BRUSH PROTECTING DEVICE

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This invention relates to brush protecting devices. It is particularly directed to a device for holding a paint brush.

An object of this invention is to provide a protector of the character described comprising a pair of jaws receiving the bristles of a paint brush and provided with means for normally holding the jaws in open position whereby upon releasing the jaws they will spread apart to permit the brush to be readily removed.

A further object of this invention is to provide a device of the character described adapted for holding brushes of various sizes.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a strong, compact and rugged device of the character described, which shall comprise comparatively few and simple parts, be easy to manipulate for applying a brush thereto or removing the brush therefrom and which shall be comparatively inexpensive to manufacture and w ith practical and efficient to a high degree in use.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly comprises the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of application will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawings, in which is shown one of the various possible illustrative embodiments of this invention:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a brush protector embodying the invention and holding a brush;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and showing one of the jaws in open position in dot-dash lines;

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the protecting device alone shown in open position; and

Fig. 6 is a partial, enlarged, detail view of the hinge connection between the two jaws.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, 10 designates a brush protecting device embodying the invention for holding and protecting a paint brush 11. The holder or protector 10 comprises generally of a pair of jaws 12 and 13 preferably made of sheet material. The bottom jaw 12 is provided with a flat wall 15 formed with a plurality of rows of openings 16. Extending from opposite sides of the wall 15 are upstanding flanges 18. Said flanges 18 are formed with aligned openings 18a adjacent one end of the jaw 12 for the purpose hereinafter appearing.

Soldered or otherwise attached to the under side of the wall 15 is a member 20 preferably made of a single piece of bent wire and comprising a U-shaped portion 21 soldered to the wall 15 and extending beyond the edge 22 of said wall. Extending from the arms of said U-shaped member 21 are a pair of parallel arms 23 extending at right angles to the wall 15. The member 20 is preferably centrally located with respect to the side edges of the wall 15.

For the purpose hereinafter appearing, there is soldered to the corners formed between the wall 15 and the flanges 18 and adjacent the edge 22 of said wall 15, a pair of tubular members 25. Rotatably received within the openings of said tubular members 25 are U-shaped members 26, each likewise preferably made of a single piece of bent wire and having one arm 27 received within the opening of one of the tubular members 25 and a second arm 28 disposed parallel to the first arm and interconnected thereto by portions 29.

The upper jaw 13 may likewise be provided with a plurality of rows of openings 16 and is provided with a flat wall portion 30 substantially similar in shape to the wall 15. Extending from the opposite sides of wall 30 are flanges 31 adapted to be received over the flanges 18. Said flanges 31 are provided with aligned openings 31a and receiving a pin 34 there through for pivoting or hinging the two jaws together. Adjacent the outer edge 35 thereof, the wall 30 is further provided with parallel grooves 36 disposed along side of the flanges 31 and adapted to receive the arms 28 of the swinging U-shaped members 26. Thus, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawing, the members 26 may be swung to engage the arms 28 within the grooves 36 for retaining the jaws in closed position.

Means is provided, however, for separating the jaws automatically upon swinging the members 26 outwardly to release the upper jaw 13. To this end the lower jaw 12 is formed on the inner surface thereof with a pair of aligned bearings 40 adjacent the pivoted pin 34. Mounted on jaw 12 is a member 41, preferably made of a single piece of resilient metal, such as wire, and having a portion 41a journeled in said bearings 40. Extending from one end of portion 41a is an arm 42, contacting jaw 13 and extending from the other end thereof is an arm 43. The arm 43 contacts the wall 15 of the jaw 12 and is normally disposed at an angle to the arm 42. Since the
member 41 is made of resilient metal, release of the jaw 13 will permit the arm 42 to swing away from the jaw 12. Obviously, the jaw 13 may be pressed towards the jaw 12, and the members 26 then swing to the position shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawing, for holding the jaws together.

The bristles 45 of the paint brush 11 may be pivoted on the jaw 12 and the jaw 13, then swung downwardly to override the bristles 45. The jaws may then be attached together by the members 26. The neck portion 46 of the handle 11 is received between the arms 23 to prevent shifting of the paint brush. With this construction, the bristles 45 are held against spreading after the paint brush has been used.

For causing additional pressure on the bristles 45 and to adapt the device 10 for use with small paint brushes, there is pivoted to the lower end of the jaw 13 a plate 50. The heads of the screws 51 are adapted to limit pivotal movement of the plate 50 with respect to the jaw 13. A bow spring 52 may be attached at the middle thereof to the plate 50 so that the outer ends 54 of said spring contact the jaw 13, to normally swing the plate 50 away from said jaw 13. The spring 53 thus presses the plate against the fibres or bristles 45. When using the device 10 with a brush so small that the jaws 12 and 13 will not press against the fibres, the plate 50 under the influence of the spring 53 will press the fibres against one of the jaws. If desired, obviously the screws 51 may be detached to permit removal of the plate 50.

In the practical use of the invention, the paint brush even when wet with paint may be placed directly into the brush holder and then the holder and brush put into a can of water. The openings in the brush holder thus permit the bristles to remain wet and the brush may be thus held ready for use at any time without becoming dry or distorted.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of this invention have been achieved, and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible illustrative embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment described, it is to be understood that all manner herein set forth, or shown in the accompanying drawing, is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A brush holder comprising a pair of jaws pivoted together and adapted to receive the bristles of a brush therebetween, means for holding the jaws together and means for automatically separating the jaws upon releasing said holding means.

2. A brush holder comprising a pair of jaws pivoted together and adapted to receive the bristles of a brush therebetween, means for holding the jaws together, a plate attached to the inner side of one of the jaws, and spring means for causing movement between said plate and said jaw.

3. A brush holder comprising a pair of jaws pivoted together and adapted to receive the bristles of a brush therebetween, means for holding the jaws together, means for automatically separating the jaws upon releasing said holding means, a plate attached to the inner side of one of the jaws, and spring means for causing movement between said plate and said jaw.

4. A brush protector comprising a pair of plates pivoted together at adjacent ends, a pair of spaced members on said plates for receiving the handle of a brush therebetween and a member pivoted to one of the jaws adapted to engage the other of said jaws for holding the jaws together.

5. A brush protector comprising a pair of plates pivoted together at adjacent ends, a pair of spaced members on one of said jaws for receiving the handle of a brush therebetween, a member pivoted to one of the jaws adapted to engage the other of said jaws for holding the jaws together, and resilient means for normally separating the jaws upon releasing said pivoted means.

6. A brush protector comprising a pair of plates attached together at adjacent ends thereof, one of said plates being provided with a pair of parallel tubular members, and a pair of U-shaped members each having an arm received in one of the tubular members and an arm adapted to engage the other of said plates.

7. A brush protector comprising a pair of plates attached together at adjacent ends thereof, one of said plates being provided with a pair of parallel tubular members and a pair of U-shaped members each having an arm received in one of the tubular members and an arm adapted to engage the other of said plates, and a pair of spaced members extending from one of the plates adapted to receive the handle of a brush therebetween.

8. A brush protector comprising a pair of plates attached together at adjacent ends thereof, one of said plates being provided with a pair of parallel tubular members and a pair of U-shaped members each having an arm received in one of the tubular members and an arm adapted to engage the other of said plates, and a pair of spaced members extending from one of the plates adapted to receive the handle of a brush therebetween, and a spring made of an elongated strip of resilient metal having a central portion attached to one of the plates and an arm extending from one end of said central portion engaging one of the plates and an arm extending from the other end of said central portion to engage the other of said plates, said arms being normally disposed at an angle to one another.

9. A brush protector comprising a pair of aper- tured plates pivoted to one another at adjacent edges thereof and a member made of resilient metal having a central portion attached to one of said plates and an arm extending from one end of said central portion engaging one of said plates and a second arm extending from the other end of said central portion engaging the other of said plates, said arms being normally disposed at an angle to one another.

10. A brush protector comprising a pair of jaws adapted to receive the bristles of a paint brush therebetween, a member on one of said jaws adapted to engage the other of said jaws for holding the jaws in predetermined relation, and spring means for normally separating the jaws upon releasing said member.

11. A brush protector comprising a pair of jaws adapted to receive the bristles of a paint brush therebetween, a member on one of said jaws adapted to engage the other of said jaws for holding the jaws in predetermined relation, and spring means for normally separating the jaws upon releasing said member, said spring comprising a single piece of resilient wire having arms engaging said jaws.

12. A brush protector comprising a pair of jaws
adapted to receive the bristles of a paint brush therebetween, and a member made of resilient metal having a central portion attached to one of said jaws, and an arm extending from one end of said central portion engaging one of said jaws, and a second arm extending from the other end of said central portion engaging the other of said jaws, said arms being normally disposed at an angle to each other for separating said jaws.

14. A brush protector comprising a pair of diverging jaws adapted to receive the bristles of a paint brush therebetween, a pair of spaced members on one of said jaws for receiving the handle of the brush therebetween, and resilient means for normally separating the jaws.

15. A brush protector comprising a pair of jaws adapted to receive the bristles of a paint brush therebetween, a pair of members attached to one of said jaws for receiving the handle of said brush therebetween, and a member made of resilient metal having a central portion attached to one of said jaws, and an arm extending from one end of said central portion engaging one of said jaws, and a second arm extending from the other end of said central portion engaging the other of said jaws, said arms being normally disposed at an angle to each other for separating said jaws, and means for holding said jaws together in predetermined relation.

14. A brush protector comprising a pair of diverging jaws adapted to receive the bristles of a paint brush therebetween, a pair of spaced members on one of said jaws for receiving the handle of the brush therebetween, and resilient means for normally separating the jaws.

15. A brush protector comprising a pair of jaws adapted to receive the bristles of a paint brush therebetween, a pair of members attached to one of said jaws for receiving the handle of said brush therebetween, and a member made of resilient metal having a central portion attached to one of said jaws, and an arm extending from one end of said central portion engaging one of said jaws, and a second arm extending from the other end of said central portion engaging the other of said jaws, said arms being normally disposed at an angle to each other for separating said jaws.