May 8, 1945. E. W. WORLEY 2,375,401

CAN OPENER

Filed Sept. 3, 1943

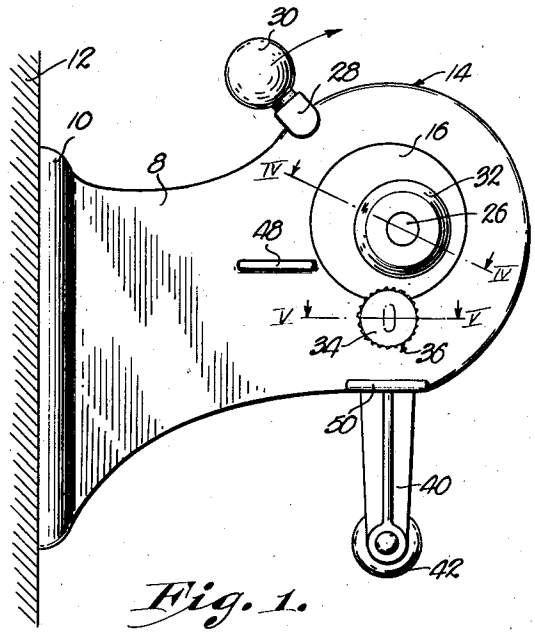


Fig. 1.

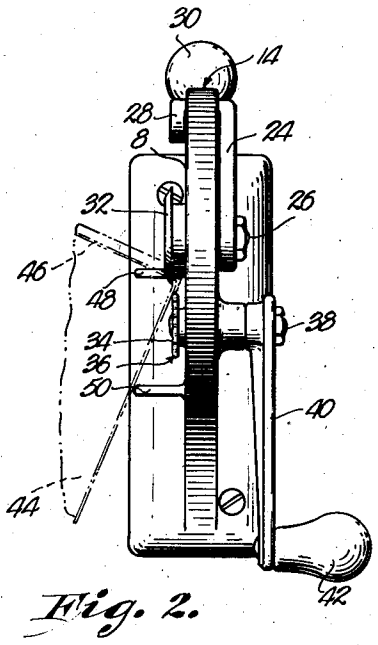


Fig. 2.

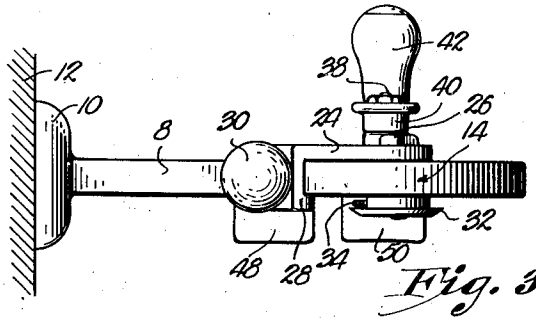


Fig. 3.

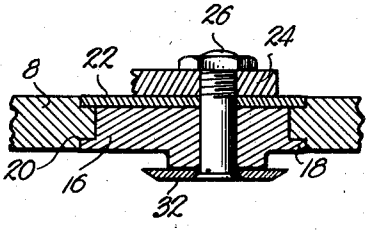


Fig. 4.

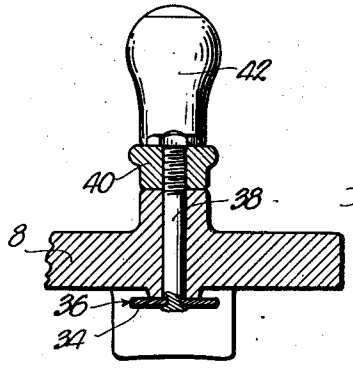


Fig. 5.

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CAN OPENER

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Application September 3, 1943, Serial No. 501,110

1 Claim. (Cl. 30—9)

This invention relates to can openers of the bracket type adaptable for attachment to a rigid support whereupon the manually manipulatable parts of the device may be actuated to remove the end from a conventional cylindrical can.

One of the main objects of the present invention is the provision of a can opener having hand actuated parts for forcing the cutter into operative relation with the end of the can to be removed, and for selectively maintaining the desired amount of pressure upon the cutter element as the drive wheel is rotated to move the can and cutter to perform the function for which the opener is designed.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a can opener of a rugged and durable type, wherein is incorporated a group of stops arranged to maintain the can at an angle with respect to the cutter and drive wheel of the opener, which angular position minimizes the amount of force necessary to be exerted and insures a clean line of severance.

This invention further contemplates the provision of a can opener having a shiftable cutter mounted in the frame through the medium of a rotor that is associated with a lever through the use whereof, the cutter is shifted and pressure exerted by the operator during the progress of removing the end from the can.

Other objects of the invention will appear during the course of the following specification, referring to the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a can opener made to embody the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a front edge elevational view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the same.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged detailed sectional view through a portion of the can opener taken on line IV—IV of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 5 is a similar detailed view taken on line V—V of Fig. 1.

The type of can opener embodying the improvements contemplated by this invention, is in the nature of a wall supported article, the frame 8 whereof has a flange or similar structure 10, adapted for attachment to a wall or the like having a vertical surface 12.

The frame has an arcuate portion 14 forming the head of the can opener wherein is mounted a rotor 16, flanged peripherially as at 18 to engage an annular groove 20 within frame 8. Plate 22 extending beyond the annular edge of rotor 16 completes the means used to rotatably support the rotor 16 in frame 8.

A lever 24 secured to rotor 16 through the medium of a bolt 26, projects radially from rotor 16 toward arcuate portion of frame 8 and the free end thereof is rebent upon itself as at 28 to establish a portion that may engage the arcuate marginal edge 14 of frame 8.

A handle 30 on the free rebent end of lever 24 may be grasped by the operator while the operating crank, hereinafter to be described, is to be manipulated.

Cutter 32 is mounted upon rotor 16 to one side of the center thereof so that an eccentric mounting is established. A drive wheel 34 having serrated edge 36 is secured to stub shaft 38 that may be rotated about its axis by crank 40. Crank 40 has a convenient handle 42 at its free end and when crank 40 is turned, drive wheel 34 will serve as hereinafter set forth.

A can 44 assumes the angular position shown in dotted lines of Fig. 2, when the end 46 thereof is to be severed close to the cylindrical side wall. To insure such angular position, frame 8 carries stops 48 and 50.

In operating the can opener, the can is moved to a place against stops 48 and 50 where the marginal edge lies against the serrated periphery of drive wheel 34. Lever 24 is then moved in the direction of the arrow shown in Fig. 1, whereupon cutter 32 is forced against the end 46 of the can and toward wheel 34. After such pressure has been applied to cutter 32 as will hold the can in place, the operator turns crank 40 to drive the can through a complete rotation, whereupon end 46 will be cut from its place within wall 44. Releasing the force upon lever 24 will immediately permit cutter 32 to leave a position in proximity to the can and drive wheel 34, whereupon the can is easily disengaged from the opener.

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

A can opener of the character described comprising a frame having an arcuate edge portion and a base for mounting the frame to a support; a drive wheel rotatably carried by the frame; a crank for rotating the drive wheel; a rotatable member mounted on the frame, said arcuate edge portion and the rotatable member having a common axis; a cutter mounted on the rotatable member in eccentric relation therewith; and a lever for turning said rotatable member to move the cutter into cooperative relation with the drive wheel, said lever having a rebent portion formed on the free end to embrace the arcuate edge portion of the frame as the lever is manipulated to rotate said member.

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