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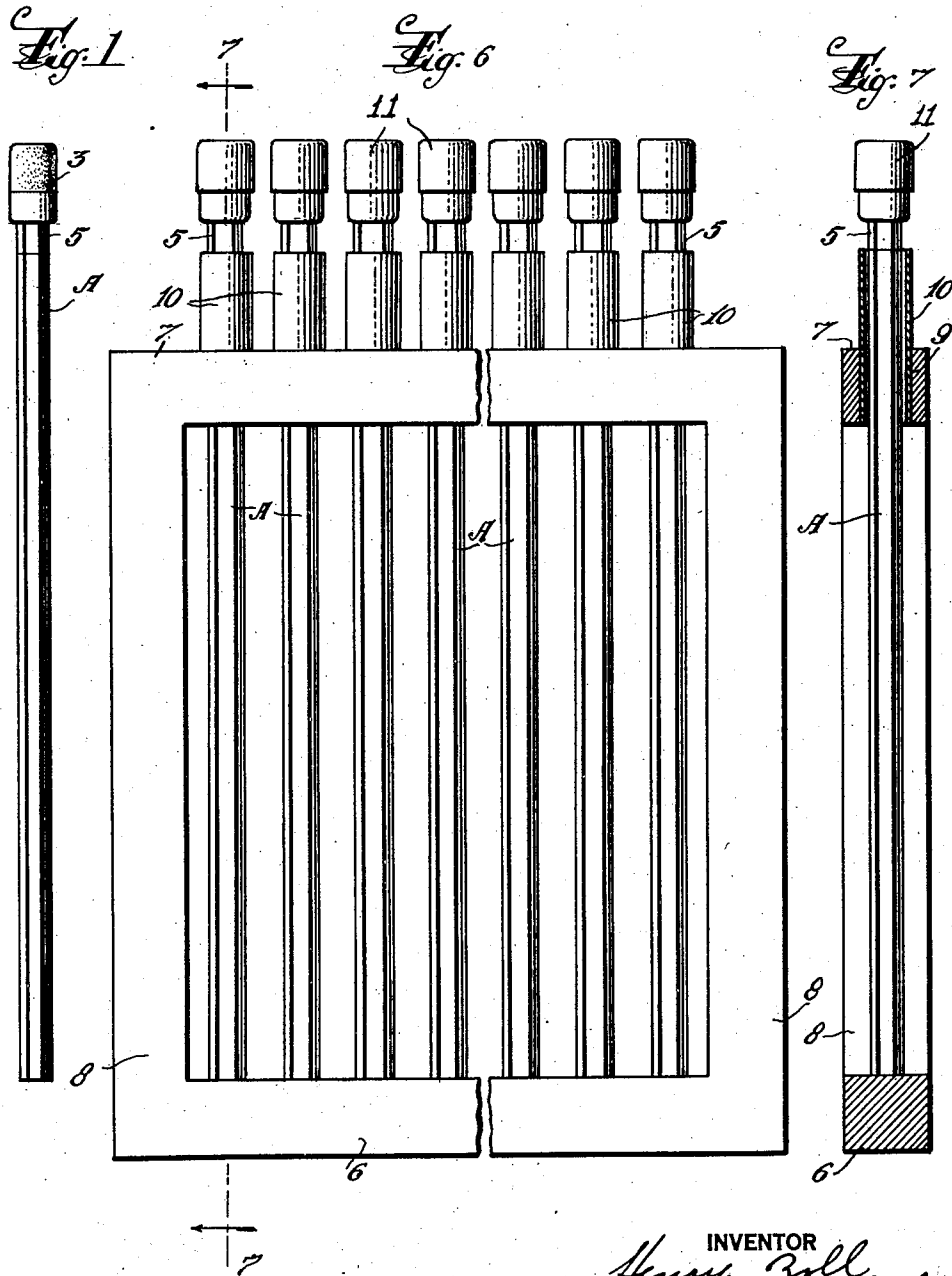
H. ZOLL

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APPARATUS FOR APPLYING DECORATION TO ERASER TIPPED PENCILS

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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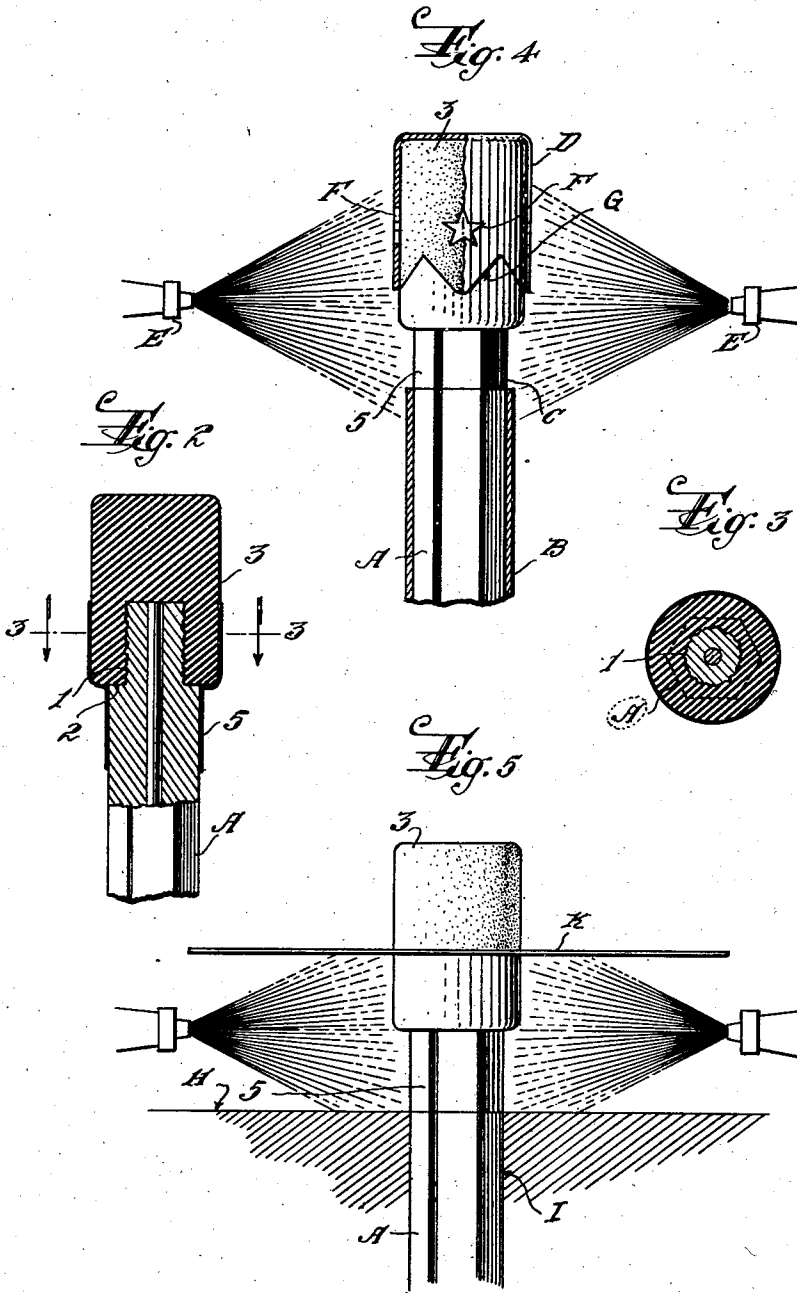
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APPARATUS FOR APPLYING DECORATION
TO ERASER TIPPED PENCILS

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Application September 20, 1939, Serial No. 295,731

4 Claims. (Cl. 91-45)

This application is a continuation in part of my application Serial No. 221,057 filed July 25, 1938, now Patent No. 2,180,132, and the invention relates particularly to an eraser-tipped pencil, which includes a wood sheathed lead pencil or the case of a mechanical pencil, having a block of erasive material secured to one end thereof.

Heretofore it has been common practice to attach an erasive block to a lead pencil by means of a metallic ferrule having one end secured on the pencil and the other end forming a socket in which the erasive block is fitted. My present invention contemplates the attachment of the erasive block directly to the end of the lead pencil or a tenon on the pencil such as described and claimed in my aforesaid Patent No. 2,180,132.

One object of the present invention is to provide novel and improved apparatus for applying a decoration to such a combined pencil and erasive tip, preferably adjacent the zone of juncture of the tip with the pencil, for example a simulation of a socket element or ferrule attached to the pencil and supporting the erasive tip, whereby the appearance of the combination shall be enhanced without substantial increase in cost of production and without the necessity of additional ferrules or other parts.

Other objects are to provide apparatus for use in applying decorations of the character described to an eraser-tipped pencil, which shall include a novel and improved, simple and inexpensive combination of a holder and a mask for the pencil whereby a liquid coating material can be easily and quickly applied to the pencil to form the desired decoration; and to obtain other advantages and results as will appear from the following description in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of an eraser-tipped pencil embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view of the erasive block and the end of the pencil to which it is applied.

Figure 3 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Figures 4 and 5 are schematic views showing the eraser tip and pencil in side elevation and other portions in vertical section and illustrating methods of applying decorative liquid coating composition to the articles.

Figure 6 is a side elevational view of one form of apparatus for use in applying decorative liquid coating composition to an eraser-tipped pencil in accordance with the invention, and

Figure 7 is a transverse vertical sectional view

on the line 7-7 of Figure 6 showing the pencil in side elevation.

Specifically describing the invention, the reference character A designates a staff, a shaft or rod of suitable material, for example a wooden sheathed lead pencil or the casing of a mechanical pencil. At one end the staff has a cylindrical portion 1 which forms a shoulder 2 between the reduced portion and the main portion of the staff. Mounted on the reduced portion 1 is an erasive tip 3 which is in the form of a cylindrical or other suitably shaped block of elastic erasive material such as is commonly used on lead pencils.

In accordance with the invention, a suitable decoration is applied to the eraser-tipped pencil, preferably at the zone of juncture of the outer surfaces of the erasive block and the pencil. As shown, the decoration comprises a layer 5 of liquid coating composition which simulates the usual metallic ferrule that is utilized for attaching an erasive tip to a pencil. The form and location of the layer of liquid coating composition may be varied widely to produce different decorative effects, and any suitable composition such as lacquer as enamel may be utilized.

The invention is directed particularly to the application of a decoration to an article of this general character, for example, to simulate a ferrule on a pencil having an erasive tip by spraying liquid coating compositions on the surface of an article such as a pencil and the tip, preferably at the zone of juncture thereof. In accordance with the invention, the article or pencil A may be inserted into a masking holder B, such as a tube, with a portion of the pencil above the end of the holder exposed as at C in Figure 4. A masking cap D is applied over the end of the article or the erasive tip in spaced relation to the end of the holder B so as to leave portions of the pencil and the erasive tip exposed between the ends of the holder B and the cap D. Then liquid coating composition is sprayed on the exposed surfaces of the pencil and the erasive tip by means of suitable spraying nozzles E.

As shown in Figure 4, the masking cap D may have perforations F, and irregular edges G to provide different decorative effects.

Another form of the invention is shown in Figure 5 where the masking holder H for the pencil may comprise a block of material having a plurality of openings I, one for each of a number of pencils, and the cap for masking the erasive tip may be in the form of a sheet or disc K formed with holes, disposed in spaced relation to the end of the block H. The liquid coating

composition is then sprayed on the pencil and erasive tip between the end surface of the block H and the sheet K. Instead of the block H, I may use another sheet or disc like the sheet or disc K.

I have also provided a simple, inexpensive and convenient apparatus for use in applying decorative coatings which are hereinbefore described, one form of said apparatus being illustrated in Figures 6 and 7 of the drawings and comprising a holder including a base 6 and a top bar 7 disposed in spaced superposed relation to the base and supported by vertical standards 8. The top piece 7 has a plurality of tubular openings 9 therethrough, said openings being preferably formed by tubes 10 secured in the top piece and projecting upwardly therefrom.

In operation of the apparatus so far described, a pencil or other article to be decorated is slipped through each of the tubes 10 with one end resting upon the top of the base 6 and the other end projecting beyond the upper end of the corresponding tube 10. The distance between the top of the base 6 and the upper ends of the tubes 10 preferably will be such that when the pencils are mounted in the apparatus, the ends of the tubes form one boundary for the decoration to be applied. The other boundary of the decoration may be formed by a suitable masking cap 11, corresponding to the cap D, or by a sheet such as the sheet K having an opening for each of the pencils.

After the pencils have been mounted in the holder with the masking caps 11 or sheet K applied thereto, the liquid coating composition is sprayed as by the nozzles E upon the portions of the pencil and erasive tip that are exposed between the ends of the tubes 10 and the masking caps 11 or sheet K. Either the holder may be moved longitudinally through the jets from the nozzles E or the nozzles may be moved longitudinally of the holder so as to spray all of the articles in the holder in one operation.

It will be observed that the pencils are automatically located in proper position for formation of the decorative coating at the desired point, simply by dropping the pencils endwise through the tubes 10 until the ends of the pencils abut the base 6 of the holder. The caps 11 may be applied to the erasive tips either before or after the pencils have been inserted in the holder.

Various modifications and changes in the details of structure of the combined pencil and erasive tip and in the method of and apparatus for decorating the combination, will occur to those skilled in the art as within the scope of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. Apparatus for applying decorative bands of liquid coating composition to a pencil or the like, comprising a holder including a part having an opening to support said pencil and mask a portion thereof with a portion of the pencil projecting beyond said part of the holder and exposed, and a masking cap to be applied over said projecting portion of the pencil in spaced relation to said part of the holder.

2. Apparatus for applying decorative bands of liquid coating composition to a pencil or the like, comprising a holder including a part having an opening to support said pencil and mask a portion thereof with a portion of the pencil projecting beyond said part of the holder and exposed, and a masking cap to be applied over said projecting portion of the pencil in spaced relation to said part of the holder, and means for spraying liquid coating composition on said exposed portion of the pencil between said part of the holder and said masking cap.

3. Apparatus for applying decorative bands of liquid coating composition to a pencil or the like, comprising a holder having an opening to loosely receive and support a pencil, means for masking spaced portions of said pencil and permitting exposure of the pencil between said masked portions, and means for spraying liquid coating composition on said exposed portion while said pencil is so supported in said holder.

4. Apparatus for applying decorative bands of liquid coating composition to a pencil or the like, comprising a holder including a part having an opening to receive and support a pencil and mask a portion thereof, means to limit insertion of said pencil into said opening to cause a portion of the pencil to project a predetermined distance beyond said part of the holder in exposed position, and a masking cap to be applied over said projecting portion of the pencil in spaced relation to said part of the holder.

HENRY ZOLL.