April 3, 1951 A. G. SAWYER ET AL 2,547,096

PAINT CAN HOLDER AND BRUSH WIPER

Filed May 21, 1949

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

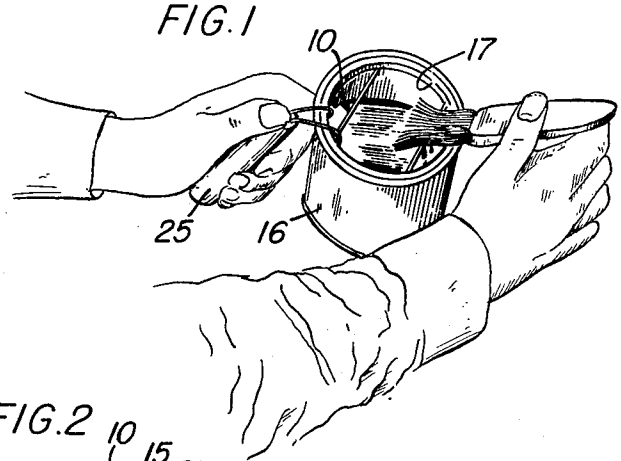


FIG. 2

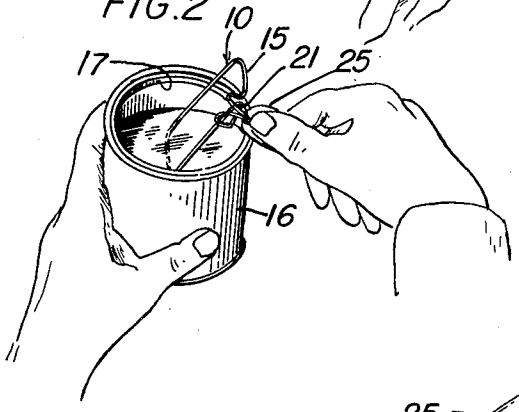


FIG. 4

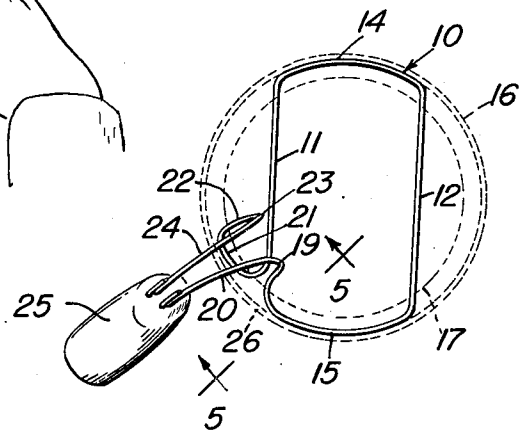
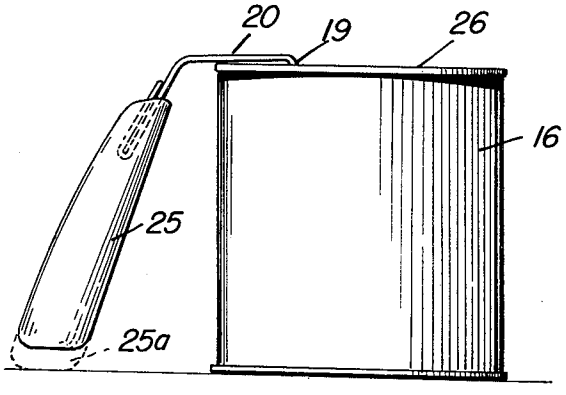


FIG. 3



Inventors.
Allan G. Sawyer
Joseph W. Burgess

By Williams, Rich & Morse
Attorneys.

April 3, 1951 A. G. SAWYER ET AL 2,547,096

PAINT CAN HOLDER AND BRUSH WIPER

Filed May 21, 1949 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 6

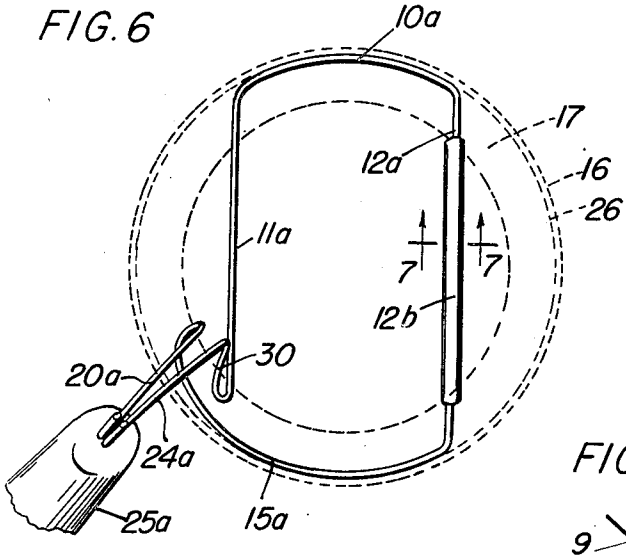


FIG. 9

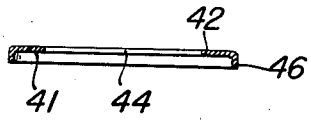


FIG. 8

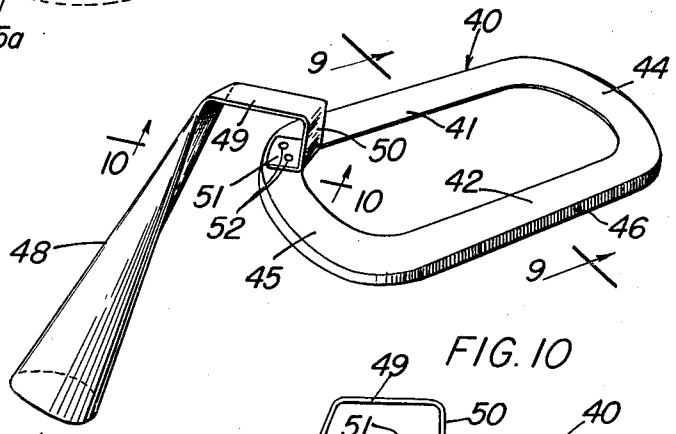


FIG. 10

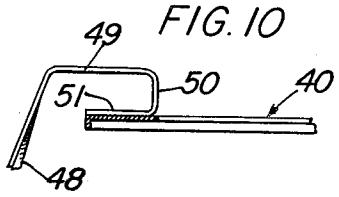


FIG. 5

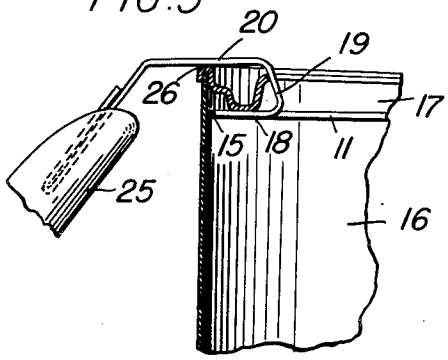
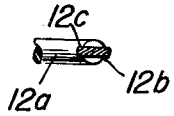


FIG. 7



Inventors.
Allan G. Sawyer
Joseph W. Burgess

By Williams, Rice & Morse
Attorneys.

Patented Apr. 3, 1951

2,547,096

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,547,096

PAINT CAN HOLDER AND BRUSH WIPER

Allan G. Sawyer, Brooklyn, and Joseph W. Burgess, City Island, N. Y.; said Burgess assignor to said Sawyer

Application May 21, 1949, Serial No. 94,686

2 Claims. (Cl. 220—90)

1

This invention relates to can holders, more particularly to a combined holder or handle and brush wiper for use with cans for paint and like materials.

The general object of the invention is to provide an improved holder adapted for use with standard size cans of the friction top type, which have an inwardly extending grooved flange with a circular opening secured to the top edge of the can.

Cans for paint, lacquer, varnish and similar materials in the smaller sizes which are not too heavy to be continuously held in the hand during work are, for the most part, supplied in standard sizes, such as pints and quarts, so that a holder such as that described below, having fixed dimensions and made in a few standard sizes, will fit most of such cans.

The device of the invention consists of a generally oblong member the length of which approximately corresponds to the inside diameter of the can and the width of which is narrower than the top opening of the can, a handle which is preferably arranged to extend downwardly outside the can and spaced therefrom, and means rigidly connecting the oblong member with the handle so that the can is supported by gravity on said member.

The advantages, simplicity and utility, of the invention will be readily apparent from the following description of the present preferred embodiments thereof, taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing a device of the invention in use;

Fig. 2 is a perspective illustrating the first step in engaging the device with a can;

Fig. 3 is an elevation of a can with the holder in place ready for use;

Fig. 4 is a plan of the form of the device shown in Figs. 1–3, which is in part made from bent wire, the top of the can being shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 5 is a detailed section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4, showing the holder in position on a can;

Fig. 6 is a plan of a modified form of holder and brush wiper, the top of the can being shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 7 is a detailed section taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 shows in perspective a further modification formed from stamped sheet metal;

Fig. 9 is a section taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8; and

2

Fig. 10 is a detailed section taken on the line 10—10 of Fig. 8.

Referring to Figs. 3, 4 and 5, the combined holder and brush wiper comprises a supporting member 10, generally oblong in shape, and in this embodiment consisting of a wire loop having straight parallel longer sides 11 and 12 continuous with outwardly curved shorter sides 14 and 15, the latter lying on the circumference of a circle which is slightly smaller than the inner diameter of the can 16. One end of the wire of member 10 continues from the left hand end of the side 15, being bent inwardly at 18, upwardly at 19, and outwardly at 20 around and over the grooved flange 17 of the can. The other end of the wire, extending from the side 11, is bent back at an angle to side 11 following the contour of the can for a short distance, as shown at 21, and then inwardly at 22, upwardly at 23 and outwardly at 24. The ends of the two wires beyond the portions 20 and 24 are then preferably doubled back on themselves and driven into holes in a handle 25, which may be of wood, plastic or any other suitable material. Preferably those portions of the wire which pass over the edge 26 of the can rest thereon when the device is in place, thereby adding rigidity, but this it not essential, particularly if the wire is sufficiently stiff. Instead of using a separate handle, the wire of which member 10 is made might be formed into a handle.

The straight longer sides 11, 12 of the oblong loop 10 are preferably substantially parallel and spaced inwardly from the circumference of the circle on which the sides 14, 15 lie, so as to provide brush wiping surfaces which are not much shorter than the diameter of the top opening in the can. Being straight, they are much better for wiping than is the edge of the can and excess paint falls into the can instead of into the groove. It has been found desirable to position the handle 25 at an angle to the sides 11, 12, as best shown in Fig. 4, so that when a paint can is supported by the holder as shown in Fig. 1, these sides are conveniently positioned for wiping, relative to the normal position of a brush as held by a painter.

As illustrated in Fig. 3, the length of handle 25 is preferably such that it terminates slightly above a plane passing through the bottom of a can so that the can may be placed on a flat surface without disturbing the arrangement of the holder. If desired, the handle may be of such length as to rest on such a plane, as indicated

at 25a, adding to the stability of the assembled structure.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, the attachment of the holding device to a can is a matter of the utmost simplicity. Grasping the handle 25, the loop portion 10 is merely inserted through the open top of the can as shown in Fig. 2, the corner of the supporting member nearest the handle, in the vicinity of portion 21, is engaged under the flange 17 and the handle lowered, bringing the loop 10 upwardly into engagement with the under side of the flange. Upon release of the can, the holder being held in the hand, the can is supported by gravity on those portions of the loop which underlie flange 17. It will be noted that no fastening elements or moving parts of any kind are required since the can rests on the holder of its own weight and that it cannot possibly be detached unless the handle is first raised relative to the can and the loop lowered into the can sufficiently to disengage the corner next to the handle from the flange 17. Such disengagement requires a positive movement of the handle to move the loop downwardly into the can so that even if the handle is inadvertently raised, the can will continue to hang on the wire portion 21 and the adjacent end of the side 15.

It will be noted that the corner of the loop adjacent the handle is left open, in the embodiment just described, which provides for a certain amount of yield of the looped member 10 if it is found to fit too tightly in a can by reason of damage to a can or because the can is slightly undersize. Preferably the loop 10 is slightly shorter than the inner diameter of the can so that there is no frictional engagement of the loop with the can as it is moved into holding position.

Referring to Figs. 6 and 7, an embodiment similar to that just described is shown, the differences being as follows: Side 12a is flattened out as shown at 12b so as to provide a relatively sharp edge 12c over which to wipe the brush. This flattening may be of such an extent as to include all of that portion of the side which underlies the opening in the top of the can. The side 11a may be similarly flattened if desired. The end formation of the loop 10a where it approaches the handle 25a is slightly different than that shown in Fig. 4, in that the end of the side 11a is bent back on itself more sharply, as shown at 30, and thence upwardly and outwardly to the handle, and the side 15a is continued past this bend underneath the portion 24a and thence upwardly and outwardly to the handle at 20a.

Referring to Figs. 8, 9 and 10, the modified form of the invention there shown may be made of two parts formed from stamped sheet metal. One of these parts is the generally oblong closed loop 40 having straight sides 41 and 42 and outwardly curved ends 44 and 45. To add strength and rigidity, this member may be formed with a circumferential downwardly turned flange 46. A brush may be wiped against the inner edges of the sides 41, 42 which are relatively sharp. A handle 48, likewise formed of sheet metal, is provided at its top with a horizontal portion 49 which is of sufficient length to extend inwardly over the flange of the can and is then bent downwardly at 50 and inwardly at 51 where it may be fastened to the member 40 by any suitable means, such as spot welding, rivets or the like, indicated at 52.

The modified forms shown in Figs. 6 and 8 operate in precisely the same manner as that shown in Fig. 4, with the exception that the structure of Fig. 8, being rigid, cannot accommodate itself to cans of a smaller effective size than that for which it is designed.

It being evident that many changes in the details of construction, size and conformation may be made in the embodiments specifically described above, it is to be understood that they are purely illustrative and that the invention is to be construed broadly within the purview of the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A combined holder and brush wiper for supporting engagement with cans for paint and the like of the type having a circular top opening surrounded by an inwardly extending flange, comprising: an oblong wire loop lying in a plane and formed from a continuous length of wire, the opposed shorter sides of said loop lying substantially on the circumference of a circle and the longer opposed sides being straight and displaced inwardly a substantial distance from said circumference, the ends of the wire forming said loop, adjacent one corner thereof, being bent inwardly, upwardly and outwardly, and a handle attached to said ends and extending downwardly at an angle to the plane of the loop, said loop being adapted for insertion through the opening in said can and for engagement with the underside of said flange whereby the can is supported on the opposite shorter ends of said loop.

2. A combined holder and brush wiper for supporting engagement with cans for paint and the like of the type having a circular top opening surrounded by an inwardly extending flange, comprising: an oblong loop formed of rigid material, the corners of said loop lying substantially on the circumference of a circle and the longer opposed sides being displaced inwardly a substantial distance from said circumference, said loop carrying, adjacent one corner thereof, a member which is bent inwardly, upwardly and outwardly, and a handle attached to said member and extending outwardly of the area enclosed by said loop, said loop being adapted for insertion through the opening in said can and for engagement with the underside of said flange whereby the can is supported on said loop.

ALLAN G. SAWYER.
JOSEPH W. BURGESS.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,089,845	Long	Mar. 10, 1914
2,320,262	Campbell	May 25, 1943
2,487,990	Soens	Nov. 15, 1949