W. A. ZIETZKE.

CAN OPENER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 4, 1911.

1,012,787. Patented Dec. 26, 1911.

Fig. 1.

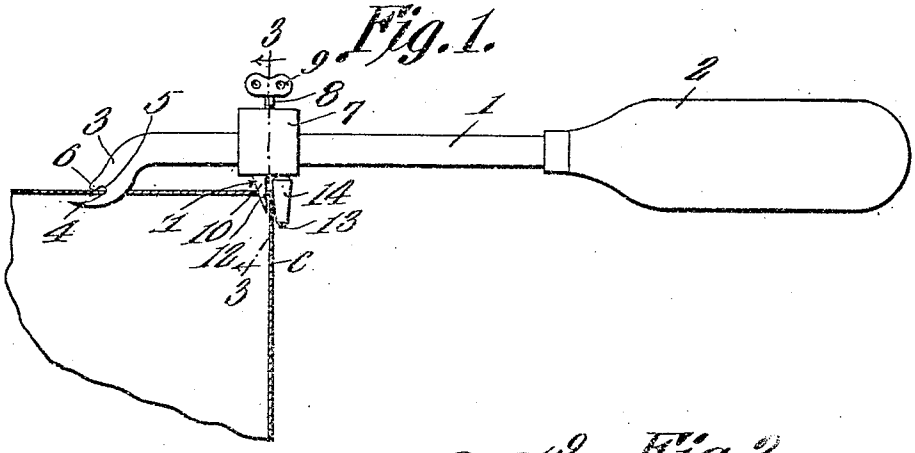

Fig. 2.

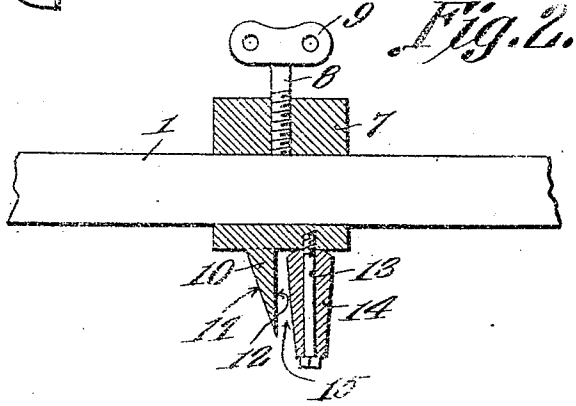

Fig. 3.

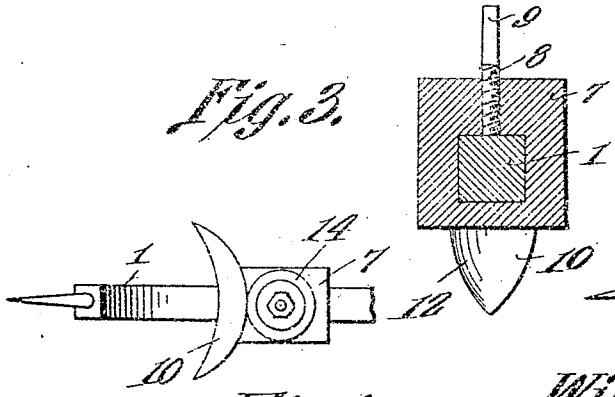

Fig. 5.

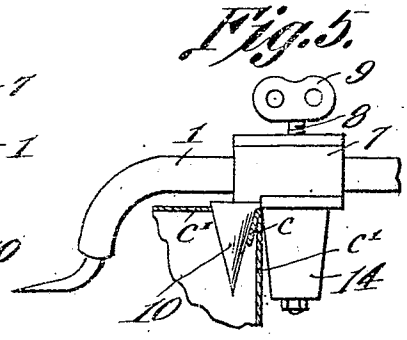

Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CAN-OPENER.

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Application filed October 4, 1911. Serial No. 652,759.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILHELM A. ZIETZKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bozeman, in the county of Gallatin and State of Montana, have invented a new and useful Can-Opener, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in can openers, and the primary object of the present invention is the provision of a shank provided with a can piercing end or terminal and a projection adapted to co-act with the said terminal when the same is in cutting position to prevent the too far insertion of the cutting terminal, in combination with an adjustable yoke or frame disposed upon the shank whereby the same may be adjusted to properly cut various diametered can tops, the said frame being provided with a stationary tapered cutter and a co-acting rim engaging anti-frictional roller adapted to encircle the top of the can while the cutter is projected within the wall to cut the top therefrom.

A further object of the present invention is the provision of a squared shank can opener, having disposed for longitudinal movement thereupon a frame carrying a stationary cutter and anti-frictional tapered roller, the said cutter being adapted to cut the metal at the top of the can while the roller is disposed upon and against the outer wall thereof, thus providing anti-frictional means during the rotation of the shank by a handle, the terminal of the shank being provided with a top engaging portion adapted to be held at the proper centered or relative position.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of invention herein disclosed can be within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a side elevation of the complete device a portion of the can being shown in sections to demonstrate the operation of the device. Fig. 2 is a portion of the shank with the adjustable frame carrying the cutter and anti-frictional roller disposed in section thereon. Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the cutting end of the opener. Fig. 5 is a side elevation on an enlarged scale demonstrating the rim curling operation of the cutting blade and tapered roller.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the shank which is preferably rectangular or square in cross section and is provided at one end with a gripping handle 2 and at the other end with the can piercing hook or prong 4, which as shown provides a throat 5 upon the outer portion of the curved end 3 of the shank terminating in the top engaging lug or projection 6, whereby the top cutting terminal 4 is adapted to be forced into the cover and the shank turned at the proper angle so that the lug 6 will rest upon the top of the can thereby limiting the projection or intrusion of the prong or cutting point 4 through the top of the can, the throat portion 5 accommodating the metal of the top and with the body of the shank forming a pivot for the opener.

Mounted for adjustable and sliding movement upon the square shank of the opener, is a rectangular open frame 7, provided with an adjusting screw 8 provided with a wing 9, whereby the said frame may be adjusted upon the shank and held there at any desired adjustment. Upon the opposite side of the frame 7 to the screw 8, is provided a cutter 10, which is provided with the inward curved face 11 and the outer convexed face 12, the said cutter being so positioned as to cut the top of the can as illustrated in Fig. 1, the same being adjustable by means of the frame, so that the various diametered cans may have their tops removed therefrom.

When in use the cutting prong 4 is adapted to enter the top of the can centrally thereof and be limited in its downward movement by means of the lug 6 which acts as a fulcrum to bring the shank 1 down with the frame 7 so that the cutter 10 is forced through the top of the can adjacent the outer wall as clearly illustrated, so that the anti-frictional roller 14 which is carried by the spindle or screw 13 will span the said wall, the space 15 between the cutter and the anti-frictional roller 14 fitting upon the remaining portion of the top of the can and the upper portion of the wall as clearly illustrated, thereby providing an anti-frictional bearing exteriorly of the top of the can and at the same time acting as a means to assist in the cutting of the top therefrom.

the operator during the rotation of the shank 1 through the handle 2, slightly bearing down, so that the roller 14 which is spaced from its lower ends to its top, will produce a clamping action upon the top edge of the wall of the can and thereby assist the cutter to cut the top from the can and properly grip the upper edge of the can during the cutting motion. At the same time by producing the anti-frictional roller there is not the great amount of friction against the outer face of the can as would be the case during rotation, if the same were a stationary, immovable or fixed surface. Further as shown in Fig. 5 the can C will have its short rim *c* curled or turned downwardly to present a hood around the rim of the can when the top *c'* is entirely removed.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the drawings, it is apparent that by producing a can opener with a shank 1 made in rectangular or square in cross section, as indicated, that the frame 7 will be permitted to slide thereupon but will have no rotative movement with regard to the same, and therefore the cutting blade 10 and the roller 14 will be upon the proper side of the same so that when the device is in the position as shown on Fig. 1, the cutting blade 10 will enter the top and the anti-frictional roller will engage the outer top edge of the wall of the can and thereby assist in the cutting operation. Further by making the said frame 7 adjustable at will, upon the shank 1 it is evident that any diametered can within the scope of the ends of the handle 2 to the curved portion 3 of the shank may be operated upon.

What is claimed is:

A can opener, having a shank carrying a centering point and a handle, and a rim engaging and top cutting device slidably mounted upon said shank, consisting of a frame surrounding the shank, means to lock the frame to the shank, a cutter carried by the frame, and a truncated conical roller carried by the frame in coöperable relation to the cutter, whereby the cutter and roller when forced downwardly and rotated by the shank will engage the rim interiorly and exteriorly at opposite points to wedge and turn-in the portion of the can remaining attached to the interior of the rim of the can.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILHELM A. ZIETZKE.

Witnesses:
G. Y. MONTGOMERY,
EMIL AUG. ZIETZKE.