Oct. 6, 1953 H. B. HYAMS 2,654,504

DEVICE FOR PRESERVING PAINTBRUSHES

Filed Feb. 20, 1950

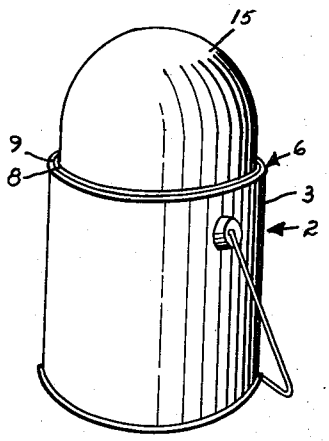


FIG. 2

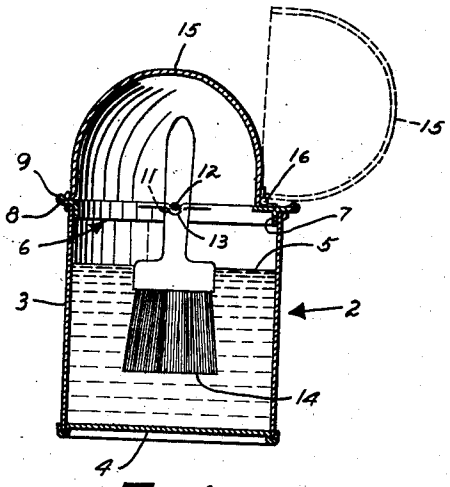


FIG. 1

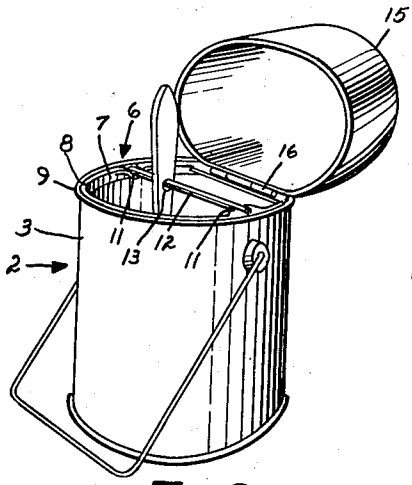


FIG. 3

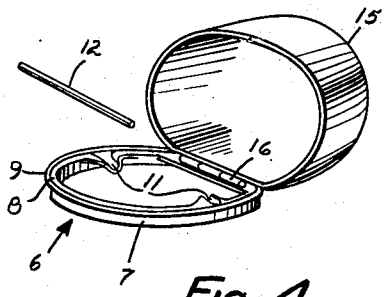


FIG. 4

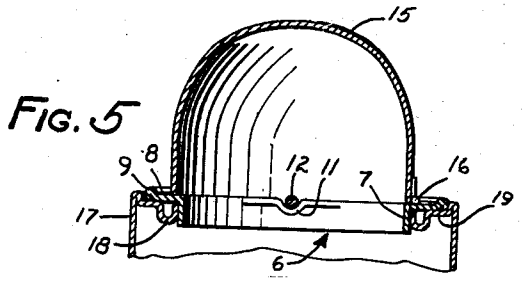


FIG. 5

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Patented Oct. 6, 1953

2,654,504

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,654,504

DEVICE FOR PRESERVING PAINTBRUSHES

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Application February 20, 1950, Serial No. 145,230

2 Claims. (Cl. 220—85)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in devices for preserving the bristles of paint brushes between periods of use, and whereby the bristles may be maintained soft and pliable indefinitely.

It is well known that when a paint brush has been used, the brush must be thoroughly cleaned of all paint before the brush is put away, or the brush must be inserted into a suitable preserving liquid or oil such as linseed oil, turpentine, or a mixture of the two, or kerosene, or any other liquid preservative suitable for the purpose, which does not readily evaporate, and which will maintain the bristles in their normal state so far as possible.

Numerous attempts have been made to provide devices of different types for thus preserving paint brushes when not in use, but to the best of my knowledge, none of these have proven entirely satisfactory. It is therefore highly desirable that a container of this type be provided whereby a painter or person, when he has completed a job of painting, may simply place his brush, after removing the surplus paint therefrom, into the novel device herein disclosed, whereby the brush may be preserved in its normal condition indefinitely.

An object of the present invention therefore is to provide a device for preserving and maintaining paint brushes after they have been used, comprising a container having means whereby a used paint brush may readily and conveniently be suspended within the container with the bottom end of its bristles spaced from the bottom of the container to allow the color pigment contained in the bristles to gradually drop from the bristles into the bottom of the container whereby the bristles may be comparatively clean and free of surplus pigment when the brush is removed from the device for reuse.

A further object of the invention is to provide a brush holder attachment for a conventional container comprising an annular member adapted to be fitted into the mouth of the container and having a brush supporting element detachably supported thereon to which the handle of the brush may readily be attached so that when said element is returned to its normal position on the annular member, the bristles of the brush will be positioned within the container or bucket with its bristles submerged in a suitable liquid preservative contained therein, and whereby the bristles of the brush may be maintained soft and pliable until the brush is again to be used.

A further and more specific object of the invention is to provide a brush holder attachment for a container comprising an annular member or collar having a depending annular flange adapted to be fitted into the mouth of the container, and a horizontally outwardly projecting

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flange being integrally formed with said depending flange adapted to engage the top edge of the container and cooperating with said depending flange to secure the attachment in position on the container, and means being provided on diametrically opposed sides of said member adapted to detachably receive an elongated element receivable in apertures provided in the handles of one or more brushes, whereby said brushes may be supported within the container with their bristles submerged in a preservative liquid contained in the container, the apertures in the brush handles being so located with respect to the bottoms of the brushes or their bristles that when the brushes are suspended in the container, the bottoms of their bristles will be spaced upwardly from the bottom of the container a distance sufficient to allow the pigment contained in the bristles to gradually drain therefrom into the bottom of the container.

Other objects of the invention reside in the simple and inexpensive construction of the attachment whereby it may be manufactured in quantity production at very low cost; in the provision of such a device of this general type having a hinged closure seated upon the upper horizontal flange of the annular member of the attachment to thereby protect the brush and liquid preservative from exposure to the air, and to prevent dust and other foreign matter from contaminating the contents of the holder and also whereby evaporation of the liquid preservative is reduced to a minimum.

These and other objects of the invention and the means for their attainment will be more apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

In the accompanying drawings there has been disclosed a structure designed to carry out the various objects of the invention, but it is to be understood that the invention is not confined to the exact features shown, as various changes may be made within the scope of the claims which follow.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view showing a container with the invention mounted thereon and a brush supported within the container;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the container showing the closure in closed position;

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2 showing the closure open;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the attachment showing its simplicity; and

Figure 5 is a view showing the attachment fitted to the open top of a conventional paint can.

In the selected embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, there is illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 3, for purposes of disclosure, a conven-

tional form of container 2, having a cylindrical wall 3 and a bottom wall 4 adapted to contain a suitable liquid preservative 5 such as linseed oil, turpentine, kerosene, or any other liquid which is not too volatile, and which has a preserving effect upon the bristles, whereby the bristles of a paint brush supported in the device may be maintained soft and pliable indefinitely, and said liquid also serving more or less as a solvent for the pigment or coloring matter of the paint retained in the bristles after use, whereby the bristles may be substantially free of color pigment when the brush is again to be used.

As best illustrated in Figures 1 and 4, the novel attachment herein disclosed comprises an annular member, generally designated by the numeral 6, comprising a depending flange 7 adapted to be fitted into the mouth of the container and having a horizontally disposed flange 8 extending outwardly from the upper end thereof adapted to be seated upon the top edge of the container, as illustrated. The flanges 7 and 8 may be integrally formed from a single blank of sheet steel or they may be otherwise formed without departing from the scope of the invention.

The upper horizontal flange 8 preferably has its outer marginal edge turned upwardly, as indicated at 9, to prevent any liquid which may be deposited thereon from flowing over the edge thereof. In other words, the horizontal flange 8 is so formed that any liquid that may drop thereonto will drain into the container, as will be understood.

Another important feature of the invention resides in the means provided on the annular member 6 for detachably supporting the brushes thereon, and whereby they may be readily and conveniently placed in the container for safe keeping when a given paint job has been completed, and whereby the brush may as readily and conveniently be removed from the device when it is again to be used, with the assurance the brush will be soft and pliable and ready for immediate use. In some instances it may be found advisable to rinse the bristles in a cleaning liquid before again using the brush, particularly if the brush is to be used for applying a relatively lighter colored paint than was previously applied therewith.

As best illustrated in Figure 4, the annular member 6 is provided with diametrically opposed inwardly extending projections or lips 11 which are radially recessed. The recesses in the two projections or lips are longitudinally aligned whereby a brush supporting element or rod 12 may have its ends supported therein, as clearly illustrated in Figures 1 and 3.

To support one or more brushes on the rod 12, each brush has a hole 13 drilled in its handle. These holes are spaced upwardly from the bottom edge 14 of the bristles, a predetermined distance, determined by the height of the can and the size of each particular brush. In other words, the spacing between the aperture 13 in the brush handle and the bottom end 14 of the bristles should be less than the distance from the rod 12 to the bottom wall of the container, whereby the bristles are spaced upwardly from the bottom wall a distance sufficient to permit the color pigment in the bristles to readily drain therefrom into the bottom of the container, whereby the bristles may be substantially free and clear of color pigment when the brush is again to be used.

A suitable closure 15, preferably dome shaped, as shown in the drawings so as to accommodate the upwardly extending brush handles, is shown pivoted at 16 to the annular member 6, whereby the cover may seat upon the flange 8 to enclose and completely conceal the brushes, as will be understood by reference to Figure 1. It is important that the bristles be supported in such a manner that they do not contact the bottom wall of the container, otherwise the pigment will accumulate at the bottom edge 14 of the bristles which may necessitate spending considerable time in cleaning the brush when next to be used, even though the bristles may be soft and pliable.

In Figure 5 the invention is shown applied to the open top of a conventional paint can 17, the mouth of which is defined by the inverted bead 18 of the horizontal wall portion 19 of the can, which construction is well known in the art. The vertical flange 7 of the attachment is adapted to be detachably fitted into the mouth of the paint can, as shown, whereby such a can may readily be converted into a brush holder for preserving and retaining the bristles of a paint brush soft and pliable between periods of use, so that the brush will always be ready for use.

The invention is extremely simple and inexpensive and may readily be formed in mass production by suitable dies and forming equipment at very low cost. It is preferably made of sheet metal, but obviously it may, in some instances, be made of other material suitable for the purpose.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination with a paint can having an open top provided with an inwardly extending annular portion defining the mouth of the can and having means for receiving a suitable closure, of a brush-holding attachment for the open top of the paint can comprising an annulus adapted to be seated upon the inwardly extending annular portion of the paint can and having a depending portion frictionally engaged therewith to operatively secure the attachment to the paint can, a brush holder element removably supported on said annulus and traversing the mouth of the paint can whereby a paint brush engaged with said element may depend onto the paint can with its bristles submerged in a preservative liquid contained therein, and a closure hinged to said annulus for enclosing the open top of the paint can and the paint brush depending from said element.

2. An attachment according to claim 1, wherein the brush holder element is in the form of an elongated rod, and aligned recesses are provided in said annulus for receiving the terminals of the brush holder element to prevent accidental displacement of said element thereon.

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