May 13, 1952 G. W. DECHERT 2,596,890

WRITING PAD FOR TEMPORARY NOTATIONS

Filed Aug. 13, 1948

Fig. 1

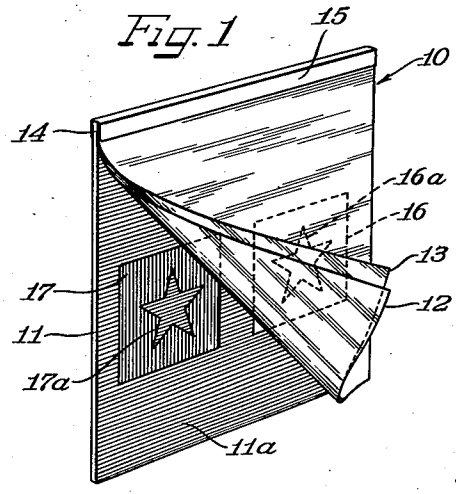


Fig. 2

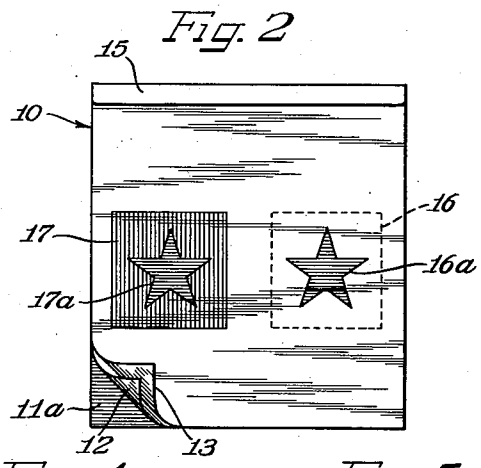


Fig. 3

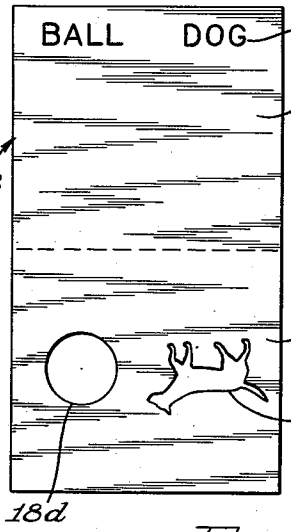


Fig. 4

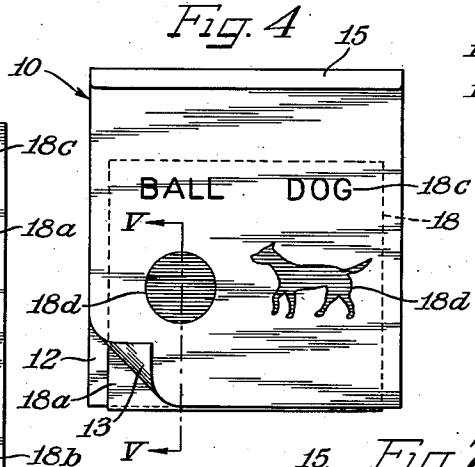


Fig. 5

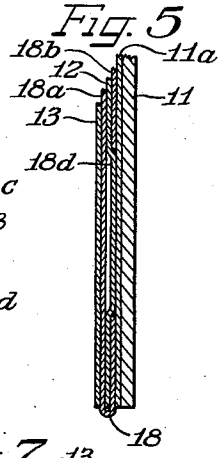


Fig. 6

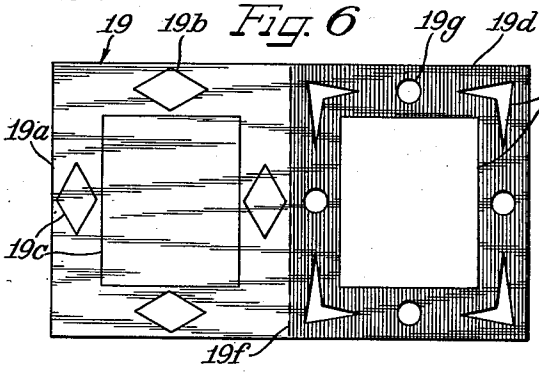
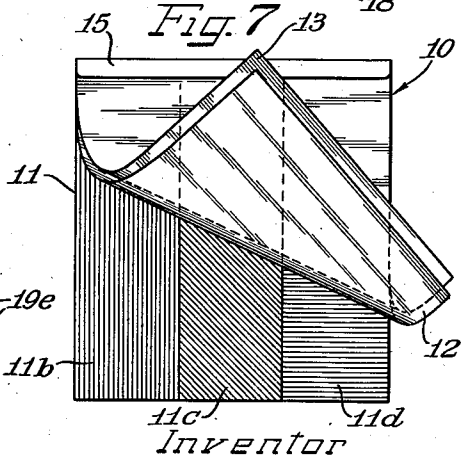


Fig. 7



Inventor

George W. Dechert.

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WRITING PAD FOR TEMPORARY NOTATIONS

George W. Dechert, Chicago, Ill.

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7 Claims. (Cl. 35—66)

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This invention is an improvement in writing pads now used for notations of a temporary nature. These pads comprise a black base with a dark plastic impressionable surface such as wax, and an impression sheet removably superimposed on said surface and masking the color of the base, but adapted to adhere to said surface and show the areas of adhesion when a stylus or similar writing instrument is pressed thereon. Upon separation of the impression sheet from the base by any suitable means provided, or by lifting, the temporary adhesion between the impression sheet and base is broken, whereupon the impression sheet again masks the color of the base, erasing the visible areas of adhesion. The surface of the impression sheet opposite the base may be clear and may comprise the writing surface of the pad. Alternatively, the pad may have a transparent Celluloid sheet overlying the impression sheet which may comprise the writing surface of the pad, being adapted for longer usage than a cellophane or other fragile impression sheet.

An object of this invention is to provide means on pads of this type to enable users thereof, without the exercise of artistic ability or tedious tracing or copying effort, to produce pictures, cartoons, designs, and other indicia in either black and white or color combinations by the simple expedient of moving a stylus back and forth across the writing surface of the pad much in the manner normally used in sharpening the dull graphite point of a pencil, which designs may be completely removed upon separation of the impression sheet from the base.

It is another object of this invention to provide visible indications on pads containing designs adapted to be completely removed to enable users to readily locate the portions of the writing pads on which the desired designs may be produced.

Another object of this invention is to provide designs in black and white or various color combinations, portions of which are visible at all times, which portions are adapted to be added to or supplemented by other designs upon application of the stylus to the writing surface. Upon removal of the impression sheet from the base, the portions of the design produced by the stylus are removed. In this manner, either artistic or humorous effects will result.

Other and further objects and advantages of this invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art from the following description of the annexed sheet of drawings which, by way of preferred examples only, illustrates several embodiments of this invention.

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The designs and other indicia of this invention may be either affixed on the base, the sheets or coatings of this invention, or on any of the sheets above the base. If desired, the designs of this invention may be located along one or more edges of the pad, enabling a portion of the pad to be used for notations or free-hand drawing. If the pad is to be used by children, and contains designs of the type which are adapted to disappear completely from view upon lifting the impression sheet from the base, it will be desirable to visibly indicate the names of animals, birds, and so forth, directly adjacent the points where these will be produced upon application of the stylus to the writing surface.

Silhouettes and other more complete designs according to this invention are produced through the media of very thin sheets which serve as stencils or masking elements which contain various cut out portions defining such designs, or may comprise the cut out portions removed from such thin sheets, which may be placed directly in contact with the base. These sheets may be colored substantially the same color and shade as that which appears on the base, in order that they are effectively masked below the impression sheet with the base, or they may be transparent, in order that they may likewise be masked below the impression sheet and, in addition, will permit visible reproduction of designs of any color or combination of colors on the base upon application of the stylus to the writing surface, such colors being visible through the cut out portions of the sheets. Alternatively, it will be understood that the sheets of this invention may be produced with various contrasting colors and designs on the solid portions thereof supplementing or completing the designs in the cut out portions thereof.

It is not necessary to use care in the reproduction of the designs, since the coatings or sheets of this invention will only permit the production of visible lines within the confines of the cut out, or wax exposed, portions thereof, and will effectively prevent the visible appearance of any lines which extend over the solid portions thereof unless such portions are wax coated as hereinafter disclosed.

The sheets of this invention are adapted either for insertion in the pad after the pad has been produced, or may be bound integrally with the other parts of the pad. The sheets may be either opaque, semi-opaque, translucent, or transparent, depending upon the effects desired in a particular instance. If the sheets are opaque they may, if desired, have the face thereof con-

tacting the impression sheet substantially the same color and shade as that on the base, and, if perfectly matched, will be invisible to the user of the pad even when the impression sheet and writing sheet are lifted from the base. If the sheets of this invention are to be inserted directly on the base, they can, if desired, have a gelatinous or other slightly tacky coating on their surface contacting the base which will enable them to remain fairly firmly fixed during use. Thin transparent sheets of cellophane, or plastics similar in texture to cellophane, are useful as inserts since they will adhere to the base when pressed thereagainst and will be masked by the impression sheet. If semi-opaque, translucent, or opaque sheets are used, they should preferably be colored the same or substantially the same as the color and shade on the base. Thin, soft sheets composed of finely woven fabrics, or rubberized fabrics such as rubberized silk, rayon, or the like, are also useful in this invention. Such sheets or other sheets of the character described as preferred types of sheets which are not inherently adapted to adhere to or lie firmly in contact with the base may be provided with any suitable means to hold them in place. However, it has been found that the solid portions of the insert sheet will be held flatly against the base, after application of the stylus, due to the temporary adhesion which occurs between the base and the impression sheet at the cut out portions after application of the stylus to the writing surface.

If the sheets of this invention are integrally bound in the pad, it will, of course, not be necessary that they be adapted to adhere to the base, but they should preferably be very thin, flexible, and very pliant in order that the complete design in the cut-out portions thereof may be easily produced upon application of the stylus to the writing surface. Very thin sheets of Celluloid and other plastics of that type are useful, as well as thin sheets of various other types.

If transparent sheets are used in this invention, it will be apparent that various color combinations may be applied directly to the base below a paraffin coating on such sheets, which may be rendered visible upon application of a stylus or similar writing instrument to the writing surface.

If the sheets of this invention are other than transparent, and have their surfaces colored contrastingly to the color on the base, they may, in addition, have a paraffin coating applied thereto on the face thereof which contacts the impression sheet, in which event any colors and designs on the solid part of the insert will be brought into view simultaneously with the designs in the cut-out portions thereof upon application of the stylus, and the complete design may be removed upon separation of the impression sheet from the base.

If desired, the sheets of this invention may be eliminated by treating or producing the base of the pad as follows:

Before the paraffin coating is applied, the base may be temporarily covered with a stencil during the coating operation, which stencil may later be removed. The parts of the base which are wax coated will then permit the production of visible lines, while the uncoated parts will remain blank when the stylus is moved thereover.

The wax-coated base may have its surface temporarily covered with a stencil while a colorless or colored lacquer is applied to the parts exposed by the stencil. After removal of the stencil, the parts covered by the lacquer will remain blank, while the wax-exposed parts will enable the reproduction of visible lines.

On the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a writing pad herein discussed, showing two devices of this invention placed in position on the base.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the pad of Fig. 1, showing the visible effects obtained upon application of a stylus or similar writing instrument to the writing surface over the devices mounted on the base.

Figure 3 is a plan view of a transparent sheet comprising two parts, one with printed words "Ball" and "Dog" thereon, and the other containing cut out or stamped out likenesses of the object and animal designated on the first part.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the writing pad showing the visible results obtained when the sheet of Fig. 3 is folded back on itself at the dotted line and inserted in the pad, after a stylus has been applied above the cut-out portions.

Figure 5 is an enlarged vertical cross-sectional view taken along line V—V of Fig. 4 showing the positions of the two parts of the sheet of Figure 3 when folded and inserted in the pad of Fig. 4.

Figure 6 is a plan view of another sheet comprising two parts also adapted to be folded at the dotted line, the part to be placed above the impression sheet being transparent and containing line drawings and cut out portions depicting diamonds, and the other part being opaque and having cut out portions.

Figure 7 is a top plan view of a pad of the type described showing the base of the pad containing three separately colored sections below the wax coating.

As shown on the drawings:

Reference numeral **10** designates generally a writing pad of the type herein discussed, comprising a blue cardboard base **11** coated with a dark waxy material **11***a* which is somewhat tacky, a comparatively thin semi-opaque impression sheet **12** overlying the wax coated surface **11***a* and adapted to releasably adhere to the coating, and a transparent writing surface sheet **13** overlying the impression sheet. The three sheets may be bound together along common edges **14** thereof by any suitable means such as a writing tablet binder **15**. It will be understood that a pad containing only base **11** and semi-opaque sheet **12** could be used on a pad of this type, in which case the top of the sheet **12** would comprise the writing surface of the pad and would in this case be composed of a more durable material.

Thin sheets **16** and **17** exemplifying devices of this invention are illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, which figures may be considered conjointly. Sheet **16** may be either transparent, translucent, semi-opaque, or opaque. If sheet **16** is other than transparent or translucent, it should be colored substantially the same color and shade as that which appears on the base with a coloring material which will not adhere to the impression sheet **12**, being thus adapted to be effectively masked below the impression sheet **12** before the stylus (not shown) is applied to the writing surface. Sheet **16** contains a solid portion and a cut out portion, an edge of the latter being designated **16***a*, outlining a star in its central part. The solid portion of sheet **17** is shown as opaque and is colored red, to contrast with the

blue color on the base, with a coloring material which will not tend to adhere to the impression sheet 12. The solid portion of sheet 17 may, if desired, be adapted to be permanently visible by having a color thereon which is brilliant. Sheet 17 contains a cut out portion also defining a star, an edge of which is designated 17a. It should be understood that the visible sides in Figures 1 and 6 of sheet 17, or part 19d of sheet 19 hereinafter described, or any sheet for use in this invention which is contrasting in color to the color on the base beneath it, may contain a paraffin coating on its surface contacting the impression sheet 12 if desired, in which case the color on the solid portion thereof will be rendered visible simultaneously with the appearance of the design in its cut out portion after application of the stylus. In this case, of course, the contrasting color on the solid portion should be of a weak or subdued nature, in order that all parts of the design may be removed upon separation of the base and impression sheet.

Figure 2 illustrates the visible result obtained after a stylus has been applied to the writing surface sheet 13, the sheet 16 remaining invisible while the cut out design of a star 16a in its central portion is clearly visible, appearing the same color as that on the base. The solid part of sheet 17 is visible and will appear in red while the star will be visible, being blue the same as the base. Square sheets 16 and 17 are illustrated merely by way of example. Sheets for use in this invention can be of any shape and size, but should be very thin and pliant and of a tough diaphanous character, in order that when mounted on the base, the impression sheet lying thereabove may visibly present a flat uninterrupted surface and so that the rubbing of a stylus on the sheet 13 will not form depressions which cause the stylus to jump as it passes over the design-defining edges.

Sheet 16, by way of example, could have its outer margin in the shape of a pumpkin, while the cut out parts of the design could define the eyes, nose and mouth. If sheet 16 were thus shaped, and were small in size, a complete image of a pumpkin head would result after application of the stylus, and any lines extending beyond the outer margin of the sheet would be contrastingly colored with respect to the solid portion, thus clearly bringing out the image, in contrast with the lines surrounding it. Many other images can be produced in a like manner.

Either sheet 16 or 17 on a given pad could be larger than shown, being equal in dimensions to the writing surface of the pad and being integrally bound with the other sheets. In the case of sheet 17, its solid portion could be colored in various colors instead of just one, as shown. Likewise either sheet 16 or 17 could contain many small images which could be produced separately and obliterated or partially obliterated either separately or simultaneously as desired by the user. Sheets 16 and 17 may be composed of fabric material if desired.

Figures 3, 4, and 5 may be considered conjointly. Figure 3 shows a sheet 18 comprising two sections, 18a and 18b respectively, with the part 18a containing visibly printed words "Ball" and "Dog" and part 18b containing cut-out parts designated at an edge as 18d defining the likenesses of the respective article and animal visibly named on part 18a. Referring to Fig. 4, when the sheet of Fig. 3 is folded back on itself along the dotted line shown in Fig. 3 and inserted in the pad of Fig. 4, the words, of course, will be in front of the impression sheet and will be visible at all times. After application of the stylus to sheet 13, the likenesses in part 18b will become visible adjacent the printed words. Figure 5 shows the positioning of the parts of sheet 18 after being folded, so that its parts 18a and 18b are respectively in front of and in back of impression sheet 12. It will be apparent that sheet 18 could be larger, in order that, when folded, its length and width could correspond to that of the writing surface of the pad, whereupon it could either be bound as an integral part of the pad as thus folded, or the parts 18a and 18b could be severed at the line of fold and bound with its parts in upright position at 15.

Figure 6 shows a sheet 19 similar in purpose to that of sheet 18, and containing a transparent part 19a for insertion above the impression sheet after folding. Part 19a, as illustrated, may contain cut out designs designated at an edge as 19b, and lines 19c. The part 19d, for insertion below the impression sheet, contains an opaque red coating contrasting with the blue color on the base such as 11 of Figures 1 and 2, and also contains cut out portions, designated at an edge as 19e. When sheet 19 is folded along line 19f, the diamonds 19b and 19c will be directly above the circles 19g. After application of the stylus, the cut out parts 19e and 19g will appear in the same color as that on the base, while the solid portions will be red. Part 19d has its central portion cut out, in order that the center of the pad will be available for notations. Sheet 19 is also adapted for use on a pad with a base such as hereinafter discussed in Figure 7 being adapted for a side binding tablet as illustrated.

It should be understood that either sheet 18 or 19 on a given pad could be bound as folded, with the line of fold being at the binding edge 14. In the case of sheet 18, of course, the visible image on part 18a and the image defined by the cut out parts of part 18b would have to be arranged so they would both be upright and in desired superimposed relation upon folding. Also, it will be understood that the images on sheet 18, instead of being juxtaposed upon folding, could be arranged so that they would be superimposed in any desired combination of designs. Also, the parts of either sheet 18 or 19 could be separate sheets, the part below being of fabric material, with the part above the impression sheet being of a transparent material.

It will be seen from the above descriptions of Figures 1 to 6 that innumerable color combinations and design combinations can be produced through the devices of this invention. Some of the sheets described can have their solid portions colored identically with the color on the base thus being completely masked below the impression sheet while only the cut-out portions thereof will be rendered visible upon application of the stylus. Other sheets of the invention can have parts contrastingly colored with respect to the color or colors on the base, which colors can either be brilliant, so as to always be visible, or which can be weak or subdued in character and coated with paraffin in order that these solid portions may be brought into view simultaneously with the design defined by the cut-out portions. In the case of the folded insert sheets 18 and 19 illustrated, both parts may contain various colors either matching or contrasting with the color on the base.

Figure 7 shows a base 11 having an impression surface composed of three sections, 11*b*, 11*c*, and 11*d*, respectively colored red, green, and blue below the wax coating (not shown) thereon. These colors may be arranged in any desired manner, and the invention is not limited to any particular colors. This type of base is especially adapted for use in connection with the transparent sheets of this invention, since this type of sheet if wax coated on the side contacting the impression sheet will render visible any color or combination of colors on the base upon application of a stylus. If it be desired that the colors on the base of Figure 7 be substantially invisible through the impression sheet 12 before application of the stylus, the colors may be subdued either by printing them in fairly weak hues, or by putting a small amount of blue or gray coloring in the wax coating over the colors. Alternatively, brighter colors could be used and the semi-opaque coating on the impression sheet 12 could be heavier, to accomplish the desired results.

It will be evident that the part 18*b* of Figure 3 and the part 19*d* of Figure 6 could be used alone beneath the impression sheet if only cut-outs or similar designs are desired.

From the above description of this invention it will be evident that, with its use, writing pads heretofore only used for temporary notations will now be capable of automatically producing various designs, pictures, and other indicia in black and white and color combinations. Portions of the pads may be used for these automatic reproductions, while other portions may be adapted for temporary notations.

The educational advantages of this invention will readily become apparent, since a child using the pad will see the printed words naming animals, birds, or objects, and, by moving the stylus back and forth adjacent the printed words, will be able to easily produce a likeness of the desired design. Thus, a knowledge of spelling and its association with a likeness of the object designated by the word may be combined to add to the child's knowledge. In addition, if the child is artistically inclined, he may draw the animal, bird, or object on the portion of the pad adapted for temporary notations and free-hand drawing.

If the base of the pad for use in this invention is prepared in either manner hereinabove set forth, the base itself will take the place of the insert sheets with cut-out portions. In this case, if a complementary design is desired to be used above such a base, this result can be accomplished by inserting a single sheet containing permanently visible designs between the impression sheet and the transparent writing surface sheet in matched relation with the design on the base underneath.

It will also be understood that in a pad containing one color on the base below the paraffin coating, which could, for example, be a dark blue, the visible outlines of drawings on a sheet above the base as hereinabove set forth may be of the same color but of a slightly lighter shade than the color on the base, and suitable cut-out means could be provided directly below such outlined drawings which would completely surround and remove the drawings from view upon application of the stylus to the writing surface of the pad. In this case, of course, such outlined drawings could be brought into view upon removal of the impression sheet from the base.

Various other uses of both the silhouettes and like drawings of a more complete nature, and the drawings parts of which may be completed upon application of the stylus, will readily become apparent.

I am aware that numerous changes and modifications may be made in the invention herein described without departing from the scope and spirit thereof, and I therefore do not desire to be limited with respect thereto except insofar as set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A writing pad comprising a colored tacky impressionable base, a semi-opaque impression sheet in superimposed relation to said base and adapted to releasably adhere to said base upon application of pressure, transparent tough diaphanous means including means above said impression sheet marked with visible indicia and means between said impression sheet and impressionable base having voids outlining indicia, said voids upon application of writing pressure to the impression sheet becoming visible on the impression sheet in the color on the base due to the contact between the impression sheet and base at the void areas for coaction with the marked visible indicia to define a desired combination.

2. A writing pad comprising in superimposed relation a colored tacky impressionable base, a masking element in contact with said base having at least one dimension which is less than the corresponding dimension of said base and composed of a tough diaphanous membrane containing design defining cut out portions, and a removably superimposed semi-opaque impression sheet normally hiding said masking element and the color of said base when lying thereagainst but being adapted to releasably adhere to the exposed portions of said base upon application of writing pressure to said impression sheet to enable predetermined parts of the pad outside the area encompassed by said membrane to be used for writing and other predetermined parts of the pad within the area encompassed by said membrane to be used for the automatic production of desired designs defined by the design defining cut out portions of said masking element upon application of writing pressure to said impression sheet over said desired design-defining cut out sections including and extending beyond the cut out areas thereof.

3. A writing pad comprising a colored tacky impressionable base, a semi-opaque impression sheet, and a transparent writing sheet in superimposed relation, tough diaphanous means including means between said impression sheet and impressionable base having voids outlining indicia normally masked by said overlying impression sheet and means above the impression sheet marked with visible indicia indicating the location of the indicia-outlining voids below the impression sheet, said masked indicia-outlining voids becoming visible on the impression sheet upon the application of writing pressure to the impression sheet in the color of the base to cooperate with the marked indicia above the impression sheet for defining a desired combination.

4. In a writing pad comprising a base having a colored tacky impressionable surface and an impression sheet overlying and hiding said surface but adapted to releasably adhere to said

surface and render visible the color thereof along a line of impressure, the combination which comprises a masking element composed of a substantially transparent tough diaphanous membrane interposed between the base and said impression sheet permitting full contact of said impression sheet and base at certain areas while preventing such contact at other areas to produce a predetermined effect on the impression sheet when pressure is applied along the areas thereof superimposed over said areas of the masking element.

5. The writing pad of claim 4 wherein the masking element is a stencil containing cut-out and solid portions, the cut-out portions being adapted to be rendered visible through the impression sheet upon application of a writing instrument to the surface of the pad by moving said instrument back and forth thereover at points including the cut-out portions therebelow to produce a predetermined effect on the impression sheet.

6. In a writing pad comprising a base having a colored tacky impressionable surface and an impression sheet overlying and hiding said surface but adapted to releasably adhere to said surface and render visible the color thereof along a line of impressure, the combination which comprises a masking element composed of a tough diaphanous membrane having substantially the same color as the impressionable surface and interposed between the base and the impression sheet and permitting full contact of said impression sheet and base at certain areas while preventing such contact at other areas to produce a predetermined effect on the impression sheet when pressure is applied along the areas thereof superimposed over the areas of the masking element.

7. The writing pad of claim 6 wherein the masking element is a stencil containing cut-out and solid portions, the cut-out portions being adapted to be rendered visible through the impression sheet upon the application of a writing instrument to the surface of the pad by moving said instrument back and forth thereover at points including the cut-out portions therebelow to produce a predetermined effect on the impression sheet.

GEORGE W. DECHERT.

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