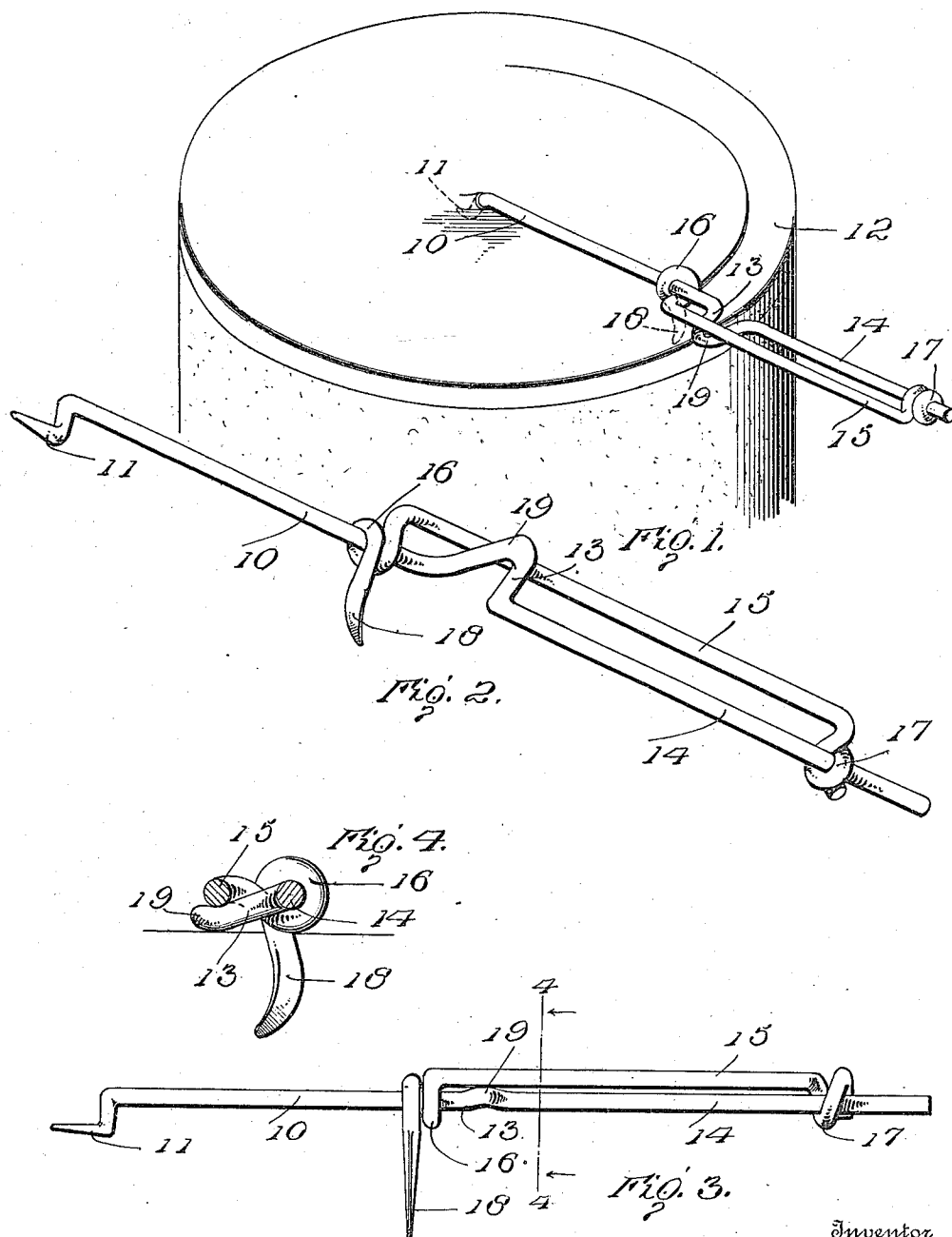


G. A. JAEGER.
CAN OPENER.
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987,883.

Patented Mar. 28, 1911.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAV A. JAEGER, OF MORRISON, ILLINOIS.

CAN-OPENER.

987,883.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 28, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAV A. JAEGER, citizen of the United States, residing at Morrison, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to can openers and refers particularly to an improved construction of a can opener whereby the same may be applied to cans varying in size.

An object of this invention is to form a can opener for cutting the tops from cans which is adapted for universal use, as the same is provided with an adjustable blade whereby the blade may be positioned at different distances from the point of rotation of the opener.

The invention has for a further object the provision of a device of this character which is formed from wire and which at the same time produces a strong and durable implement which can be economically manufactured.

For a full understanding of the invention reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved implement as applied to the upper end of a can. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the implement detached. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the can opener, and Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawing by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawing in which is disclosed the preferred embodiment of the invention the numeral 10 designates a shank formed from a length of wire which is offset at its outer extremity to form a point 11. The point 11 is tapered at its outer end and adapted for insertion through the central portion of the cover of the can 12. The length of wire forming the shank 10 is looped intermediately to form a stop 13 which extends laterally from the shank 10, the portion of the wire inwardly of the stop 13 forming a suitable handle 14 for grasping the implement.

Slidably arranged upon the length of wire forming the shank and the handle

14 is a guide 15 which is composed of a length of wire bent into substantially U formation and having its opposite free ends looped about the shank 10 and handle 14 respectively, to form eyes 16 and 17. The eye 17 forms the termination of the inner end of the guide 15 while the wire extending from the end of the eye 16 is depended therefrom and is flattened to form a suitable blade 18. The blade 18 is given a forward curve at its lower end to increase the efficiency of the same when operating the blade to provide a beveled cutting edge to engage with the cover of the can 12. From this construction it will be readily observed that the guide 15 may be moved longitudinally the length of the wire forming the shank 10 and handle 14, and that it is prevented from displacement from the inner end of the handle 14 by the stop 13 which engages the eye 16. The stop 13 also serves the purpose of retaining the blade 18 in a vertical position when in the act of cutting, as the guide is engaged against the outer end of the stop 13 and is retained from rotary movement about the length of wire. It will also be observed that the outer end of the stop 13 is curved upwardly at a slight angle to form a lip 19 to insure the engagement of the guide 15 thereagainst.

In the use of the device the point 11 is inserted centrally through the cover of the can 12 and the shank 10 drawn downwardly against the upper face of the cover. At the same time the guide 15 is moved along the length of wire to dispose the blade 18 at the desired distance inwardly from the edge of the can 12 and at the point where the cutting is to be effected. The blade 18 is now forced through the cover 12 by pressure upon the guide 15 and the handle 14 when the implement is rotated about the point 11 causing the blade 18 to pass through the cover of the can and to thereby cut the same.

It will be particularly noted that with a device of this construction the guide 15 may be moved outwardly from the shank 10 to various positions to accommodate cans of different sizes, or to cut the cover at substantially any point desired.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new is:—

As an article of manufacture a can opener including a length of wire having an offset

and pointed extremity, and a loop formed
midway of its ends and at right angles to
the offset pointed extremity, a second length
of wire bent into U-form and having its ends
5 overturned to loosely receive the first length
of wire at the opposite sides of the loop, the
inner end of the second wire extending be-
yond the overturned end and formed into

a blade, the central straight portion of the
second wire lying in the path of the loop. 10

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

GUSTAV A. JAEGER.

Witnesses:

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