J. J. SALMON.

CAN OPENER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 7, 1919.

1,333,450.

Patented Mar. 9, 1920.

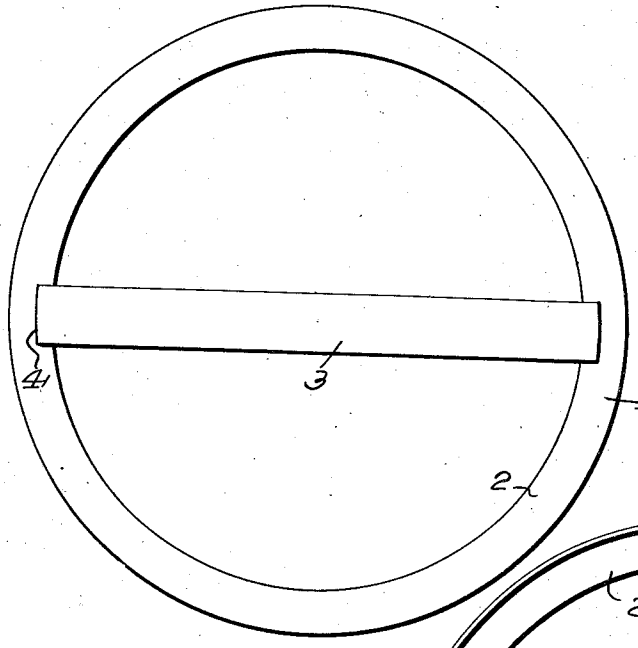


Fig. 1.

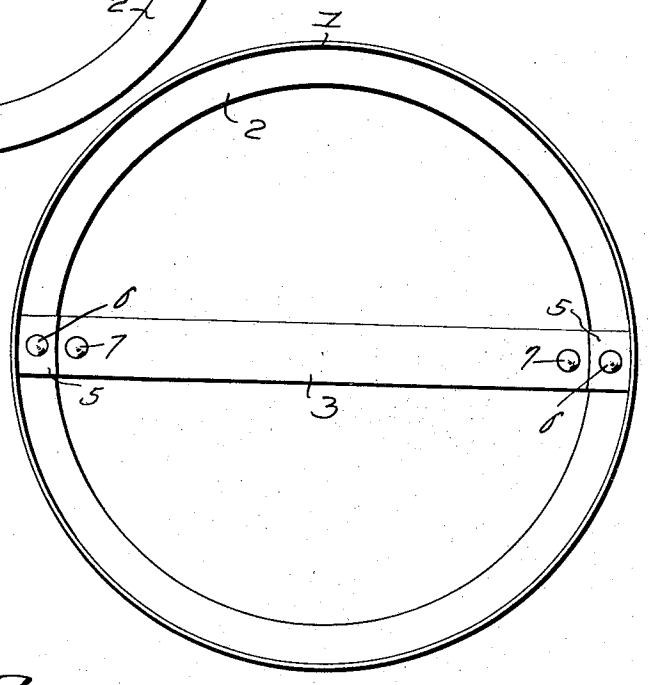
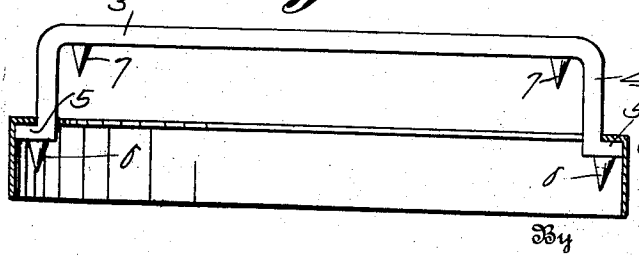


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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CAN-OPENER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. SALMON, citizen of the United States, residing at Salt Lake city, in the county of Salt Lake and State of Utah, have invented new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

The principal object of the invention is to provide an opener for cans such as condensed milk cans and the like and it is adapted for opening a plurality of different sizes, being provided with means for puncturing the tops of the cans at specified points so as to provide pouring openings.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which aside from performing the function of puncturing the cans may also be used as a device for severing the tops from the cans.

A still further object is to provide a utensil of the kind mentioned which is simple in construction, durable and effective in operation and inexpensive to manufacture.

Other and further objects appear in the following description, wherein the invention is set forth in detail.

To the exact construction in which it is shown and described, the invention is not to be restricted. The right is reserved to make such changes or alterations as the actual reduction to practice may suggest, in so far as such changes or alterations are compatible with the annexed claim.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the improved device.

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the same.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view.

Referring to the drawings, the invention is shown as comprising a ring member 1 formed with an inturned annular flange 2 at one edge. Disposed diametrically across this ring member there is a handle member consisting of the transverse portion 3 formed at opposite ends with depending legs 4, the outer faces of the latter lying against the edge of the flange 2. At their lower ends, the legs 4 are formed with outturned right angular portions 5 which abut the inner periphery of the ring 1 as well as the under face of the flange 2. The handle member is thus secured to the ring by having the right angular portions 5 riveted, soldered, fused or otherwise suitably secured to the flange and to the ring 1.

On their end faces, the right angularly disposed portions 5 are provided with the conical shaped supports 6 and the transverse portion 3 of the handle is also provided with similar portions, these supports 7 being positioned adjacent the legs 4.

Condensed milk is put up in cans of two specific sizes, the larger size being approximately $3\frac{1}{16}$ inches in diameter and the smaller size $2\frac{9}{16}$ inches in diameter. The ring 1 is of such a diameter that it snugly surrounds one of the larger sized cans, and when placed over the upper edge of the cans, the supports 6 are brought into contact with the top thereof. In practice these supports are $2\frac{11}{16}$ inches apart, each being $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch from the edge of the can. When pressure is exerted on the handle, therefore, the supports are forced into the top of the can, thus forming two holes either one of which may be employed as a pouring opening and the other as an opening to permit air to enter the can to facilitate pouring. The supports 7 secured to the transverse portion 3 of the handle are in practice $2\frac{3}{16}$ inches apart and their points stand $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch from the inner faces of the legs 4, the distance between which is $2\frac{9}{16}$ inches, the diameter of the smaller sized cans. The legs of the handle member, therefore, serve to snugly span the smaller sized can to properly position the supports 7 on the top thereof. When in such position pressure exerted on top of the transverse portion will force the supports into the top of the can in the same manner that the supports 6 are forced into the top of a larger sized can. With the two sizes of cans, therefore, the ring acts as a guide for the larger size and the legs of the handle as a guide for the smaller size, both the ring and the handle legs serving to properly position the supports on the top of the can to be punctured.

While the device is intended primarily as a utensil for puncturing condensed milk cans, it may also be used for other purposes and may be used as a device for severing the top from the can. When performing the latter function, the ring or the legs act as guides as before and if a turning movement be imparted to the transverse portion 3, the supports will be turned around and the top of the can to be opened and will, by continued turning movement being imparted to the transverse portion 3 eventually sever the top from the can a specified distance from the edge thereof.

The invention having been described, what is claimed as new and useful is:

A utensil of the kind described comprising a ring formed on one edge with an inturned annular flange, a handle member composed of a transverse portion having depending legs and outturned angular portions at the extremities of the legs, the said outturned angular portions being secured to said flange, and supports carried by the right angular portions and by the transverse portion of the handle for the useful purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN J. SALMON.