2,717,109
PANT CAN HOLDER
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Application October 20, 1952, Serial No. 315,783

3 Claims. (Cl. 224—5)

The present invention relates generally to a paint can holder and more particularly to a paint can holder incorporating a vest having novel belt and front panel construction and novel removable support means for directly engaging the paint can. The primary object of this invention is to provide a paint can holder which is adapted to be worn by an operator to provide a secure support for a paint can while leaving both hands free.

Another object of this invention is to provide a paint can holder of the type described which is adjustable to receive all sizes of paint cans commonly in use. Another object of this invention is to provide a paint can holder in which the portion directly secured to the paint can may be quickly detached from the portion worn by the operator allowing complete freedom of movement without completely removing a vest portion of the device.

Another object of the invention is to provide a paint can holder including a vest portion which is effective as a garment protector and also as a distributor for the weight of the paint so that the operator is not unnecessarily tired.

Another object of this invention, ancillary to the preceding objects, is to teach the best known mode of implementing the principles of the invention in carrying the invention into actual practice.

Another object of this invention is to provide a paint can holder which is adapted for fabrication from many different materials, so that the choice of material can be according to the dictates of availability and price considerations, the exact sizes and proportions being matters essentially determined to suit particular conditions and needs.

Another object of this invention is to provide a paint can holder which is inexpensive and practicable to manufacture.

Finally, it is an object to provide a paint can holder of the aforementioned character which is simple, safe and convenient to operate, and which will give generally efficient and durable service.

With these and other objects definitely in view, this invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of elements and portions, as will be hereinafter fully described in the specification, particularly pointed out in the claims, and illustrated in the drawing which forms a material part of this disclosure and wherein similar characters of reference indicate similar or identical elements and portions throughout the specification and throughout the views of the drawing, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation view of the paint can holder.
Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.
Fig. 3 is a view in the direction of arrows 3—3 in Fig. 2.
Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view of the attachment of the can holder to the vest portion.
Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the paint can holder containing a paint can.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the device comprises a vest portion indicated by the numeral 10 and a can holder assembly indicated by the numeral 12. The vest portion 10 comprises a vest 14 having a front panel 16 and a rear panel 18 interconnected by shoulder straps 20 which define the lateral boundaries of a head aperture 22, the whole being preferably fabricated from a single piece of material such as canvas or another strong cloth. The vest 14 is provided with two straps 24 and 25 of leather or other suitable material which are stitched or riveted to the front panel 16 and the rear panel 18 in spaced relationship, the straps having loops 26 and 27 on the shoulder, their ends 28 and 30 being provided with buckles 32 for adjusting said straps to fit the wearer. The lower end of the vest portion is provided with a support stiffener 34 having a vertical flange 36 which is curved to the approximate contour of the operator's body, said flange being secured between the lower strap 24 and the front panel 16 by means of rivets 38. The support stiffener 34 is also provided with a horizontal flange 40 having secured to its upper surface a support plate 42 by means of rivets 44. The support plate 42 is provided with a flange 43 and extends vertically upwardly to the upper strap 25 and has secured at its top edge a stiffener bracket 46 having a vertical flange 48 curved to the approximate contour of the operator's body and a horizontal flange 50 provided with two slots 52. Both the support plate 42 and the stiffener bracket 46 are secured to the upper strap 25 and the front panel 16 by means of rivets 54.

The can holder comprises a shelf 56 having a back plate 58 and a base plate 60 which is attached to the vest portion 10 by means of two locating pins 62 engaging with holes 64 in the support plate flange 43, the upper end of said back plate being retained by means of the holes 64 having spring biased bolts 68 engageable with the slots 52. A fixed clamp plate 70 is secured to the back plate 58 by means of rivets 72, said fixed clamp plate being substantially semi-circular in cross-section in a horizontal plane and having sufficient resiliency to conform to the curvature of various sizes of paint cans thus assured a firm grip on said paint cans. An angle plate member 74 is secured to the base plate 60 by means of screws 76 slidably engaged in slots 78 in said base plate 60 and extending through the horizontal portion 82 of the member 74, wing nuts 80 being provided for said screws. The clamping portion 74 includes a neck 84 and an arcuate sliding clamp plate 86 integrally formed with said neck. The sliding clamp plate 86 illustrated is substantially semi-circular in cross section in a horizontal plane and is sufficiently resilient to conform to the curvature of various sizes of paint cans.

The operator dons the vest portion by first placing an arm through the arm aperture indicated by the numeral 88 and the head through the head aperture 22. The buckles 32 are then engaged and adjusted so that the vest portion assumes a comfortable position on the wearer. The can holder assembly 12 is now fitted to the vest portion by placing the locating pins 62 in the holes 64 and locking said holder assembly in position by means of the spring catches 66. A can of paint is now placed on the floor portion 82 and the angle plate member 74 is adjusted so that the clamp plate 86 establishes a firm grip on the paint can, then the wing nuts 80 are tightened. The can holder assembly 12 is easily removed from the vest portion by releasing the spring catches 66 and tilting said can holder assembly forward as illustrated in Fig. 4 to allow the locating pins 62 to be disengaged from the holes 64. With the assembly 12 and the paint can removed, the operator has complete freedom of movement without removing the vest portion.

The operation of this invention will be clearly comprehended from a consideration of the foregoing description of the mechanical details thereof, taken in connection
with the drawing and the above recited objects. It will be obvious that all said objects are amply achieved by this invention.

Further description would appear to be unnecessary. It is understood that minor variation from the form of the invention disclosed herein may be made without departure from the spirit and scope of the invention, and that the specification and drawing are to be considered as merely illustrative rather than limiting.

I claim:

1. Apparatus for painters, comprising a vest, an inflexible panel mounted on the front of said vest, a paint can holder assembly removably secured to said panel, said assembly including a shelf releasably mounted on said panel, and an angle plate member releasably secured to said shelf, said shelf and said member having confronting paint can engaging elements secured thereto.

2. Apparatus for painters, comprising a vest, an inflexible panel mounted on the front of said vest, a paint can holder assembly removably secured to said panel, said assembly including a shelf releasably mounted on said panel, and an angle plate member releasably secured to said shelf, said shelf and said member having paint can engaging elements secured thereto, said elements being opposed arcuate clamp plates, said clamp plates being slightly resilient to conform with the curvature of slightly differently sized paint cans.

3. Apparatus for painters, comprising a vest, an inflexible panel mounted on the front of said vest, a paint can holder assembly removably secured to said panel, said assembly including a shelf releasably mounted on said panel and secured at the upper and lower edges of said panel, an angle plate member releasably secured to the lower portion of said shelf, said shelf and member having paint can engaging elements secured thereto, said elements being opposed arcuate clamp plates, said clamp plates being slightly resilient to conform with the curvature of slightly differently sized paint cans, said angle plate member being horizontally slidably adjustable on said shelf to accommodate for radically differently sized paint cans.

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