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UTILITY

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310297	OCT 11 1983	

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	GROUP ART. UNIT	EXAMINER
06/310-297	10/09/81	222 401	12	311 336	Schacht

APPLICANTS: MARTIN J. WOLFF, NO. PROVIDENCE, RI; JOSEPH S. FALVO, JOHNSTON, RI.

\*\*\*CONTINUING DATA\*\*\*  
 VERIFIED none  
*JMB*

\*\*\*FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATIONS\*\*\*  
 VERIFIED none  
*JMB*

Foreign priority claimed 35 USC 119 conditions met	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	AS FILED	STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRWGS.	TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEP CLAIMS	FILING FEE RECEIVED	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
Verified and Acknowledged	<i>JMB</i>		RI	2	10	2	\$ 75	0425-1-0070

ADDRESSES:  
~~JONES THOMAS & ASKEW~~ *Pat. Department*  
~~R. D. 807 56326~~ *1630 Atlanta Gas Light Tower*  
~~ATLANTA, GA 30343~~ *235 Peachtree Street*  
*30503* *Northbrook, Ill. 60062*

CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING APPARATUS

U.S. DEPT. of COMM. Pat. & TM Office - PTO (Rev. 10-78)

PARTS OF APPLICATION FILED SEPARATELY					PREPARED FOR ISSUE <i>4-25-83</i>	
					<i>A. Romilker</i> (Docket Clerk)	
AT ALLOWANCE					EXAMINED AND PASSED FOR ISSUE	
SHEETS DRWGS.	FIGURES DRWGS.	CLAIMS	CLASS	SUBCLASS	<i>Steven A. Bratie</i> (Primary Examiner)	
2	12	11	401	12	<i>Steven A. Bratie</i> 336 (Art Unit)	
				Estimate of printed pages	Issue fee due (est.)	
				Drawing(s)	Spect(s)	\$500.00
Notice of allowance and issue fee due (est.)						
Date mailed			Date paid			

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EXAMINING GROUP 330

Entered

CONTENTS

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GROUP 310

- 1. Applications papers + pts.
- 2. ~~Prior Art~~ Feb. 5, 1982
- 3. ~~Rev P/A by Assignee~~ Mar. 4, 1982
- 4. ~~Rev P/A~~ Mar. 4, 1982
- 5. ~~Notice of Revoc + Accept~~ 8, 1982
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**SEARCHED**

Class	Sub	Date	Exr
401	12 171 176 179 -195		
222	142.1 142.4 142.5	11-82	
401	12 195	4-83	

**PRINT CLAIM(S):**  
**1**

**INDEX OF CLAIMS**

Claim	Date		Claim	Date	
	Final	Original		Final	Original
1			26		
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**INTERFERENCE SEARCHED**

Class	Sub	Date	Exr
401	12 195	4-83	

**SYMBOLS**

**STATUS**

- ✓ ..... Rejected
- = ..... Allowed
- (Through numeral) Canceled
- + ..... Restriction requirement
- N ..... Nonelected invention or species
- I ..... Interference
- A ..... Appeal



310297

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent Office**

Address Only: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Case Docket No. 0425-1-0070

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor: Martin J. Wolff et al.

For: Corn Buttering and Salting Apparatus

Enclosed are:

- 2 sheets of drawing.
- An assignment of the invention to Dart Industries, Inc.
- A certified copy of a \_\_\_\_\_ application.
- Associate power of attorney.

CLAIMS AS FILED				
(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) BASIC FEE \$65.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	10 - 10 <sup>0</sup>	0	X \$2.00	0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2 - 1 <sup>0</sup>	1	X \$10.00	10.00
			TOTAL FILING FEE →	75.00

- Please charge my Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 10-1215. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- A check in the amount of \$75.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- A check in the amount of \$20.00 to cover the Assignment recording fee.

*Apple*  
JONES, THOMAS & ASKEW

*Apple*  
*Pat. Eng.*



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10.00-102  
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"CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING APPARATUS"

SW clip/c  
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Field of Invention

15 This invention relates in general to butter and salt dispensing apparatus, and relates in particular to apparatus for applying butter and salt to a food article such as corn on the cob.

clip/poc  
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Background of the Invention

25 Buttering a hot ear of corn can challenge the patience and dexterity of the most determined diner. The usual approach calls for using a conventional table knife to cut a pat of butter, and attempting to spread the butter over the ear of corn with the knife. As most persons realize, however, the butter pat is quickly softened or melted by heat from the ear of corn, so that the pat becomes awkward to manipulate and spread with a  
30 knife. The butter pat may slip off the ear of corn, not infrequently landing at an inopportune location on the diner's plate and in any case leaving the ear partially unbuttered. Consequently, butter is unevenly spread over the ear of corn or may be

35 completely missing from part of the ear.

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After the corn is finally buttered, many persons salt the buttered corn to their taste. Although a conventional salt shaker is effective for this purpose, the diner must first put down the buttering knife and then reach for the salt. Moreover, if the diner desires to add more salt after first tasting the buttered ear of corn, the diner must either grip the salt shaker with buttery fingers, leaving a messy shaker for the next person, or else first clean his or her hands before reaching for the salt.

Various devices have been suggested in the prior art for applying butter or salt to an ear of corn or the like. These art devices have generally proven themselves cumbersome, awkward or messy in practice, or have other practical shortcomings which have prevented any widespread acceptance of such devices.

20 Summary of Invention

The foregoing and other aids as well as the shortcomings of the prior art are overcome or substantially alleviated by the food buttering and salting apparatus of the present invention. Stated in somewhat general terms, the present apparatus includes a receptacle for receiving and dispensing a quantity of butter, and a second receptacle for receiving and dispensing a quantity of salt or the like. The butter dispensing receptacle and salt dispensing receptacle are configured to selectably fit together, and are movably interconnected so that the salt dispensing receptacle serves to urge the butter out of a dispensing opening associated with the butter receptacle. Once the corn or other article of food is thus buttered to taste from the

— butter receptacle, the apparatus is manipulated to  
place the salt receptacle in operative position  
relative to the ear of corn. The corn may then be  
salted to taste, with both buttering and salting  
5 being two parts of an operation requiring but one  
implement, namely, a corn buttering and salting  
apparatus according to the teachings of the present  
invention.

10 Stated somewhat more particularly, the  
butter receptacle has a butter receiving opening  
separate from the dispensing opening, and the salt  
receptacle has a wall portion which can push  
against butter through the butter receiving  
15 opening. The salt receptacle may thus  
telescopically fit into the butter receptacle, so  
as to urge the butter toward the butter dispensing  
opening. The butter receptacle and salt receptacle  
are pivotably attached to each other, allowing the  
relative positions of each receptacle as well as  
20 the overall position of the apparatus relative to  
an ear of corn to be easily manipulated by the  
user.

25 Stated even more particularly, a separate  
handle may be formed with each receptacle, with a  
hinge interconnection formed between remote ends of  
the handles. The hinge interconnection permits the  
butter receptacle and salt receptacle to be brought  
together in the foregoing telescopic relationship,  
while also permitting these parts to be separated  
30 for ease of cleaning or the like.

Accordingly, it is an object of the  
present invention to provide improved apparatus for  
buttering and salting an article of food such as an  
ear of corn or the like.

35 It is another object of the present

invention to provide improved corn buttering and salting apparatus which provides a positive force for urging a quantity of butter onto an ear of corn.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide a corn buttering and salting apparatus in which either buttering or salting may take place with but a single implement.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become more readily apparent from the following description of a preferred embodiment.

*DR*  
*disc*  
*p*

Brief Description of Drawings

Fig. 1 is a pictorial view showing a corn buttering and salting apparatus according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a pictorial view of the apparatus shown in Fig. 1, with open and partially-closed positions of the apparatus shown respectively by broken and solid lines.

Fig. 3 is another pictorial view of the disclosed embodiment, shown in the fully closed position.

Fig. 4 is a side elevation view of the apparatus as depicted in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a bottom view taken along line 5--5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a top view of the apparatus as depicted in Fig. 1.

Fig. 7 is a side elevation view of the apparatus depicted in Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a section view through the folded handles of the present apparatus, taken along line 8--8 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 9 is a sectioned elevation view showing the disclosed apparatus applying butter to an ear of corn.

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Fig. 10 is a fragmentary detail view of encircled portion 10 in Fig. 9, showing details of the closure lock for the salt compartment.

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary elevation view taken along line 11--11 of Fig. 2, showing details of the closure, lock in Fig. 10.

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Fig. 12 is a fragmentary elevation view showing the present apparatus used for salting an ear of corn.

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Disclosure of Preferred Embodiment

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Turning to the Figures, there is shown generally at 14 a buttering and salting apparatus according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention. This apparatus includes a butter receptacle 15 for receiving a quantity of butter to be dispensed, and a salt receptacle 16 for receiving a quantity of granular material such as salt, seasoning, or the like to be dispensed. The term "butter" is here used in a relatively broad sense to include nondairy spreads such as oleomargarine or the like, in addition to creamery butter.

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Separate elongated handles 17a and 17b extend outwardly from the butter receptacle and salt receptacle, respectively, and the outer ends of these handles are joined together by the pivotable hinge interconnection 18. The entire apparatus 14 including the hinge interconnection 18 is preferably unitary, and may be formed by molding of a suitable plastic material. As is apparent from Figs. 2 and 9, the handles 17a and 17b are

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approximately of equal length so that the salt receptacle 16 becomes located behind the butter receptacle 15 as the handles are folded back over each other pincers-style in the direction of broken arrow 19 in Fig. 2.

The butter receptacle 15 is defined by a pair of side walls 23 and 24, an inner wall 25 from which the handle 17a extends outwardly, and an outer wall 26. The four walls of the butter receptacle form a hollow interior butter-receiving receptacle 27. This butter receiving receptacle is generally square in cross-section shape as seen in Fig. 6, and is preferably configured to receive a chunk of butter 28 (Fig. 9) cut from a quarter-pound stick of butter. The butter compartment 27 includes an upper opening 29 for introducing the butter into the butter compartment.

The butter compartment 27 has a butter dispensing opening 32, best seen in Fig. 5, and a pair of bars 33 span the butter dispensing opening. These bars 33 function to retain the chunk of butter 28 in place within the receptacle 27, as seen in Figs. 9 and 12, and help promote an orderly flow of butter onto an ear of corn as discussed below in greater detail. The lower end 34 of each side wall 23 and 24 defining the butter receptacle 15 has an arcuate shape as best seen in Figs. 4 and 7, generally conforming to the curvature of an ear of corn.

The salt receptacle 16 is formed by a pair of side walls 37 and 38, a rear wall 39 joined to the upwardly-extending handle 17b, and the outer wall 40. These walls together with the solid bottom wall 42 form a salt receiving compartment

41. The bottom wall 42 is preferably arcuate as shown in Fig. 7, having a curvature approximately the same as the curvature of the lower end 34 of the butter receptacle 15, as becomes more apparent below.

The salt receptacle 16 further includes a closure 43 having a number of salt-dispensing apertures 44 and connected to the outer wall 40 by the hinge 45, which preferably is an integral part of the overall molded unitary apparatus 14. The hinge 45 allows the closure 43 to occupy either an open position shown in phantom at 46 in Fig. 9, so that a quantity of salt or the like 47 can be placed into the salt compartment 41, or to be moved to the closed position shown in solid line in Fig. 9. The closure 43 is maintained in the closed position by means of a rib 51 formed on the outer surface of the closure wall 52, and by the mating longitudinal groove 53 formed in the confronting surface 54 of the salt receptacle rear wall 39. As best seen in Fig. 10, the groove 53 provides a detent to receive the rib 51 when the closure 43 fully closes the salt compartment 41. The finger recess 48 formed in the top of handle 17b facilitates opening the closure 43.

Each handle 17a and 17b takes the shape of a hollow channel having exterior surfaces preferably lacking sharp edges when in the folded configuration shown in Fig. 3, for ease of handling. The handles 17a and 17b preferably have a generally U-shape exterior configuration as best shown in Fig. 8, so that the folded handles include relatively short-radius rounded corners 58 which assist the user in holding the apparatus. The handle 17b has a pair of flanges 59 flanking the interior channel and fitting within the slightly wider interior channel 60 of the handle 17a, as

- best seen in Fig. 8. The flanges 59 fitting within the channel 60 help keep the two handles 17a and 17b in alignment with each other, as the handles are pressed together.

5           The operation of the present apparatus is now described with particular reference to Figs. 9 and 12. Shortly before the apparatus is put to use, a quantity of salt 47 is added to the salt compartment 41 and a chunk of butter 28 is added to  
10 the butter compartment 27. The buttering and salting apparatus 14 is now ready to spread butter on an ear of corn 62, (Fig. 9), simply by folding the handle 17b about the hinge 18 until the solid bottom wall 42 of the salt receptacle 16 contacts  
15 the end of butter chunk 28 through the upper opening 29 of the butter receptacle. The handles 17a and 17b are in the relative configuration shown in Fig. 9 at this time, and a person can easily grip both handles in one hand. By gently squeezing  
20 the handles 17a and 17b as so held, the bottom wall 42 of the salt receptacle forces the butter 28 downwardly toward the butter dispensing opening 32 of the butter receptacle, and the heat from the ear of corn 62 causes the butter to melt and flow past  
25 the bars 33 onto the corn as at 63. The apparatus 14 may be moved back and forth along the length of the corn, while the corn is held and rotated by the other hand in the conventional manner, thereby spreading a controllable layer of butter along the  
30 entirety of the corn. No salt escapes from the salt compartment 41 at this time, because the apertured closure 43 faces upwardly. The salt receptacle 16 becomes telescopically received into the butter compartment 27 as the butter 28 becomes  
35 depleted (Fig. 12) through continued use.

As soon as the corn is buttered to satisfaction, the apparatus 14 is easily inverted to the position shown in Fig. 12, placing the closure 43 with its salt dispensing apertures 44 facing downwardly above the corn. The entire apparatus 14, still held by one hand grasping the folded handles 17a and 17b, may now be gently shaken to dispense the desired amount of salt 47 onto the previously-buttered ear of corn 62.

If a person, after tasting the previously buttered and salted ear of corn, desires to add more salt, he or she can simply pick up the apparatus 14 in the inverted position of Fig. 12 and add more salt as desired. While this person's hands may be sticky from holding the buttered corn, this stickiness affects only the handles 17a and 17b of an apparatus which may be cleaned after each use. Thus, the existing conventional table salt shaker (which typically is not washed after each meal) is spared an unwanted and messy coating of butter from persons salting their buttered corn.

It should be apparent that the foregoing relates to but a preferred embodiment of the present invention, and that numerous changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined in the following claims.

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cm we claims:

1. Apparatus for buttering and salting an ear of corn or the like, comprising:

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means defining a handle;

said handle means having a first portion and a second portion, and including hinge means operable so that said first and second portions are selectably juxtaposed;

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first means disposed at said first portion and defining a receptacle for receiving and dispensing a quantity of butter or the like;

second means disposed at said second portion and defining a receptacle for receiving and dispensing a quantity of salt or the like; and

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means associated with said salt receptacle and selectably operative to dispense the butter from said butter receptacle.

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2. Apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein said dispensing means is operative in response to movement of said handle means about said hinge means so as to bring more closely together said butter receptacle and said salt receptacle.

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all claims on yellow →

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Sub a1

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3. Apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein:  
said butter receptacle includes an opening for receiving a quantity of butter to be dispensed, and at least one dispensing opening;  
said salt receptacle comprises a wall portion; and  
said salt receptacle is selectably movable to urge said wall portion toward said butter receiving opening, thereby to urge the butter toward said dispensing opening.

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4. Apparatus as in Claim 3, wherein:  
said <sup>superior</sup> wall portion comprises the bottom wall of said salt receptacle; and  
said salt receptacle is operative to enter into said butter receiving opening ~~in response to said selective movement~~, so as to urge said bottom wall against the butter therein.

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Sub a2

5. Apparatus as in Claim 4, wherein:  
said salt receptacle comprises an opening in spaced apart relation to said bottom wall;  
closure means selectably obstructing said opening; and  
at least one salt dispensing aperture formed in said closure means,  
whereby an ear of corn or the like can be buttered and then salted by first urging the salt receptacle into said butter receptacle while applying said butter dispensing opening to the corn, and then inverting said apparatus to dispense salt onto the corn.

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6. Apparatus for applying butter and salt to an article such as an ear of corn or the like, comprising:

5 first means defining a receptacle for receiving and dispensing a quantity of butter or the like;

second means defining a receptacle for receiving and dispensing a quantity of salt or the like; and

10 means movably interconnecting said first means and second means so that said salt receptacle is operable to dispense butter from said ~~butter receptacle.~~

15 ~~7.~~ Apparatus as in Claim 6 wherein:

~~said butter receptacle comprises an opening for receiving a quantity of butter to be dispensed, and at least one dispensing opening; and~~

20 said salt receptacle comprises a portion selectably movable to enter said butter receiving opening, thereby to urge the butter toward said dispensing opening.

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Sub A3

8. Apparatus as in Claim 6, wherein:  
said butter receptacle comprises an opening for receiving a quantity of butter to be dispensed, and a dispensing opening having an arcuate configuration for juxtaposition with an ear of corn to be buttered; and  
said salt receptacle configured to fit into said butter receptacle through said butter receiving opening, so that butter in the butter receptacle is urged toward said butter dispensing opening as the salt receptacle is urged into the butter receptacle.

4 9. Apparatus as in Claim 3, wherein:  
said salt receptacle comprises an opening facing outwardly from said butter receiving opening as the salt receptacle is fitted therein;  
closure means attached to said salt receptacle and removably covering said opening in the salt receptacle; and  
at least one salt dispensing aperture in said closure means,  
so that an ear of corn or the like can be buttered and then salted by urging the salt receptacle into the butter receptacle while applying said butter dispensing opening to the corn, and then inverting said apparatus to align the salt dispensing apparatus with the corn.

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~~5~~ 10. Apparatus as in Claim ~~9~~ 4, wherein said  
movable interconnecting means comprises hinge means  
interconnecting said butter receptacle and salt  
receptacle for relative movement on an arcuate path  
5 defining said telescopic fit of the salt receptacle  
into the butter receptacle.

Add a4

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"CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING APPARATUS"Abstract of the Disclosure

5 Apparatus for selectably buttering and  
salting an article of food such as an ear of corn  
or the like. A separate butter receptacle and salt  
receptacle are pivotably interconnected with each  
other so that the salt receptacle can fit into an  
10 opening of the butter receptacle, thereby urging a  
chunk of butter through a dispensing opening to be  
spread onto the corn. After the corn is buttered,  
the buttering and dispensing apparatus may be  
inverted in position to salt the corn.

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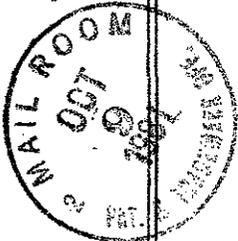
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310297



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
 MARTIN J. WOLFF et al. )  
 Serial No. )  
 Filed: Concurrently herewith )  
 For: CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING )  
 APPARATUS )

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please recognize LEIGH B. TAYLOR, whose address is 2211 Sanders Road, Northbrook, IL 60062, Registration No. 24,046, as associate attorney in the above-entitled patent application.

Please continue to address all future communications to the principal attorneys already of record.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES, THOMAS & ASKEW

  
By: Roger T. Frost

Reg. No. 22,176

404/688-7944  
0425-1-0070

**DECLARATION, PETITION, AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER  
0245-1-0070

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: the information in Items 201, 202, and 301 below is true; I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one inventor is named below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the invention described and claimed in  the attached specification; or  the specification in application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_; I understand the content of the above-identified specification; as to common subject matter of this application and my earlier United States application(s), if any, described in Item 105 below; I do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or ever used in the United States before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to such earlier application(s) or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to such earlier application(s); said common subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application or before the date of such earlier application(s) in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to such earlier application(s); and no application for patent or inventor's certificate on said common subject matter has been filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States except those identified in Item 600 below, if any; as to any subject matter of this application which is not common to any of said earlier application(s), I do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before my invention thereof or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to the date of this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the date of this application, and said non-common subject matter has not been patented or been made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the date of this application; no application for patent on said non-common subject matter has been filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States prior to this application except those identified in said Item 600; and I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application.

Wherefore, I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention described and claimed in the above-identified specification.

Specific reference to my related earlier filed U.S. application(s) of which this application is a  CONTINUATION  CONTINUATION-IN-PART  DIVISION is made on page \_\_\_\_\_ of the specification for the purpose of receiving benefit of said earlier filing date(s) under 35 USC 120.

2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	LAST NAME WOLFE	FIRST NAME MARTIN	MIDDLE NAME JAY
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY North Providence	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Rhode Island RI	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.
1	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 528 Smithfield Rd. Apt. 303	CITY North Providence	STATE OR COUNTRY Rhode Island
				ZIP CODE 02904

2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	LAST NAME FALVO	FIRST NAME JOSEPH	MIDDLE NAME STEVEN
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Johnston	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Rhode Island RI	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.
2	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 63 Marne Street	CITY Johnston	STATE OR COUNTRY Rhode Island
				ZIP CODE 02919

3  
6  
1 TITLE OF INVENTION  
"CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING APPARATUS"

4  
0  
0 POWER OF ATTORNEY: The following attorneys are hereby appointed to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Harold D. Jones, Jr.—Reg. No. 19,404; George M. Thomas—Reg. No. 22,260; Anthony B. Askew—Reg. No. 24,154; Roger T. Frost—Reg. No. 22,178; Jeffrey E. Young—Reg. No. 28,490; Eugene S. Zimmer—Reg. No. 28,928; ~~XXXX X XXXX XXXX XXXX 22,178~~; Robert E. Richards—Reg. No. 29,105.

5  
0  
0 SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: *WJ* JONES, THOMAS & ASKEW  
*WJ* P. O. Box 56326  
*WJ* Atlanta, Georgia 30343  
DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:  
Attorney: Roger T. Frost  
Phone: 404/688-7344

FOREIGN APPLICATIONS, IF ANY, FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE FILING DATE OF THIS APPLICATION			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (month, day, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
			YES ___ NO ___
			YES ___ NO ___
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATIONS, IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE FILING DATE OF THIS APPLICATION			

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANTS	DATE OF SIGNATURE
201	<i>Martin Jay Wolfe</i>	10-2-81
202	<i>Joseph Steven Falvo</i>	10-2-81

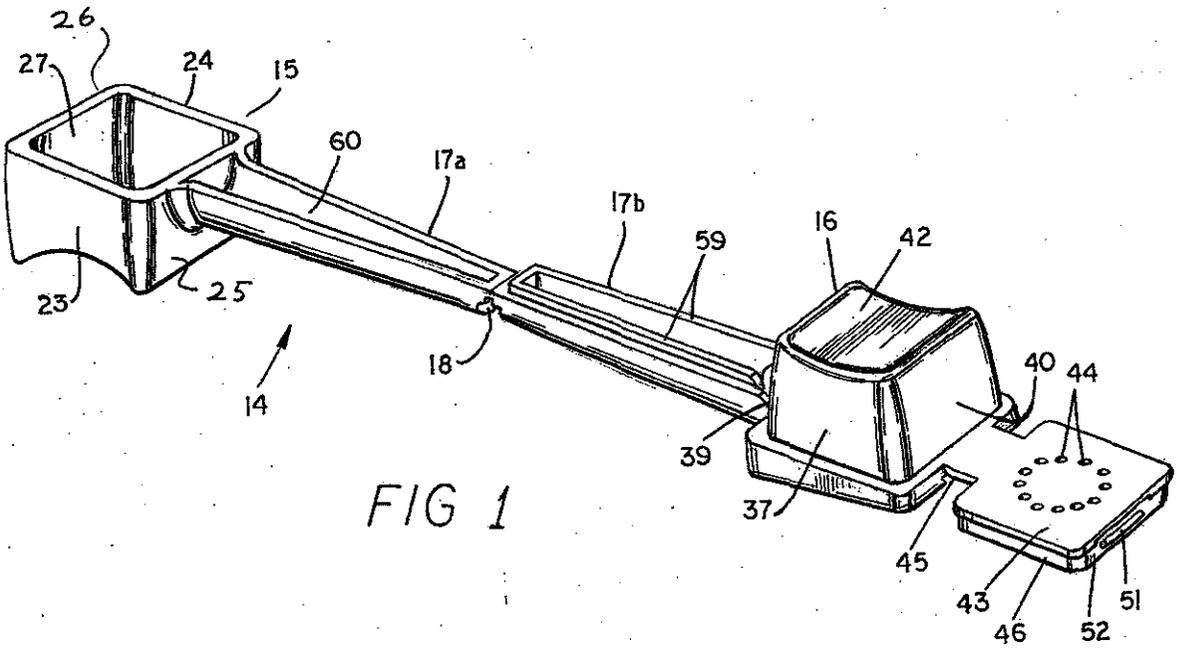


FIG 1

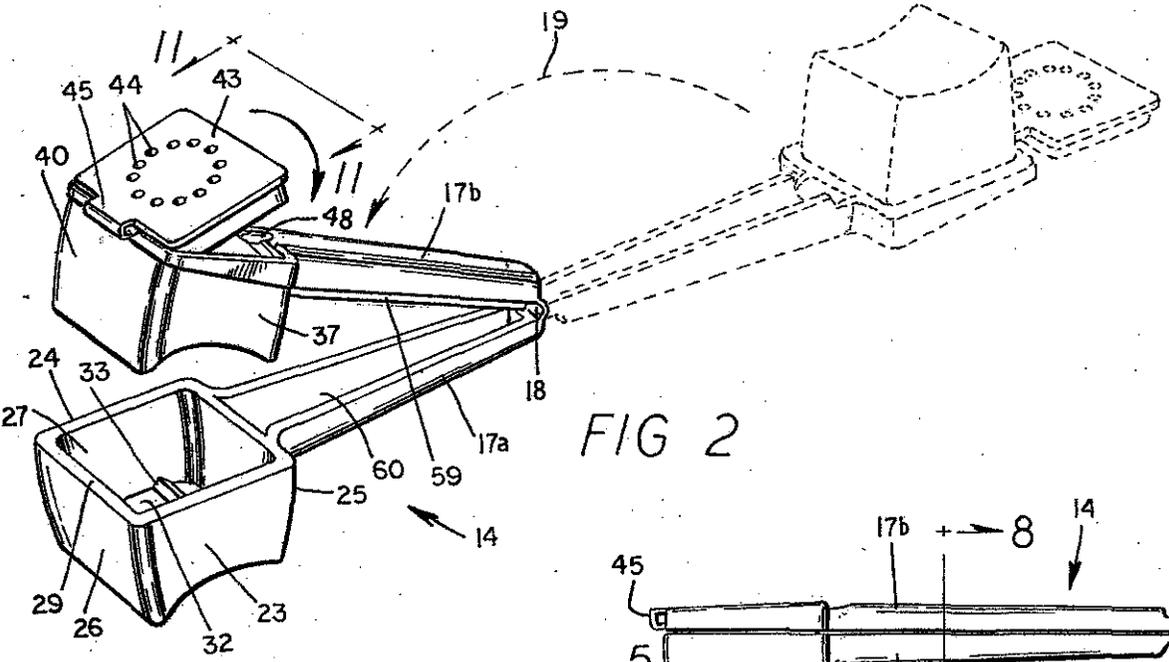


FIG 2

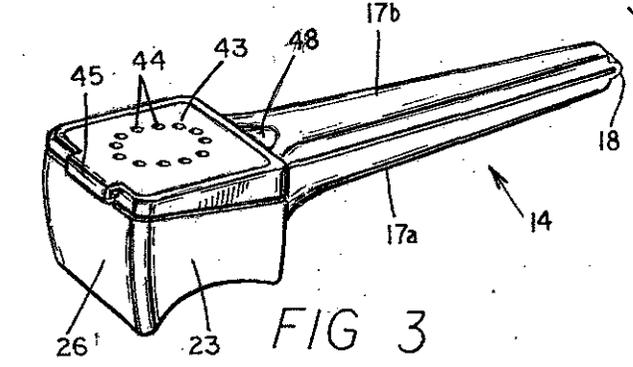


FIG 3

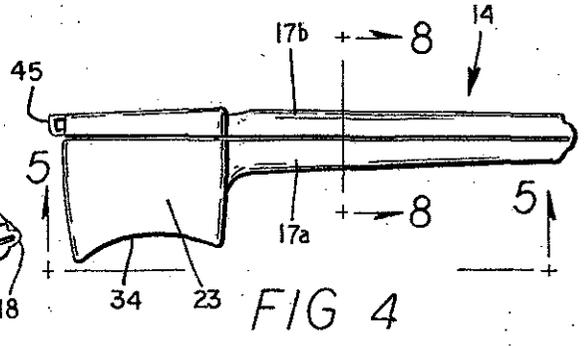


FIG 4

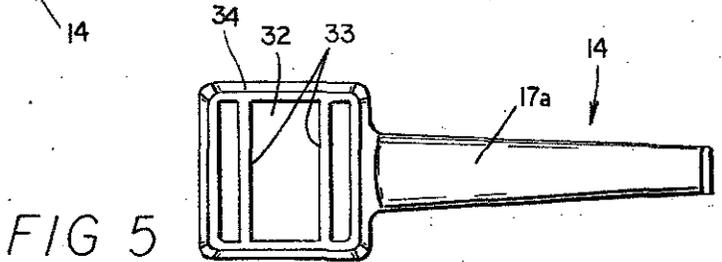


FIG 5

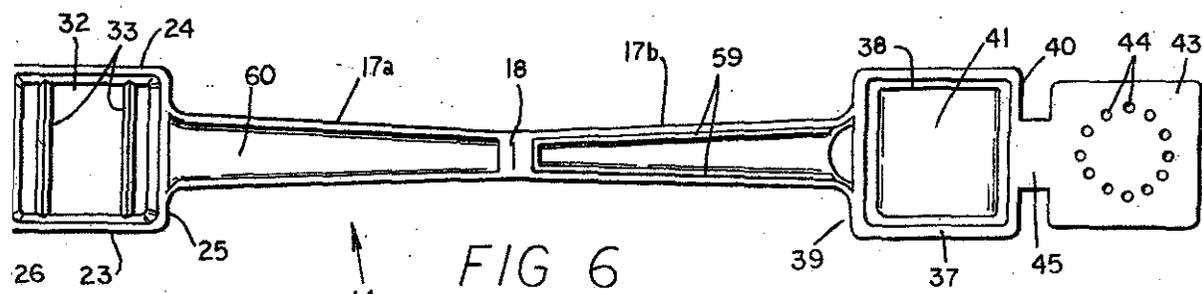


FIG 6

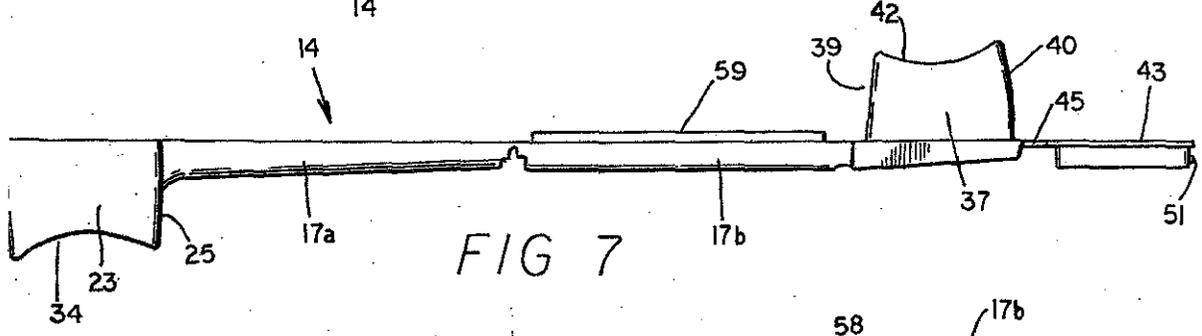


FIG 7

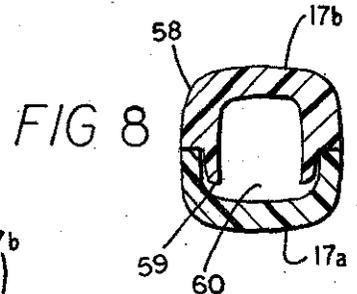


FIG 8

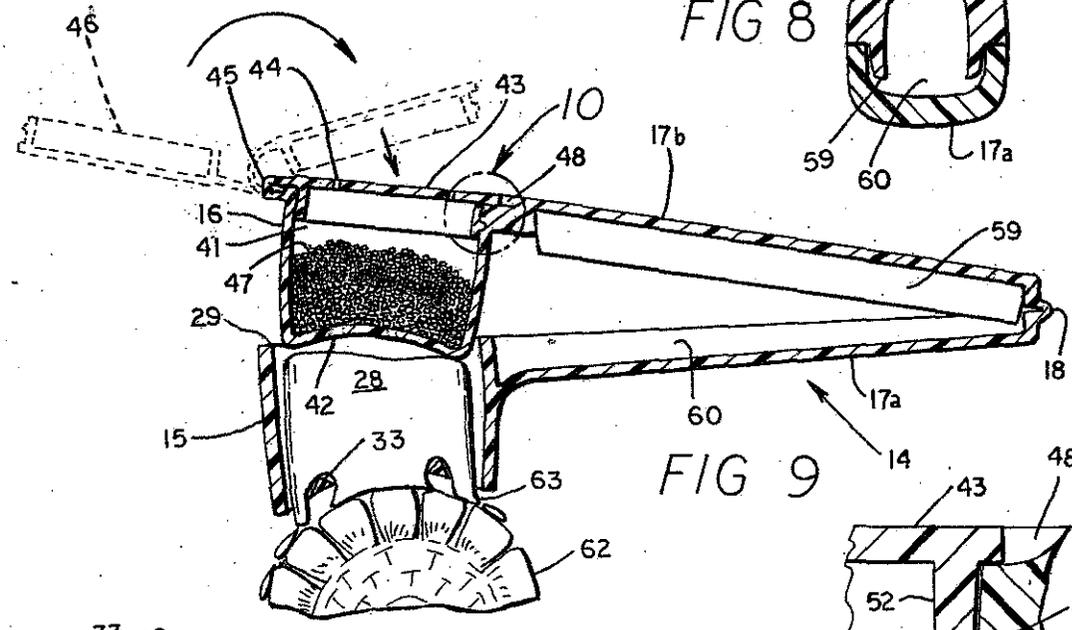


FIG 9

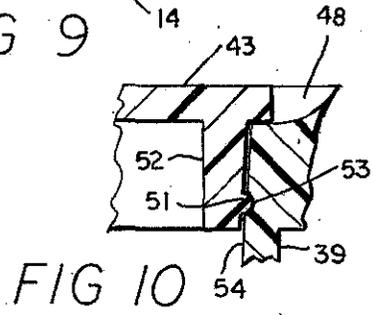


FIG 10

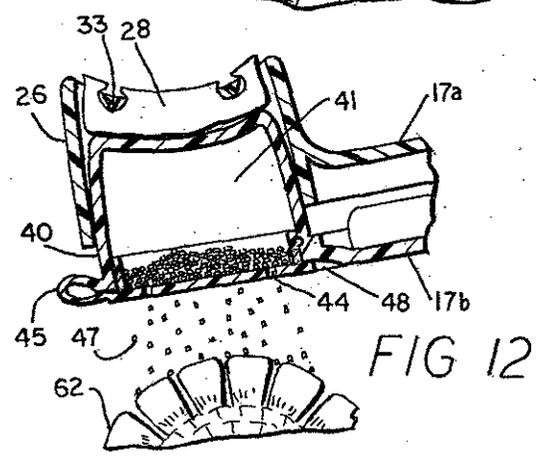


FIG 12

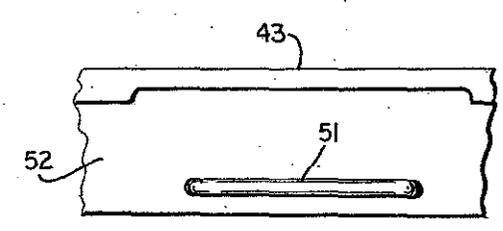


FIG 11



070/642

J. Wolkoff  
7-16-8206

# 2 / prior  
Art

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
 MARTIN J. WOLFF ET AL. )  
 Serial No. 310,297 ) Art Unit: 311  
 Filed: October 9, 1981 )  
 For: CORN BUTTERING AND )  
       SALTING APPARATUS )

VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The citation of information on the attached Form PTO-1449, "List of Art Cited By Applicant" is made pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56 and 1.97. A copy of each cited item is enclosed.

The relevance of each cited item is as follows:

Volpini, Wasser, Selmer '844, Selmer '032, and Peterson disclose corn buttering devices having an element such as a piston or plunger which may be used for urging the butter toward the corn.

Milewski shows a corn buttering device with a butter receptacle having wedge-shaped sides, which urge the butter toward the corn when the sides are moved toward each other.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231, on February 3, 1982

Boyd T. Frost  
Signature

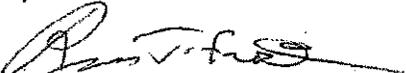
Mossel '874 shows a butter and salt spreader for corn.

Wojcik, Mattar, Mossel '748, Newell, Becker, and Pratt each show corn buttering devices which appear to lack any butter-urging movable element, and which appear to be of more general interest.

The citation of this information does not constitute either an admission of priority or a waiver of any right applicant may have under applicable statutes, Rules of Practice in patent cases, or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES, THOMAS & ASKEW

  
By: Roger T. Frost  
Reg. No. 22,176

404/688-7944  
0425-1-0070

FORM PTO-147 (REV. 7-80)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

0425-1-0070

310,297

APPLICANT  
MARTIN J. WOLFF ET AL.

FILING DATE  
October 9, 1981

GROUP  
311

RECEIVED

FEB 8 1982

LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
							GROUP	CLASS
<i>SLB</i>	AA	2 4 5 8 1 2 0	1/8/49	Volpini				
<i>SLB</i>	AB	2 7 5 6 4 9 8	7/21/56	Wasser				
<i>SLB</i>	AC	2 8 1 1 8 4 4	11/5/57	Selmer				
<i>SLB</i>	AD	2 8 9 3 0 3 2	7/6/59	Selmer				
<i>SLB</i>	AE	2 5 2 7 1 4 9	10/24/50	Peterson				
<i>SLB</i>	AF	2 6 9 0 6 5 7	10/5/54	Milewski *				
<i>SLB</i>	AG	2 5 6 5 8 7 4	8/28/51	Mossel				
<i>SLB</i>	AH	3 7 3 5 4 8 7	5/29/73	Wojcik				
<i>SLB</i>	AI	D 1 9 4 8 8 3	3/25/63	Mattar				
<i>SLB</i>	AJ	D 1 5 9 7 4 8	8/15/50	Mossel				
<i>SLB</i>	AK	D 1 5 7 1 8 3	2/7/50	Newell				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL							
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AR	
AS	
AT	

EXAMINER *Steven A. Bratton* DATE CONSIDERED *11/12/82*

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM PTO-1449  
 REV. 7-80  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
 0425-1-0070

SERIAL NO.  
 310,297

RECEIVED

ART CITED BY APPLICANT  
 (See several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT  
 Martin J. Wolff et al.

FILING DATE  
 October 9, 1981

GROUP  
 311 FEB 8 1982

MAIL ROOM  
 1 FEB 5 1982

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	GROUP 310 FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
AA	D 1 7 8 4 8 7	8/14/56	Becker				
AB	1 0 9 7 4 6 5	5/19/14	Pratt				
AC							
AD							
AE							
AF							
AG							
AH							
AI							
AJ							
AK							

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL							
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AR	
AS	
AT	

EXAMINER Steven A. Brattie

DATE CONSIDERED 11/12/82

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



RP-8577-M26

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of  
Martin J. Wolff

RECEIVED

MAR 11 1982

Title: CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING  
APPARATUS

GROUP 310

Serial No.: 310,297

Examiner:

#3

Filing Date: 10/09/81

Group:

CEP

9-3-82

Reel: Frame:

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

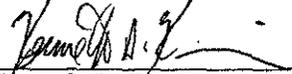
The undersigned, Kenneth S. Kirsner, Assistant Secretary of Dart Industries Inc., having a principal place of business at 2211 Sanders Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062, owner of the above identified patent application, hereby revokes any and all previous Powers of Attorney and appoints Leigh B. Taylor, Registration No. 24,046, 2211 Sanders Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062, a member of the Bar of the State of California, Gregory J. Mancuso, Registration No. 29,560, 2211 Sanders Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062, a member of the Bar of the State of Illinois, John A. Doninger, Registration No. 28,293, 2211 Sanders Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062, a member of the Bar of the State of Illinois, and Bryant W. Brennan, Registration No. 16,977, W. 115 Century Road, Paramus, New Jersey 07652, a member of the Bar of the District of Columbia, as Applicant's attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute said Patent application, receive any Letters Patent and to take any and all other actions with regard to this Patent and any Letters Patent which arises therefrom.

Signed and sealed at Northbrook, Illinois this 1st day of March, 1982.

Respectfully submitted,

DART INDUSTRIES INC. *ok - CEP 9-7-82*

SEAL

By   
Kenneth S. Kirsner  
Assistant Secretary



3.1  
12/22/82  
A/COP

RP-8577-M26

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re Application of :  
Martin J. Wolff :  
Title: CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING :  
APPARATUS :  
Serial No.: 310,297 :  
Filing Date: 10/09/81 :

MAR 11 1982

GROUP 310

#4  
COP  
9-3-82

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please recognize Anthony B. Askew, Registration No. 24,154, whose address is 1620 Atlanta Gas Light Tower, 235 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, and Roger T. Frost, Registration No. 22,176, whose address is 1620 Atlanta Gas Light Tower, 235 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30303 as my associates in the matter of the above identified application with full powers.

Please send all correspondence to Jones & Askew, 1620 Atlanta Gas Light Tower, 235 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Respectfully submitted,

DART INDUSTRIES INC.

ok - CSD 9-7-82

SEAL

By Gregory J. Mancuso

Gregory J. Mancuso  
Counsel for Applicant  
Registration No. 29,560



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Paper No. 5

Martin J. Wolff et al. AU 336  
SN 310,297 10/09/81

THOMAS, FROST, YOUNG, ZIMMER,  
& RICHARDS  
1620 Atlanta Gas Light Tower  
235 Peachtree Street  
Atlanta, GA. 30303

MAILED

NOV 8 1982

GROUP 330

This is in response to the communication re the Power of Attorney filed 03/04/82

assignee.

1.  The power of attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the applicant.
2.  In view of the notice in this application of the death of \_\_\_\_\_ his power of attorney is terminated.
3.  The power of attorney to you in this application has been accepted by the Commissioner of Patents, & Trademarks.

\_\_\_\_\_  
For Director, Operation

4.  The assignee in this application has intervened and appointed an attorney of his own selection. Further correspondence will be held with said attorney. (Rule 36, Rules of Practice.)
5.  The revocation of the power of attorney to \_\_\_\_\_ has been entered and said attorney has been notified. Further correspondence will be addressed to you.
6.  On \_\_\_\_\_, the applicant appointed \_\_\_\_\_ assignee as additional attorney in this application. Further correspondence will continue to be addressed to you as specified in the new power of attorney.
7.  On \_\_\_\_\_, the applicant appointed \_\_\_\_\_ assignee as additional attorney in this application. Further correspondence will be addressed to said attorney. MPEP 403.02
8.  The associate power of attorney to you in this application has been revoked by the attorney of record.

Leigh B. Taylor,  
Gregory J. Mancuso,  
John A. Doninger,  
Bryant W. Brennan  
1620 Atlanta Gas Light Tower  
235 Peachtree Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

*Clara B. Desmikes*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
For Director, Operation



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

310297

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
310297	10/19/81		

JAMES R ASKEW  
1620 ATLANTA GAS LIGHT TOWER  
235 PEACHTREE STREET  
ATLANTA, GA. 30309

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	6
DATE MAILED: 11/17/82	

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

This application has been examined  Responsive to communication filed on \_\_\_\_\_  This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), \_\_\_\_\_ days from the date of this letter.  
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

- Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.
- Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948.
- Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449
- Notice of informal Patent Application, Form PTO-152
- Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474
- \_\_\_\_\_

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- Claims 1-10 are pending in the application.  
Of the above, claims \_\_\_\_\_ are withdrawn from consideration.
- Claims \_\_\_\_\_ have been cancelled.
- Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are allowed.
- Claims 1-10 are rejected.
- Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are objected to.
- Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.
- This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes until such time as allowable subject matter is indicated.
- Allowable subject matter having been indicated, formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.
- The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on \_\_\_\_\_. These drawings are  acceptable;  not acceptable (see explanation).
- The  proposed drawing correction and/or the  proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ has (have) been  approved by the examiner.  disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).
- The proposed drawing correction, filed \_\_\_\_\_, has been  approved.  disapproved (see explanation). However, the Patent and Trademark Office no longer makes drawing changes. It is now applicant's responsibility to ensure that the drawings are corrected. Corrections **MUST** be effected in accordance with the instructions set forth on the attached letter "INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES", PTO-1474.
- Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has  been received  not been received  been filed in parent application, serial no. \_\_\_\_\_; filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
- Other

Art Unit 336

1. Claims 1-5 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his or her invention. For Example:

- A.) Claim 1 "juxtaposed";
- B.) Claim 2 "said dispensing means";
- C.) Claim 4 "said selective movement";
- D.) Claim 10 "said telescopic fit".

2. 35 U.S.C. 103 reads:

"A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made".

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Peterson in view of Wasser, Milewski and Mossel. Although, the invention is not

Serial No. 310,297

-3-

Art Unit 336

identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of Title 35 U.S.C., the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Wasser teaches pivoting of the piston. Milewski teaches pivoting by the use of an unitary hinge. Mossel suggests the above combination with a salt receptacle.

4. The application would appear to disclose allowable subject matter, if specifically claimed.

*Steven A. Brattlie*

Steven Brattlie  
Examiner  
Art Unit 337

S. Brattlie:rk

703-557-3501

11/15/82



336

47

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 0425-1-0070

RECEIVED

FEB 23 1983

GROUP 310

In re application of MARTIN J. WOLFF ET AL.

Serial No. 310,297

Filed: October 9, 1981

For: CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING APPARATUS

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

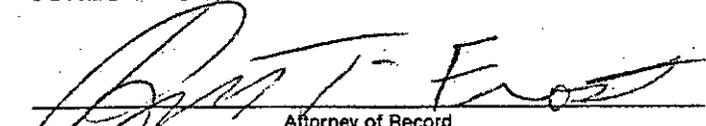
(1)		(2)		(3)	SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY		
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDIT. FEE	OR	RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	11	MINUS	20	= 0	x5=	\$ .		x10=	\$ 0
INDEP.	3	MINUS	3	= 0	x15=	\$		x30=	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM.					+50=	\$		+100=	\$
					TOTAL	\$	OR	TOTAL	\$ 0
					ADDIT. FEE	\$			

- \* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.
- \*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
- \*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- Please charge my Deposit Account No. 10-1215 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
- A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1215. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

JONES & ASKEW

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attorney of Record  
 By: Roger T. Frost



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*[Handwritten signature]*

RECEIVED #7

FEB 23 1983  
336 and a

In re Application of: )  
 MARTIN J. WOLFF ET AL. )  
 Serial No. 310,297 ) Art Unit: 311  
 Filed: October 9, 1981 ) Examiner: Bratlie  
 For: CORN BUTTERING AND )  
 SALTING APPARATUS )

*E. Chan*  
3-17-83

FIRST RESPONSE

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated November 10, 1982 in the patent application identified above, kindly enter the following amendments and consider the appended remarks.

In the Claims

Cancel Claims 1 and 2.

Claim 4, line 2, after "said" insert --exterior--.

Claim 4, lines 6 and 7, cancel "in response to said selective movement,".

Claim 7, cancel lines 2--4 in their entirety.

Rewrite the following claims in amended form:

2) 7/ (Amended) Apparatus as in Claim [1] *6/11*

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231, on Feb 10, 1983

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Signature

wherein:

said butter dispensing means comprises a receptacle [includes] including an opening for receiving a quantity of butter to be dispensed, and also comprises at least one dispensing opening;

a' said salt dispensing means comprises a receptacle [comprises a] having an exterior wall portion; and

said salt receptacle is selectably movable to urge said exterior wall portion toward said butter receiving opening and into engagement with the butter received therein, thereby to urge the butter toward said dispensing opening.

---

9. (Amended) Apparatus as in Claim <sup>8</sup> 8, wherein:

said salt receptacle comprises an opening in spaced apart relation to said bottom wall so as to be facing away from said butter receiving opening;

closure means selectably obstructing said opening; and

22 at least one salt dispensing aperture formed in said closure means,

whereby an article of food such as an ear of corn or the like can be buttered and then salted by first urging the salt receptacle into said butter receptacle while applying said butter dispensing opening to the corn, and then inverting said apparatus to dispense salt onto the corn.

10. (Amended) Apparatus for applying butter and

salt to an article such as an ear of corn or the like, comprising:

first means defining a butter receptacle having a butter receiving opening for receiving [and dispensing] a quantity of butter or the like, and having a butter dispensing opening for dispensing the butter onto the article;

second means defining a salt receptacle for receiving [and dispensing] a quantity of salt or the like; [and]

22  
806 means movably interconnecting said first means and second means and selectably movable either to a first position permitting butter to be inserted in said butter receiving opening, or to a second position entering said butter receiving opening to urge the butter toward ~~said~~ dispensing opening, so that said salt receptacle is operable to dispense butter from said butter receptacle; and

a salt dispensing opening on said salt receptacle unobstructed by said butter receptacle while said salt receptacle remains in said butter receptacle.

---

31. (Amended) Apparatus as in Claim 31, wherein:

23 said butter [receptacle comprises an opening for receiving a quantity of butter to be dispensed, and a dispensing opening [having] has an arcuate configuration for juxtaposition with an ear of corn to be buttered; and

said salt receptacle is configured to fit telescopically into said butter receptacle through said butter receiving opening, so that butter in the butter

a3 receptacle is urged toward said butter dispensing opening as the salt receptacle is urged into the butter receptacle.

---

Add the following new claims:

---

6/ 11. Apparatus for buttering and salting an article of food such as an ear of corn or the like, comprising:

means defining a handle having a first portion and a second portion;

hinge means interconnecting said handle portions;

butter dispensing means disposed at a location on said first handle portion remote from said hinge means and operative to receive and dispense a quantity of butter or the like;

24 salt dispensing means disposed at a location on said second handle portion remote from said hinge means and operative to receive and dispense a quantity of salt or the like;

said butter dispensing means and said salt dispensing means being located in mutual juxtaposition when said first and second handle portions are folded along said hinge means; and

means associated with said salt dispensing means operative to dispense butter from said butter dispensing means with both said dispensing means juxtaposed, so that the food article can be buttered and salted in sequence by said apparatus.

10/ 12. Apparatus as in Claim 11, wherein: 6/

said salt dispensing means is configured to enter said butter dispensing means and urge the butter into application with the food article, as said first and second handle portions are folded over each other with both said dispensing means in mutual juxtaposition.

11  
13. Apparatus as in Claim 11, wherein:

24  
said butter dispensing means comprises a butter dispensing outlet and said salt dispensing means comprises a salt dispensing outlet; and

said butter and salt dispensing outlets being aligned in different radial directions on said handle portions, so that butter or salt dispensing outlets can be selectably applied to a food article by rotating the folded handle portions.

---

#### REMARKS

Claim 1 is cancelled in favor of newly-presented Claim 11, in an effort to define more specifically the allowable subject matter of the present invention. The substance of now-cancelled Claim 2 is substantially included in Claim 11. Certain other claims also are amended in an effort to more specifically define allowable subject matter. Claims 3--13 remain; no specific claim has been allowed, although allowable subject matter was indicated by the Examiner in the first Office Action.

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

The present invention is a buttering/salting apparatus, specifically intended as a single implement

which a person can use both to butter and to salt an ear of corn. The apparatus includes a butter receptacle and a salt receptacle, mounted on handle portions interconnected by a hinge which allows the butter and salt receptacles to be juxtaposed when the handle portions are folded along the hinge. The salt receptacle thus operates to dispense butter from the butter receptacle while the user holds the apparatus by the folded handle portions; after an ear of corn is buttered, the user simply rotates the folded handles to invert the apparatus, placing the salt receptacle in dispensing relation to the corn.

New Claim 11 defines the present invention in structural and functional elements, and in an overall structural-functional interrelation of those elements, which is not obvious in view of the cited art. The apparatus of this claim includes, among other elements, first and second handle portions, and hinge means interconnecting the handle portions. Butter dispensing means and salt dispensing means are disposed on the respective handle portions, remotely located from the hinge means. The separate butter and salt dispensing means are located for mutual juxtaposition when the handle portions are folded along the hinge means, so that the "means associated with said salt receptacle" dispenses butter.

The art applied to reject Claims 1--10 fails to suggest or teach the structural and functional combination of the present invention. This art consists of Peterson (2,527,149), Wasser (2,756,498), Milewski (2,690,657), and Mossel (2,565,874). Of these four references, only a single one (Mossel) discloses the broad concept of a

combined butter and salt spreader for corn on the cob. The other three references disclose various constructions for corn-buttering devices alone. None of these four references, considered individually or in combination, reasonably suggests the present claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Peterson merely discloses a corn butterer with a rectangular butter-receiving receptacle. Wasser and Milewski disclose corn buttering devices with attached butter pressing members, but neither reference discloses the present claimed combination. As to the butter and salt spreader of Mossel, it is not seen how this no-moving-parts device would be combined with the other three references by one of ordinary skill - at least without using the present applicant's teaching.

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention becomes "obvious" only with benefit of hindsight, after applicant's teachings have been studied and the art searched to extract references individually showing various elements of the applicant's invention. The overall structure and function of the present invention is not found anywhere in the cited art, however, and so this applicant's contribution as defined in Claim 11 is entitled to patent protection.

New Claim 12 depends on Claim 11, and more narrowly defines the "salt dispensing means" as being configured to enter the butter dispensing means and urge butter into application with the "food article". This structural and functional relationship takes place as the first and second handle portions are folded over each

other, with both dispensing means in mutual juxtaposition. No such arrangement is even remotely suggested in the cited art, and so Claim 12 properly is patentable thereover.

New Claim 13, also depending on Claim 11, defines butter and salt dispensing outlets on the respective dispensing means. These dispensing outlets are aligned in different radial directions on the handle portions, an arrangement which permits the butter or salt dispensing outlets to be suitably applied to a food article simply by rotating the folded handle portions. Again, the cited art is completely devoid of any teaching enabling one of ordinary skill to make the combination of Claim 13. Accordingly, that claim is patentable over such art.

Claim 3 (Amended) now depends on Claim 11, and is amended for consistent terminology with the new parent claim. Moreover, Claim 3 (Amended) now defines "an exterior wall portion" of the salt dispensing receptacle; this exterior wall portion is urged "...into engagement with the butter received [in the butter receptacle]", to accomplish butter dispensing. Reading Claim 3 (Amended) in the overall combination including Claim 11, the resulting combination is nowhere shown or suggested by the cited art. Accordingly, Claim 3 (Amended) is properly patentable over that art.

Claim 4 is amended to define the "exterior wall portion" as comprising the bottom wall of the salt receptacle. The expression "in response to set selective movement" is deleted from Claim 4 in response to the Examiner's rejection on indefiniteness. Considering in its entirety the structural and functional combination of Claim

4, it is evident this combination is patentable over the cited art.

Claim 5 (Amended), depending from Claim 4, even more narrowly defines the present invention. Specifically, the salt dispensing aperture obstructs the salt receptacle opening "...facing away from said butter receiving opening", which more particularly defines the arrangement whereby corn can be buttered and then salted without clogging the salt dispensing holes with butter. No such arrangement is shown or suggested in the cited art, and so Claim 5 is patentable thereover.

Independent Claim 6 (Amended) defines the present invention in terminology somewhat different from Claim 11, but nonetheless defines a structural and functional combination of elements not taught by the cited art. The salt receptacle and butter receptacle thus are selectably movable to positions allowing butter to be inserted, or entering the salt receptacle into the butter receiving opening to urge butter toward the dispensing opening. The combination of Claim 6 (Amended) further requires a salt dispensing opening unobstructed by the butter receptacle while the salt receptacle remains therein. Claim 6 (Amended) thus defines a novel and unobvious combination, and is properly patentable over the cited art.

Claim 7 is amended to remove an element now substantively present in parent Claim 6. The subject matter of this Claim 7, together with its parent claim, is patentable over the cited art.

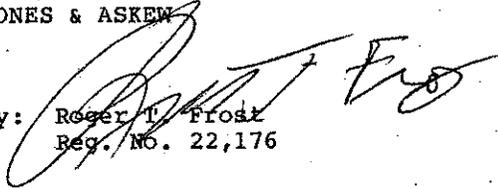
Claim 8 (Amended) deletes certain elements now present in parent Claim 6 (Amended). Furthermore, the word

"telescopically" is added to Claim 8, providing antecedent basis for the corresponding term in Claim 10. This Claim 8, together with dependent Claims 9 and 10, define a structural and functional combination not even remotely suggested by the prior art of record, and so the claims properly are patentable.

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action identified above. All remaining claims are believed to define allowable subject matter, with sufficient specificity so as not to be obvious over the cited art. Accordingly, a notice of allowance directed to all remaining claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES & ASKEW

By:   
Roger T. Frost  
Reg. No. 22,176

404/688-7944  
0425-1-0070



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

<u>310297</u>			
SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	8

DATE MAILED  
**MAILED**  
APR 14 1983  
GROUP 336

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

1.  THIS IS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND BASE ISSUE FEE DUE
2.  All of the claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED in this application in view of: (If not attached hereto, a Notice of Allowance or other appropriate communication will be sent in due course).
  - a.  Applicant's communication filed Feb. 15, 1983
  - b.  Interview summarized on attached EXAMINER INTERVIEW SUMMARY RECORD.
  - c.  Examiner's Amendment to the Record below. Should the changes and/or additions below be unacceptable to applicant, an appropriate amendment to the record may be proposed as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it must be submitted before or with the remittance of the Base Issue Fee.
  - d.  An Examiner's Amendment will follow.
  - e.  The allowed claims are 3-13
3.  PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS REMAINS CLOSED. Should the changes and/or additions below be unacceptable to applicant, an appropriate amendment to the record may be proposed as provided 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it must be submitted before or with the remittance of the Base Issue Fee.

----- EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT TO THE RECORD -----

- A.  Note statement of reasons for allowance contained below. Any comments considered necessary by applicant regarding reasons for allowance must be submitted no later than the payment of the Base Issue Fee, preferably with it, to avoid processing delays. Such submissions should be clearly labeled, "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
- B.  Note attached NOTICE OF REFERENCES CITED, PTO - 892, which is part of this communication. The listed references are considered to be pertinent to the claimed invention, but the claims are deemed to be patentable thereover.
- C.  Note attached LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT, PTO-1449, which is part of this communication and serves as an acknowledgment of receipt of applicant's prior art statement. The references which were considered have been initialed on the form by the examiner, and the claims are deemed patentable thereover.
- D.  The formal drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable.
- E.  The drawing correction request filed on \_\_\_\_\_ has been:  approved,  disapproved.
- F.  Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has:  been received,  not been received,  been filed in parent application, serial no. \_\_\_\_\_  
filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- G.  Note amendment to Specification, Claims and/or Drawing contained below.

*Steven A. Bratlie*

STEVEN A. BRATLIE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 336


**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**

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Washington, D.C. 20231

**NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE  
AND ISSUE FEE DUE**

All communications regarding this application should give the serial number, date of filing, name of applicant, and batch number.

Please direct all communications to the Attention of "OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS" unless advised to the contrary.

The application identified below has been examined and found allowable for issuance of Letters Patent. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

SC/SERIAL NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
06/910,297	10/09/81	011	BRATLIE, S 336	04/14/83
First Named Applicant	WOLFF, MARTIN J.			

 TITLE OF INVENTION **CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING APPARATUS**

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
0425-1-0070	901-012.000	P94	UTILITY	NO	\$500.00	07/14/83

The amount of the issue fee is specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.18 as follows: for an original or reissue patent, except for a design or plant patent, \$500; for a design patent, \$175; and for a plant patent, \$250. If the applicant qualifies for and has filed a verified statement of small entity status in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.27, the issue fee is one-half the respective amount aforementioned. The issue fee due printed above reflects applicant's status as of the time of mailing this notice. A verified statement of small entity status may be filed prior to or with payment of the issue fee. However, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.28, failure to establish status as a small entity prior to or with payment of the issue fee precludes payment of the issue fee in the amount so established for small entities and precludes a refund of any portion thereof paid prior to establishing status as a small entity.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE as indicated above. The application shall otherwise be regarded as ABANDONED. The issue fee will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the Patent and Trademark Office. Where an authorization to charge the issue fee to a deposit account has been filed before the mailing of the notice of allowance, the issue fee is charged to the deposit account at the time of mailing of this notice in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.311. If the issue fee has been so charged, it is indicated above.

In order to minimize delays in the issuance of a patent based on this application, this Notice may have been mailed prior to completion of final processing. The nature and/or extent of the remaining revision or processing requirements may cause slight delays of the patent. In addition, if prosecution is to be reopened, this Notice of Allowance will be vacated and the appropriate Office action will follow in due course. If the issue fee has already been paid and prosecution is reopened, the applicant may request a refund or request that the fee be credited to a Deposit Account. However, applicant may wait until the application is either found allowable or held abandoned. If allowed, upon receipt of a new Notice of Allowance, applicant may request that the previously submitted issue fee be applied. If abandoned, applicant may request refund or credit to a Deposit Account.

In the case of each patent issuing without an assignment, the complete post office address of the inventor(s) will be printed in the patent heading and in the Official Gazette. If the inventor's address is now different from the address which appears in the application, please fill in the information in the spaces provided on PTOL-85b enclosed. If there are address changes for more than two inventors, enter the additional addresses on the reverse side of the PTOL-85b.

The appropriate spaces in the ASSIGNMENT DATA section of PTOL-85b must be completed in all cases. If it is desired to have the patent issue to an assignee, an assignment must have been previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office or must be submitted not later than the date of payment of the issue fee as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.334. Where there is an assignment, the assignee's name and address must be provided on the PTOL-85b to ensure its inclusion in the printed patent.

Advance orders for 10 or more printed copies of the prospective patent can be made by completing the information in Section 4 of PTOL-85b and submitting payment therewith. If use of a Deposit Account is being authorized for payment, PTOL-85c should also be forwarded. The order must be for at least 10 copies and must accompany the issue fee. The copies ordered will be sent only to the address specified in section 1 or 1A of PTOL-85b.

 Note attached communication from Examiner.

 This notice is issued in view of applicant's communication filed \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT**

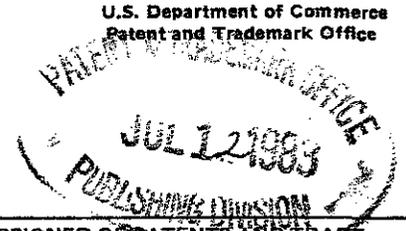
ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO 37 C.F.R. 1.334

 THE PATENT WILL ISSUE TO APPLICANT  
UNLESS AN ASSIGNEE IS SHOWN IN  
ITEM 3 ON FORM PTOL-85b, ATTACHED

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office



<p>1.</p> <p><b>JONES &amp; ASKEN</b>  <b>1620 ATLANTA GAS LIGHT TOWER</b>  <b>235 PEACHTREE STREET</b>  <b>ATLANTA, GA. 30303</b></p>	<p>2A. The COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADE-MARKS is requested to apply the Issue Fee to the application identified below.</p> <hr/> <p>(Signature of party in interest of record) <span style="float: right;">(Date)</span></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Leigh B. Taylor</i> <span style="float: right;">6-23-83</span></p> <hr/> <p>Note: The Issue Fee will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the Patent and Trademark Office.</p>
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SC/SERIAL NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
06/319,297	10/09/81	011	BRATLIE, S 336	04/14/83
First Named Applicant: <b>WELFF, MARTIN J.</b>				

TITLE OF INVENTION: **CORN BUTTERING AND SALTING APPARATUS**

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
0425-1-0070	401-012.000	P94	UTILITY	NO	8500.00	07/14/83

<p>1A. Further correspondence to be mailed to the following:</p> <p><b>Dart &amp; Kraft, Inc.</b>  <b>Patent Department</b>  <b>2211 Sanders Road</b>  <b>Northbrook, Illinois 60062</b></p>	<p>2B. For printing on the patent front page, list the names of not more than 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, the name of a firm having as a member a registered attorney or agent. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.</p> <p>_____ 1          _____ 2          _____ 3</p>
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<p>3. ASSIGNMENT DATA (print or type)</p> <p>A. (1) <input type="checkbox"/> This application is NOT assigned.          (2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office.          (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment submitted herewith.</p> <p>B. For Printing On The Patent: (Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data below is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the PTO or is submitted herewith. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing of an assignment as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.334).</p> <p>(1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: <b>Dart Industries Inc.</b></p> <p>(2) ADDRESS: (City &amp; State or Country) <b>Northbrook, Illinois</b></p> <p>(3) STATE OF INCORPORATION, IF ASSIGNEE IS A CORPORATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delaware</p>	<p>4.</p> <p>The following fees are enclose:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issue fee      <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced order      <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment recording</p> <p>The following fees should be charged to deposit acc. no. <u>04-0150</u>          (PTOL-85c must be enclosed)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Issue fee  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced order  <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment recording</p> <p>Number of advanced order copies requested <u>10</u>          (must be for 10 or more copies)</p>
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION  
RECORD

310297 10-9-81

APPLICANT (First Named Only)

Wolff et al

CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I

(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER FILED	(4) RATE	(5) BASIC FEE \$65.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	10 -10=	=	x \$2.00	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2 -1=	1 =	x \$10.00	10
TOTAL FILING FEE →				75

CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II

	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEE
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INDEP.	*	MINUS	=	x \$10	=
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT →					
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TOTAL	*	MINUS	=	x \$2	=
INDEP.	*	MINUS	=	x \$10	=
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT →					
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INDEP.	*	MINUS	=	x \$10	=
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TOTAL	*	MINUS	=	x \$2	=
INDEP.	*	MINUS	=	x \$10	=
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT →					

If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 10, write "10" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" ("Total" or "Indep.") is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Column 2.



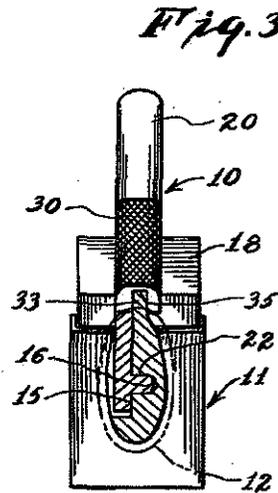
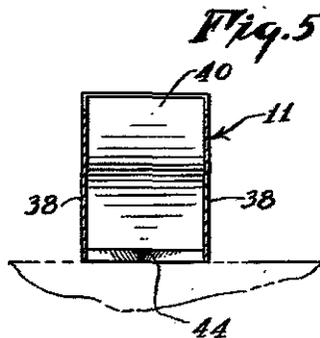
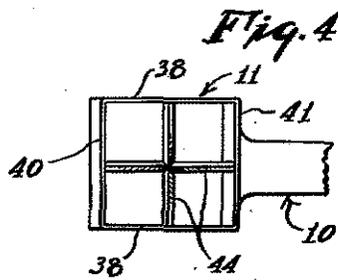
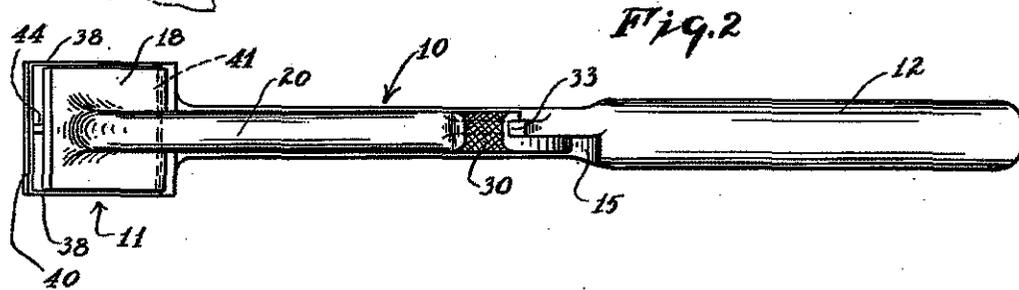
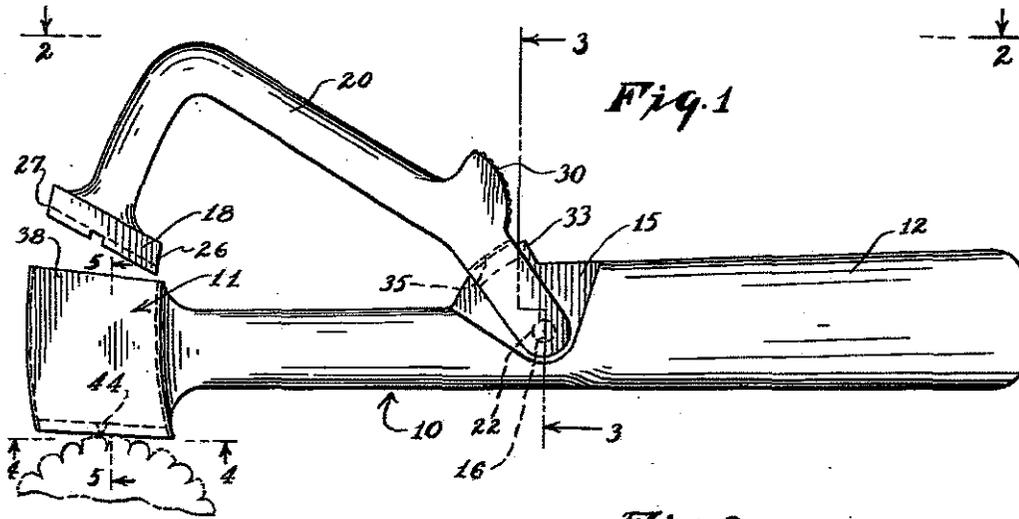
July 31, 1956

F. WASSER

2,756,498

DEVICE FOR SPREADING BUTTER OR THE LIKE

Filed Jan. 19, 1954



INVENTOR.

Fred Wasser  
BY Emory, Varnum,  
Whittemore & Dix  
ATTORNEYS

1

2,756,498

**DEVICE FOR SPREADING BUTTER OR THE LIKE**

Fred Wasser, Yonkers, N. Y.

Application January 19, 1954, Serial No. 404,986

7 Claims. (Cl. 30—130)

This invention relates to apparatus for spreading material, such as butter, on ears of corn, toast, or other surfaces to which a spread is to be applied.

Various devices have been proposed for holding butter and for spreading it on hot cobs of corn, but these devices have been impractical; sometimes because of the inconvenience in using them and sometimes because of difficulty in cleaning them.

It is an object of the invention to provide an improved spreader which can be used for buttering corn on the cob, as well as for applying other spreads to the surfaces of other objects. One feature of the invention relates to a simplified construction which is economical to manufacture, convenient to use and easy to clean.

Another object of the invention is to provide a butter spreader which is quickly and conveniently loaded by merely pressing one end of a butter chamber into a bar or jar of butter, and without requiring removal of the piston or other means which are used for forcing the butter from the butter holder when in use.

One feature of the invention relates to a construction of the butter chamber with thin sides that will slice into the butter when the chamber is being filled, but which are reinforced without interfering with their slicing function. The apparatus of this invention can be filled and can be used for spreading its contents by measures which require the use of only one hand. This leaves the other hand free for holding the object being spread on, when this is desirable or necessary.

Other objects, features and advantages of the invention will appear or be pointed out as the description proceeds.

In the drawing, forming a part hereof, in which like reference characters indicate corresponding parts in all the views:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a butter spreader made in accordance with this invention;

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the butter spreader shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a face view of the butter chamber, the view being taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1; and

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

The apparatus shown in the drawing is particularly intended for, and will be described as, a butter spreader, but it will be understood that the invention can be used for other spreads of a consistency similar to butter, and even when the spread is of a substantially different consistency. The device includes a body portion 10 having a butter holder 11 at one end and a grip portion 12 at the other end.

At an intermediate location, between the ends of the grip portion 12, there is a recess 15 with a socket 16 in its vertical face. A plunger 18 is connected to one end of a plunger frame 20; and the other end of the plunger frame extends into the recess 15 and has a stud 22 which

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fits into the socket 16. The plunger frame 20 swings about the axis of the socket 16, and the parts are so proportioned that the plunger 18 enters the open upper end of the butter holder 11 as the frame 20 swings about the axis of the socket 16. The plunger 18 has side edges 26 and 27 which are surfaces of revolution about the axis of the socket 16. The inside walls of the butter holder 11, along which the sides 26 and 27 move, are similarly shaped about the axis of the socket 16.

Further clockwise movement of the plunger frame 20, about the axis, causes the plunger to travel downwardly in the butter holder 11 so as to displace butter from the holder through an open lower end of the holder. This movement is imparted to the plunger frame 20 by pressing the thumb against a lug 30 which projects upwardly from the frame 20, near the rearward end of the frame and in a convenient position to be reached by the thumb of a hand holding the grip portion 12.

The convenient removal of the plunger frame 20 from the body portion 10 facilitates the washing and cleaning of the apparatus after use. In order to hold the parts assembled during use, however, there is a ridge 33 extending upwardly above the vertical face of the recess 15 and constituting a continuation of that vertical face. The plunger frame 20 has a channel 35, best shown in Figure 3, which extends across the ridge 33 and down the other side of the ridge so as to prevent transverse displacement of the plunger frame 20. This prevents the stud 22 from being pulled out of the socket 16 when the apparatus is in use.

Referring again to Figure 1, it will be evident that the ridge 33 terminates at an intermediate location between the sides of the recess 15 so that when the plunger frame 20 is swung rearwardly (clockwise), as far as possible in Figure 1, the channel in the plunger frame moves beyond the end of the ridge 33 and no longer prevents removal of the plunger frame from the socket 15.

Figure 2 shows a top plan view of the spreader and illustrates the knurled top surface of the lug 30. The plunger 28 is in a position to expose a portion of the interior of the butter holder 11, and illustrates the narrow width of the side walls 38 of the butter holder. These side walls may be made of sheet metal or thin plastic, or other thin material which will cut butter. If the walls 38 are sufficiently thin, it is not necessary that their lower edges be sharpened in order to cut into the butter when filling the holder.

The butter holder 11 also has a forward wall 40 and a rearward wall 41 (Figure 4) constructed of the same thin material as the side walls 38, and preferably of one-piece construction with the side walls 38. These side walls 38, 40 and 41 are reinforced against bending by the connection of the back wall 41 to the body portion 10 and by grid elements 44 connected to an intermediate portion of each of the side walls at the lower end of the butter holder.

These grids 44 serve the additional function of preventing the butter from falling out of the holder. They have upper faces which are of substantial width, as shown in Figure 5, and they have wedge-shaped cross sections so that they will cut through the butter when the butter holder is pressed into a mass of butter for reloading the butter holder. The side walls cut into the butter by virtue of their narrow width, and the grids 44 cut into the butter because of their sharpened lower edges. As the butter passes upwardly beyond the wide upper surfaces of the grids 44, it comes together so that the grids offer a resistance to movement of the butter downwardly in the butter holder. However, sufficient pressure can conveniently be applied to the plunger to force the butter outwardly around the grids when using the invention to spread the butter.

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The preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, but changes and modifications can be made and some features can be used in different combinations without departing from the invention as described in the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A device for spreading butter or the like, including a butter holder consisting of a plurality of side walls enclosing a space of substantially uniform cross section throughout its length, the space being open at its upper end, and open at its lower end except for narrow connecting means extending across said lower end and between side walls of the space for supporting a mass of butter in the space, the side walls being constructed of stiff sheet material for cutting into a mass of butter, a body portion of the device with one end connected to the butter holder, a plunger that fits the space in the holder as a piston, a frame connected to the piston, and a pivot connection between the frame and the body portion and near one end of the frame and around which the frame swings to move the plunger up and down within the holder, the inside faces of the holder being shaped to correspond to the paths of movement of the edges of the plunger as the plunger swings about the axis of the pivot connection, the body portion having a handle on the side remote from the holder, and a pressure lug on the frame near the pivot end of the frame and in position to be pressed by the thumb of a hand which is gripping the handle.

2. The spreading device described in claim 1, and in which said connecting means are bars extending in different directions between different side walls of the holder for providing a distribution of the support for the butter over the bottom face of a mass of butter in the holder, and in which the frame is connected with the body portion of the device by a pivot pin extending into a socket.

3. The spreading device described in claim 1, and in which all of the walls of the holder are of one-piece construction with one another, and said connecting means are bars extending across the bottom of the holder between different walls to provide distributed support over the bottom face of a mass of butter in the holder; the body portion and handle of the device also being of one-piece construction with the side walls and in which the frame is connected to the body portion by a pivot pin extending into a socket.

4. A device for spreading butter or the like comprising a holder for the butter consisting of a plurality of side walls enclosing a space which is open at its upper end and at least partially open at its lower end, a body portion by which the holder is carried, a plunger that fits the space within the holder and that is movable in the holder in the manner of a piston, a frame connected to the plunger, a detachable pivot connection between the frame and the body portion, and means for preventing detachment of the pivot connection when the frame is within the angular range of movement, that locates the plunger in the holder, said means including a ridge and

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groove, which engage with one another and one of which is formed on the frame and the other of which is formed on the body portion, the ridge and groove being angularly movable with respect to one another about the axis of said pivot connection and in a direction that withdraws the plunger from the top of the holder and into a position where the ridge and groove no longer engage with one another to prevent detachment of the pivot connection.

5. The device for spreading butter or the like, as described in claim 4, and in which the frame has an end portion which is connected to the body portion of the device within a recess in the side and top of the body portion, the recess being open through one side of the body portion for the removal of the frame from the body portion in the direction of the axis of the pivot connection, and the forward and rearward ends of the recess having faces that serve as abutments for limiting the angular movement of the frame about the pivot connection.

6. The device for spreading butter or the like, as described in claim 4, and in which the frame extends into a recess formed in the top and one side of the body portion, and in which the pivot connection includes a stud on the frame extending into a bore in the side wall of the recess in a direction extending toward the open side of the recess so that the pivot connection between the frame and the body portion can be disconnected by moving the frame out through the open side of the recess.

7. A device for spreading butter or the like including a holder for the butter consisting of a plurality of side walls enclosing a space of substantially uniform cross section, said space being open at its upper end and at least most of the cross-section of the lower end being also open, a body portion of the device extending from the holder and having a handle at one end remote from the holder, a plunger that fits within the holder like a piston, a frame connected to the plunger, a pivot connection joining the frame to the body portion at the end of the handle which is nearer to said holder, the inside faces of the butter holder being shaped to the paths of the edges of the plunger as they swing about the axis of said pivot connection, and a pressure lug on the frame near the pivot end of the frame and in position to be pressed by the thumb of a hand which is gripping the handle.

#### References Cited in the file of this patent

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Oct. 5, 1954

W. C. MILEWSKI

2,690,657

DEVICE FOR APPLYING AND SPREADING BUTTER TO CORN ON THE COB

Filed March 22, 1952

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

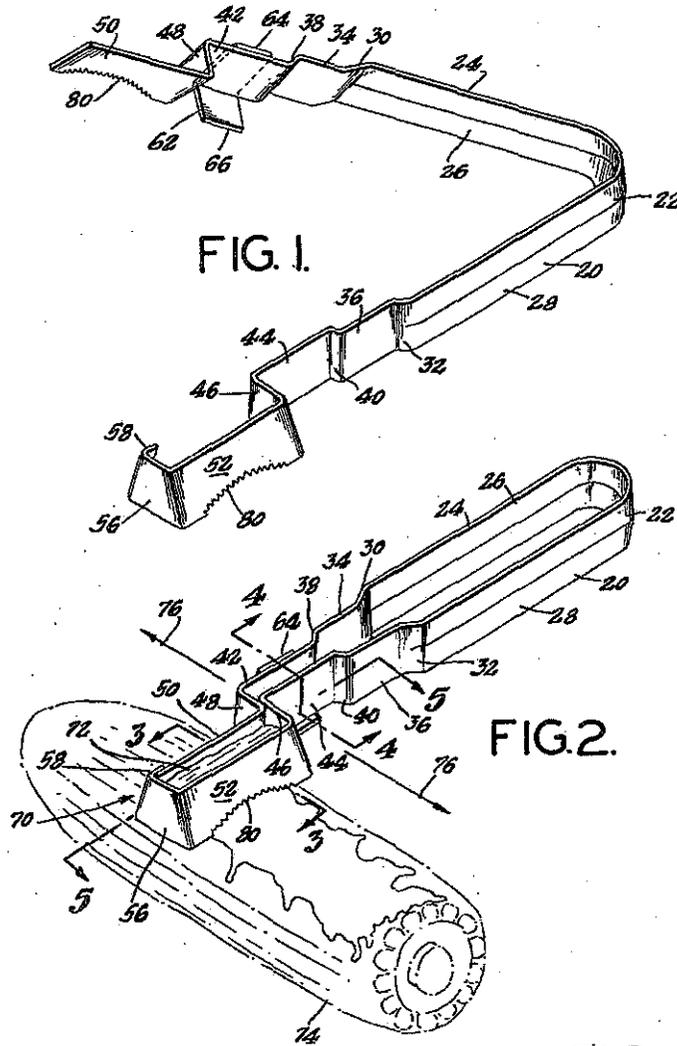


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

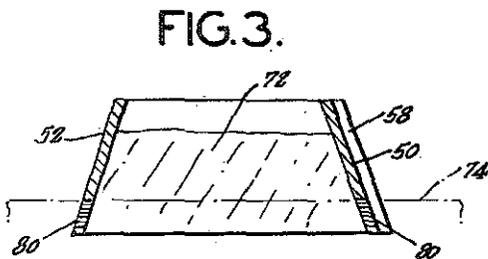


FIG. 3.

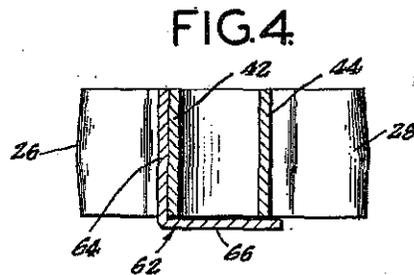


FIG. 4.

INVENTOR.  
WALTER C. MILEWSKI

BY

*W. W. W. W.*

ATTORNEY.

Oct. 5, 1954

W. C. MILEWSKI

2,690,657

DEVICE FOR APPLYING AND SPREADING BUTTER TO CORN ON THE COB

Filed March 22, 1952

2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 5.

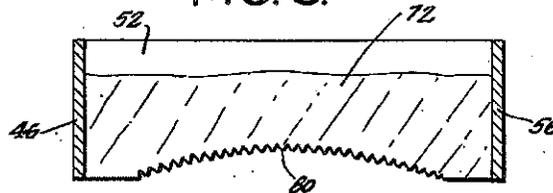


FIG. 6.

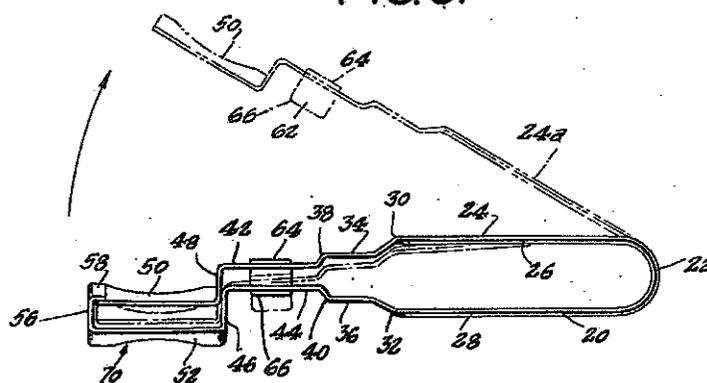
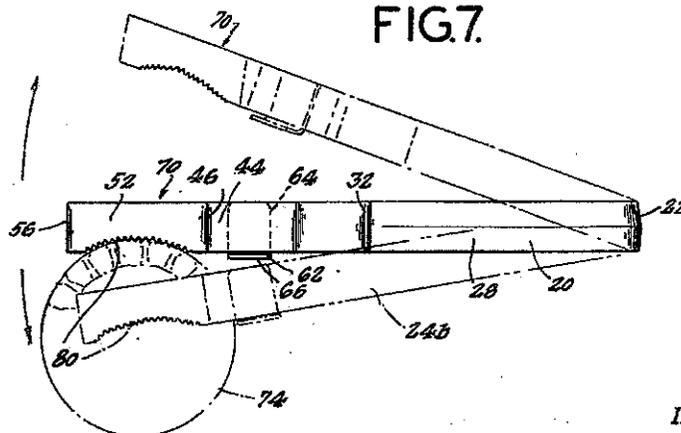


FIG. 7.



INVENTOR.  
WALTER C. MILEWSKI  
BY  
*Wentura*  
ATTORNEY.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,690,657

## DEVICE FOR APPLYING AND SPREADING BUTTER TO CORN ON THE COB

Walter C. Milewski, New York, N. Y.

Application March 22, 1952, Serial No. 278,084

2 Claims. (Cl. 65—12)

1

This invention relates to improvements in devices for spreading and applying butter to corn on the cob and the like.

An object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved device for holding a supply of butter and applying it to an ear of corn on the cob or the like.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved butter holder and applicator which has substantially no more bulk or weight than an ordinary table fork or knife, and has a compartment formed therein to receive a supply of butter which is then subjected to pressure for applying the same to the kernels of an ear of corn on the cob.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved butter holder and applicator for corn on the cob, in which there are a pair of levers, portions of which form a handle, the levers forming at their distal ends a butter receiving chamber with sloping sides, so that as the user squeezes the levers toward each other, the butter in the chamber is squeezed downwards, against the surface of the kernels of an ear of corn or the like, and thus applied smoothly therealong as the device is moved along the length of the ear of corn.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved butter holder and applicator which is constructed to form a chamber holding a substantial quantity of butter, and for applying the same to the ear of corn without any waste whatsoever, and without danger of spilling the butter.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved butter holder and applicator in which the user can apply the butter to the corn at any desired speed, the butter chamber having sloping opposite walls which are movable toward each other to the degree desired by the user, to squeeze a greater or lesser quantity of butter below the lower edge of the butter chamber for spreading, so that the taste and desires of the user of the device are easily met.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved butter holder and spreader of the type described, which has a minimum of parts, and which can be readily opened out for cleaning all portions of the device, so as to maintain the utmost in sanitary conditions.

A further object of the invention is to pro-

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and highly effective and efficient for its intended purposes.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof, and in which,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the device, with its two major leg portions in disengaged opened out positions, ready for washing or cleaning;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the device of Figure 1, with its leg portions in engaged positions, ready for application of butter to an ear of corn, the latter being indicated in broken lines;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the plane 3—3 of Figure 2;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view taken substantially on plane 4—4 of Figure 2;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view taken on plane 5—5 of Figure 2;

Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the device shown in Figure 2, and indicating in broken lines the opened out position of one of the major leg portions thereof; and

Fig. 7 is a front elevational view of Figure 6, illustrating the method of placing the leg members in effective position for use.

The present invention has been conceived to make the eating of corn on the cob a more enjoyable eating habit. As it will retain and apply butter evenly and quickly, it will be far easier to manage and less messy to a larger extent than using a conventional table knife or fork. Where the latter are used, the heat of the corn is rapidly transmitted to the knife blade, and as a result of this condition, the manipulation of the butter with the knife or work becomes awkward, very unmanageable, and messy. Further, the present high cost of butter makes it doubly imperative that none of the butter drip or become lost otherwise.

The device described herein includes a pair of legs secured resiliently together at one end, and having jaws at their other ends, constructed to coact with end walls to form a butter receiving compartment, so that squeezing of the legs of the device together will compress the jaws together, the jaws being downwardly divergent, and hence will result in squeezing the butter in a downward direction onto the corn on the cob. In order to understand clearly

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to the drawings, in which like numerals denote similar parts throughout the several views.

As shown, there is a first major leg member 20, formed of sheet metal or other suitable material including plastic, which is integral with a curved web 22, the other end of which is integrated with the second major leg member 24. As seen best in Figures 1 and 6, the web 22 resiliently interconnects the two major leg members 20 and 24, so that when they are in the opened out positions shown in Figure 1, and in broken lines in Figure 6, a substantial angle will exist between the leg members, as shown.

The leg members 20 and 24 have relatively long grasping or handle portions 26 and 28, with inbent portions 30 and 32 merging smoothly with forearm portions 34 and 36 disposed as shown, and inbent portions 38 and 40 merging with integral wrist portions 42 and 44. From Figure 6, it is seen that the portions 24, 34 and 42 are substantially parallel, and that the portions 28, 36 and 44 of the other major leg portion are also substantially parallel, when in the position shown in full lines in Figure 6.

A wall 46 is perpendicular to and integral with the wrist wall 44 of major leg member 20, and a corresponding wall 48 is perpendicular to and integral with the wrist wall 42 of the major leg member 24, so that, when in the positions shown in Figures 2 and 6, the walls 46 and 48 are substantially parallel with each other, and in close proximity, and in fact substantially in sliding contact with each other. Butter spreading jaw walls 50 and 52 are integral respectively with the walls 46 and 48, as shown, it being apparent that the wall 50 is in a plane perpendicular to the plane of wall 46, and intersecting with the same, while the wall 52 is in a plane perpendicular to the plane of wall 48 and intersecting with the same. However, from Figure 3 it is seen that the planes of walls 50 and 52 are downwardly divergent, so that their lower edges are further apart than their upper edges.

Similarly, it is seen that there is an end wall 56 which is integral with wall 52 and perpendicular thereto, being parallel with wall 46, and that the wall 56 has an intumed retaining or locking flange 58 which is integral therewith and turned perpendicular thereto as shown, so as to overlie the outer end of the wall 50 of the other major leg member 24 which is disposed in the positions shown in Figures 2, 6 and 7. The locking flange 58 thus serves to retain the wall or jaw 50 against expanding further than the position shown in Figures 2 and 6, when the parts are in such engagement.

A keeper elbow member 62 has one leg 64 secured by welding or otherwise to the wall 42 of major leg member 24 for movement therewith, and has a bottom wall or leg 66 extending outwards at right angles thereto as shown, so that it underlies the wall 44 when in the positions shown in Figures 2 and 6, thus blocking the upward motion of the leg 24 and out of disengagement with the other leg 20. As a result, to disengage the leg 24 from the leg 20 when in the positions of Figures 2 and 6, it is necessary to move the leg member 24 downwards to the position shown in broken lines at 24b in Figure 7, at which it will clear the locking flange 58, and then allow it to spring outwardly to the position shown in full lines in Figure 1, for washing, cleaning and other purposes.

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ures 2 and 6, to press the dispensing head 70, which includes both jaws 50 and 52 and the surrounding wall members, downwards into a slab of butter, so that the butter 72 will be scooped inside the dispensing head as seen in Figure 2. The dispensing head 70 is then brought over an ear 74 of corn on the cob, with its larger opening resting on the ear of corn in the manner shown in Figure 2, and the user then merely moves the dispensing head along the corn ear longitudinally in the directions of the arrows 76, back and forth, turning the corn as the new kernels are to be covered with butter.

By pressing the arms 26 and 28 together with his fingers, the user exerts wedging action on the butter between the downwardly divergent jaw walls 50 and 52, exerting a downward bias on the block of butter 72 which is in the dispensing chamber between the walls 50 and 52, forcing the butter downwards against the underlying ear of corn and thereon. The sloping jaw walls 50 and 52, through their wedging action on the butter slowly squeeze the butter downward into constant contact with the hot corn. This action causes the butter to be melted and distributed evenly over the kernels of the cob. To further enhance the distribution of the butter over the corn, I may provide curved serrated dispensing edges 80 formed in the lower edges of the jaw walls 50 and 52 of the device, the curvature of the dispensing edges being adapted to correspond substantially to the curvature of the corn cob, so that there is little if any leakage therewith.

For cleaning purposes, the device is unsprung, as shown in Figure 1, by depressing the leg 24 to the position 24b shown in Figure 7, and may be washed and thoroughly cleaned.

Although I have described my invention in specific terms, it will be understood that variations may be made in size, shape, materials and arrangement without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

I claim:

1. A butter applicator device comprising: a first leg member, a second leg member, web means interconnecting resiliently said first and second leg members, first inner end wall means carried by said first leg member and extending at right angles thereto, second inner end wall means carried by said second leg member and extending at right angles thereto and parallel to said first inner end wall means, first jaw means carried by said first inner end wall means and movable therewith, second jaw means carried by said second inner end wall means and movable therewith, said second inner end wall means acting as guiding means to induce relative rectilinear movement between said first and second jaw means, said first and second jaw means being downwardly divergent to form therebetween a butter compartment, and outer end wall means carried by said second jaw means and parallel to said second inner end wall means, and flange means extending substantially perpendicularly from said outer end wall means to block movement of said first jaw means out of engagement therewith; whereby, butter disposed between said first and second jaw means is squeezed downwardly out therefrom upon squeezing pressure on said first and second leg members.

2. The construction according to claim 1 wherein said first and second jaw means have

spreadable evenly over an ear of corn as the device is moved longitudinally therealong while said first and second leg members are squeezed together.

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Aug. 28, 1951

M. N. MOSSEL

2,565,874

BUTTER AND SALT SPREADER FOR CORN-ON-THE-COB

Filed April 15, 1946

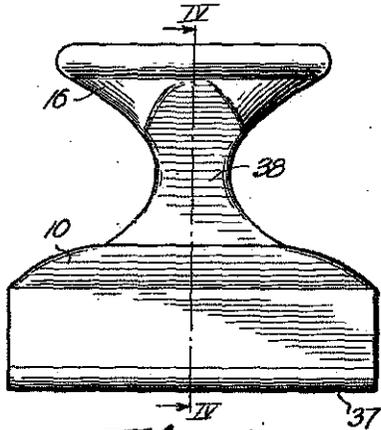


Fig. 1.

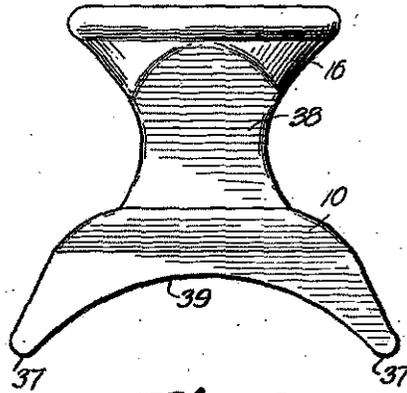


Fig. 2.

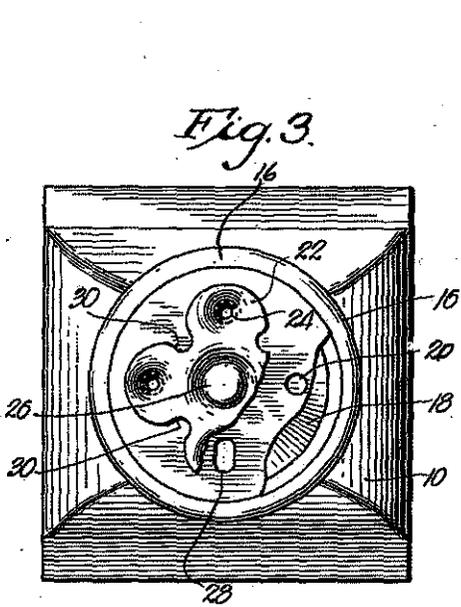


Fig. 3.

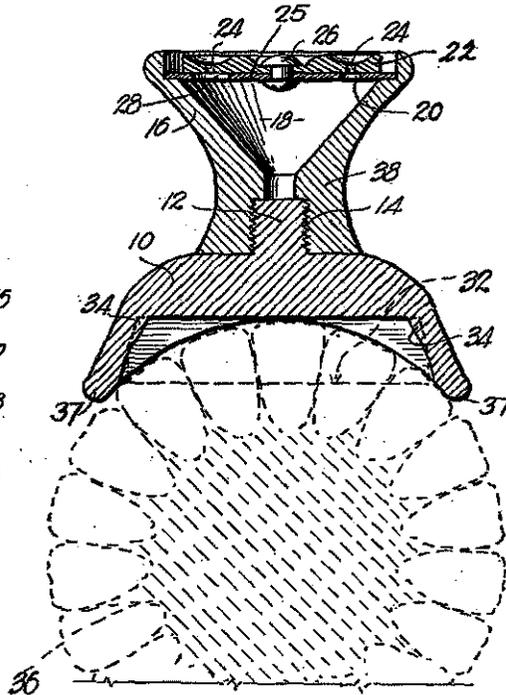


Fig. 4.

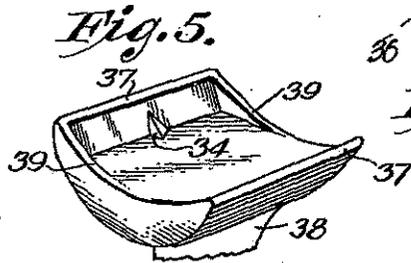


Fig. 5.

INVENTOR.  
Max N. Mossel  
BY *Paul J. Young*  
ATTORNEY.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,565,874

## BUTTER AND SALT SPREADER FOR CORN-ON-THE-COB

Max N. Messel, Fulton, Mo.

Application April 15, 1946, Serial No. 662,110

1 Claim. (CL 65—12)

1

This invention relates to tableware in the character of a manually manipulable applicator for butter and salt that has for its primary aim to provide an unique, novel, compact and efficiently operating tool for use on the dining table in quickly spreading butter and sprinkling salt directly onto corn-on-the-cob.

One of the important aims of this invention is to provide a butter and salt spreader for corn-on-the-cob which is provided with means for positively mounting the pat of butter in place during its application to the surface of the corn and which is provided with a container for the salt to be applied, which container is cooperatively interconnected to the butter applying portion of the spreader in a way allowing the container for the salt to be filled when the same is disassembled from the butter spreading portion.

Further objects of the invention include the specific manner of constructing the spreader, the way of forming the parts thereof to accomplish the end desired and the unique form of the entire assembly that renders the same easy to manipulate as well as further aims which will appear during the course of the following specification referring to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the butter and salt spreader for corn-on-the-cob made pursuant to my invention.

Fig. 2 is an end elevational view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on line IV—IV of Fig. 1 showing the spreader in place on an ear of corn; and

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary, inverted, perspective view of the spreader.

This application is a continuation in part of my co-pending application, Serial No. 639,874, filed January 8, 1946, now U. S. Letters Patent No. 2,478,122, dated August 2, 1949, for Corn-on-Cob-Butterer, and the broad object of the invention about to be described is, in the main, substantially the same as the primary aims of the invention described in the said co-pending application.

It is always desirable to have available a convenient tool or applicator for butter and salt when they are to be evenly spread over the surface of an ear of corn. The spreader now to be specified is simpler in form than the one dis-

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closed in my co-pending application and includes in addition thereto, a conveniently disposed salt shaker that is contoured and so attached to the butter spreader as to render manual manipulation easy and effective.

In the form of the invention chosen for illustration, the numeral 10 designates a substantially tray-like body having an externally threaded boss 12 on the top thereof to be received within an internally threaded socket 14 formed in the end of the salt container 16. This salt container has a cavity 18 therein which communicates with socket 14 and therefore, when container 16 is removed from association with body 10, it is possible to fill cavity 18 with a quantity of salt to be shaken therefrom through the perforations 20 formed in the top thereof. Perforations 20 are opened and closed through the medium of a plate 22 having a number of holes 24 provided there-through and formed as clearly shown in Fig. 3. Plate 22 is rotatably secured to the top perforated wall 25 of container 16 by a rivet or the like 26 that allows rotation of plate 22 and, therefore, permits holes 24 to be brought into register with perforations 20. One of perforations 20 is a relatively large aperture 28 through which container 16 may be loaded when plate 22 is turned to a position where one of the notches 30 uncovers this said aperture.

When plate 22 is formed as shown in Fig. 3, a notch 30 is between each hole 24, and it therefore, becomes necessary only to rotate plate 22 through 45 degrees in order to have aperture 28 accessible.

Body 10 is unique in its ability to support a pat of butter 32 and prevent its slipping from within its tray-like confines as shown in Fig. 4. Body 10 has a pair of spaced, outwardly flared flanges 37 extending in opposed relation to boss 12 forming sides of such butter receiving tray or cavity. These flanges 37 are joined by a pair of spaced arcuate flanges 39 forming end walls for the butter tray. These flanges 39 conform to the contour of an ear of corn 36 and curve outwardly from the bottom of the tray toward the walls 37 with which they join as clearly shown in Fig. 5. A pointed, wedge-shaped ear 34 is disposed along the innermost face of each flange 37 respectively, intermediate the ends thereof at the innermost longitudinal edge thereof. These ears project into the pat of butter 32 to prevent its slip-

3

ping from place when the spreader is moved over the surface of the ear of corn 36. When all of the butter has been spread upon the surface of the ear of corn 36, the container 16 may be brought into play merely by reversing the position of the spreader and since the manipulator will grasp the neck 38 between the first two fingers during the spreading of the butter, it will be easy to reverse the position of the spreader and have the same available for sprinkling of salt directly on to the corn.

It is realized that spreaders having physical characteristics different from those shown in the drawing and above described may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or scope of the appended claim.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

In a tableware article having a hollow body adapted to receive salt and provided with an inlet opening, a butter spreader for corn-on-the-cob comprising a member having a part adapted for removable connection with said body in closing relationship in said inlet opening, said member being provided with a cavity on one face thereof opposed to said part, there being a pair of opposed, outwardly-flared flanges having spaced, interconnecting walls, said flanges and said walls defining said cavity, said walls being cut away to conform to the contour of the ear of corn; and means in the cavity for holding a pad of butter therewith, said body having an hour-

4

glass conformation whereby the same serves as a handle for the member.

MAX N. MOSSEL.

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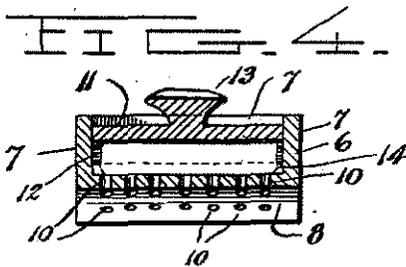
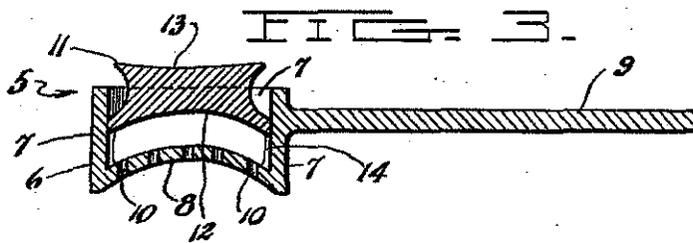
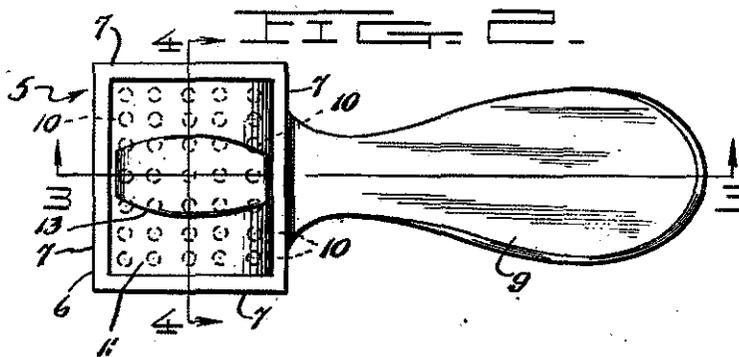
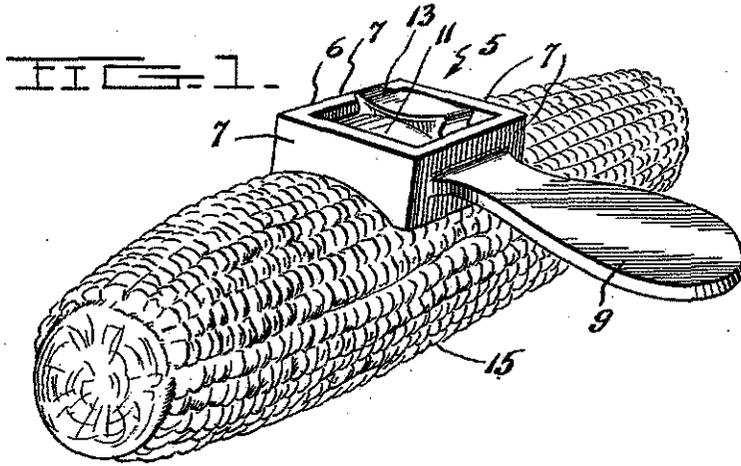
Oct. 24, 1950

F. A. PETERSON

2,527,149

CORN BUTTERER

Filed July 22, 1946



Inventor

*Francis A. Peterson*

By

*Clarence A. O'Brien*  
*and Harvey B. Jacobson*  
Attorneys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,527,149

## CORN BUTTERER

Francis A. Peterson, Newport, R. I.

Application July 22, 1946, Serial No. 685,541

1 Claim. (Cl. 65—12)

1

This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in utensils, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a device of the character herein described, such as may be conveniently and effectively employed for applying butter, or the like, to an ear of corn.

A further object of the invention is to provide a utensil whereby the butter may be easily applied in a uniform manner and with the minimum amount of waste.

Another object of the invention is to provide a utensil which is simple in construction and which can be easily kept clean.

An additional object of the invention is to provide a utensil which is pleasing in appearance and which will readily lend itself to economical manufacture.

With the above more important objects in view and such other objects as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially of the construction and arrangement of parts as shown in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the invention in use.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the invention per se.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 3—3 in Figure 2, and

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 4—4 in Figure 2.

Like characters of reference are used to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the invention consists of a utensil designated generally by the reference character 5, the same embodying in its construction a receptacle 6 having a substantially rectangular configuration and consisting of the side walls 7 and the bottom 8. It will be noted that the receptacle 6 is open at the top thereof and a suitable, laterally projecting handle 9 is secured to one of the walls 7, as will be clearly understood from the drawings.

The bottom 8 of the receptacle 6 is concave and is formed with a plurality of perforations 10, the purpose of which will be hereinafter more fully explained.

A plunger block 11 is slidably and removably positioned in the receptacle 6, the under-surface 12 of the plunger block being concaved complementarily to the aforementioned concave bottom 8. The upper surface of the plunger block 11 is formed with a suitable finger grip 13, configured substantially as shown.

2

It will be observed that the plunger block 11 is complementary to the opening in the receptacle 6, that is, the outer dimensions of the block are such that it fits snugly, yet slidably, between the receptacle walls 7.

When the invention is placed in use, a piece of butter 14, or the like, is placed in the receptacle, whereupon the plunger block 11 is positioned on the piece of butter, as is that shown in Figures 3 and 4. The utensil may then be applied to the ear of corn 15 and the heat of the corn will be imparted to and conducted by the receptacle 6, so that the butter therein will melt and pass on to the corn through the perforations 10.

It will be observed that the butter may be applied uniformly and without waste over the entire ear of corn.

It is believed that the advantages in use of the invention will be clearly understood from the foregoing disclosure and accordingly, further description thereof at this point is considered unnecessary.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention it is to be understood that minor changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as my invention is:

A buttering device comprising a substantially rectangular butter receiving receptacle open at its upper end and having a concaved, perforated bottom wall conforming to the outer surface of an ear of corn, a handle carried by the receptacle, a gravity actuated plunger block slidably mounted in the receptacle, said plunger block having an inner concaved surface, and a finger grip carried by the plunger block.

FRANCIS A. PETERSON.

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