M. LEV, JR.
CAN OPENER.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 1, 1917.

1,307,301.

Patented June 17, 1919.

Fig. 1.

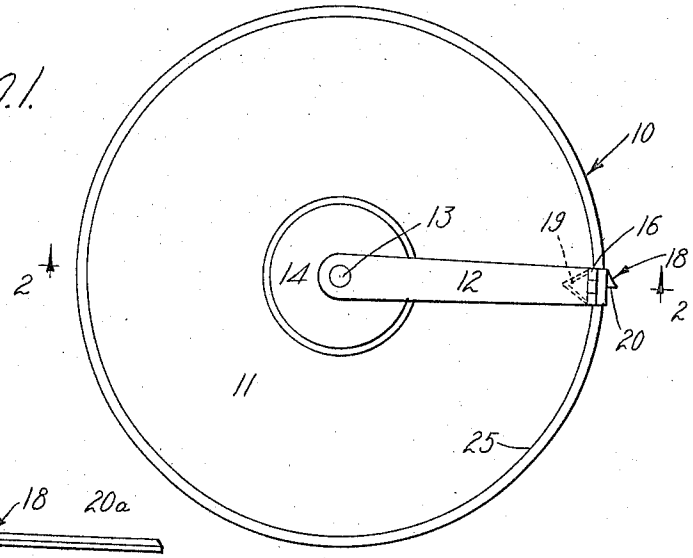
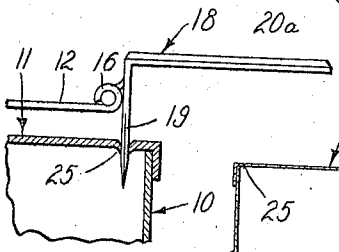


Fig. 3.



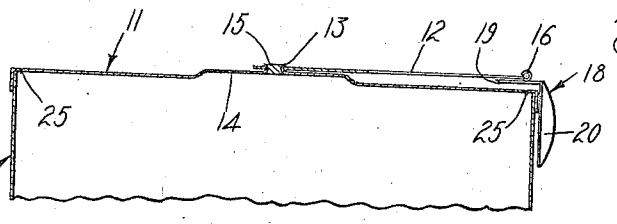


Fig. 2.

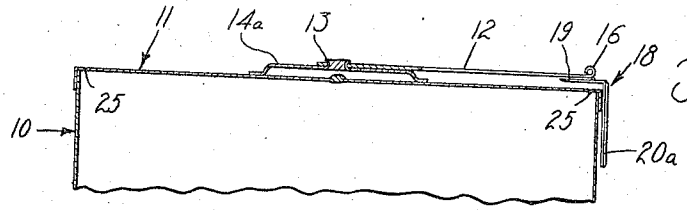


Fig. 6.

Fig. 4.

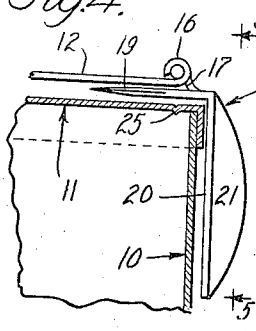
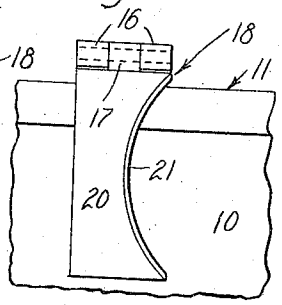


Fig. 5.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARK LEV, JR., OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

CAN-OPENER.

1,307,301. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 17, 1919.

Application filed November 1, 1917. Serial No. 199,619.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARK LEV, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles, State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following a specification.

This invention relates to can openers; and relates particularly to a type of can opener adapted to be sold to the user with the can. And it is an object of this invention to provide a simple, inexpensive, and effective form of can opener which may be applied to the can, either during the course of manufacture of the can, or afterward; to be sold with the can and to be in convenient position for easy use.

Further object and features of my invention will be best understood from the following detailed description of a preferred specific form of can opener embodying my invention; reference for this purpose being had to the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of a can equipped with my opener; Fig. 2 is a section taken as indicated by line 2—2 on Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is an enlarged partial section showing the can opener in use; Fig. 4 is an enlarged partial section showing the opener in its normal position; Fig. 5 is a side elevation taken as indicated by line 5—5 on Fig. 4; and Fig. 6 is a section similar to that of Fig. 2, showing a modified form of mounting of the opener upon the can.

In the drawings the numeral 10 designates any ordinary form of can and 11 designates the top thereof, affixed to the can body in any preferred or desired manner. My opener embodies, as its main structural element, an arm 12, preferably stamped out of suitable sheet metal; and this arm is pivoted at its inner end upon a central protuberance 13, which, in the preferred form of device, is formed by being struck up from the sheet metal of the top 11 of the can; preferably in the center of a central raised portion 14. This protuberance 13 may be struck up so as to leave a central opening in the can, which may be used as a sealing opening, being finally sealed by a drop of solder, or any other suitable material, forming a seal as shown at 15. Thus, in a preferred form of device, the sealing hole and the protuberance 13 may be formed in a single operation and as one element.

The arm 12 is suitably formed at its outer end at 16 to form one-half of a hinge; the other part of the hinge being formed as shown at 17 (see particularly Figs. 4 and 5) from the sheet metal piece 18 which forms the cutter 19. Cutter 19 has a handle 20 made from the same piece of sheet metal; and the cutter and handle stand preferably at right angles to each other; so that, when the device is in normal position, the cutter may lie flatly over the top of the can and handle may lie flatly down the side of the can. The handle 20 may be formed in any suitable manner; as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 4 and 5, it is formed with a curved finger engaging portion 21; and this part 21 also forms a reinforcing part to stiffen the handle 20. I have shown the handle formed flat, at 20^a, in Figs. 3 and 6; and this flat form may be made of a double thickness of metal.

In the form shown in Fig. 6 the protuberance 13 is not formed directly from the sheet metal of the top 11 of the can but is formed in a piece 14^a which may be soldered or otherwise attached to the top 11 of the can. This formation provides for attaching my opener to cans which are already made in any of the usual designs.

It will be seen that, in its normal position, the opener lies flatly against the top and side of the can so that it does not interfere with the close packing of the cans in packing cases. When it is desired to open the can, the member 18 is turned to the position shown in Fig. 3 (the arm 12 being sprung up slightly); and the cutter 19, which is preferably pointed, as shown in Fig. 1, is then pressed down through the can top. If it is only desired to punch a hole in the can top, the cutter is then withdrawn and placed in its normal position; but if it is desired to cut the top from the can, the cutter is then moved circumferentially around the top of the can, cutting the top out completely. The arm 12 guides the cutter in a true circular movement. If the can top has a depressed bead 25 around its edge, the cutter is situated so that it will follow this bead during its cutting operations. The cutter may be made in any form, and edged in any suitable manner. It may be double edged and pointed, as is indicated in Fig. 1; and it may be

made of any suitable material. Although it may be desirable to use a fairly hard material for the cutter, it is not necessary to use an expensive material, or go to an expensive process of hardening, because the cutter is designed to be used for only a single operation.

It will be seen that this can opener is simple in form and convenient to use. It may be inexpensively made and very inexpensively attached to the can. And it thus provides a simple, cheap and readily effective means, always at hand, for opening the can to which it is attached.

I do not limit myself to the particular details herein described, having given this detailed description as indicative of my invention rather than limiting it.

Having described a preferred form of my invention, I claim:

1. In combination with a can top, a radial arm pivoted to the can top at its center, and a cutter hinged upon the outer end of the arm and adapted to normally lie flatly over the can top, said cutter having a handle extending substantially at right angles to the cutter and adapted normally to lie downwardly along the side of the can, said cutter and its handle adapted to be swung to a position where the cutter extends downwardly and the handle extends outwardly.

2. In combination with a can top, a protuberance in the can top formed by punching a hole therein and forcing the metal around the hole upwardly in the form of a circular lip, a radial arm pivoted at its inner end around said protuberance and lying close to and parallel to the can top, a hinge at the outer end of the arm near the circumferential edge of the can top, a cutter mounted upon said hinge and adapted normally to lie flatly over the can top, the cutter being pointed, and the point of the cutter normally lying in toward the center of the can top, and a handle for said cutter at substantially right angles thereto and normally hanging down from the top over the edge of the can, said cutter and its handle adapted to be swung to a position where the cutter extends downwardly and the handle extends outwardly.

3. In combination with a can top, a protuberance in the can top formed by punching a hole therein and forcing the metal around the hole upwardly in the form of a circular lip, a radial arm pivoted at its inner end around said protuberance and lying close to and parallel to the can top, a hinge at the cutter end of the arm near the circumferential edge of the can top, a cutter mounted upon said hinge and adapted normally to lie flat over the can top, the cutter being pointed, and the point of the cutter normally lying in toward the center of the can top, and a handle for said cutter at substantially right angles thereto and normally hanging down from the top over the edge of the can, said handle having a flange portion bent up to stand out substantially at right angles to the main portion of the handle and forming a reinforcing flange and a finger hold.

4. In combination with a can, a cutter carrier revoluble on the can and having a portion extending near the peripheral edge of the can, a cutter hinged to the carrier and adapted normally to lie against a surface of the can adjacent the peripheral edge thereof, and a handle for the cutter joined thereto and swinging therewith on the cutter hinge, said handle being at right angles to the cutter and normally lying against the can surface around the peripheral corner from the surface against which the cutter lies; the cutter and its handle adapted to be swung to a position where the cutter is at right angles to, and the handle is substantially in the plane of, the surface against which the cutter normally lies.

In witness that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto subscribed my name this 26th day of October 1917.

MARK LEV, JR.

Witness:
JAMES T. BARKELEW.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."