The present invention relates to supports which are adapted to hold firmly in a suitable convenient location an open paint can.

In house painting or similar operations, where it is necessary to use ladders, one of the inconveniences to which the painter has heretofore been subjected, is that it is usual to support in an inconvenient location the can of paint from which he is working.

A common expedient, when using an ordinary ladder, is to hang the can or can from a ladder rung on an S-hook. This obviously requires a bail on the can and requires the painter to reach through the ladder to reach the bail.

In using a step ladder, the can or can may stand on a step or the top or the movable platform with which such ladders are usually provided. It is very easy, however, to knock off and spill such cans and usually these locations are not very convenient.

Among the objects of the present invention is a can holder which requires no bail on the can but which supports the can in a more convenient location and which prevents accidental dislodgment.

Another object is a holder which grips the can firmly and maintains it in upright position.

Other objects will readily occur to those skilled in the art upon reference to the following description and the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one form of the holder.

Fig. 2 is a view illustrating the use of the holder with a common form of ladder.

Fig. 3 is a view of the can holding portion of the device showing it in a can-holding position.

Fig. 4 is an illustration of the use of the device with a step ladder.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of Fig. 4.

As indicated in Fig. 1, the device in one form consists of two strap or bar members 16 and 20 of substantial width and of relatively stiff metal hinged together as at 19. The member 16 will be somewhat longer than the member 20 and provided at its free end with two oppositely disposed hook portions, one of which 11 is of such shape and size as to readily fit over a ladder rung. The other hook 12 is a rectangularly bent hook with the end portion 12A extending inwardly and spaced from the shank or bar 10.

At a point 10A below the hook 12 and at a distance therefrom equal to or slightly more than the height of the largest can to be supported, the bar 10 is bent in the direction of hook 12 at an angle of thirty to sixty degrees.

The bar or member 20 is also provided with a rung receiving hook 21 which is preferably formed with one wall 21A at right angles to the length of the member as shown.

In the use of the device, the hook 12 embraces the flange 15 of the conventional self-sealing paint can 16, with the portion 12A of the hook underlying and supporting the weight of the can, while the bar or member 10 extends downwardly and maintains the can in upright position.

If it is desired to position the can in front of the ladder 25, after fixing the can 16 to hook 12, the hook 11 is placed over the desired rung 26 with the member 10 extending over the next lower rung. In such position the member 20 is either folded back in the position of Fig. 1 or disconnected.

If it is desired to support the can behind the ladder, the device is first attached to the can 16, the hook 11 placed over the desired rung 26 and the member 20, in substantially the position of Fig. 1, arranged with the hook 21 over the next lower rung. Both positions are shown in Fig. 2.

In making use of the device with a step ladder, such as is indicated at 36, an accessory, such as an ordinary drawer pull 31 is fixed to the rearward edge of the top platform 30A of the step ladder, to take over the function of a ladder rung 26.

With the drawer pull 31 in position, the can 16 is fixed to the hook 12 as in Fig. 3, and the hook 11 applied to the draw pull.

The folding platform 30B of the step ladder, in its idle or folded position, serves as a wall against which the bar 10 rests so as to maintain the can upright.

It is proposed to produce the device with a short bar 10 for use only with the step ladders since in such use, the long bar 10 and the bar 20 have no function.

Now having described the invention and the preferred embodiment thereof, it is to be understood that said invention is to be limited, not to the specific details herein set forth, but only by the scope of the claims which follow.

I claim:

1. Means for supporting self-sealing paint containers on ladders, said support means consisting of a metal bar or strap having at one end a pair of oppositely disposed hooks arranged back to back, one of said hooks being of substantially semicircular formation and adapted to embrace a rung of a ladder, and the other hook being of rectangular formation and adapted to embrace the flanged upper edge of a paint container with
a portion underlying the flange, said bar extending downwardly and serving as a lateral support for said container whereby to maintain the latter substantially upright.

2. Means for supporting self-sealing paint containers on ladders, said support means consisting of a metal bar or strap having at one end a pair of oppositely disposed hooks, arranged back to back, one of said hooks being of substantially semicircular formation and adapted to embrace a rung of a ladder, and the other hook being of rectangular formation and adapted to embrace the flanged upper edge of a paint container with a portion underlying the flange, said bar extending downwardly and serving as a lateral support for said container whereby to maintain the latter substantially upright, a second bar hinged to the lower end of the first and provided with a hook adapted to embrace a lower rung of said ladder whereby to stabilize the downward extension of the first.

SOLOMON MENE BEAVER.

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

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<th>Number</th>
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