickness of the sheet metal from which the ring is struck, however, is less than the spacing between adjacent balls of the chain, consequently, when the ring 20 is engaged between adjacent balls 16, the ring bears against the interconnecting links 17. This engagement is in effect the equivalent of a ratchet engagement, and prevents slippage of the ring along the chain length under tension on the chain. Therefore, while the length of the loop 25 may be readily varied when the chain is slack, there is no danger of slippage after the engagement of the ring with the chain has been established. This is of substantial advantage where it is desired to provide a loop 25 of such size that it will freely slip around a given support without binding, or without a take-up which might prove injurious to the support. It will of course be realized that the lock is automatic in its action, and is automatically effected by a slipping of the ring into any of the "notches" between adjacent balls in the chain.

The opposite end of the chain has connected thereto a spring clip 26 adapted to receive the shank of a pencil 27. The clip may be formed from a blank 28 of spring sheet metal, such as illustrated in Fig. 7. As there shown, a pair of lugs 29 and 30, is formed in the direction of the length of the blank and within its boundaries, the bases of the lugs being juxtaposed, but spaced apart so that when bent from the blank in the same direction they form a pair of spaced parallel lugs. Each of the lugs is punched at 31 to afford an opening of less diameter than the diameter of one of the balls 16 of the chain, so that when the ball 32 at the clip end of the chain is inserted between the lugs 29 and 30, the latter being sprung apart for the purpose, the ball is received in these apertures 31 as sockets. This affords a swivelling engagement be-

tween the chain and the pencil clip 26, which permits the chain to fall away therefrom in any direction.

From another portion of the blank is struck a third lug 33 which may be angled from the blank in a direction to lie in a plane normal to the axis of the clip. The lug is punched to afford an opening 34 of less diameter than the diameter of the ball 16 of the chain, but sufficiently large to freely accommodate one of the interconnecting links 17. Leading to the free end of the lug is a flared guideway 35, the opening of which to the aperture 34, is of a diameter only slightly exceeding the diameter of the link 17. This lug affords ready means for suspending the clip and its pencil 27 from the length of the chain 15 intermediate its ends, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The lug 33 is engaged with the vertical reach of the chain below the mouth piece 18 of a telephone transmitter by merely entering a link 17 of the chain through the guideway 35 into the opening 34 of the lug. The weight of the pencil and clip maintains the clip in engagement with the chain and supports the pencil in out of the way, but handy, position. To disengage the clip from the chain it is merely necessary to lift the pencil slightly and move the clip away from the suspending reach of the chain, whereupon the link engaged in the aperture 34 of the lug 33 passes freely through the opening 35. This operation may readily be performed without assistance by the hand which grips the pencil.

It will be observed that the pencil is engaged intermediate its ends. Consequently, the eraser 36 commonly found at one end of the pencil, is not obstructed, but is exposed for use.

All of the parts are readily manufactured from sheet metal, and readily assembled and applied.

Various modifications in detail will readily occur to those skilled in the art, and the accompanying drawings may consequently be regarded merely as illustrative of my invention, the scope of which is indicated in the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. A pencil-holding clip, comprising means for attaching thereto the end of a chain of the ball-and-link type, and a catch adapted to establish readily disengageable connection with the chain intermediate the ends of the latter, said catch comprising a lug apertured to accommodate a link of the chain, said aperture having a constricted guideway opening thereto.

2. A pencil-holding clip comprising a spring sheet metal member shaped to frictionally grip a pencil intermediate its ends, means integral with the clip for engaging the end of a chain of the ball-and-link type, and a catch integral with the clip adapted to freely engage the chain intermediate its ends.

3. A pencil-holding attachment comprising a chain of the ball-and-link type, means at one end of the chain for forming an adjustable loop for securing the attachment to a suitable support, a spring clip at the opposite end of the chain adapted to slide upon and frictionally grip the shank of a pencil, and means on the clip affording readily detachable engagement with an intermediate portion of the chain.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

GILBERT W. GOODRIDGE.