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(54) Holder for a tool

(57) Holder (1) for a tool (15), provided for being so attached to a wall of the receptacle (13) that the tool (15) can be borne by the holder (1) in a position for use whereby at least one part (17) of it is above an opening (18) of the receptacle (13), while the holder (1) leaves free the space above and in the opening (18), so that the holder (1), contrary to known holders, does not prevent a lid (14) from being placed on the opening (18). The holder (1) preferably comprises a plate-shaped body (2) of flexible material, which can be brought into a curved position whereby two areas of the body (2) which each comprise an opening (3), (4) provided at a distance apart from each other so that the openings (3), (4) form, a passage in which the tool can be held, and which can be attached to a receptacle in this curved position.

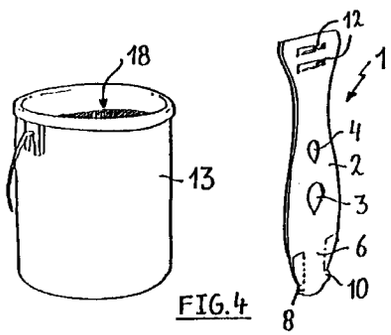

FIG.4

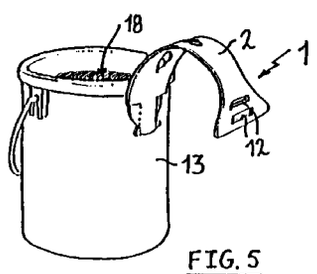

FIG.5

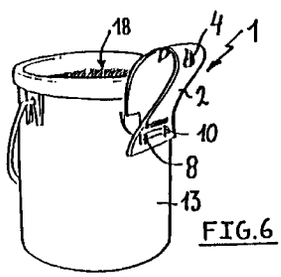

FIG.6

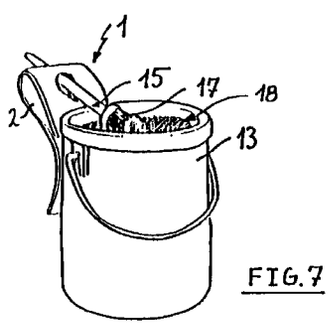

FIG.7

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Description

[0001] This invention relates to a holder for a tool, provided for being so attached to a receptacle that the tool can be borne by the holder in a position for use whereby at least one part of it is above an opening of the receptacle.

[0002] This invention relates more specifically to a holder for holding a tool for working or handling liquid products, such as for example paint, glue, oil, and such-like, above an opening of a receptacle with the product in question. In particular this invention relates to a holder which is provided for holding a brush (e.g. a paintbrush) with the brush hairs above a receptacle.

[0003] Paintbrush holders with the above mentioned characteristics are generally known. From the American patent nos. US-2.625.299 (1953), US-3.948.413 (1976), US-4.025.206 (1977), US-4.275.818 (1981) and US-4.991.803 (1991) various types of paintbrush holders are known. For attachment to a paint receptacle these holders are all provided with a hook-shaped part or clipping means to be secured to the upper edge of the receptacle. Known holders because of this all have the up until now unrecognised disadvantage that they prevent the opening of the receptacle from being closed off with a lid.

[0004] Another disadvantage of known holders is their complexity, through which they cannot be manufactured out of cheap materials and at low production costs, and have several protruding parts, through which they occupy much space - among others when they are transported.

[0005] The purpose of this invention is to provide a holder for a tool, with which the above enumerated disadvantages are remedied.

[0006] In order to achieve this purpose according to this invention a holder for a tool is provided with the characteristics indicated in the first paragraph of this description which is so attachable to a wall of the receptacle that it leaves free the space above and in the opening.

[0007] This holder, contrary to known holders, need not be loosened in order to be able to place the lid on the receptacle.

[0008] Because of the fact that such a holder need not be able to be secured to the edge of the receptacle but to a flat or uniformly curved wall, the holder can be made without hook or clipping means. The holder can be provided with simple means of attachment, such as for example an adhesive means, and can because of this be manufactured as a much less complex and more compact unit out of rather inexpensive materials and at low production costs.

[0009] Another disadvantage of known holders is that the placing of two receptacles one on top of the other is impossible if the lower receptacle is provided with a holder. Known holders indeed all have one or other part that extends above the top of the receptacle.

[0010] This is remedied according to the invention by ensuring that the holder can be so attached to the receptacle that it also leaves free the space above the top of the receptacle.

[0011] Known holders are provided with a rather complex part for supporting or clamping the tool. In order to be able to provide a simpler, more compact and cheaper product the holder according to this invention is preferably made with a body in which a passage for the tool is provided, while this passage is provided for stably holding fast the tool in a position for use.

[0012] The tool can be placed in the passage with a part, such as a handle or grip. The dimensions of the passage are for example so selected that the aforementioned part can be secured in the passage because of the fact that it is pressed against the material which is around the passage. The holder can for example also be so made that, if the tool extends through the passage while its centre of gravity is outside the passage, the tool as a result of the so created torque can be pressed against the material which is around the passage both with its bottom and with its top, respectively at two places away from each other according to the longitudinal axis of the tool, and in that manner can be stably held fast.

[0013] Such a passage is very simple and easy to create and nevertheless enables an efficient support of the tool.

[0014] In a preferred embodiment of the holder according to this invention the body comprises two wall parts at a distance apart from each other, and the aforementioned passage is formed by opposite openings provided in these respective wall parts.

[0015] This way two relatively far apart supporting points for the tool can be provided, so that with a rather small contact pressure nonetheless a rather great reaction torque is possible.

[0016] Preferably at least one of the aforementioned wall parts is movable in order to alter the mutual position of the openings provided in these wall parts.

[0017] In this way the passage can be adapted to the thickness of the tool part that has to extend through the passage, or the position for use of a specific tool can be adapted.

[0018] In a much preferred embodiment of this invention the holder comprises a plate-shaped body of flexible material, in which two openings are provided, this body can be brought into a curved position whereby two areas of the body which each comprise one of the aforementioned openings provided at a distance apart from each other so that the openings form a passage, and this body can be attached to a receptacle in this curved position.

[0019] Such a body can be manufactured according to a very simple production process out of very inexpensive material, such as e.g. a synthetic material.

[0020] With a particularly preferred embodiment the aforementioned body can be attached to a receptacle in

at least two different curved positions, so that different mutual positions of the openings which form the passage are possible. Because of this it is possible to adapt the passage to the tool and/or to the desired position for use.

[0021] The aforementioned body is preferably manufactured out of a flexible synthetic material, such as for example polypropylene.

[0022] The holder is moreover also particularly simple and user-friendly when it is provided for being stuck onto a receptacle. This is possible for example by providing the holder with an adhesive strip which is covered with a protective covering to be removed by the user.

[0023] In the most preferred embodiment the holder is provided for bearing a brush in a position whereby at least the part with the brush hairs is above the opening of a receptacle.

[0024] This invention will be further explained in the following detailed description. This description can however in no way be interpreted as a limitation of the scope of protection claimed for this invention. In this description reference is made to the figures attached hereto, of which

figures 1 and 2 represent a front view of two variants of a pair of holders to be separated from each other,

figure 3 represents in perspective two paint-pots stacked one on top of the other with holders ready for use,

figures 4, 5, 6 and 7 show in perspective successive situations while getting a holder ready for use on a paint-pot and the final use thereof for holding a paintbrush,

figures 8 and 9 are perspective drawings of a paint-pot with a holder in which a paintbrush with a thick handle, respectively a paintbrush with a thin handle and a rag are held,

figure 10 is a perspective drawing of a paint-pot with a non-ready-for-use holder attached thereto, such as this can be supplied to the user at the time of sale of paint-pots.

[0025] In a most preferred embodiment the holder (1) according to this invention comprises an elongated plate-shaped body (2) of flexible polypropylene, in which two roughly teardrop-shaped openings (3), (4) are provided. Between both openings (3), (4) a folding groove (5) is provided according to a transverse direction of the body (2) in order to facilitate the folding of the body (2).

[0026] At one extremity the body (2) is provided with an attachment tongue (6) of which only a central part is connected to the body (2). According to the boundary line between the attachment tongue (6) and the body (2) runs a folding groove (7). On the free extremity the attachment tongue (6) has two sideways protruding wings (8), (10). According to the boundary lines between the attachment tongue (6) and each wing (8), (10) runs a respective folding groove (9), (11), which extends according to the longitudinal direction of the body (2) up to the boundary line between the attachment tongue (6) and the body (2).

[0027] At the other extremity in the body (2) a rectangular cut-away (12) is provided.

[0028] The body (2), with the openings (3), (4) and the cut-away (12), the attachment tongue (6) and the wings (8), (10) are punched out as a unit out of a polypropylene sheet according to a generally known simple method. The plate can possible be printed beforehand.

[0029] Subsequently a double-sided adhesive strip (not represented in the drawings) is pressed against the back of the attachment tongue (6). On the free side of this adhesive strip the adhesive is covered with a covering film subsequently to be removed by the user.

[0030] After removal of the covering film the attachment tongue (6) with the adhesive strip is pressed against a paint-pot (13) (see figure 4 up to and including 7), in order to attach the holder (1). Subsequently the body is bent over until a cut-away (12) is brought opposite the wings (8), (10), and the wings (8), (10) are folded towards each other, pulled through the cut-away (12) and finally again released, so that the body is held by the wings in its bent-over position.

[0031] The attachment tongue (6) can follow the curved form of the paint-pot well because of the fact that it is only connected by a central part to the body (2), and because of the fact that the folding grooves (9), (11) facilitate the folding. Those same folding grooves (9), (11) also facilitate the folding towards each other of the wings (8), (10). The folding groove (5) between the two openings (3), (4) ensures an easy folding of the body (2) so that the openings (3), (4) come to lie opposite each other.

[0032] The folding groove (7) on the boundary line between the attachment tongue (6) and the body (2) ensures that the bent-over body (2) comes into a position whereby it gradually moves upwards from the attachment tongue (6) away from the paint-pot (13). Because of this the holder (1) certainly does not come to lie against the edge of the paint-pot (13), even if this edge protrudes sideways as with the paint-pot in the figures.

[0033] The attachment height is such that the part with the openings (3), (4) extends to above the level of the upper edge of the paint-pot (13). No part of the holder (1) however comes above the paint-pot (13) so that closing off the paint-pot (13) with a lid (14), or placing the paint-pots (13) one on top of the other - see figure 3 - remains possible.

[0034] The space between the two opposite parts of the body (2) situated under the brush handle can serve

as holder for a second tool, such as for example a rag (see figure 9).

[0035] By providing in the body (2) two cut-aways (12) one above the other the body (2) can be attached in two different bent-over positions by pulling the wings (8), (10) through the upper cut-away (12) (see figure 9), respectively through the lower cut-away (12) (see figure 8). Because of this the mutual position of the openings (3), (4) can be altered in order to adapt the passage (3, 4) to the handle thickness of the paintbrush (15) utilised or for bringing a specific paintbrush (15) into another position for use in the holder (1).

[0036] With a thin brush handle (see figure 9) preference will rather be given to a mutual position of the openings (3), (4), whereby the passage formed by these openings runs in the direction of the paint-pot according to an upwardly inclined axis. With a relatively thick brush handle (see figure 8) preference will on the other hand be given to a passage which runs in the direction of the paint-pot according to a downwardly inclined axis.

[0037] The teardrop-shaped openings (3), (4) are so provided that the opening (3) closest to the paint-pot (13) is larger than the other and is directed with the point downwards, while the other smaller opening (4) is directed with the point upwards. Because of this it is provided that the downward directed torque (that is created because of the fact that the centre of gravity of the brush in relation to the holder is always along the side of the paint-pot) results in that the brush handle is pressed into each opening (3), (4) in the pointed part of the opening. Because of this a larger contact surface is obtained between the brush handle and the material of the holder (1), and consequently also a greater resistance against slipping of the brush in the passage (3, 4).

[0038] The holder (1) according to this invention is particularly suitable for attachment to a receptacle (13), but can of course also be attached to other places in order to be utilised as holder for a tool. One or several paintbrush holders according to this invention can for example be attached to a ladder, so that the user has the brush(es) within his reach while he is standing on the ladder.

[0039] The small cost price of a holder (1) according to this invention enables this to be given free of charge to the user, for example with the purchase of a paint-pot (13).

[0040] In figure 10 it is shown how the holder (1) attached to a paint-pot (13), can be supplied to the user. This is made possible by the limited thickness of the holder (1).

Claims

1. Holder (1) for a tool (15), provided for being so attached to a receptacle (13) that the tool (15) can be borne by the holder (1) in a position for use whereby at least one part (17) of it is above an opening (18) of the receptacle (13) **characterised in that** the holder (1) is so attachable to a wall of the receptacle (13) that it leaves free the space above and in the opening (18).

2. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to claim 1 **characterised in that** it is so attachable to the receptacle (13) that it leaves free the space above the top of the receptacle (13).

3. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to claim 1 or 2 **characterised in that** the holder (1) comprises a body (2) in which a passage (3, 4) for the tool (15) is provided, and that this passage (3, 4) is provided for stably holding fast the tool (15) in a position for use.

4. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to claim 3 **characterised in that** the body (2) comprises two wall parts at a distance apart from each other, and that the aforementioned passage (3, 4) is formed by opposite openings (3), (4) provided in these respective wall parts.

5. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to claim 4 **characterized in that** at least one of the aforementioned wall parts is movable in order to alter the mutual position of the openings (3), (4) provided in these wall parts.

6. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to any of the claims 1 up to and including 3 **characterized in that** the holder (1) comprises a plate-shaped body (2) of flexible material in which two openings (3), (4) are provided, that this body (2) can be brought into a curved position whereby two areas of the body (2) which each comprise one of the aforementioned openings (3), (4) provided at a distance apart from each other so that the openings (3), (4) form a passage, and that this body (2) can be attached to a receptacle in this curved position.

7. Holder (1) for a tool according to claim 6 **characterized in that** the body (2) can be attached to a receptacle (13) in at least two different curved positions, so that different mutual positions of the openings (3), (4) which form the passage are possible.

8. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to claim 6 or 7 **characterized in that** the aforementioned body (2) is manufactured out of a flexible synthetic material.

9. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to any of the preceding claims **characterized in that** the holder (1) is provided for being stuck onto a receptacle (13).

10. Holder (1) for a tool (15) according to any of the preceding claims **characterized in that** the holder (1) is provided for bearing a paintbrush (15) in a posi-

tion whereby at least the part with the brush hairs (17) is above the opening (18) of a receptacle (13).

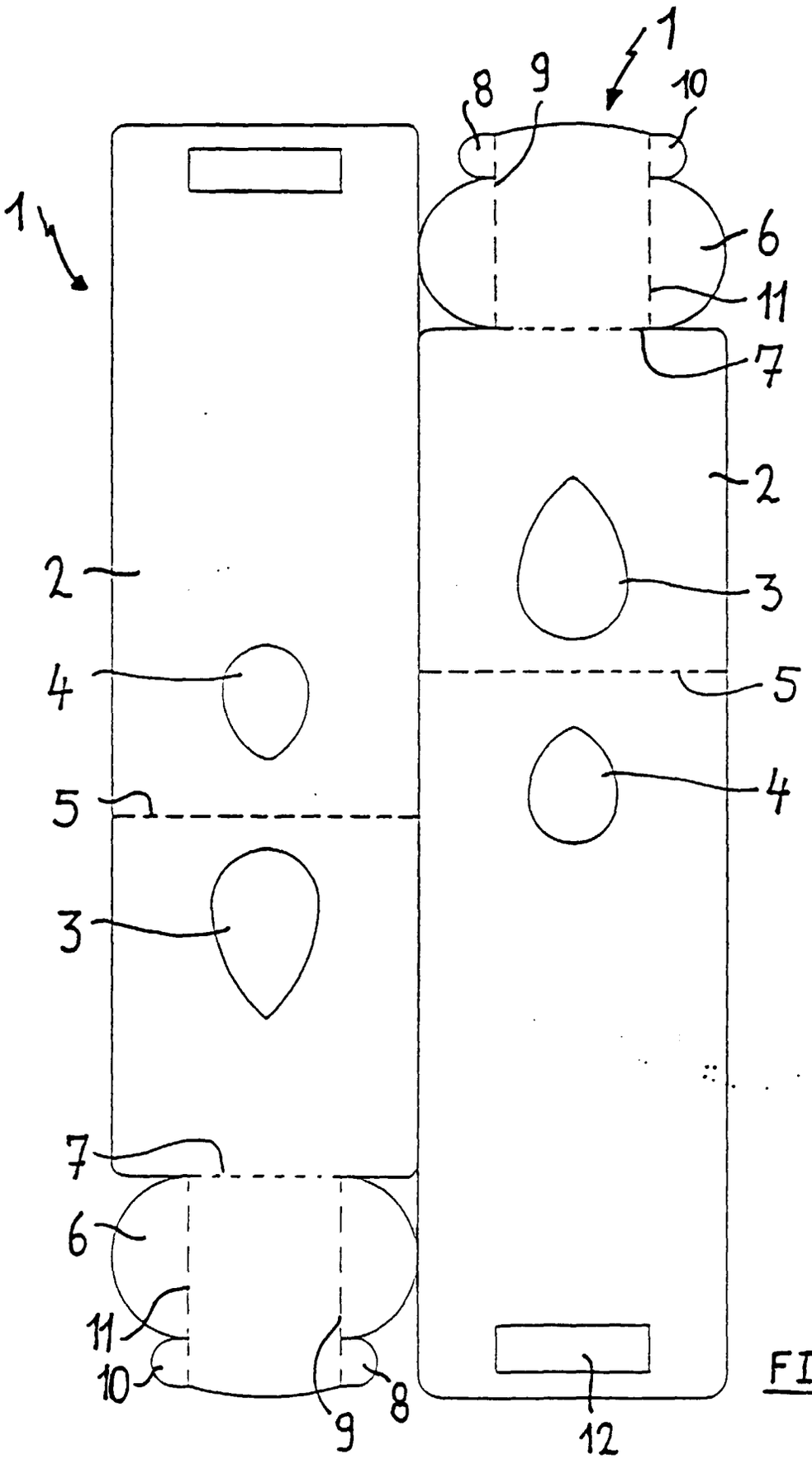

FIG.1

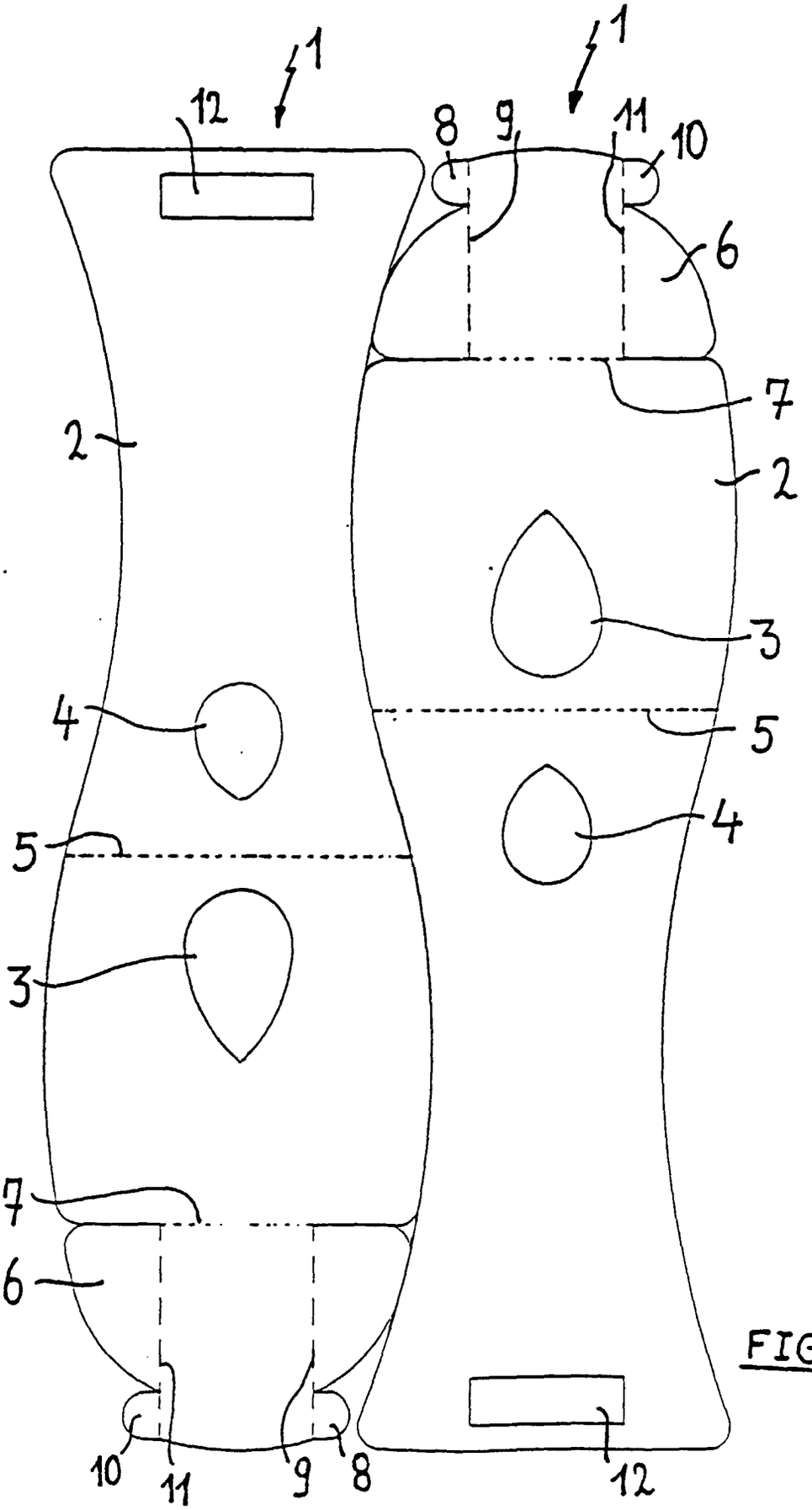

FIG.2

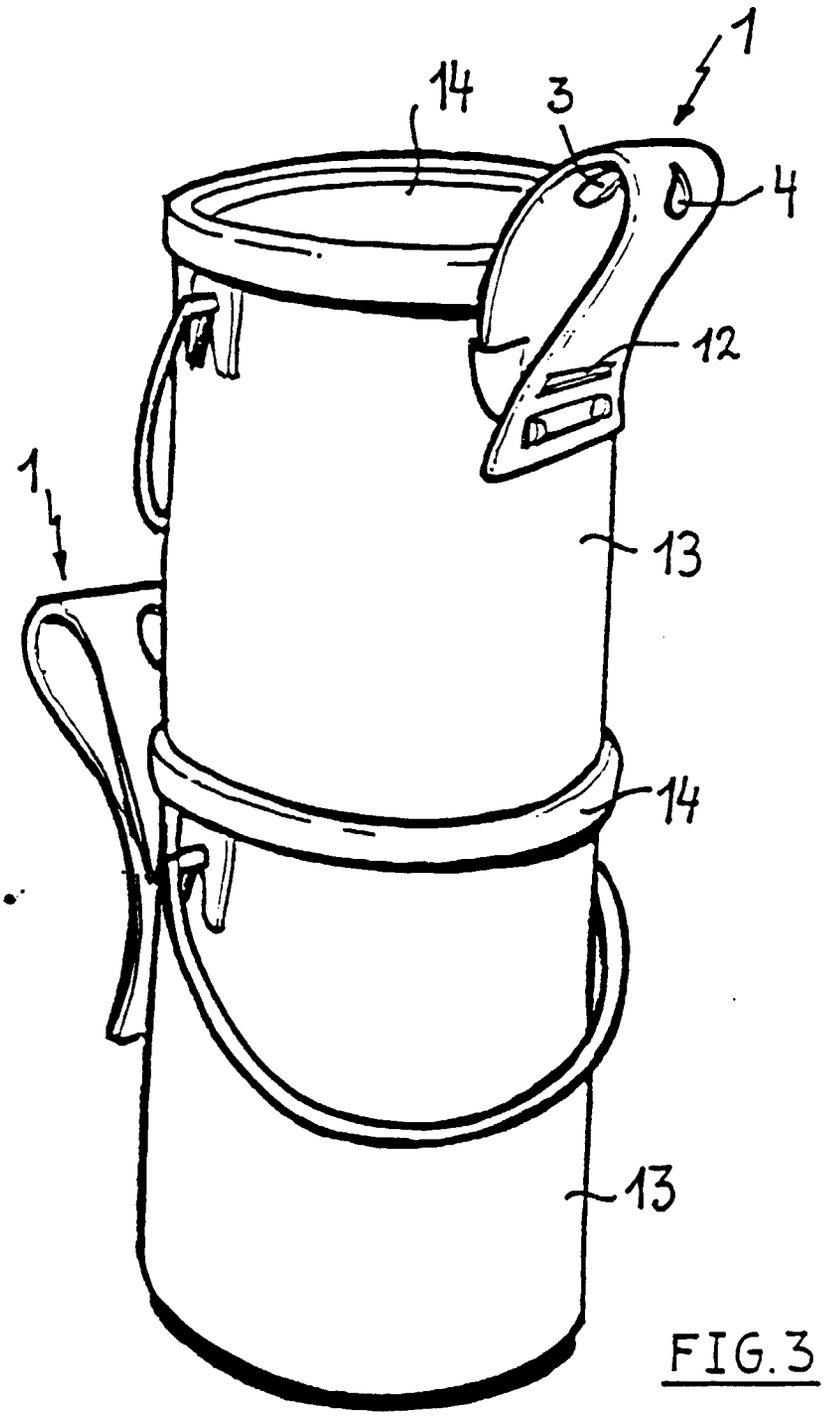

FIG.3

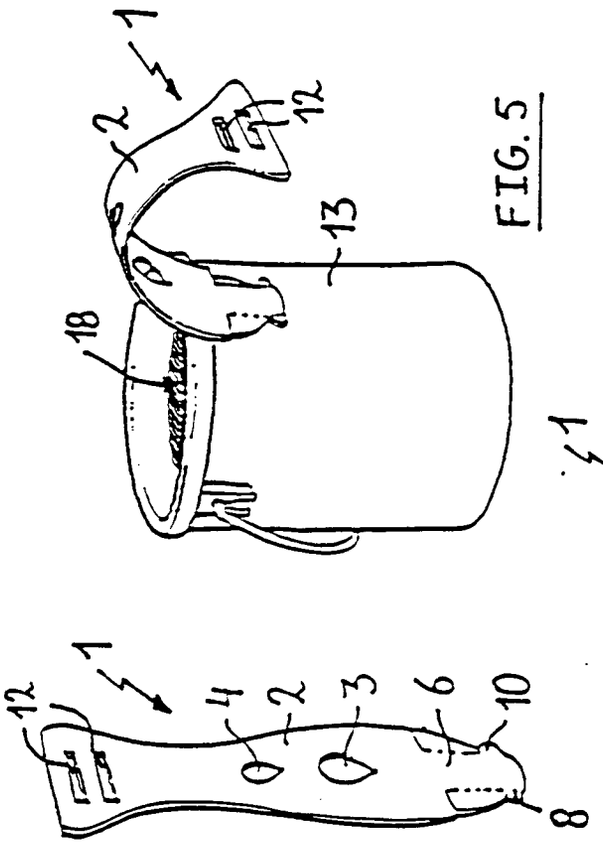

FIG.4

FIG.5

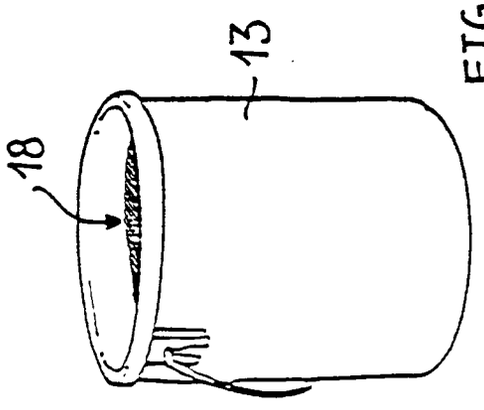

FIG.6

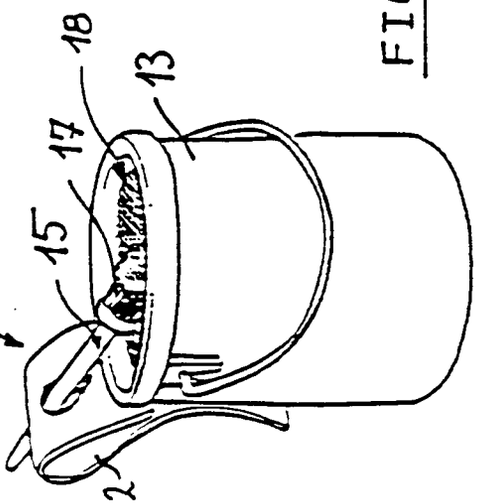

FIG.7

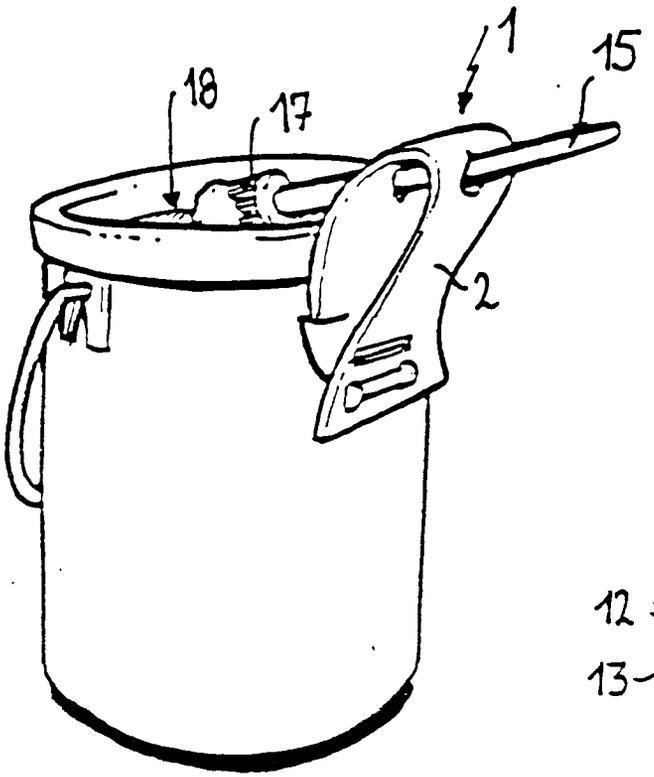

FIG.8

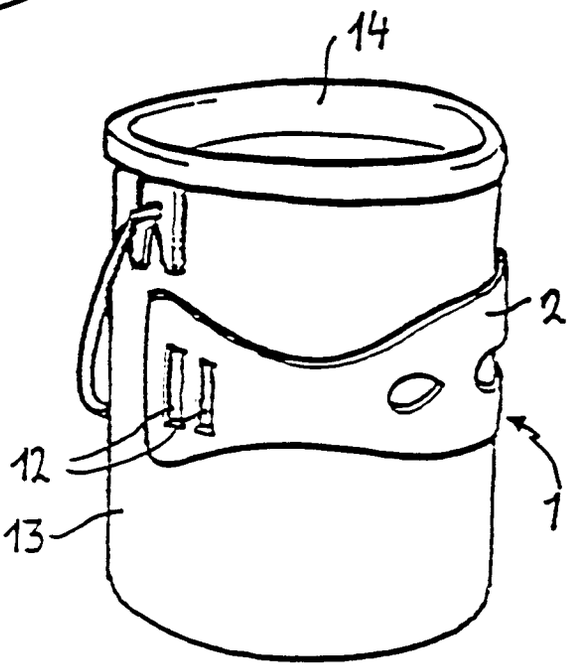

FIG. 10

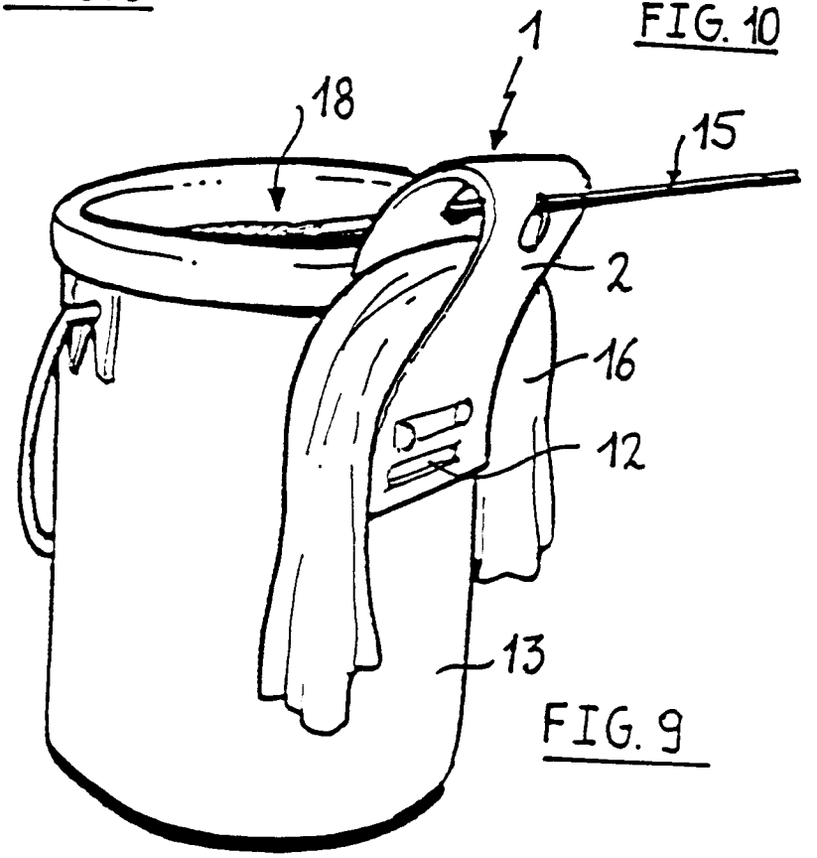

FIG. 9