Nov. 10, 1925. 1,561,324

G. L. GUÉNOT ET AL

DECORATED SURFACE AND METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME

Filed July 12, 1923

Fig. 1.

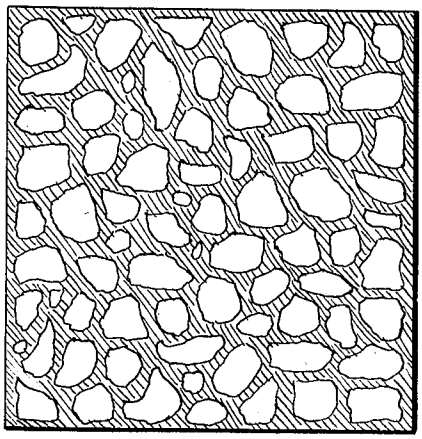


Fig. 2.

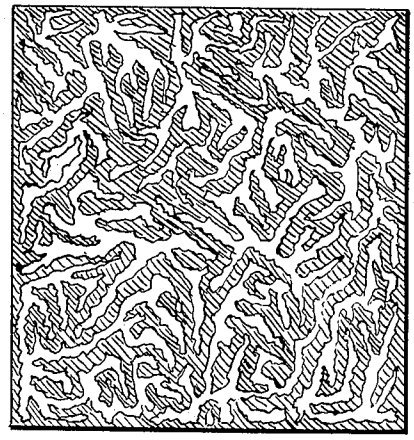
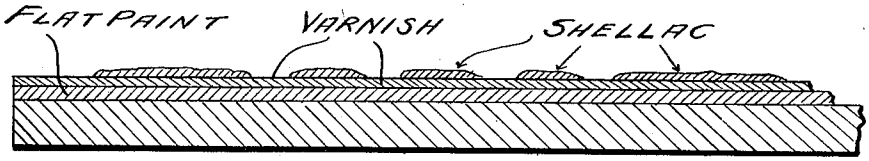


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGES L. GUÉNOT AND GUÉNOT MAURICE, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

DECORATED SURFACE AND METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME.

Application filed July 12, 1923. Serial No. 651,034.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that GEORGES L. GUENOT and GUÉNOT MAURICE, citizens of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Decorated Surfaces and Methods of Producing Same, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates generally to the decorative arts and more particularly to a method or process of decorating the surfaces of walls, ceilings, panels, furniture or, in fact, any surface that is capable of being decorated and which will receive and retain a coat or coats of paint, varnish or the like.

The principal objects of our invention are, to provide a method of decorating surfaces that requires only a few standard materials or substances that may be readily obtained and easily prepared for use, to provide an easily practiced decorative method that will enable a surface to be produced in any desired color or combination of colors, and further to provide a method of surface decoration that may be practiced without the use of tools or apparatus, other than ordinary paint brushes and the now generally used paint atomizers or air brushes.

In the accompanying drawing:—

Figs. 1 and 2 are fragmentary views of surfaces that may be produced by our improved method.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail sectional view of a portion of a wall, or panel that has been decorated in accordance with our improved method.

In experiments relating to the decoration of surfaces with paint, varnish and the like, we have found that certain liquid or semi-liquid coating substances will not flow and spread evenly upon certain other liquid or semi-liquid coating substances, and which result is due to the radically different chemical natures of the two substances or materials.

This natural antipathy or lack of affinity of the two substances or materials that we have used and which are hereinafter more fully described, and the novel method or process of application causes the finishing coat, or the coat that is last applied to the surface that is being decorated, to settle in spots or separated areas on the treated surface and consequently presenting, when dry, a very pleasing and finished appearance, especially where two or more contrasting colors are used.

To prepare the background for the surface to be decorated, a suitable sizing is used if the surface is of plaster or cement, or, if the surface is of wood, wood fibre, paper or cardboard, then said surface is primed in the usual manner.

After this sized or primed surface is dry, it is given two or more coats of flat paint, the color of which corresponds with the color of the desired background.

When this background is thoroughly dry, it is given one coat of high grade copal varnish, with each gallon of which, has been thoroughly mixed, from two to five pounds of background color.

Obviously the amount of coloring material used to each gallon of varnish controls the tone or shade of this background varnish coat.

Just as soon as a small area, for instance, a square yard or less, of the background varnish has been applied and before it has become "set", a paint atomizer or air brush is used to throw onto the freshly varnished surface a liquid composed of pure white shellac having incorporated and thoroughly mixed therewith, a suitable coloring substance.

To prepare this finishing coat, pure white shellac is cut with alcohol or the like, to relatively thick consistency after which a suitable dry coloring substance is thoroughly ground into the thick shellac.

When used in the air brush, this relatively thick or heavy colored shellac must be thinned down to the proper consistency, by the addition of relatively thin shellac.

The color of the shellac may be the same, but of a lighter or darker shade than the background or it may be of a contrasting color so as to produce a pleasing artistic finish.

Further, two or more contrasting colors or different shades of the same color may be thrown onto the background to produce the desired effect.

It will be understood that lac, which forms the basis for commercial shellac is an animal product, in that it is a resinous substance secreted by certain scale insects and that copal, that forms the basis of varnish is a

vegetable product, in that it is a resinous substance that exudes from certain tropical trees.

We have discovered that when these two products, one animal and the other vegetable are brought together as herein set forth, there is a marked absence of any tendency of the two liquids to mix or coalesce.

This natural antipathy, or absence of affinity between the varnish and shellac, causes the latter to collect and "set" in irregular spots or areas on the surface of the varnish, and as these spots or areas are differently colored or shaded from the background, a very novel, artistic and pleasing effect is produced.

A marked difference in the effects produced may be brought about by varying the degree of fluidity of the shellac and also by varying the distance, that the air brush that sprays the shellac, is held from the surface under treatment.

Inasmuch as the copal used as the base of the varnish background is generally cut and thinned with turpentine, said background dries slowly, whereas, the shellac, which is cut with alcohol, dries very rapidly, for instance, within twenty or thirty minutes.

In some instances the shellac "sets" on the varnish background in irregular spots or areas as illustrated in Fig. 1, and again, it will take the form of irregular lines as illustrated in Fig. 2.

Inasmuch as the shellac collects in spots or areas on the surface of the varnish, said spots or areas are slightly raised with respect to the flat smooth surface of the varnish and this "cameo" effect adds materially to the artistic appearance of the finished work.

Thus it will be seen that we have provided a relatively simple, practical and easily practiced method of producing decorated surfaces and which method may be employed on any surface that is capable of being painted.

We claim as our invention:

1. The method of decorating surfaces, which consists in applying to a surface, a coat of varnish, then spraying shellac to said varnish coat before the latter is dry and which varnish and shellac are distinctively colored.

2. The method of producing decorated surfaces, which consists in applying a varnish background to a surface and then spraying shellac onto said varnish background, before the latter is dry.

3. The herein described method of decorating surfaces which consists in applying to a surface, a coat of copal varnish that has been cut with turpentine and then applying to the varnished surface before the same is dry, shellac that has been cut with alcohol.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

GEORGES L. GUENOT.
GUÉNOT MAURICE.