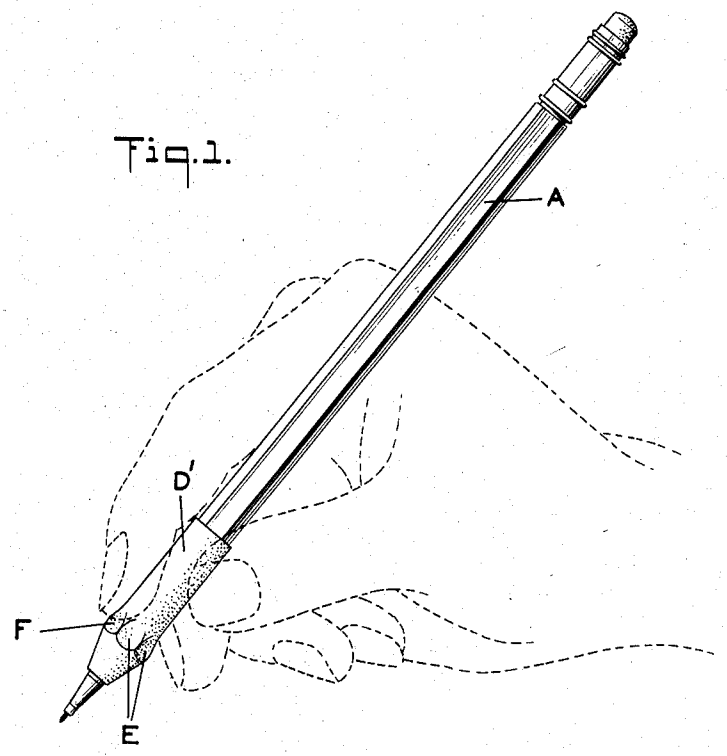
Aug. 28, 1934. P. S. HAUTON 1,971,681

ATTACHMENT FOR WRITING INSTRUMENTS

Filed Nov. 28, 1932

Fig. 1.



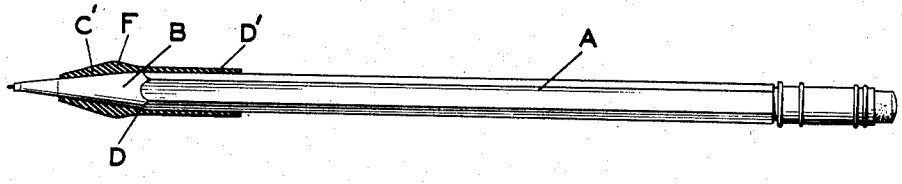


Fig. 2.

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ATTACHMENT FOR WRITING INSTRUMENTS

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Application November 28, 1932, Serial No. 644,612

1 Claim. (Cl. 120—84)

This invention relates to means for promoting the ease and accuracy with which writing instruments may be used and more especially to auxiliary means for such writing instruments as have a fixed taper as is found for instance at the writing end of the conventional mechanical pencil. Mechanical pencils often have a smooth slippery finish which includes the tapered writing end. Such finish while enhancing the appearance of the pencil, nevertheless, renders a firm grip of the pencil difficult, if not impossible, particularly in those designs in which the taper extends back such distance that the finger tip in normal writing position rests on the finished taper. The pressure required to write with the long tapered designs almost invariably causes the finger tip to slip toward the writing point, resulting in inaccuracy in the writing and fatigue to the writer.

Some of the objects of the invention are to provide means which will facilitate maintenance of the finger tips in proper position with respect to the point, which will conform rather closely to the conventional shape and which will prevent the writing instrument from rolling, particularly if round.

While an attachment adapted to be slipped over a pencil is shown in the Broschart patent of 1921, numbered 1,395,735, for the purpose of cushioning the fingers and preventing them from slipping, this attachment is designed for use with the non-mechanical type of pencil which has a taper which varies on sharpening the pencil. In an attachment which is confined to the portion of the pencil back of the taper, awkward finger position for writing necessarily results, because the finger tips are spaced too far from the point.

Comprehensively stated, the invention comprehends an annular protuberant portion located a fixed distance from the writing point to afford a stop for preventing the fingers from slipping. More specifically stated, the invention comprises a detachable member which can be easily slipped over the writing end of the instrument which is internally shaped to conform to the tapered end of the writing instrument so that an annular protuberant portion is accurately positioned with respect to the writing point, thereby affording an arrangement which will prevent the fingers slipping to a position too near the point for convenient operation. The side of the annular protuberant portion opposite to the writing point may, and preferably has, a plurality of inclined flattened surfaces against which the finger tips may bear to afford an effective grip and also to prevent the pencil from rolling.

While one embodiment of the invention is shown in the drawing accompanying this application and forming part thereof, it is to be understood that such embodiment is merely illustrative of the underlying principles of the invention so as to afford a clear understanding thereof to those skilled in the art and is not intended as limiting the invention to the specific form disclosed therein.

In said drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the invention showing it in use, and

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the invention applied to a pencil.

Continuing now by way of a more detailed description, a mechanical pencil is indicated in its entirety by A and has the conventional tapered portion B at the writing end of the pencil. A detachable member indicated in its entirety by C and preferably consisting of a comparatively soft resilient material, such as rubber, is moulded or otherwise shaped to form at one end an inside conical taper C′ corresponding to the taper B of the pencil A and merging at D with the cylindrical sleeve portion D′ the inside of which conforms to the body portion of the pencil behind the taper. The taper C′ provides means for accurately positioning the member C at the writing end of the pencil A so that the annular protuberant portion F may be properly located the proper distance back from the writing point to afford a stop for the fingers to maintain them in proper position for effective use of the pencil. Inclined flattened portions E are formed on the protuberant portion F which is of greater outside diameter than the rest of the attachment so that a writing instrument having this attachment in use, when dropped on a surface will rest on a flattened portion which will thereby prevent roll. The attachment, except for the slightly protuberant portion F, conforms closely to the conventional pencil lines and does not detract from the appearance of the pencil when the attachment is in use.

It is to be understood that instead of a detachable member, the pencil casing might be cut away and the resilient material might be seated in the recess thus formed.

I claim:

An attachment for writing instruments consisting of a hollow resilient member having a tapered bore at the tip end and a bore of uniform diameter merging with the widest part of the tapered bore, the material at the end of the member in the region of the tapered bore swelling from the tip end outwardly toward the opposite end, to form an annular protuberant portion spaced from the tip end and a plurality of peripherally disposed dished inclined finger receiving openings disposed around the protuberant portion on the side opposite to the tip to arrest slip of the fingers toward the tip.

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