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V. T. MOE

2,625,824

SHORTENING MEASURING CUP

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FIG 1

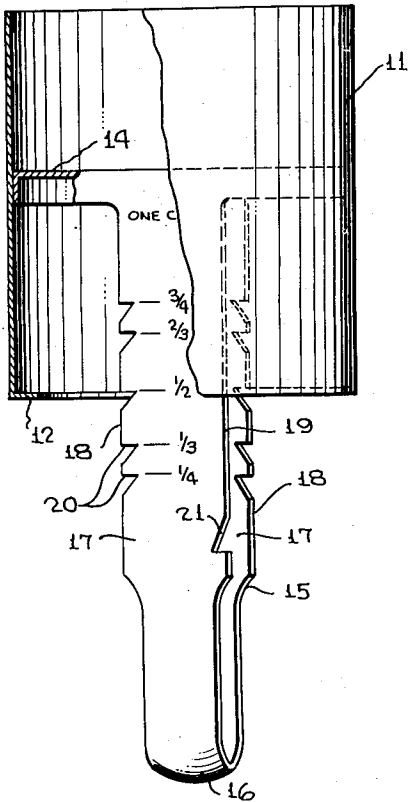


FIG 3

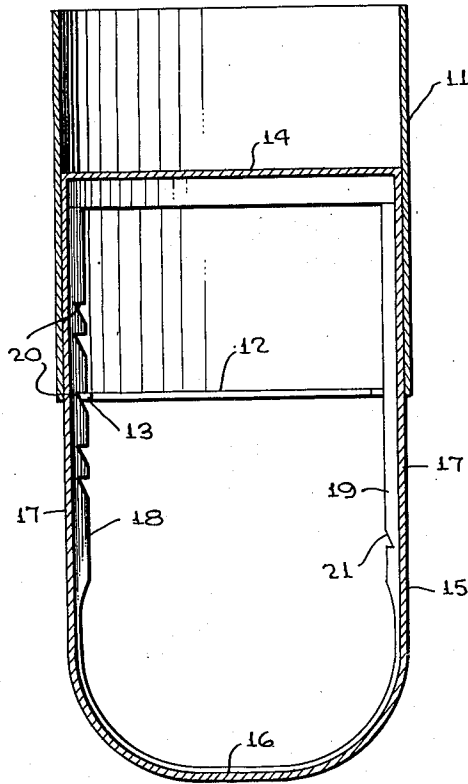


FIG 2

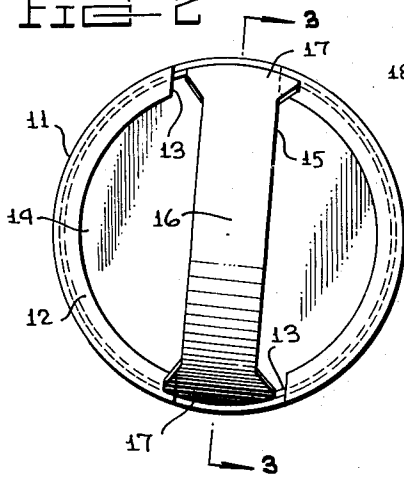
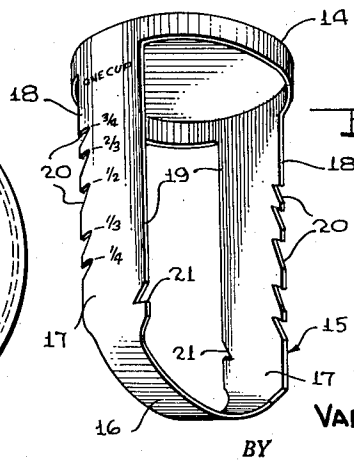


FIG 4



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SHORTENING MEASURING CUP

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1 Claim. (Cl. 73-429)

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This invention relates to measuring devices, and more particularly to a receptacle of adjustable volume for measuring shortening, butter, and similar materials.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved, adjustable measuring receptacle which is simple in construction, which can be readily adjusted in capacity, and wherein the parts may be readily separated for cleaning.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved adjustable measuring cup which is inexpensive to manufacture, which is durable in construction, and which can be readily adjusted and fixed to determine the capacity of the receptacle in measuring various substances, such as shortening, butter, lard and the like.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claim, and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view, partly in cross-section, showing an improved measuring cup constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a bottom view of the adjustable measuring cup of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3-3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the adjustable plunger member employed in the measuring cup of Figures 1 to 3.

Referring to the drawings, 11 designates a cylindrical shell member which may be constructed of plastic, aluminum or similar suitable material, said shell member being formed at its bottom end, as viewed in Figure 1, with an inverted flange 12. The flange 12 is formed at diametrically opposed locations with the wide notches 13, 13. Designated at 14 is a flanged plunger disc slidably mounted inside the cylinder 11 and formed with the U-shaped handle member 15 depending through the lower end of the shell member 11, as viewed in Figure 1. The handle member 15 comprises the bight portion 16 and the side arms 17, 17, the bight portion 16 being reduced in width relative to the side arms, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 4, and the side arms merging with the flange of disc 14 at diametrically opposite points of the disc. The side arms 17, 17 are arcuately curved to conform with the internal shape of the cylindrical shell member 11, and said side arms extend through the respective opposing notches 13, 13. Each side arm 17 has the respective marginal edges 18 and 19, the edges 18 of the side arms being diametrically opposed and

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similarly, the edges 19 of said side arms being also diametrically opposed, as shown in Figure 4. The diametrically opposed edges 18, 18 are formed with the spaced notches 20 adapted to interengage with the end edges of the respective sections of the flange 12 defined by the notches 13, 13 responsive to counter-clockwise rotation of the handle 15, as viewed in Figure 2. The edges 19, 19 are formed adjacent the bight portion 16 with the respective notches 21, 21 which may be engaged with the end portions of the flange sections responsive to clockwise rotation of the handle 15, as viewed in Figure 2. As shown in Figure 1, the side arms 17, 17 are inscribed with suitable markings adjacent the notches 20 indicating the measuring capacity of the receptacle defined by the shell 11 and plunger disc 14 when the notches 20 are interengaged with the end portions of the flange sections defined by notches 13, 13, as above described. It will be apparent from Figure 1 that the side arms 17, 17 may be calibrated in various fractional parts of a cup, whereby said side arms may be interlocked with the flange 12 to define a measuring capacity having the various different values shown.

In using the device, the plunger disc 14 is set at the desired position, representing the desired fractional part of a cup to be measured out, and the space in the upper portion of the shell 11 is filled with the material to be measured, such as shortening, butter, lard or the like. After such space has been filled, the material may be expelled by disengaging the side arms 17, 17 from the end portions of the sections of flange 12 by rotating the handle 15 clockwise, as viewed in Figure 2, whereupon the plunger disc 14 may be pushed by the handle 15 to expel the material from the cylindrical shell 11. During the expulsion of the material, the handle 15 is twisted in a clockwise direction, as viewed in Figure 2, the shell 11 being held in one hand and the handle bight portion 16 being held in the other hand. As the material is finally expelled from the cup, the notches 21, 21 interlock with the end portions of the notches 13, 13 and prevent the plunger disc 14 from being pushed further outwardly from the shell member 11.

When it is desired to clean the device, the plunger disc 14 and the integrally connected handle 15 are removed from the shell 11 by pushing the handle 15 completely through the notches 13, 13, whereby the shell 11 becomes separated from the plunger disc 14 and the handle 15 attached thereto. After the parts have been suitably cleaned, they may be restored to the coop-

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erating positions thereof, shown in Figures 1 to 3, whereby the device is ready for use in measuring shortening and similar substances.

While a specific embodiment of an improved adjustable measuring device has been disclosed 5 in the foregoing description, it will be understood that various modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore, it is intended that no limitations be placed on the invention except as defined 10 by the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A measuring device comprising a cylindrical shell member having an inturned peripheral flange formed with diametrically opposed 15 notches, a plunger disc slidably mounted in said shell member, and a generally U-shaped handle of flat material having arcuate side arms slidably received in said shell member and located in said opposed notches, said side arms being re- 20 spectively connected to diametrically opposed peripheral portions of said plunger disc, the respective edges of one side arm being diametrically

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opposed to the edges of the other side arm, one pair of diametrically opposed edges being each formed with a plurality of spaced detent notches arranged to interlock with said flange and spaced 5 to define respective predetermined volumes in said shell member, and each of the other pair of diametrically opposed edges being formed solely adjacent the bight portion of the handle with a single detent notch, the last named notches being 10 arranged to interlock with said flange to limit expansive sliding movement of the plunger disc through the shell member.

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REFERENCES CITED

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

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