**Necks**

Generally speaking, milk bottle necks remained the same from the invention of the common sense milk bottle in 1886 until the square milk bottles of the 1940s dominated the industry. However, a few changes appeared periodically, such as embossed Cream Line marks in the late 19th century. For example, Abram Whiteman patented a milk bottle on February 18, 1890 (Figure 5-34), with three cream lines embossed on the neck and shoulder (Schulz et al 2010:53-54).

Figure 5-34 – Cream Line Neck – Warren jar (eBay)

Wellinghoff (1940:288) commented on the cream lines in 1918:

> Not so many years ago with the question of cream line effect and slim necks, shoulders on the bottle dropped thus increasing the length of the neck and various expediencies were demanded in order to force the cream plug farther down into the bottle and "kid" the "dear old public" into the idea that this, that, or the other dairy was supplying milk which afforded a greater amount of cream than did their competitors.

**Non-slip grips**

Although I have not yet discovered patents for any of these non-slip grips, different glass houses embossed vertical ribs, horizontal ribs, embossed rings, dots, diamond patterns, and other embossed designs to the necks of some milk bottles by at least 1920. Many of these remained in use for some time and were very popular with some dairies. These served the same purpose as the "holdfast" grip cut into the bottom roll of the finish and other gripping surfaces in that area – discussed above (Figure 5-35).

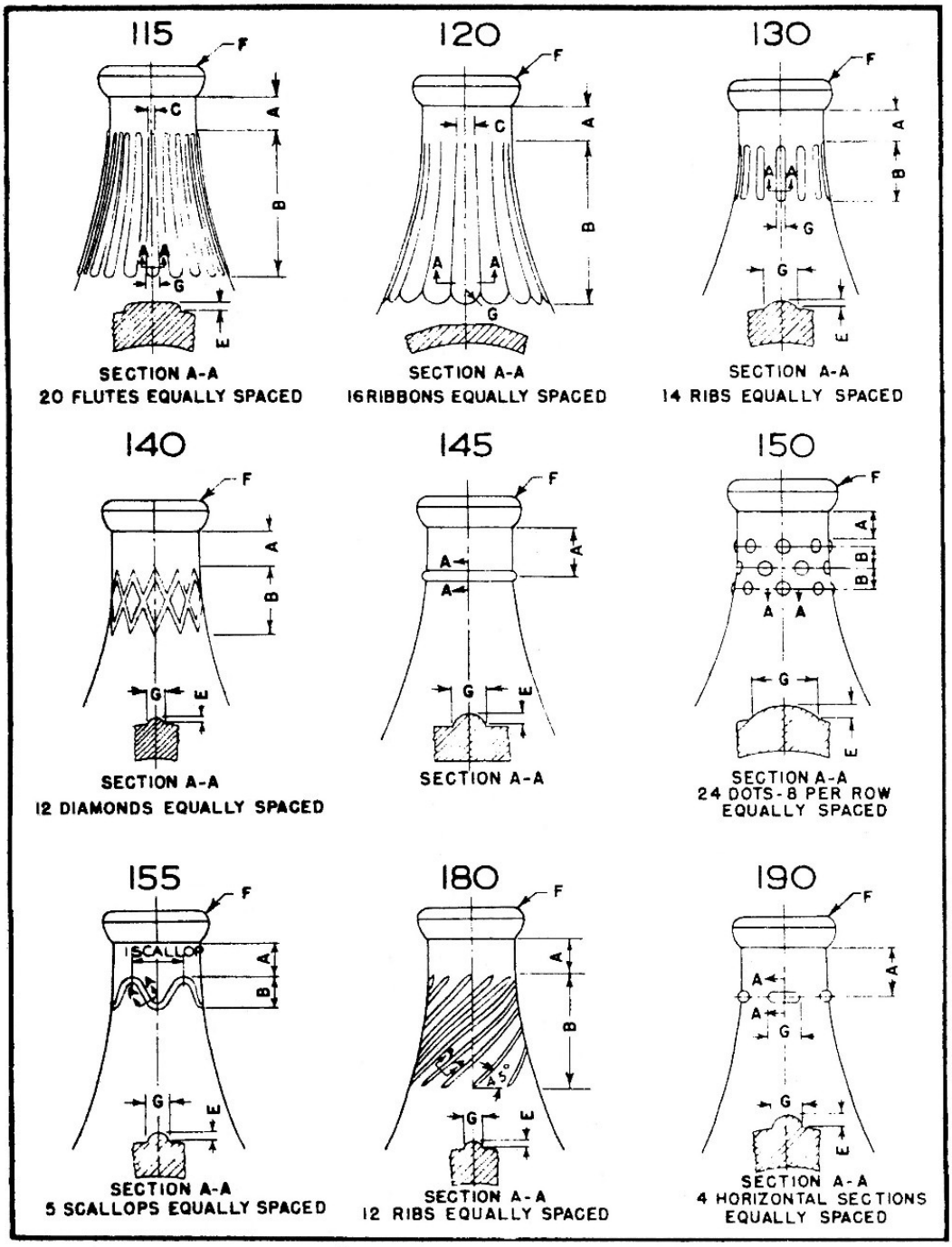


Figure 5-35 – Various neck grip embossing (Owens-Illinois drawing 1947)

## Hoods

As with the disks discussed above, an example of the hoods invented by Wilbur R. Wright will provide an idea of the complexity in style and numbers of available hoods.

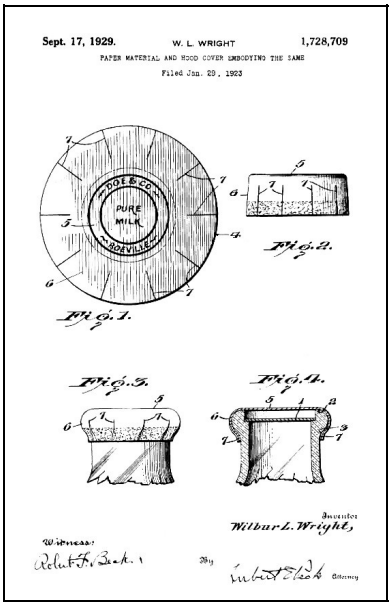

Figure 5-36 – Wright's 1929 hood patent

### Wilbur R. Wright

Note that most of these patents remained in limbo for quite some time. For example, Wright's fourth hood listed below was delayed for almost 9½ years between application and receipt!

Patent No. 1,603,057 – applied July 12, 1923; received October 12, 1926 – "Capping Milk Bottles and Other Containers" – This was a milk bottle hood.

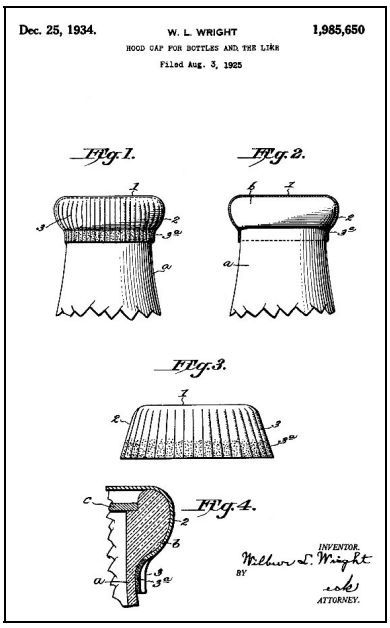

Figure 5-37 – Wright's 1934 hood patent

Patent No. 1,711,337 – applied July 12, 1923; received April 30, 1929 – "Capping Milk Bottles and Other Containers" – This was another milk bottle hood. Although applied the same day, this one did not receive the patent until a year-and-a-half later (Figure 5-36).

Patent No. 1,728,709 – applied Jan. 29, 1923; received Sep. 17, 1929 – "Paper Material and Hood Embodying the Same" – This was Wright's first attempt for a hood patent, but it was received after the other two.

Patent No. 1, 985,650 – applied Aug. 3, 1925; received Dec. 25, 1934 – "Hood Cap for Bottles and the Like" – This was Wright's last patent for a milk bottle hood (Figure 5-37).

At some point, hoods were used to cover the caps on common sense and later milk bottles. These offered an extra barrier for sanitation.

Figure 5-38 – Seal-Kap ad (*Milk Dealer* 1945c:62)

**Seal-Kap**

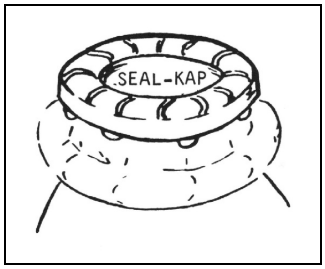

Figure 5-39 – Seal-Kap closure (Rawlinson 1970:33)

The Seal-Kap was invented ca. 1918 and consisted of thin cardboard molded to fit over the pouring lip of milk bottles. The cap had corrugations at the top for extra rigidity (Figure 5-38 & 5-39). It snapped into the throat of the bottles and covered the top of the roll (Rawlinson 1970:33).

**Seal Hood**

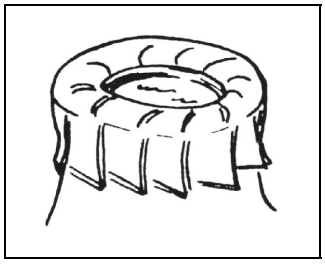
Figure 5-40 – Seal Hood (Rawlinson 1970:33)

The American Seal-Kap Corp. made the Seal Hood to fit over their Seal-Kap finish. The hood covered the entire cap and finish roll and prevented tampering with the seal of the bottle (Figure 5-40). The seal was crimped below the finish by machine and sealed with wax Figure 5-41). Once removed, the seal could not be reapplied. The seal was mostly used with the 48mm finish (Rawlinson 1970:33).

Figure 5-41 – Seal Hood

**Sealon Hood**

Made by the Sealright Co., Fulton, New York, the Sealon Hood was stretched tightly over the top of the bottle and sealed with wax under the roll of the finish (Figure 5-42). This hood required a disk or some other seal below it (Rawlinson 1970:34).

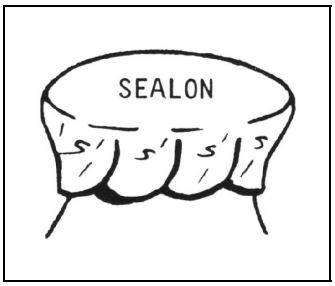

Figure 5-42 – Sealon Hood (Rawlinson 1970:33)

**Cellophane Hood**

Figure 5-43 – Cellophane Hood (Rawlinson 1970:33)

In 1941, Smith Lee introduced the Cellophane Hood. Made from cellophane, these came in three colors (red, tango, and green) as well as a colorless hood (Figure 5-43). The hoods included a paper disk that displayed advertising and had their own special machinery for crimping the closure to the bottle (Ryan 2000:7-8). The inventor started the Smith Lee Co. in Oneida, New York, to market the hoods, which were fastened by a narrow cellophane band directly beneath the finish (Rawlinson 1970:33).

**Standard Seal Hood**

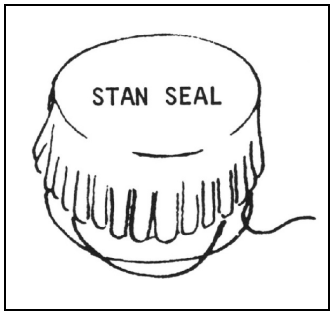

Figure 5-44 – Standard Seal Hood (Rawlinson 1970:34)

The Standard Seal Hood was made by the Standard Cap & Seal Co., Chicago, Illinois. These pressed-paper hoods were pulled over the finish and crimped under the lobes (see Alseco, Econopor, and other finishes above). The hood was held in place by a very fine wire that made it virtually tamper proof. The hood required a disk seal below it (Figures 5-44 & 5-45).

Figure 5-45 – Standard Seal Hood

**Aluminum Hood**

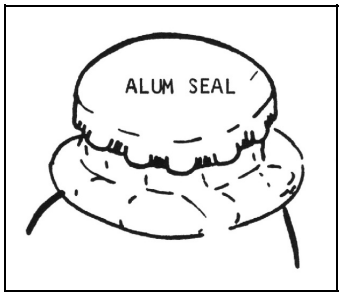


Figure 5-46 – Aluminum Hood (Rawlinson 1970:34)

The Aluminum Seal Co., New Kensington, Pennsylvania, produced the Aluminum Hood. Starting about 1932, these were usually made of a combination of aluminum and paper, although aluminum, alone, was also used (Figure 5-46). It was crimped between the lobes and was considered tamper proof (Rawlinson 1970:34).

**Alseco Hood**

Alseco Hoods were made to be crimped over the lobes of the Alseco finish (see Finishes section above). Although these were made to cover a disk closure, they could be used alone as a seal (Figure 5-47).


Figure 5-47 – Alseco ad (*Milk Dealer* 1945b:31)

**After-Market Closures**

After market closures were available at least as early as 1914, when the Dorsey Milk Bottle Cover was advertised in Time Magazine (Rawlinson 1970:6). These aluminum disks were clamped on the lip of the bottle with four tabs after a common sense milk bottle had been opened. A pour spout extended from one side with a corresponding hole sealed with a smaller swivel cover riveted to the disk. Although made of thin steel instead of aluminum, the clip-on metal cover in Figure 5-48 was similar to these. Other after-market closures appeared periodically.

Figure 5-48 – Clip-on metal cover

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