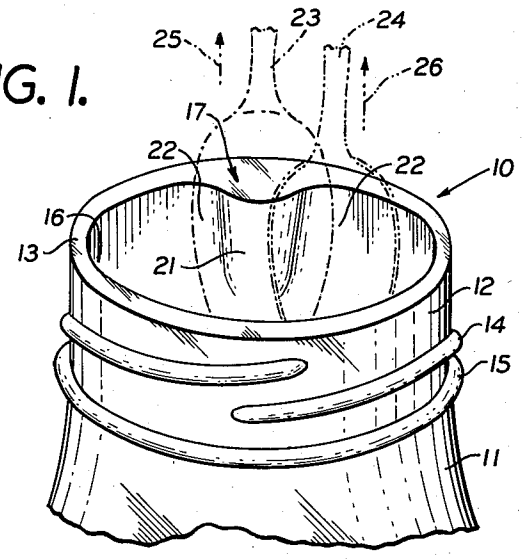
Feb. 27, 1962 D. SPOONER 3,022,916

CONTAINERS OR JARS

Filed Sept. 8, 1960

FIG. 1.



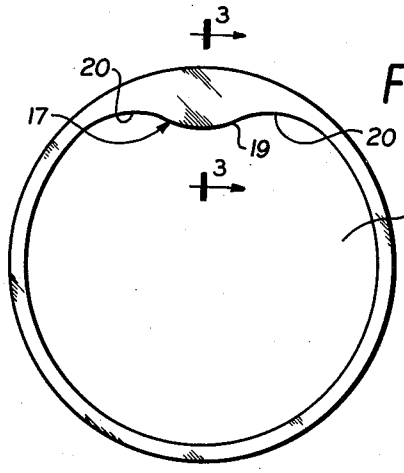


FIG. 2.

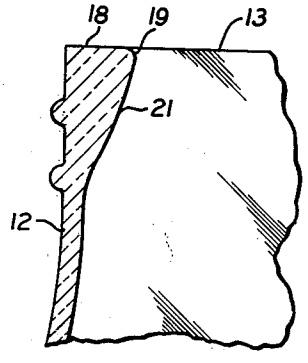


FIG. 3.

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CONTAINERS OR JARS

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This invention relates generally to containers, and is especially concerned with containers or jars adapted to contain semiliquids and like materials.

As is well known, various semiliquid and semi-solid foodstuffs, such as jellies and pastes are conventionally packaged in widemouthed jars or containers to facilitate removal of the contents by a kitchen implement or tool, such as a spoon or other. However, considerable cleaning difficulties and waste are occasioned by a portion of the contents adhering to the spoon, which portion is usually wasted in cleaning of the spoon.

It is one object of the present invention to provide a unique container for semiliquids and the like having novel structure enabling a spoon to be quickly, easily and thoroughly wiped to remove adhering substances and simultaneously deposit the same in the container, thereby effecting substantial economy in the elimination of waste, and enhancing neatness of the material-dispensing procedure.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an improved structure of the type described which is extremely simple, durable and reliable in use, being capable of highly effective usage even by relatively small children.

The instant invention further contemplates the elimination or substantial reduction in container breakage, such as often results from the forcible tapping of a spoon or the like against the container in an attempt to dislodge adhering substances, and return the same to the container.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide an improved container construction which is more sanitary in use, enabling substances adhering to a spoon or the like to be quickly and easily deposited directly into the container without the intervention of unsanitary means, such as the user's fingers.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide a container construction having the advantageous characteristics mentioned in the preceding paragraphs which is foolproof in operation throughout the life of the container, and may be achieved at little or no cost in addition to that of a conventional container.

Other objects of the present invention will become apparent upon reading the following specification and referring to the accompanying drawings, which form a material part of this disclosure.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangements of parts, which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope will be indicated by the appended claims.

In the drawing:

FIGURE 1 is a top perspective view showing the upper region or open mouth of a jar constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention;

FIGURE 2 is a top plan view showing the jar mouth of FIGURE 1; and

FIGURE 3 is a partial sectional view taken substantially along the line 3—3 of FIGURE 2.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, a jar or upwardly opening container is there generally designated **10**, including an upstanding, peripherally extending side wall **11**. On the upper end of the peripheral side wall **11** there may be provided an annular, circumferential wall or neck **12** terminating in a generally circular upper edge **13**. External screw threads **14** may be provided about the circumferential wall **12**, and an external annular bead or collar **15** may be provided at the juncture of the side wall **11** and circumferential wall **12**.

As thus-far described, the container or jar **10** may be of the conventional widemouthed type, as is generally integrally fabricated of glass or other suitable material. Such containers are commonly employed to package jellies, pastes, strained foods, chopped foods and other semiliquids and semi-solids, both edible and otherwise. A conventional screw-type cap (not shown) may be removably engaged over the open upper end of circumferential wall **12**. Of course, other suitable containers and closures may be employed without departing from the invention.

The circumferential wall **12** bounds and defines therewithin the container mouth **16**. Located within the mouth **16** is a protuberance, generally designated **17**, of the present invention. The protuberance is preferably, but not necessarily formed integrally with the circumferential wall **12** in manufacturing the container **10**. Thus, the protuberance **17** involves no additional manufacturing procedures, other than provision for the protuberance in the forming molds.

The protuberance **17** extends generally radially inward from the internal surface of circumferential wall **12** having an upper surface **18** disposed generally horizontally and substantially flush with the upper end edge or surface **13** of the circumferential wall. The protuberance **17** and its upper surface **18** are bounded on the radially inner side by an edge **19** best seen in FIGURE 2. The edge **19** is configured to define an arcuate convex medial region, bulging generally radially inward into the mouth **16**. Extending from the opposite sides of the medial region of edge **19** are arcuatedly concave side regions **20**, each extending between and merging smoothly with the medial edge region and the adjacent internal region of circumferential wall **12**. Thus, the edge **19** is of an undulant or wavy configuration having a medial convex region and a pair of concave regions on opposite sides of the convex region.

The protuberance **17** overhangs into the mouth **16** and has its undersurface **21** sloping from the edge **19** downward and radially outward for smooth mergence with the internal surface of wall **12**. The nether surface or underwall **21** is best seen in FIGURE 3 as sloping diagonally downward and outward from its meeting with the upper surface **18** and the edge **19** toward and into smooth mergence with the entire surface of circumferential wall **12**. This sloping downward and outward of surface **21** extends entirely along the edge **19** and in conformance therewith, so that the medial region of undersurface **21** is convex, while the side regions of the undersurface are concave, as at **22**.

Utilization of the instant construction is shown in FIGURE 1, conventional kitchen implements or spoons being shown in phantom at **23** and **24**. The spoon **23** is shown with the concave side of its bowl engaging the convex medial portion of edge **19**, whence upon movement in the direction of arrow **25**, material adhering to the interior of the spoon bowl will be wiped free therefrom and dropped into the jar **10**. The spoon shown in phantom at **24** is illustrated with the convex or exterior of its bowl engaging with one of the concave edge regions **20**, whereupon upward movement of the spoon **24**, in the direction of arrow **26** effects removal by wiping of the material adhering to the outer side of the bowl and its consequent dropping into the jar **10**.

From the foregoing, it is seen that the present invention provides a unique construction for openmouthed jars or containers which fully accomplishes its intended objects and is well-adapted to meet practical conditions of manufacture and use.

Although the present invention has been described in

some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity of understanding, it is understood that certain changes and modifications may be made within the spirit of the invention and scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a container for semi-liquids and the like having an outlet opening defining a mouth and bounded by a circumferential wall, the improvement comprising a shaped protuberance extending from a portion of said circumferential wall toward the inside of said mouth, said protuberance having an inner edge that defines the innermost extent of said protuberance, said inner edge having an arcuate convex medial region and adjacent arcuate concave side regions, said regions smoothly merging with each other and with said circumferential wall, said protuberance having a planar upper surface flush with the upper edge of said circumferential wall, said protuberance inner edge lying in said upper surface, said protuberance having an arcuate surface below said upper surface, said last mentioned arcuate surface extending obliquely in a generally downward direction from said inner edge towards said circumferential wall and merging smoothly therewith, whereby said protuberance is adapted for wiping engagement with the convex and concave surfaces of a spoon.

2. In a container for semi-liquids and the like having an outlet opening defining a mouth and bounded by a circumferential wall, the improvement comprising a shaped protuberance extending from a portion of said circumferential wall toward the inside of said mouth, said protuberance having an inner edge that defines the innermost extent of said protuberance, said inner edge having an arcuate convex medial region and adjacent arcuate concave side regions, said regions smoothly merging with each other and with said circumferential wall, said protuberance having an arcuate surface below said upper surface, said last mentioned arcuate surface extending obliquely in a generally downward direction from said inner edge towards said circumferential wall and merging smoothly therewith, whereby said protuberance is adapted for wiping engagement with the convex and concave surfaces of a spoon.

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