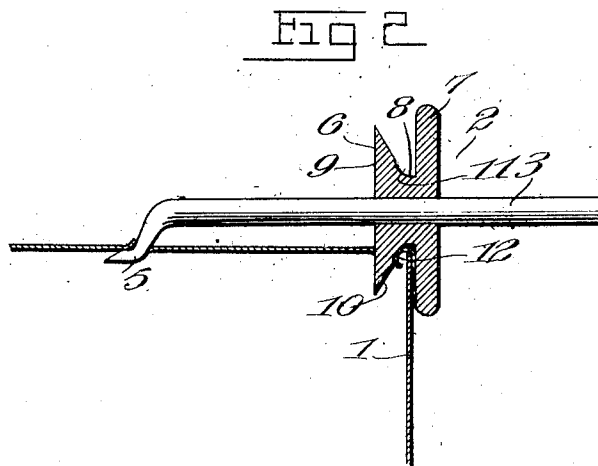
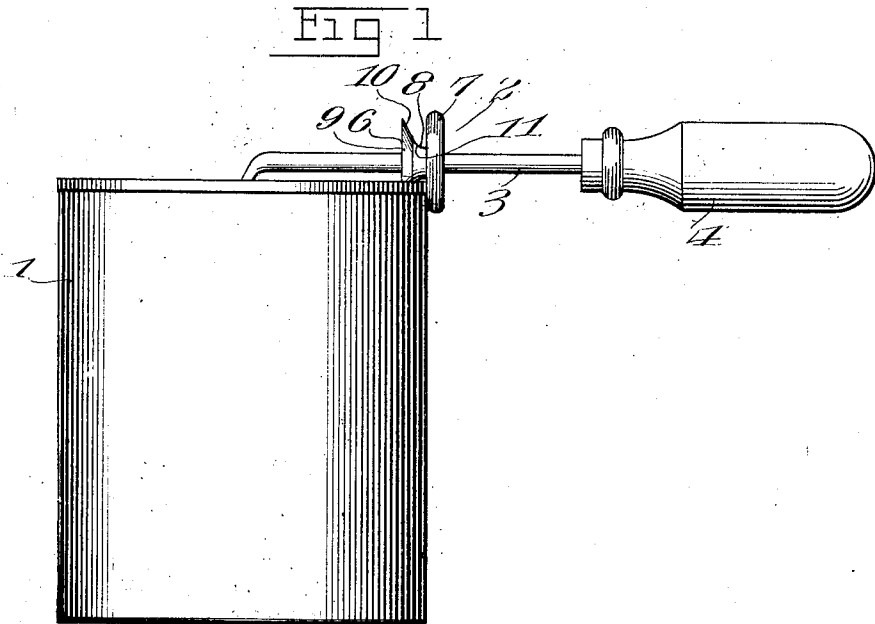


C. A. JOHNSON.
CAN OPENER.
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1,047,066.

Patented Dec. 10, 1912.



Witnesses

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CHRISTIAN A. JOHNSON, OF LARAMIE, WYOMING, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO JACOB
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CAN-OPENER.

1,047,066.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 10, 1912.

Application filed March 9, 1912. Serial No. 682,762.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTIAN A. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Laramie, in the county of Albany and State of Wyoming, have invented new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in can openers.

In carrying out my invention it is my purpose to provide a simple and inexpensive can opener which is adapted to be employed to open cans of any size within a reasonable limit by a direct single cut and which, during its cutting operation will bend or turn the edge of the can adjacent the severed portion so that no ragged edges remain which might otherwise injure the hand of the person operating the cutter or the person using the can.

With the above objects in view, the invention resides in the construction, combination and operative arrangement of parts set forth in and falling within the scope of the appended claim.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved can opener showing the same in operative position upon a can. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the cutter.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the numeral 1 designates an ordinary can and 2 my improved opener. The opener embodies a cylindrical stem 3 to which is connected a handle 4. The opposite end of the stem is reduced and offset to provide an entering prong 5. This prong is adapted to be inserted within the center of the top of the can, and to serve as a fulcrum or pivot whereby the opener may be rotated around the can.

The numeral 6 designates the cutting member. This cutting member comprises a head 7 which is integrally formed with a shank 8, and the said shank is provided with the cutting member proper or wheel 9. This cutting member has its outer face flattened and is inclined toward the head 7 from its cutting edge as indicated by the numeral 10. The inclined portion has its rear face rounded as at 11 to its point of connection or juncture with the shank 8.

The member 6 is provided with a central bore and is free to slide upon the stem 3 so that the said member may be adjusted to engage with various sizes of cans.

With a cutting element constructed as above described it will be noted that the flattened face 9 permits of the portion to be severed from the top of the can having a perfectly smooth edge, while the inclined portion 10 serves to bend the top of the can adjacent its sides downwardly within the can and the rounded portion 11 further compresses the said bent portion so that the same is formed into what may be termed a rounded lip or bead 12. It will be further noted that by the peculiar construction of the said cutting element the top proper or the severed portion of the can is spaced away from the lip 12, so that little or no trouble will be experienced in inserting an implement between the lip 12 and the smooth edge provided by the severed portion of the top and whereby the said cut or severed portion may be removed from the can proper.

I am aware that can openers have been constructed which are provided with a stem having a prong which serves as a fulcrum and which also are provided with cutting members which are longitudinally adjustable on and which revolve upon the stem. My improvement however, departs from these devices in the peculiar formation of the inner face of the cutter 9 wherein a bead 12 is formed upon the can and the severed portion of the top is rendered perfectly smooth at its edge and is disposed a distance away from the bead, so that no ragged edges remain which may injure the hand of the operator or the person using the can.

It is, of course, to be understood that the head 7 of the cutting element contacts with the outer face of the can and serves as a guide for the cutter proper when the top of the can is being severed.

Having thus described the invention what I claim is:—

The herein described construction of can openers embodying a handle provided with a rounded stem which terminates in an offset prong, a rotary cutter rotatably mounted



1,047,066

and freely slidable upon said stem, the said
cutter comprising a rounded head having an
inner flat face and being further provided
with a shank which is rounded outwardly
therefrom, the said cutter being provided
5 with a beveled portion which inclines out-
wardly from the terminal of the shank, the
outer face provided by the inclined portion

being flat to form a cutting edge, all sub-
stantially as and for the purpose set forth. 10

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

CHRISTIAN A. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. HARDY,
JACOB BERNER.