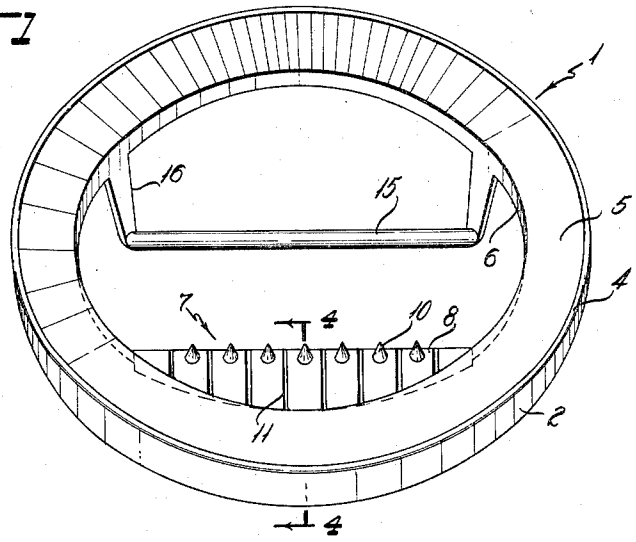
June 21, 1960 E. L. KAPPEL 2,941,692

BRUSH REST AND WIPER FOR PAINT CAN

Filed June 9, 1958

Fig. 1



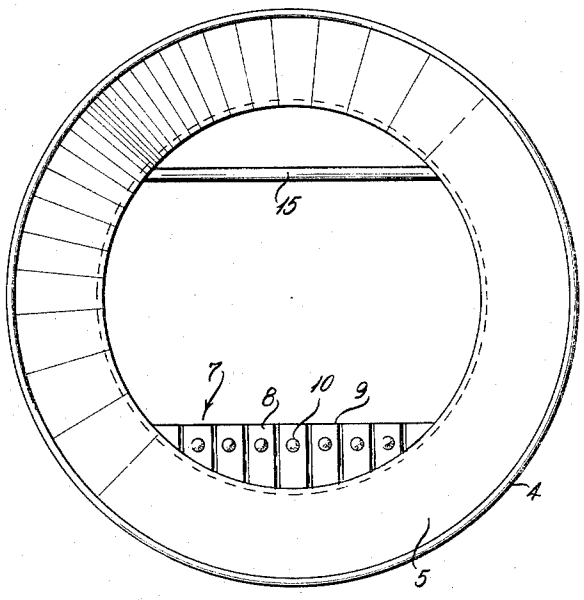


Fig. 2

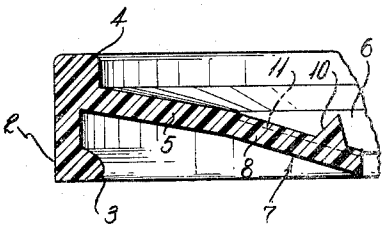


Fig. 4

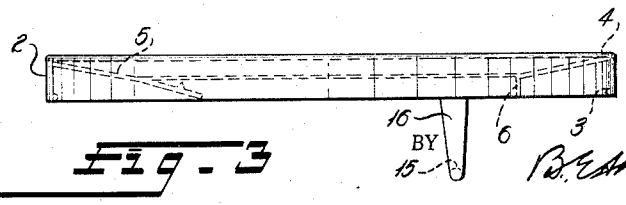


Fig. 3

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BRUSH REST AND WIPER FOR PAINT CAN

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4 Claims. (Cl. 220—90)

This invention relates generally to devices adapted to be associated with paint cans and the like, and more specifically to a wiping surface and brush support combination.

Many devices in the field of the prior art have attempted to provide wiping surfaces or brush supports adapted to be positioned around the open edge of a paint can. These devices while having great utility are still necessarily limited by problems which remain inherently because of their particular structural arrangements.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a device which will obviate the problems encountered in use with these prior devices and which will be welcomed by those familiar with the painting arts because of its many utilitarian features.

One of the problems encountered in working with a paint brush is the degree with which the brushes become soiled above the actual brush member, on the handles thereof, resulting in slippery and/or oftentimes sticky surfaces. It is an object of the present invention to provide a device which, when properly used, will enable use of a paint brush without this concurrent fouling of the handle thereof with paint.

As anyone conversant with the painting art is aware, it often becomes a problem to return paint which has been wiped off a brush into the can from which it was drawn, this excess paint often stagnating on the upper surfaces of the paint can or scraper devices which upon drying, causes a loss of paint, stickiness, and dripping down the sides of the paint can often onto various types of surfaces which it is desired to keep clean. Accordingly, it is one of the objects of the present invention to provide means associated with a wiper surface for aiding in removing excess paint from a brush which has been dipped into a paint can, while at the same time facilitating its removal and draining therefrom back into the paint can, this action being aided by the tendency of the present structure to provide a break-up of surface tension in the paint.

It has also been found that the instant device facilitates the removal and break-up of thickened paint which tends to accumulate on the upper portion of the bristles of a paint brush, causing this paint to be returned into the paint can while at the same time tending to break up such formulations of paint within the bristles themselves which, of course, keeps them resilient throughout the painting process.

Further objects of the invention include providing a device which will prevent filling of the grooves on the top of customarily utilized cans with paint, while at the same time providing a ledge or flange-like surface which retards slopping or spilling of paint when the can is carelessly carried from one position to another.

Another object of this invention is to provide a support for the bristle section of a paint brush maintaining the bristles within the paint can and below the upper surfaces thereof at an angle which tends to slowly drain paint from a brush placed thereon.

Another object of the invention is to provide a wiping surface having an essentially straight wiping edge which uniformly removes paint from the bristles of a brush which is wiped thereacross.

Other objects are to produce a device of the instant type which is easily and inexpensively manufactured, which lends itself to be easily cleaned after use and which may be readily adapted in size to permit application to any of the commonly used can sizes.

These and other objects of the invention will be more apparent when considered in connection with the drawing wherein like numerals denote like parts throughout the figurese, and wherein:

Fig. 1 is a generally isometric showing of the device;

Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof;

Fig. 3 is a side elevational view; and

Fig. 4 is a showing in section of the device taken across the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 1 denotes generally the detachable brush rest and wiping surface of the invention showing the generally circular configuration adapting it to be attached to ordinary cylindrically-shaped paint cans or the like. It should be understood that the principles of the invention may be utilized in combination with square, rectangular, or polysided structures adapted to fit similarly formed openings in variously shaped cans, and while the invention has been described in connection with its use with paint, it should be understood that it has equal utility when used in connection with any type of liquid which is to be removed from its container by a brush or the like.

It will be seen from a further consideration of the drawings that the instant device is adapted to be placed over the open end of a paint can, the outer diameter of which is substantitally equal to the inner diameter of vertical skirt 2 which has a retainer bead 3 annularly formed and inwardly projecting from the inner surface of said vertical skirt member. This vertical skirt with its retaining bead firmly positions the device on the top of a can with the retainer bead 3 pressing against the outer surface of the outer wall of the container and cooperating with the bead which is usually found at the end peripheries of modern commercially accepted containers to prevent unintended removal of the device therefrom.

At the upper end of vertical wall 2 there is provided a vertically extending retainer rim 4 which tends to prevent paint from running over wall 2 and down the sides of the container.

Extending inwardly from vertical wall 2 and at a downward angle of from two to six degrees from the horizontal is draining ledge 5 which presents an annular portion adapted to drain excess paint dropped thereon back into the container. Provided at the extreme inward edge of this annular draining member and extending substantially vertically downwardly therefrom is an annular flange 6 which extends completely around the inner periphery of said draining edge except for that portion which is occupied by the draining and wiping ledge or wiping lip assembly generally indicated at 7.

Wiping lip assembly 7 consists of a wiping lip 8 which is attached to the inner edge of a portion of draining member 5 and which extends inwardly and downwardly therefrom at an angle of from approximately six to twelve degrees from horizontal. It will be seen that the inner edge 9 of this wiping lip 8 is substantially straight and extends across the opening formed by the inner edge of draining ledge 5 forming a chorded segment therewith.

Disposed upon the upper face of wiping lip 8 are cone-like projections 10 disposed in a straight line which is

substantially parallel with the edge 9 of lip 8. These wiping cones 10 are illustrative of one modification of the device since it should be apparent that said cones could be provided in two or more lines extending across the face of the lip. Formed in the upper surface of wiping lip 8 are grooves 11 which extend substantially normally from the straight wiping edge 9 thereof back to the zone of contact of wiping lip 7 with flange 6, as it extends downwardly from draining edge 5. As shown in the drawing, these grooves are positioned substantially midway between the cones 10 but it should be obvious that two or more grooves could be so positioned. These grooves tend to break up the surface tension of a film of liquid which covers wiping lip 7 aiding in the flowability thereof down the face of the wiping lip and back into the can. This breakup of surface tension is also aided by the cones 10 rising upwardly from the face of the wiping lip.

Disposed in a position similar to wiping assembly 8 on the other side of the draining ledge 5 and extending substantially parallel to the edge 9 of wiping lip 8, is a brush support bar 15. This bar 15 is suspended from draining edge 5 by legs 16 which are extensions of flange 6 properly positioned so as to support said brush support bar 15 in the general position described. These legs 16 extend downwardly a substantial distance beneath the plane forming the lower edges of the device so that the bristles of a brush resting thereon would tend to drain back into the can.

Thus, when the bristles of the paint brush are supported by the support bar 15, the handle or bristle retaining portion of the brush will rest upon the tips of cones 10, keeping the handle surfaces of the brush away from wet paint which is draining down the upper face of draining lip 8. It should be noted that the brush support bar so positioned will accommodate standard sized brushes up to the maximum internal diameter of the can opening minus approximately one-quarter inch.

The device is easily formed by commonly known expedients such as injection or compression molding, or vacuum forming, thus suiting it particularly to be composed of plastic material, preferably polyethylene which is somewhat pliable, thus aiding in the positioning of the device over the opening of a can. The device thus formed is readily adapted to be cleaned by wiping or dipping with any of the commonly used paint solvents. Thus, the device can be easily and inexpensively manufactured and may be easily cleaned by the user. Often, however, the device is found to be so inexpensive in manufacture that it can be discarded completely after use.

Operation

The device is adapted to be slipped over the top of a can, the cover of which has been removed previously, and will be held in place upon said can by the cooperation of retaining bead 3 and wall 2 with the side and normally present rim of a can of paint or the like. When so positioned, a brush may be easily inserted into the liquid through the opening presented in the device, after which the brush is generally wiped across the wiping edge 9 of wiping lip 8 and/or the cones 10 presented thereon. Thus, a controlled amount of paint is allowed to remain in the brush, the excess of which readily breaks up and drains back into the receptacle. When it is desired to stop painting, the brush support bar 15 provides a handy means to keep the bristles of the paint brush in a slightly draining position, thus obviating the necessity of providing additional papers or the like to protect the brush from picking up dirt, foreign particles and the like which are normally present on the ground or other surfaces. By draining slowly the bristles are prevented from becoming caked with semi-dry paint and remain pliable and soft. At the same time the handle of the brush is maintained in a substantially clean condition due to the fact that its handle rests upon the tips of cones 10 which, by reason of their being placed upon angled wiping lip 8 are adapted to maintain the brush handle disposed from contact with any paint which may be draining back down draining edge 5 or wiping lip 8 back into the can.

While the invention has been described in connection with different embodiments thereof, it will be understood that it is capable of further modification, and this application is intended to cover any variations, uses, or adaptations of the invention following, in general, the principles of the invention and including such departures from the present disclosure as come within known or customary practice in the art to which the invention pertains, and as may be applied to the essential features hereinbefore set forth and as fall within the scope of the invention or the limits of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A brush support and wiping device comprising a vertical-walled skirt adapted to surround the upper periphery of a container, a draining ledge connected to the upper area of said skirt near the edge thereof and extending inwardly and downwardly therefrom at an angle of from approximately two to approximately six degrees from the horizontal, a substantially vertical flange extending downwardly from the inner edge of said draining ledge, a brush support bar suspended at each end from said draining ledge by legs which are integral downward extensions of said vertical flange, a draining and wiping ledge disposed oppositely to said support bar having a straight wiping edge substantially parallel therewith, said draining and wiping ledge integrally secured to said draining ledge and extending inwardly and downwardly therefrom at an angle of from approximately six to approximately twelve degrees from the horizontal, upwardly extending projections on said draining and wiping ledge to support the handle of a brush substantially above the draining surface of said drainage and wiping ledge, and inwardly extending grooves in said draining and wiping ledge to facilitate the flow of liquid therefrom.

2. A brush support and wiping device as in claim 1 in which said upwardly extending projections on said draining and wiping ledge comprise a plurality of upwardly extending cone-shaped segments formed integrally with said draining and wiping ledge.

3. A brush support and wiping device as claimed in claim 1 in which said grooves extend substantially normally to said wiping edge and substantially from said wiping edge to the inner edge of said draining ledge.

4. A brush support and wiping device comprising a vertical-walled skirt adapted to surround the upper periphery of a container, a draining ledge connected to the upper area of said skirt near the edge thereof and extending inwardly and downwardly therefrom, a brush support bar connected at each end to the inner edge of said draining ledge and suspended therefrom by connecting legs, a draining and wiping ledge disposed oppositely to said support bar having a wiping edge substantially parallel therewith, said draining and wiping ledge integrally secured to said draining ledge and extending inwardly and downwardly therefrom, handle supporting means on said draining and wiping ledge comprising a plurality of upwardly extending cone-shaped segments formed integrally with said draining and wiping ledge, said cone-shaped segments being disposed in a line which is substantially parallel to the brush support bar, and means on said draining and wiping ledge to facilitate the flow of liquid therefrom comprising grooves in said draining and wiping ledge extending substantially normally to said wiping edge and which extends substantially from said wiping edge to the inner edge of said draining ledge.

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