May 15, 1923. 1,455,579

D. EVANS

WRITING AND DRAWING SURFACE

Filed April 12, 1920

Fig. 1.

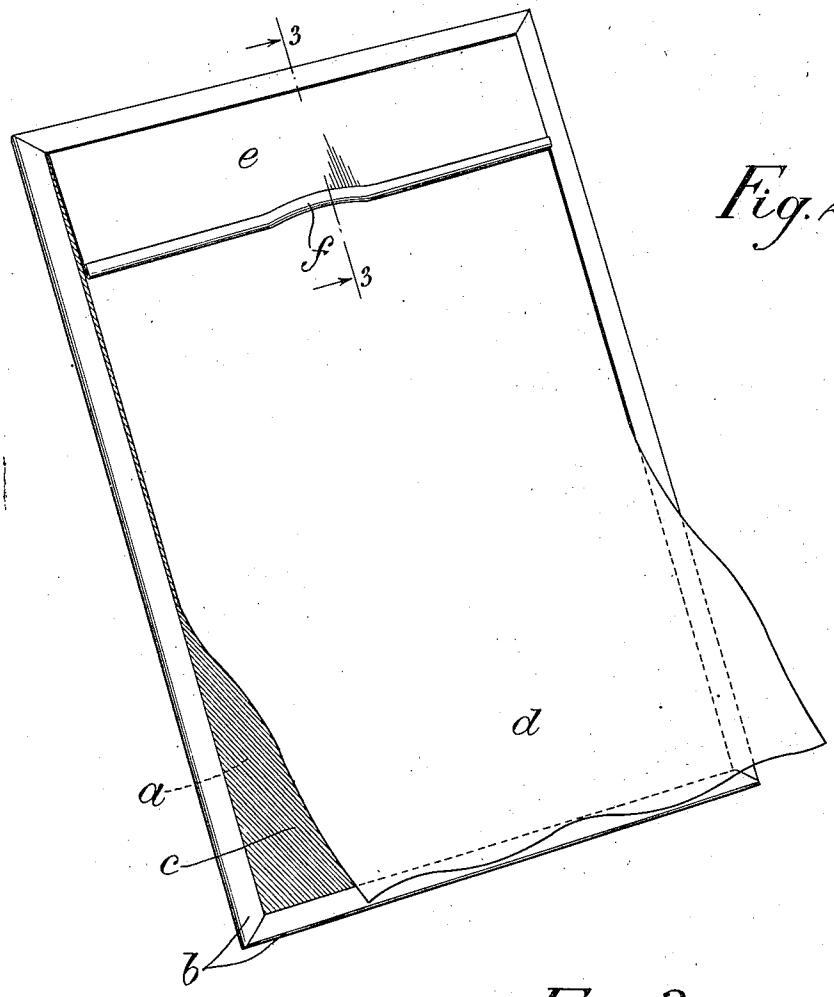
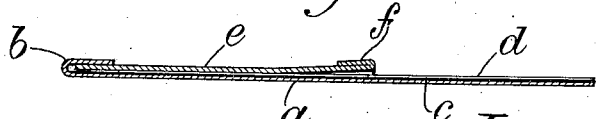


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL EVANS, OF HIGHBURY, LONDON, ENGLAND.

WRITING AND DRAWING SURFACE.

Application filed April 12, 1920. Serial No. 373,413.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL EVANS, a subject of His Majesty the King of England, and resident of Highbury, in the county of London, Kingdom of England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in or Connected with Writing and Drawing Surfaces, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to writing and drawing surfaces.

The invention has for its object to provide a perpetual writing and drawing surface applicable to writing pads, slabs, blocks and books, sketching blocks, drawing books and the like, from which surface the writing, drawings or other matter thereon can be instantaneously obliterated or caused to disappear without the use of india-rubber or other erasing means, and upon which the matter can be preserved so long as desired. Thus, the invention provides a writing and drawing surface which can be used time after time without injury to or renewing said surface, thereby economizing paper.

According to the invention the improved writing and drawing surface consists primarily of a coloured base embodying a plastic substance, and a semi-transparent or transparent writing and drawing surface proper incorporated with and disposed above said base.

Further considered, the writing and drawing surface consists of a coloured base coated or impregnated with or consisting of a plastic substance or vehicle, and a writing and drawing surface proper consisting of transparent or semi-transparent tissue or other paper, silk, skin or like material the plastic substance or vehicle and the surface proper being impregnated, coated or treated with grease or oil.

In the drawing in which like characters of reference designate corresponding parts in the several views:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a writing and drawing surface constructed in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a detail view of the drawing and writing instrument.

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

In a suitable manner of carrying out the invention the writing and drawing surface comprises a cardboard, wooden or other suitable hard or firm board or base *a* coated on its upper surface with clay, putty, wax, or other suitable plastic material *c* serving as a vehicle, which plastic material or vehicle is impregnated or coated with grease or oil such as vaseline or castor oil. Thus the plastic material may be clay or wax initially prepared with an oil or grease and of the nature used for modelling, or clay, wax or the like substance may be first applied to the board or base and the grease or oil be subsequently rubbed thereinto. The plastic material may be applied to the board or base to any thickness desired. A suitable colouring matter, such as powdered Indian ink, is mixed with or coated upon the plastic material or vehicle if desired, or said plastic material may be such that it has a sufficient depth of colour without the necessity for the addition thereto of a separate colouring matter. The grease or oil used must be nondrying so that the plastic material is maintained sufficiently soft and moist for the purposes of the invention. If desired, and particularly if the plastic material or vehicle has a natural offensive odour, a scented grease or oil, such as camphorated oil, may be mixed with the same. The writing and drawing surface proper used in conjunction with the plastic material consists of a sheet *d* of greased, oiled or waxed tissue or other paper, silk, skin, linen, or other like transparent or semi-transparent soft and pliable material such as the waterproofed paper used for packing modelling waxes and clays.

The prepared paper or the like may be in one or more sheets and laid flat upon the plastic material, and the or each sheet may be secured by its top, side or bottom edge to the board or base in any order desired. Of course, if a plurality of sheets are provided they would be used in turn upon a single layer of the plastic material or upon a number of separate layers thereof according to whether it is desired to preserve the writing or other matter upon any one or more of them, or as it or they become worm out or otherwise useless. Again, a plurality of sheets not attached to the front surface of the board or base may be supplied in reserve or as "refills", so that the writting and drawing surface proper can be removed or interchanged at will. The prepared paper or the like may be ruled, and it can be combined in one writing or drawing pad

or other single article with ordinary writing or drawing paper. The prepared paper or the like may be mounted in one or more wooden or other frames hinged to the board or base.

In use, and when a sheet of the paper or the like is laid upon the plastic material, writing, sketches or drawings can be easily made upon said paper or the like with the aid of an instrument *g* having a blunt point, such as a piece of wire. It has been found that very distinct and clear writings or markings can be formed in this manner with very little pressure, the latter being less than that used when writing or drawing on ordinary paper, owing to the soft nature of the plastic material, and to the hardness of the instrument used for writing or drawing, said instrument depresses the parts of the paper or the like over which it is moved into the substance of the plastic material or into close contact with the same, and the grease or oil in said material or in the paper or the like maintains this depression or contact unless and until the paper or the like is disturbed. Again, owing to the presence of the grease or oil the colour in or of the plastic material appears through the paper or the like at the place where the latter is depressed into or in contact with said material thus rendering the markings clear and bold. However, directly as the paper or the like is raised from the plastic material the markings disappear, so that the paper or the like is cleared for a subsequent use.

Pictures, drawings or the like can be traced or copied onto the paper or the like when laid upon the latter and by using a piece of wire, a pencil or the like.

Should the plastic material become dry or useless after much use its surface can be re-prepared by simply rubbing the finger over the latter or a little vaseline or other grease or oil thereupon.

If desired, the plastic substance may be transparent or translucent, and the cardboard, wooden or other board or base proper be black or some other deep colour.

The device may be used by itself or in conjunction with other articles for advertising, educational and other purposes. The advertising or other matter may be arranged at the top of the writing and drawing surface on a strip *e* terminating at *f* a short distance below the top of the writing and drawing surface.

What I claim is:—

1. A writing and drawing surface from which writing, drawings and other markings thereon can be instantaneously obliterated and caused to disappear without the use of india rubber or other erasing means and upon which such matter can be preserved, said writing and drawing surface being adapted for repeated use without renewal and comprising a colored base including a relatively soft plastic substance adapted to receive impressions from a drawing and writing instrument, and a writing and drawing surface proper associated with and disposed above said base and being free to be lifted therefrom and being sufficiently transparent to permit the colored base to show through it, the material of the base and writing surface being adapted to adhere at points of pressure of the writing instrument.

2. A writing and drawing surface from which writing, drawings and other markings may be instantly obliterated and caused to disappear and upon which said matter may be preserved, said writing and drawing surface being capable of repeated use without renewal and comprising a relatively soft colored base of clay adapted to receive impressions from a blunt drawing and writing instrument, and a drawing surface proper associated with and disposed above the clay and being free to be lifted therefrom and being sufficiently transparent to show the colored base through it, the material of the base and writing surface being adapted to adhere at points of pressure of the writing instrument.

3. A writing and drawing surface from which writing, drawings and other markings may be instantaneously obliterated and caused to disappear without use of india rubber or other erasing means and upon which such markings may be preserved, said writing and drawing surface being capable of repeated use without renewal and comprising a colored base of relatively soft plastic material adapted to receive impressions and a drawing surface proper consisting of a sheet of material and being free to be lifted from the base, sufficiently transparent to show the colored base through it, the material of the base and writing surface being adapted to adhere at points of pressure of the writing instrument.

4. A writing and drawing surface from which writing, drawings and other markings may be obliterated and caused to disappear without the use of india rubber or other erasing means and upon which such markings may be preserved, said writing and drawing surface being capable of repeated use without renewal and comprising a colored base of relatively soft plastic material carrying an oil, and an oiled or waxed writing and drawing surface proper arranged upon the base and adapted to be marked upon and to permit impressions to be made in the plastic base, said sheet being free to be lifted from the base, the material of the base and writing surface being adapted to adhere at points of pressure of the writing instrument.

5. A writing and drawing surface includ-

ing a colored plastic base of relatively soft clay adapted to receive impressions and carrying an oil, and a writing and drawing surface proper consisting of an oiled or waxed sheet supported upon the base and being sufficiently transparent to permit the base to show through it, said sheet being adapted to receive markings from a blunt instrument and permitting same to make impressions in the plastic base and being also free to be lifted therefrom, the material of the base and writing surface being adapted to adhere at points of pressure of the writing instrument.

6. A writing and drawing surface including a colored plastic base of relatively soft clay adapted to receive impressions and carrying an oil, and a writing and drawing surface proper consisting of an oiled or waxed sheet of flexible material supported upon the base and being sufficiently transparent to permit the base to show through it, said sheet of flexible material being adapted to receive markings from a blunt instrument and permitting same to make impressions in the plastic base and being also free to be lifted therefrom, the material of the base and writing surface being adapted to adhere at points of pressure of the writing instrument.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name.

DANIEL EVANS.