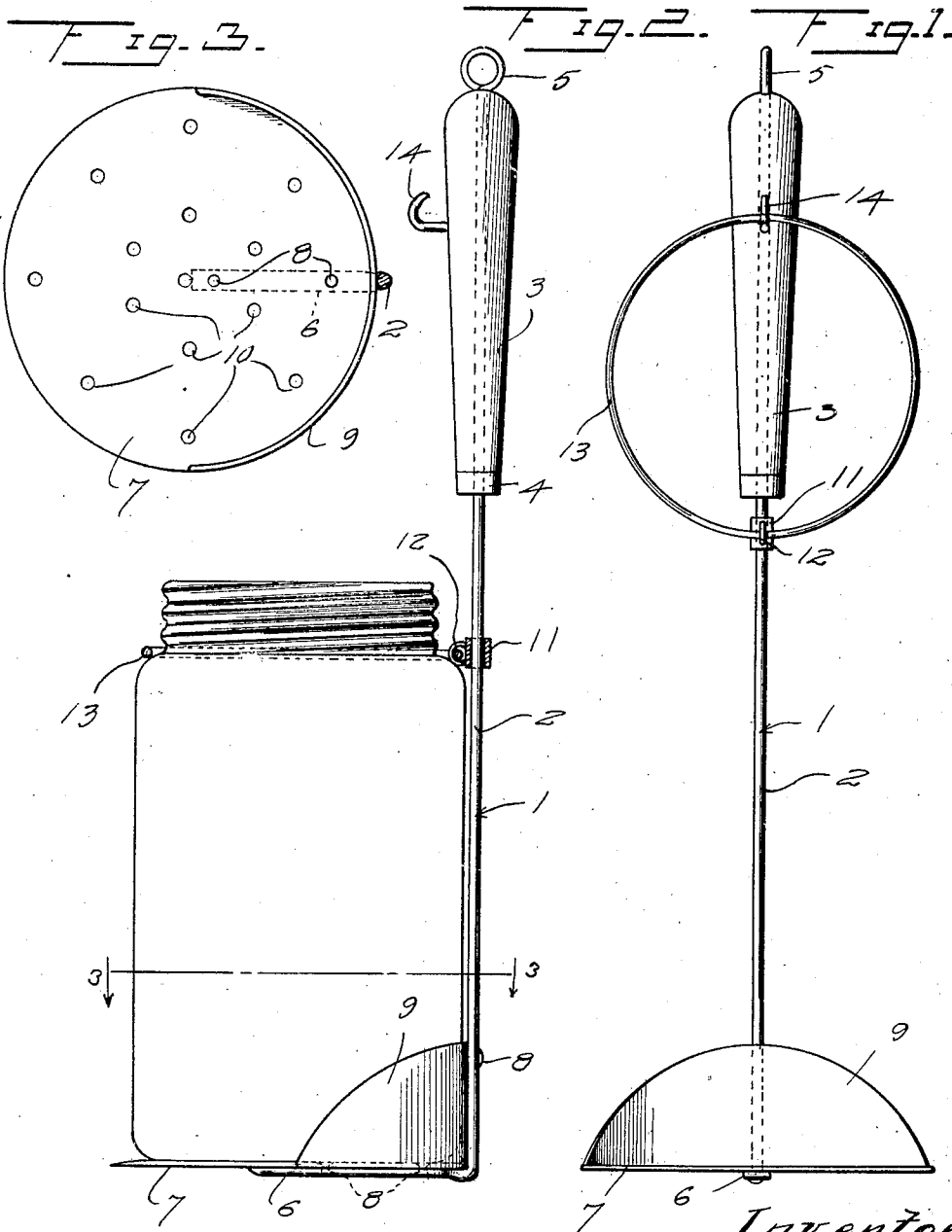


M. E. SHIRKEY.
CAN LIFTER.
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1,363,928.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTHA E. SHIRKEY, OF BEW, MONTANA.

CAN-LIFTER.

1,363,928.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTHA E. SHIRKEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bew, in the county of Yellowstone and State of Montana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Lifters; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to can and jar lifters and the primary object of the invention is to provide an improved device for effectively lifting and handling cans and jars during cold pack canning process.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved device for lifting hot cans and jars during the canning process which can be adjusted so as to effectively handle large or small cans or jars.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved hot can and jar lifter which can be readily applied to the can or jar and which is so constructed that the displacement of the can or jar is eliminated.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved hot can or jar lifter of the above character, which is durable and efficient in use, one that is simple and easy to manufacture, and one that can be placed upon the market at a reasonable cost.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and formation of parts, as will be hereinafter more specifically described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the improved can and jar lifter showing the can locking ring in inoperative position,

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the hot can and jar lifter partly in section showing a jar in position thereon,

Fig. 3 is a detail section taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings in detail, wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the numeral 1 generally indicates the improved hot can lifter which includes the straight vertical shank 2, which is preferably formed of suitable galvanized wire. The upper end of the shank has secured thereto a suitable handle 3 formed

from wood or other non-conducting material and the handle is prevented from downward movement on the shank by means of a ferrule 4. The shank 2 extends beyond the upper end of the handle and is coiled to provide an eye 5, by means of which the tool may be readily hung on a hook or the like. The lower end of the eye engages the upper edge of the handle and prevents upward movement of the handle on the shank.

The lower end of the shank is provided with a forwardly extending right angular extension 6, which forms an attaching foot for receiving the flat circular plate 7, which is adapted to be slipped under the bottom wall of the can to be lifted. The foot 6 is preferably flattened and secured to the plate 7 by suitable rivets 8. The rear edge of the plate 7 is provided with an upwardly extending flange 9, which forms means for engaging the side wall of the can lifter so as to prevent the displacement thereof, and this flange, if so desired, may also be riveted or otherwise secured to the shank 2. The plate 7 is provided with suitable openings 10 so as to permit the water to readily drain therefrom.

The shank 2 has slidably mounted thereon a collar 11, carrying an outstanding eye 12 which loosely receives the retaining ring 13 which is adapted to engage the top of the can or jar after the circular plate 7 has been slipped under the bottom of the same.

While the plate 7 is being slipped under the bottom of the can, the retaining ring 13 is moved to the upper portion of the shank and swung on the eye 12 and positioned over the hook 14, carried by the handle 3. The hooks form effective means for holding the retaining ring in inoperative position during the initial positioning of the device on a can or jar.

In operation of the improved device, the handle 3 is grasped and the plate 7 positioned in the boiling water of the canning receptacle and the forward edge of the plate is positioned under the bottom wall of the can or jar and the shank moved forwardly so as to position the can on the plate adjacent to the flange 9 and the shank 2. The retaining ring 13 is then lifted out of engagement with the hook 15 and brought into engagement with the upper edge of the can or jar which effectively prevents displacement

ment of the same from the plate 7. The can lifter is then moved upwardly and the can is lifted out of the canning receptacle.

If so desired, the forward edge of the plate 7 may be formed relatively thin and flexible, so as to facilitate the initial positioning of the bottom plate under the can.

In practice, I have found that the form of my invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings and referred to in the above description, as the preferred embodiment, is the most efficient and practical; yet realizing the conditions concurrent with the adoption of my device will necessarily vary, I desire to emphasize that various minor changes in details of construction, proportion and arrangement of parts may be resorted to, when required without sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention as set forth.

What I claim as new is:

1. A hot can and jar lifter comprising a vertical shank, a right angularly extending flattened attaching foot formed on the lower end of the shank, a circular plate secured to said attaching foot, an upwardly extending flange formed on the rear edge of said plate, a handle secured to the upper edge of said shank, a collar slidably mounted on said shank, an eye secured to said collar, an annular retaining member pivotally carried by said eye, and a hook secured to said handle and arranged to receive said retaining member to hold the same in inoperative position, as and for the purpose specified.

2. A jar and can lifter comprising a single vertical shank, a right angular extending bottom plate secured to the lower end of the shank, an annular retaining member pivotally carried by the shank and arranged to extend at right angles to the shank and in

parallelism with the bottom plate, and means for holding the retaining member in an inoperative position in parallel relation to the shank, as and for the purpose specified.

3. A hot can and jar lifter comprising a shank, a bottom wall carried by the shank, a jar engaging member mounted on the lower end of the shank, a handle positioned on the upper end of the shank, and a ferrule secured to the inner end of the handle and engaging the shank, the outer end of the shank being extended beyond the handle, and an eye formed on the extended end of the shank and engaging the outer end of said handle to form an attaching member and to prevent upward movement of the handle on said shank.

4. A device for lifting receptacles, a shank, a plate carried by one end thereof for engagement beneath the receptacle, and a retaining member having slidable and pivotal connection with the shank and adapted to receive one of the receptacles therein to retain the latter against movement, and a fastening on the shank for holding the retaining member parallel thereto when not in use.

5. A can lifter comprising a can seat, a vertically disposed shank secured thereto, an element slidable and axially movable thereon, and a can embracing loop pivoted to said element adapted to be positioned directly above the seat to embrace the can, and capable of being swung to one side of the seat when the can is being removed from the seat.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MARTHA E. SHIRKEY.

Witnesses:

NELS W. NORSTROM,
R. A. SHARP.