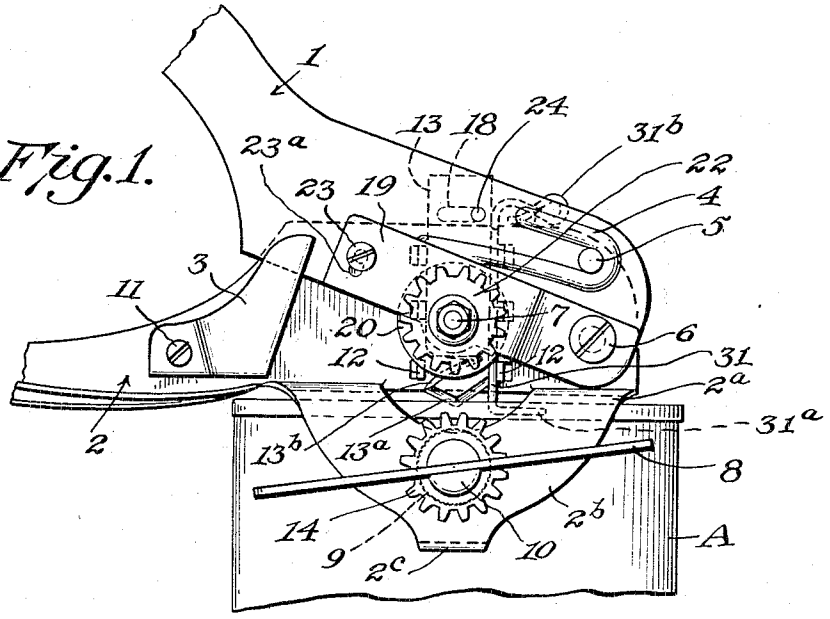
Oct. 6, 1931. E. A. ORMSBY 1,826,324

CAN OPENER

Filed April 15, 1931 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



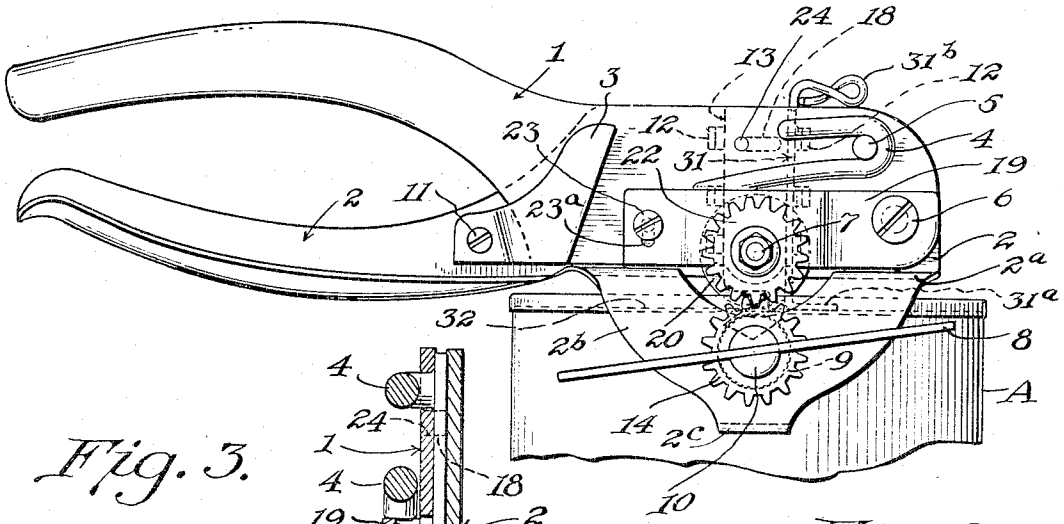
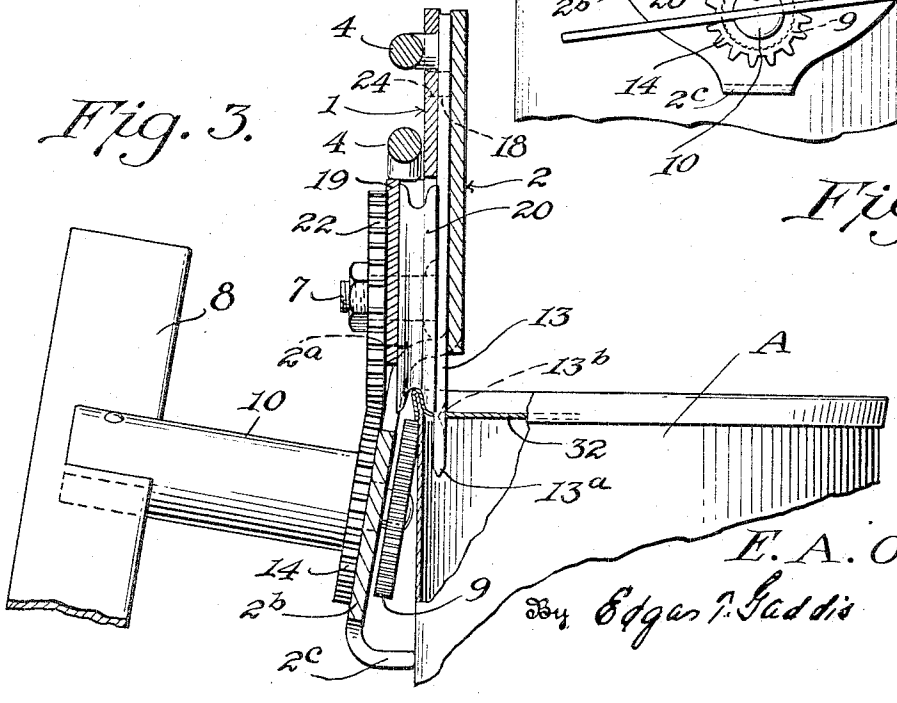


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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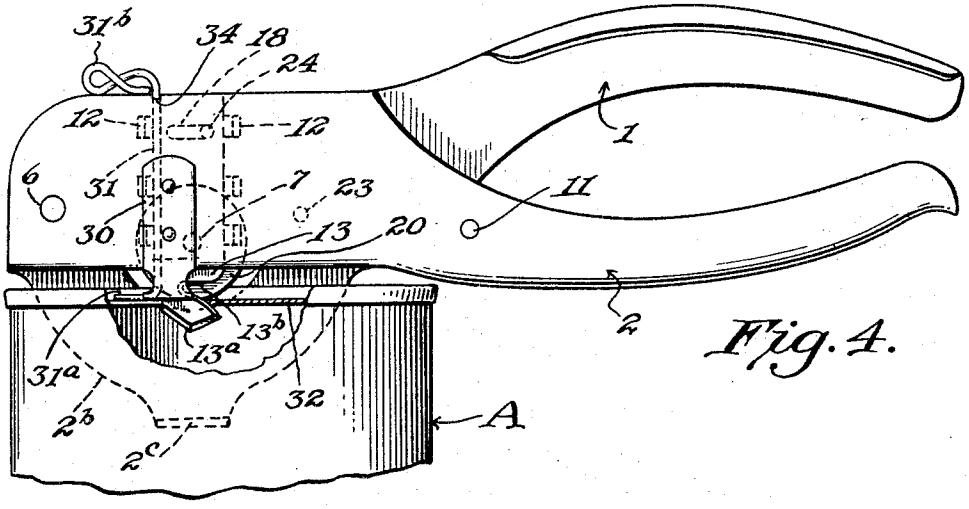


Fig. 4.

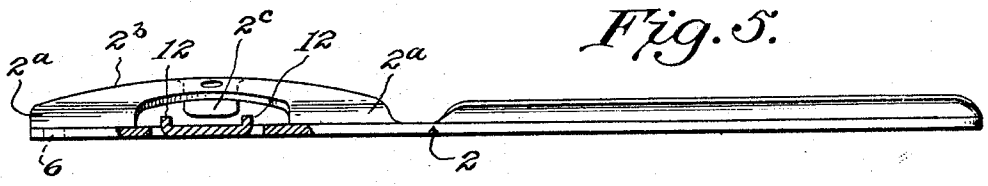


Fig. 5.

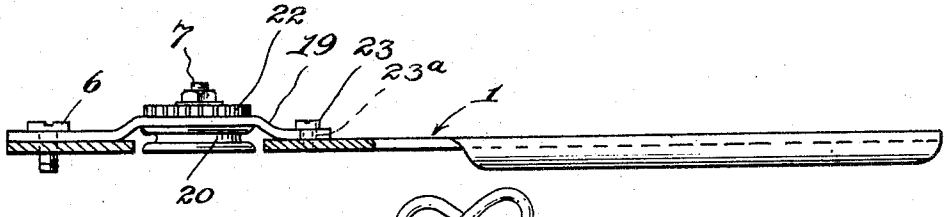


Fig. 6.

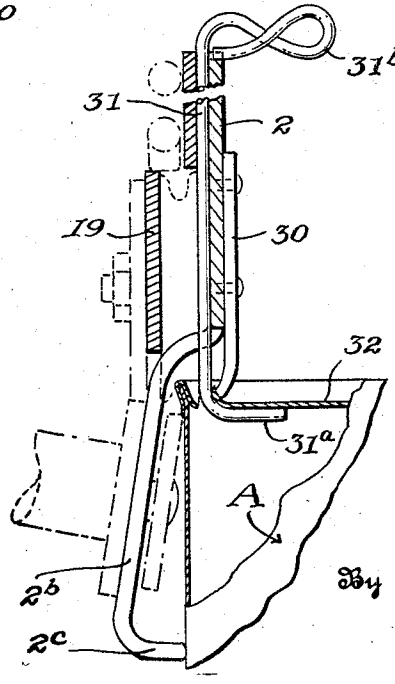


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ELON A. ORMSBY, OF CENTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

CAN OPENER

Application filed April 15, 1931. Serial No. 530,364.

This invention relates to can openers and has for its object to provide a device for cutting and removing the top of a can in an effective manner.

The device embodies a knife carried by a pair of pivoted handles which are operated to force the knife through the head of a can just inside the bead thereof, by closing the handles, after which the can is rotated by means of a pair of rollers which engage the bead and which when turned by a crank will rotate the can to cause the knife to cut out the top.

The invention will be more clearly understood from the following description and the accompanying drawings in which Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the device applied to the top of a can, before the handles are closed. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the handles closed and the knife forced into the can top, Fig. 3 is a detail in sectional view, in the position shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2 as seen from the opposite side. Fig. 5 is a detail of one of the handle members. Fig. 6 is a detail of one of the members. Fig. 7 is a detail of the lid lifter.

Referring particularly to the drawings, 1 and 2 indicate a pair of sheet metal plates or handle members of the pliers type, pivoted together at 6, and the plate 2 is offset as indicated at 2*a* to form a depending ear or part 2*b* with a finger 2*c* at its lower end which rests against the side of the can, as shown in Fig. 3, when the tool is applied to the can with the offset 2*a* resting on the bead of the can, the can being indicated at A.

Mounted in guides 12 struck up from the plate 2 is a knife blade 13 the cutting edge of which is sharpened and pointed as indicated at 13*a* and has a cutting notch 13*b*. This blade has near its upper end a slot 18 which receives a pin 24 projecting from the handle member 1, whereby, when this handle member is opened or closed the blade is raised or lowered. A guide plate 3, secured to the handle member 2 by the bolt 11, serves as a guide to confine the movement of the handle member 1.

Pivoted to one side of the plate 1, by the bolt 6 is a plate 19, the outer end of which has a slot 23*a* with a headed pin 23 therein, permitting a limited pivotal movement of the plate 19 under the influence of a spring 4 which is looped around a pin 5 and presses at its free end downwardly against the upper edge of the plate 19. This plate 19 is offset, see Fig. 6, and within the offset part has a roller 20 fixed to a journal 7 which also carries a gear 22 which may be meshed with a gear 14 carried by a crank shaft 10 which has a handle 8 whereby it may be turned. This crank shaft has its bearing in the extension 2*b* of the handle member 2 and within said extension carries a knurled roller or wheel 9 located opposite or directly under the roller 20. The member 2 also has fixed thereto a finger or plate 30 which cooperates with a wire "lifter" 31 to lift the can top out of the can when it is cut. This lifter consists of a piece of wire extending vertically beside the plate 2 in position to enter the kerf made by the blade 13. The wire has an offset finger 31*a* at its lower end and a spring handle 31*b* at its upper end, by which it may be turned to engage the finger 31*a* under the can top 32 after it is cut, in which position the loose top is held between the plate 30 and the finger 31*a* and can thus be lifted off with the can opener. The end of the handle part 31*b* forms a spring to snap into the notch 34 in the upper edge of the plate 2 to hold the lifter in engaged position as shown in Fig. 7.

In operation, the tool is applied to the top of a can as shown in Fig. 1 with the handles in open position, the offset of the member 2 fitting against the bead and with the blade 13 in position just within the bead. Then the handle plate 1 is swung down, and by the action of the pin 24 the point of the blade is forced through the can top. At the same time, the plate 19 swings down with the handle 1, carrying with it the roller 20 and causing the bead of the can to be gripped between the roller 20 and the wheel 19, as shown in Fig. 3. By the same movement the gears 22 and 14 are engaged. Then, while the handles 1 and 2 are held closed, the crank 8 and shaft 10 are turned and the action of the knurled wheel 9 causes the can to be rotated, and as it rotates the knife 13, at the notch 13*b*, cuts

the can top around just within the bead until at the complete rotation it is completely severed, and it is then gripped and lifted by the finger 31*a* and plate 30 so that it is easily removed. The spring 4 permits the plate 19 to yield to a certain extent, to avoid choking and accommodate various irregularities if any exist, in the bead.

The device is capable of easy manipulation and will effectively perform the operation described.

The invention is not limited to the exact form shown, but various modifications may be made within the scope thereof.

I claim:

1. A can opener comprising a pair of pivoted handles one of which has guides, a blade slidable in said guides and operatively connected to the other handle, whereby it may be forced into the top of a can to which the handles are applied, wheels carried by the respective handles in opposed relation to grip the bead of the can, and means to turn the wheels and rotate the can and thereby cut the head after the knife is inserted.

2. The combination stated in claim 1, one of the wheels being carried by a spring pressed plate pivoted to one of the handles.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

ELON A. ORMSBY.