Dec. 16, 1930. F. PHILLIPSON 1,784,880

COMBINED SPOON AND CLIP

Filed May 24, 1929

Fig. 1.

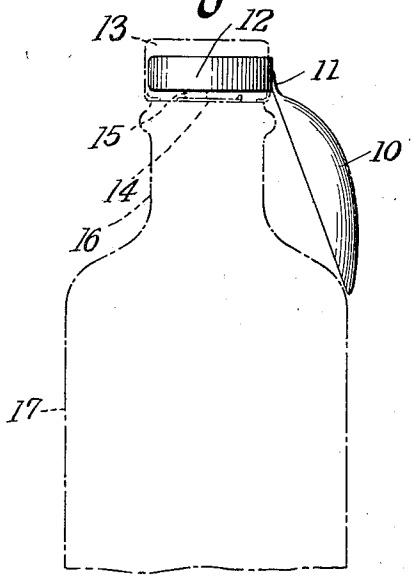


Fig. 2.

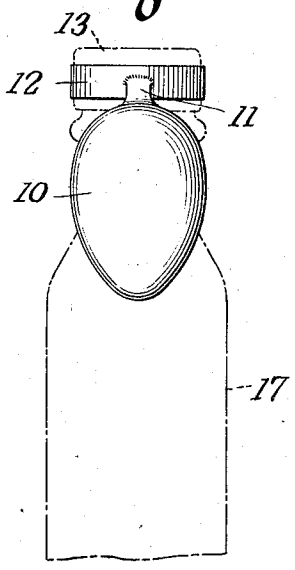


Fig. 3.

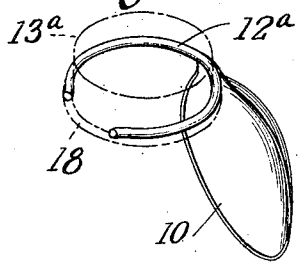
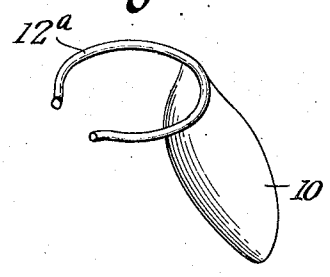


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED SPOON AND CLIP

Application filed May 24, 1929. Serial No. 365,652.

This invention relates to means whereby devices such as spoons or spoon bowls may be attached to medicine bottles or the like, and relates more particularly to combined spoons and clips especially adapted to engage bottle caps.

In taking liquid medicine it is common to measure the amount to be taken, by use of a teaspoon; and it frequently occurs that there is no teaspoon at hand: If one is at home, it will not ordinarily involve much trouble to get a teaspoon, but in travelling it is difficult to get a spoon when needed and it is extremely inconvenient and really impracticable to carry an ordinary spoon for meeting such emergencies. It has been proposed heretofore, as disclosed in my Patent No. 1,706,815, March 26, 1929, to meet such difficulties by providing unitary or integral devices including bottle caps and spoon bowls connected therewith. It will be evident that it would be necessary to manufacture as many different forms of these devices as required for the different sizes of bottle necks and for the different forms of cap fastening means used.

An important object of the present invention is to provide devices, which meet the requirements specified, are simple and economical to manufacture, and are adapted for use with bottle caps of substantially all forms and all diameters in ordinary use. Another object of the invention is to provide a spoon or spoon bowl provided with attaching means adapted to be applied to a bottle cap. A further object is to provide a combined spoon or spoon bowl and spring clip adapted to cooperate with different kinds and sizes of caps.

Other features and advantages will appear upon consideration of the following description and of the drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation of a preferred embodiment of the invention illustrating the manner in which it is applied to a bottle cap and a bottle;

Fig. 2 is a view in elevation, looking from the right in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention, illustrating it as applied to a bottle cap having a projecting lower edge, and in a form in which the concave side of the bowl is at the inside; and

Fig. 4 is a view, similar to Fig. 3, of another form of the invention in which the concave side of the bowl is at the outside.

The objects of the invention are, in general, attained by providing a spoon bowl fixedly attached at one end to a spring clip in the general form of a split ring adapted to embrace bottle caps of various diameters. Preferably the clips are made of springs in the form of flat strips, but for some purposes may be made of round material such as wire. The feature of having the spoon attached to a spring clip rather than to the cap directly has various advantages. For example, the spoon and clip arrangement is more economical to manufacture so that it can be produced on a commercial basis, the clip cannot hold liquid whereas the cap in a cup and spoon arrangement is likely to contain liquid when removed from the bottle, and the clip forms a better handle.

Referring to the drawings in which similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views, 10 indicates a spoon or spoon bowl of suitable material such as metal, having at its rear end an extension 11 connecting the bowl with a spring clip 12 in the form of a split ring. As here illustrated the spring clip 12 is made of flat strip material, such as metal. Although the combined spoon and clip may be made from one piece of metal, it is preferable to make the combined device from two separate pieces of material secured together in any suitable manner, as by spot welding. It is also preferred to have the metal in the portion of the extension 11 between the spoon and the clip in such condition that, when bent into any required form, it will retain that form, thus enabling the spoon bowl to be adjusted to any desired position with reference to the clip.

The spring clip 11 is adapted to cooperate with any of the well known forms of bottle caps and, as shown in Fig. 1, is applied to a bottle cap 13 which is provided at its lower edge with cam or partial screw devices 14 formed from the metal of the peripheral wall

and adapted to engage the lower edges of lugs or projections 15 on the neck 16 of a bottle 17, the cap being locked on the neck by a partial turn in one direction and being released by a partial turn in the opposite direction. Caps of this kind are usually provided with corrugations (not shown) having crests and troughs extending from top to bottom of the peripheral walls of said caps. Although the spoon bowl is shown as positioned at the narrow face or edge of the bottle, it should be understood that it may also be positioned at one of the broad faces or sides of the bottle.

In Fig. 3, there is illustrated a modified form of the device in which the spring clip 12*a* is formed of round material, such as wire. These clips may not be so well adapted for use with caps, such as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, but are especially adapted for use with caps 13*a* having annular projections or beads 18 extending outwardly at the lower edges of the caps. Caps of this form are usually provided with screw threads such that the caps are attached and detached by continuous turning in one direction or the opposite.

The modified form illustrated in Fig. 4 differs from that illustrated in Fig. 3 only by the arrangement of the spoon bowl 10 so as to have its concave side face outwardly when applied to a bottle. In this connection, it should be understood that, in the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the spoon bowl may be arranged with reference to the clip so that its concave side will face outwardly when the device is applied to a bottle.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding and no undue limitation should be deduced therefrom, but the appended claim should be construed as broadly as possible in view of the prior art.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

A medicine spoon or the like, having a bowl portion to which is fixed an expansible, spring clip member, the clip being open-ended whereby it may be snapped into and out of engagement with bottle necks of various sizes, the bowl portion extending at nearly a right angle to the plane of the clip, whereby the bowl portion will lie close to the neck of the bottle when in engagement therewith, and so be out of the way, the clip serving as a handle for the spoon when out of engagement with the bottle, the entire article being stamped out of sheet metal.

In witness whereof, I affix my signature.

FERDINAND PHILLIPSON.