This invention relates to holders for retaining buckets, such as paint buckets on ladders. It is the main object of the invention to provide a simple and efficient holder for supporting a bucket, such as a paint bucket, on a ladder without permitting the contents of the bucket to be spilled and at the same time in a position accessible to a painter or other person using the ladder.

It is a further object to provide such a holder which will automatically adjust itself on the ladder to at times hold the bucket in vertical relation irrespective of the inclination of the ladder.

Another object is to provide such a holder which can be knocked down and assembled in small compass for shipment, or for removal from one place to another.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to the same or similar parts throughout the various views, and in which,

Fig. 1 is a view in front elevation illustrating the bucket holder operatively applied to an inclined ladder in one relation;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken on the line 2--2 of Fig. 1 as indicated by the arrows, one of the rails of the ladder being broken away to more clearly show the construction of the holder;

Fig. 3 is a view taken similar to Fig. 1, but showing the holder operatively applied to the ladder in a different relation;

Fig. 4 is a vertical section taken on the line 4--4 of Fig. 3, as indicated by the arrows;

and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view illustrating the holder in knocked down relation with the parts assembled for shipment in small compass.

Referring to the drawings, there is illustrated an ordinary painter's ladder having rungs 6 and side rails 7. There is also shown an ordinary paint bucket 8 having the usual apertured ears 9 projecting from opposite sides thereof and the bail handle 10 secured in the ears 9. In accordance with the present invention there is provided a bar A and this bar is bent at its upper end to form an open loop of inverted U-shape hereinafter designated the first hook 11. The bar A is also bent at its upper end to form a second open loop of inverted U-shape hereinafter designated the second hook 12, and this hook is set so that the general plane through the hook 12 is at right angles to the general plane in which the first hook 11 is disposed. The first hook 11 has one arm which joins one arm of the second hook 12, a reverse bend being made in the bar A to produce this structure. The right portions of the two hooks 11 and 12 are disposed at approximately the same level. The arm of the hook 12 not joining the hook 11 runs straight downwardly to form a shank 13 which extends considerably below the lower ends of the joining arms of the two hooks 11 and 12. The lower end of the shank 13 is reversely bent on itself to form a third hook 14 of U-shape and having a narrow gullet. For use with the bar A, there is provided an annular split band 15 composed preferably of material having some resiliency so that the two ends of the band will be normally spring pressed toward each other. The band 15 is of such a size as to embrace the particular bucket 8 in connection with which the holder is to be used. The band 15 has an outwardly offset vertical channel portion 16 diametrically opposite the split in the band. It should be noted that the third hook 14 is set in a plane at right angles to the plane of the second hook 12 and parallel to the plane of the first hook 11 and the third hook 14 extends in an opposite direction from the shank 13 and second hook 12 than does the first hook 11.

In setting up the holder for use, the shank 13 of the bar A will be first inserted within the channel of the channel portion 16 and raised upwardly to cause the third hook 14 to engage one side of the channel portion 16. The band 15 will then be held in a position extending substantially horizontally if the shank 13 is vertically disposed. The band 15 may now be slipped about the bucket 8 to embrace the bucket below the ears 9 as.
shown in the drawings. The two ends of the band 16 may be readily sprung apart slightly to permit the insertion of the bucket 8 in place within the band. In using the device with the bucket 8 attached, the first hook 11 may be applied over one rung 6 of the ladder, while the second hook 12 may be applied over one of the side rails 7 of the ladder, the hook 12 being placed over the forward edge of the particular side rail 7. The shank 13 will run downwardly adjacent the outer side of the side rail and the weight of the bucket 8 will cause the bar A to swing about the bight of the hook 11 as an axis on the rung 6 to carry the channel portion 16 into engagement with the outer side of the rail 7. The weight of the bucket 8 will naturally cause the bucket to be held in vertical relation irrespective of the tilt of the ladder. In Figs. 1 and 2, the holder is shown applied over the right rail of the ladder. When the bucket is hung in this manner, neither the holder nor the bucket stands in the way of the user of the ladder and it is possible for a painter to paint from the ladder and at the same time have ready access to the bucket to dip his paint brush therein.

In Figs. 3 and 4, the holder is shown applied to the ladder in slightly different manner. The second hook 12 is applied over one of the rungs 6 of the ladder so that the shank 13 extends forwardly from the said rung. The shank 13 will be made of such a length that when the holder is applied in this manner to a ladder, the bottom of the bucket 8 will rest on the rung 6 immediately below the particular rung over which the hook 12 is placed. The bucket will thus be supported in vertical relation and there will be no danger that the contents of the bucket will spill.

It will be seen that the bar A may be quickly disassociated from the band 15 whenever desired. The bar A may be assembled as shown in Fig. 5 on the band 15 to permit the holder to be stowed away within small compass or to be packed for shipment. In this position, the third hook 14 will be disposed between the ends of the band 15 while the bight of the second hook 12 will be disposed within the channel of the channel portion 16. The first hook 11 will rest on the upper edge of the band 15. The resiliency of the band 15 will tend to maintain the bar A and the band in assembled relation, as shown.

The device has been successfully demonstrated in actual practice. The holder is cheap and simple in construction.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the various parts without departure from the scope of the present invention, which generally stated, consists in the matter shown, and described and set forth in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:
1. A device for supporting a bucket from one of the rungs of a ladder along side the outer surface of a side rail thereof, comprising a band encircling the bucket, a bar connected to said band at its lower end and running upwardly therefrom in a reverse curve over the forward edge of the rail of the ladder and then downwardly adjacent the inner surface of the rail and said bar having a reversely curved portion running upwardly from said first mentioned portion and hooked over the rung of the ladder, said last mentioned portion being set at right angles to said first mentioned portion, whereby the weight of the bucket will swing the same against the outer side of the rail and the bucket will naturally assume a vertical position irrespective of the tilt of the ladder.
2. A bucket holder for supporting a bucket on a ladder, comprising a bar having a shank and two open bottomed loops set at right angles to each other, one of which loops joins said shank at its upper end, the other of which loops joins the first mentioned loop and means for attaching the lower end of said shank to a bucket, whereby one of said loops may be applied over a rung of the ladder and the other of said loops may be applied over the forward portion of a side rail of the ladder to permit said shank to lie along the outer side of the rail with the weight of the bucket pressing said shank toward the rail and maintaining the bucket in substantially vertical relation irrespective of the tilt of the ladder.
3. A bucket holder for supporting a bucket on a ladder, comprising a bar having a straight lower portion joining a reversely curved upper portion and the reversely curved upper portion joining a second reversely curved upper portion set at right angles to the first mentioned reversely curved upper portion, and a band applied to said straight lower portion and embracing a paint bucket.
4. A paint bucket holder comprising a bar having a first downwardly projecting hook at its upper end adapted to be applied over the rung of a ladder, said bar having at its upper end a second downwardly projecting hook joining said first mentioned hook and set at right angles thereto adapted to be applied over the forward portion of a side rail of the ladder, said bar having a downwardly extending shank joining said last mentioned hook and adapted to be disposed adjacent the outer side of the side rail and means for attaching a bucket to the lower end of said shank.
5. A paint bucket holder comprising a bar having a first downwardly projecting hook at its upper end adapted to be applied over the rung of a ladder, said bar having at its upper end a second downwardly projecting
hook joining said first mentioned hook and set at right angles thereto adapted to be applied over the forward portion of a side rail of the ladder, said bar having a downwardly extending shank joining said last mentioned hook and adapted to be disposed adjacent the outer side of the side rail and a split annular band applied to the lower end of said shank and adapted to embrace a bucket.

6. A bucket holder for use on ladders comprising a bar, having at its upper end a first downwardly projecting hook adapted to be applied over a rung of a ladder, a second downwardly projecting hook also at its upper end joining said first hook and set at right angles thereto and adapted to be applied over a side rail of the ladder, and a shank projecting downwardly from said second hook, said shank having an upturned lower end forming a third hook and a split annular band adapted to embrace a paint bucket, said band having an offset channel portion with which said third hook is adapted to engage.

7. A knockdown holder for paint buckets comprising a bar bent at its upper end to form a first downwardly projecting hook and a second downwardly projecting hook joining the first hook and set at right angles thereto at approximately the same level as the first hook, said bar having a straight shank joining said second hook and projecting downwardly therefrom, and terminating at its lower end in a third upwardly projecting hook, a split annular band adapted to encircle a bucket and having an outwardly offset channel portion diametrically opposite the split in the band to releasably receive said third hook, said bar being adapted to be disengaged from said band and placed in a knockdown position for shipment with said third hook located between the ends of the band and with the bight portion of one of said first two mentioned hooks disposed within said channel.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM J. PENNERS.