United States Patent [19]

Barts

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[54] **CONTAINER HOLDING BRACKET**

[75] Inventor: **R. Richard Barts,** Huntington, Ind.

[73] Assignee: **Huntington Laboratories, Inc.,** Huntington, Ind.

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **248/311,** 211/72

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47k 1/08**

[58] **Field of Search** ... 248/309, 310, 311, 312, 314, 248/203; 211/71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 88

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

2,883,139	4/1959	Dobkin	248/311
1,929,562	10/1933	Pierce	248/311
339,148	4/1886	Chuala	248/310 X
2,074,248	3/1937	Barbour	211/75 UX

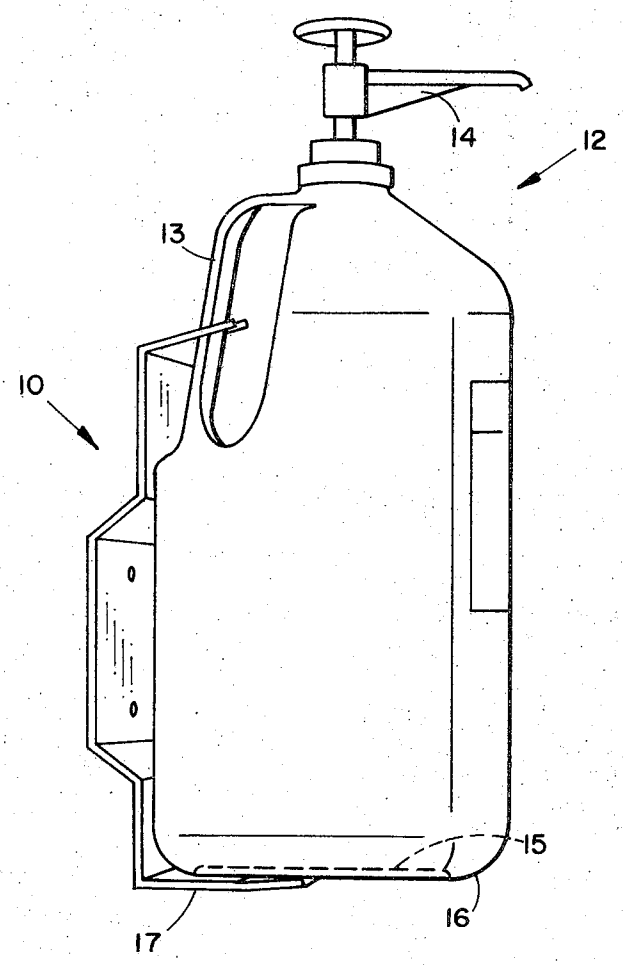
Primary Examiner—J. Franklin Foss

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Woodard, Weikart, Emhardt & Naughton

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A bracket for holding a container. The bracket has a bottom shelf upon which the container is supported. The shelf has a horizontal portion which supports the bottom rim of the container and an outer distal end which extends upwardly to engage the bottom wall of the container. The shelf is integrally connected to a vertical wall which projects outwardly and has apertures thereon for receiving fasteners for the mounting of the bracket. The top portion of the bracket is provided with a recess to grippingly receive the handle of the container.

3 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures



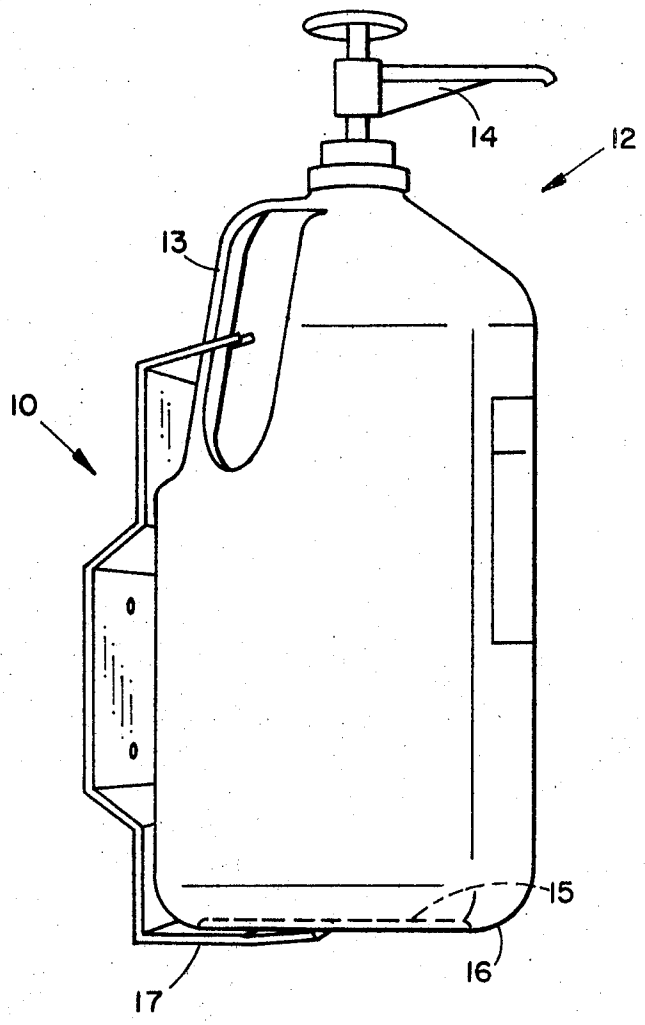


FIG. 1

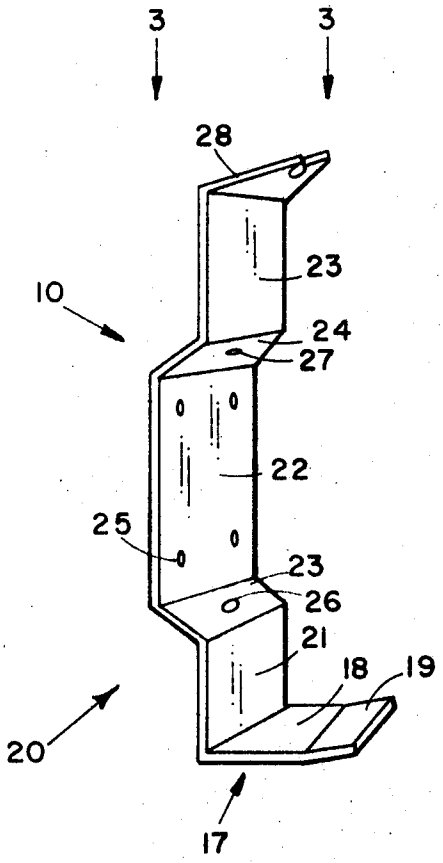


FIG. 2

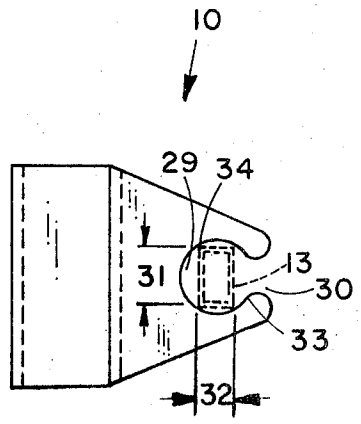


FIG. 3

CONTAINER HOLDING BRACKET

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention is in the field of brackets for holding containers.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Many types of brackets have heretofore been proposed for use particularly in supporting various items such as containers. A representative sample of the prior art is disclosed in the following U.S. Patents:

2,302,170 issued to Basler
3,627,248 issued to Nelson
3,278,148 issued to Denaro
3,652,049 issued to McCown
3,666,223 issued to Moore

None of the prior art brackets have been designed specifically for holding one of the new containers which are typically produced from plastic and which have hollow thin-walled handles which are integrally formed into the main body of the container. Disclosed herein is such a bracket which has been designed specifically for this type of container.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

One embodiment of the present invention is a bracket for holding a container which has a bottom wall, a lower rim surrounding the wall and a handle, the bracket comprising a main body having a lower shelf including a horizontal portion upon which the rim rests and an upwardly turned distal end abutting the bottom wall, the main body further having a middle portion integrally connected to the shelf and projecting outwardly away from the shelf, the middle portion having apertures through which fasteners may extend to secure the bracket to a wall, the main body further including a top portion integrally connected to the middle portion, the top portion has a recess for receiving the handle, the recess having an entrance slot which is narrower than the recess.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a new and improved bracket for holding a container.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a bracket for holding a container having a hollow thin-walled handle formed in the main body of the container by simultaneously supporting the bottom wall of the container while gripping the handle of the container.

Related objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the bracket incorporating the present invention shown with a container mounted thereon.

FIG. 2 is the same view as FIG. 1 only with the container removed from the bracket.

FIG. 3 is a top view looking in the direction of arrows 3—3 of FIG. 2.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

For the purposes of promoting an understanding of the principles of the invention, reference will now be made to the embodiment illustrated in the drawings and specific language will be used to describe the same. It will nevertheless be understood that no limitation of the scope of the invention is thereby intended, such alterations and further modifications in the illustrated device, and such further applications of the principles of the invention as illustrated therein being contemplated as would normally occur to one skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, there is shown a bracket **10** for holding a container **12.** Container **12** is conventional and is typically produced from plastic. Container **12** is available in a variety of sizes and particularly in the one gallon size. Integrally attached to the main body of container **12** is a hollow thin-walled handle **13.** A liquid dispenser **14** is mounted to the container and is operable by manually depressing a plunger. Container **12** has a bottom wall **15** which is positioned upwardly of the lower rim **16** which surrounds wall **15.**

Bracket **10** has a main body which has a lower shelf **17** which includes a horizontal portion **18** upon which rim **16** rests and an upwardly turned distal end **19** which abuts bottom wall **15** of the container. The main body of the bracket further has a middle portion **20** which includes three vertical walls **21, 22** and **23.** Wall **21** is perpendicularly and integrally joined to horizontal wall **18.** Wall **23** integrally joins vertical walls **22** and **21** together whereas wall **24** integrally joins walls **22** and **23** together. A plurality of apertures **25** are provided in wall **24** for receiving fasteners in order to mount the bracket to a wall. Walls **21** and **23** are in the same vertical plane and provide a vertical seat against which container **12** rests. Walls **23** and **24** diverge from vertical wall **22** and have respectively holes **26** and **27** which are aligned. Hole **26** is beneath hole **27.** Holes **26** and **27** may be utilized to receive, for example, the rod of dispenser **14** when the dispenser is not mounted to the container and is provided in a stored position.

The top portion **28** of the bracket is integrally joined to the middle portion **20** and is provided with a recess **29** for receiving handle **13.** The recess has an entrance slot **30** which is narrower than recess **29.** Recess **29** is circular in configuration and has a diameter which is larger than the width of slot **30.** Handle **13** is shown by the phantom lines in FIG. **3** illustrating that the length **31** of the cross section of the handle is larger than the width of slot **30** whereas the width **32** of the handle cross section is smaller than the width of slot **30.** Thus, in order to insert the handle into recess **29,** the container must be turned so that the width of the cross section of the handle passes through the entrance slot. The container may then be rotated so that the handle is prevented from passing back out through the slot. Top portion **28** slants upwardly from the horizontal and the recess is sized so that the handle is gripped therein by the forward recess edge **33** on one side of the handle and the opposite rear edge **34** of the recess on the opposite side of the handle.

While the invention has been illustrated and described in detail in the drawings and foregoing description, the same is to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only the preferred embodiment has been shown and described and that all changes and modifications that come within the spirit of the invention are desired to be protected.

The invention claimed is:

1. A bracket for holding a container which has a bottom wall, a lower rim surrounding said wall and a handle, said bracket comprising:

a main body having a lower shelf including a horizontal portion upon which said rim rests and an upwardly turned distal end abutting said bottom wall within said rim, said main body further having a middle portion integrally connected to said shelf and projecting outwardly away from said shelf, said middle portion having apertures through which fasteners may extend to secure said bracket to a wall, said main body further includes a top portion integrally connected to said middle portion, said top portion has a recess for receiving said handle, said recess having an entrance slot which is narrower than said recess;

said bracket is in combination with said container which is removably secured to said bracket by said top portion of said bracket, said handle has a rectangular cross section which is defined by a cross sectional width dimension and a cross sectional length dimension greater than said width dimension, said entrance slot is wider than said width dimension but smaller than said length dimension;

said top portion slants upwardly between horizontal and vertical, said recess is sized so said handle is gripped therein by a first recess edge adjacent said entrance slot and an opposite second recess edge opposite said entrance slot.

2. The bracket of claim 1 wherein: said middle portion includes a first vertical wall perpendicularly joined to said horizontal wall of said shelf, said middle portion further includes a second vertical wall which has said apertures thereon and is integrally connected to said first vertical wall by a first joining wall, said middle portion further includes a third vertical wall integrally connected to said second wall by a second joining wall and is also integrally connected to said top portion, said first vertical wall and said third vertical wall are in a vertical plane and provide a vertical seat against which said container rests;

said first joining wall and said second joining wall diverge from said second vertical wall, said first joining wall has a first hole and second joining wall has a second hole positioned above and aligned with said first hole, said container including a liquid dispenser stem removable from said container and extendable through said first hole and second hole, said recess is circular in configuration.

3. The bracket of claim 1 wherein:

said first recessed edge is an upper edge on said top portion whereas said second recessed edge is a lower edge on said top portion.

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