

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,131,330

METHOD OF MAKING "URUSHI" OR JAPANESE LACQUER FILMS HAVING PICTURES OR LETTERS

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No Drawing. Application June 28, 1937,
Serial No. 150,885

3 Claims. (Cl. 41—33)

The present invention relates to a method of making a "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer film with a picture or letters painted thereon, which consists in firstly painting a picture, figure, design or letters or their combination with desired "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer on the surface of a cellulose film or plate, for example, films of nitrocellulose, acetylcellulose or regenerated cellulose and then after drying said surface, applying the Japanese lacquer to it one or more times to form a lacquer film and peeling off such film after drying the surface again. The object thereof is to produce by simple means a lacquer film having a picture or letters which can be utilized effectively for various artistic, technological and building purposes.

According to the present invention, a desired "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer film with a picture may be produced if a thin layer of vegetable oil is formed to facilitate the application of a lacquer solution to the smooth surface of the above cellulose film or plate as well as the peeling off of the coating lacquer film and then painting and coating are effected with a desired lacquer solution and the film is peeled off after drying by the ordinary process.

The "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer solutions employed in the present invention are "Ki-Urushi" (raw Japanese lacquer), "Seshime Urushi" (raw lacquer obtained from twigs of *Rhus vernicifera* D.), black colored Japanese lacquer and other treated Japanese lacquers, aventurine Japanese lacquer and under-coating Japanese lacquer. They are applied one or more times according to the picture and design to be painted and the thickness of a desired film. The thickness of the film is to be increased with each application of the solutions. Especially, if "Urushi" like aventurine Japanese lacquer is employed for an intermediate layer, it is possible to obtain a thick film without many attempts.

In this invention, a desired "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer film may be produced also by spraying instead of applying a lacquer solution. The following is an example of carrying out this invention into practice:—

With a piece of cloth soaked in vegetable oil such as rape seed oil, rub a viscose film stretched on a frame, and after thus covering said film with a thin layer of oil, paint thereon a picture, design or letters or their combination with a desired colored lacquer. Next, after drying it,

apply a Japanese lacquer solution to its surface several times to form a lacquer film. Then, leave it alone in the atmosphere, and the film will dry in about one day and night as it retains the desired picture, design or letters. Finally, peel off the lacquer layer by cutting one edge, and the desired lacquer film with a picture will be obtained.

In the present invention, even if the cellulose film or plate has a flat or curved face, a lacquer film with a picture may be produced similarly. Also, a product of a desired thickness may be had at will according to the number of the times of the application of the solution. It is very tough, and as one does not stick to the other, it may be stored in a pile.

The product according to this invention may be utilized effectively as the material for industrial art works or building. Further, pictures, designs and letters may be produced to express one's taste or in mosaic because of the peculiar nature of the Japanese lacquer. Also, the lacquer film if pasted may take the place of lacquer painting.

I claim:

1. Method of making a "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer film having a picture thereon, which consists in firstly painting a picture, design, figures or letters or their combination on a cellulose film with desired Japanese lacquer, applying a lacquer solution to the surface of said film one or more times to form a lacquer film and then after drying the film, peeling it off.

2. Method of making a "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer film having a picture thereon, which consists in forming an oil layer previously on a cellulose film by applying vegetable oil to the latter, painting a picture, design, figures or letters or their combination thereon with a desired Japanese lacquer solution, and after drying it, applying the lacquer solution one or more times to form a lacquer film and then after drying said film, peeling it off.

3. Method of making a "Urushi" or Japanese lacquer film having a picture thereon, which consists in painting a picture, design, figures or letters or their combination on a cellulose film with a desired Japanese lacquer solution, forming a lacquer film by spraying the solution on the surface of said cellulose film and after drying said lacquer film, peeling it off.

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