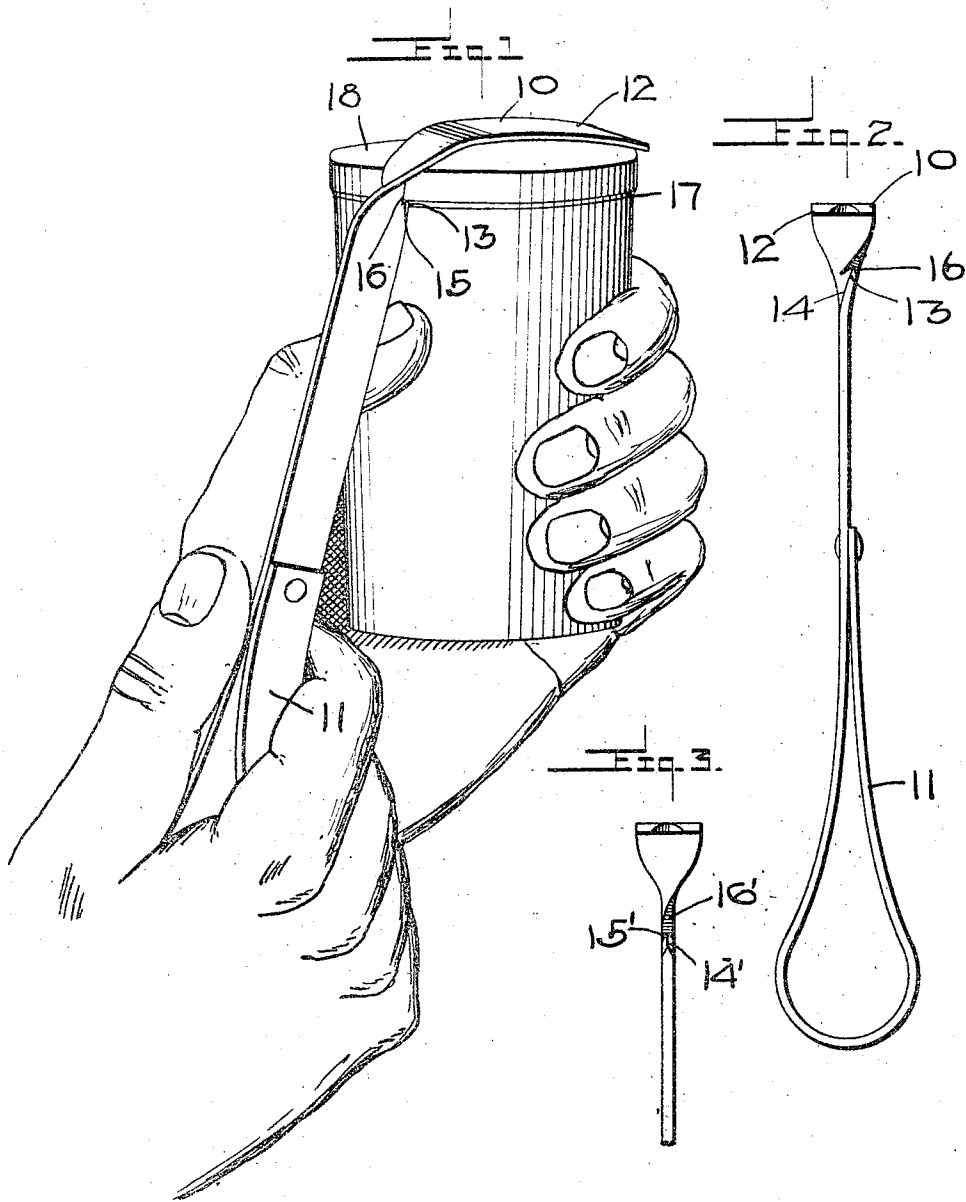


B. GARBEIL.
 TOP LIFTER FOR JARS, GLASSES, AND CANS.
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1,053,092.

Patented Feb. 11, 1913.



Witnesses

Ed. R. Lushy
G. M. Copenhafer

By

Benjamin Garbeil
Horace A. Woodward
 Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN GARBEIL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

TOP-LIFTER FOR JARS, GLASSES, AND CANS.

1,053,092.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 11, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN GARBEIL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Top-Lifters for Jars, Glasses, and Cans, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to appliances for removing covers from cans, jelly glasses, mustard jars, buckets, and the like, when the covers are held by friction or vacuum. It has for an object the provision of such a device of simple structure, which may be manufactured from sheet material, utilizing a minimum quantity thereof, and involving a small number of treatments, in its production, thereby reducing the cost.

An important object is to provide a cover engaging member so formed as to facilitate its engagement beneath, and the retention of, the top-edge therein.

In securing the covers on jelly glasses, and mustard jars, it is customary, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, to confine beneath the cover a piece of paper or other suitable fabric of a character, to prevent contents from being spoiled by the corrosion of the metallic cover. In cans and small buckets in which goods are dispensed, such as blacking, lard, and other merchandise, it is customary to form a rib in the body of the receptacle at a proper point for the lower edge of the cap or cover to abut snugly thereagainst.

It is therefore an important object of the present invention to provide a top lifter having an edge engaging portion adapted to be forced into either the fabric or rib, for ready engagement beneath the edge of the top.

There have been many prior devices for lifting covers, but they have been unsatisfactory because of the difficulty and sometimes impossibility of engaging them with a cover edge when paper is confined therebeneath, or when a rib is formed on the container abutting the cover edge.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description and the drawings.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the implement in use, Fig. 2 is a front view of the top-edge engaging por-

tion, Fig. 3 is a front view of a further modification of the lifter.

Referring to the drawings, there is shown a lifter 10, suitable for use upon the caps of jelly glasses, cans, and the like, formed integrally from one piece of strap metal. It comprises the handle portion 11, the fulcrum arm 12 and the lifting tooth 13, formed upon the handle portion close to its junction with the arm. The arm extends approximately at a right angle to the handle, but is slightly curved inward for a function to be indicated. The handle portion is twisted a little less than a quarter-turn at a point immediately adjacent the arm, the rotation of the twisted portions being produced on an axis coinciding with the major axis of the handle, and the tooth is formed by nicking, filing or otherwise treating the junction of one edge and one side face of the handle a short distance above the beginning of the twist. A plane passed through the point of the tooth parallel to the major plane of the device will bisect the angle 14 formed by adjacent faces of the handle immediately beneath the point, as shown in Fig. 2, this angular portion forming the front of the tooth 13. This angular front portion forms a ready means for indenting obstructing material beneath the edge of a cap, such as the rib usually formed on lard buckets, or paper or other material partly confined by and projecting below the edge of the cap, which rib or material prevents satisfactory operation of the prior devices made for this use, and sometimes make them entirely inoperative.

The tooth is triangular in transverse section, the upper face being inclined downwardly from its point, as at 15 in Fig. 1, the intersection of the three faces forming the point, a recess 16, formed inwardly of and extending above the tooth, is adapted to receive a top edge engaged over the tooth.

The major axis of the handle is inclined outward slightly with respect to the direction of the line at the junction of the side faces of the tooth. Thus, when the tooth of the lifter is presented against a jelly glass as in Fig. 1, the handle is slightly inclined away from the side of the container sufficiently to permit it to be readily grasped by the hand of an operator.

In use, the implement is presented toward

the container as illustrated in Fig. 1, and the tooth-front pressed into the projecting portion of paper 17, or if there is none, simply held against the side of the receptacle beneath the top, 18—either of these operations being performed in the most convenient manner. The handle is then moved outwardly, being pivoted initially on the tooth, until the arm 10 engages the far side, 10 of the top. Continued leverage applied through the handle will cause the outer portion of the arm—owing to its inward curve—to press inwardly upon the periphery of the top sufficiently to prevent the disengagement of the tooth from beneath the edge of the top, and also serve as a fulcrum, causing the tooth to press upwardly upon the top, until the top is dislodged.

It will be understood that the term "top" used in this application refers to any closure held upon a receptacle after the manner of jelly glass covers.

It should be observed that the formation of the device is such that in the final part of the operation, the disposition of the handle with relation to the container allows the application of a maximum amount of force with a minimum exertion on the part of the operator.

The formation of the tooth may, of course, be accomplished in several ways, a modified method being illustrated in Fig. 3, where the opposite sides of the handle are beveled to form an angular entrance edge 14' in which the recess 16' and upper side 15' of the tooth may be formed by the methods described.

It will be seen that the angular outer portion of the tooth performs an important

function in insuring the ready and positive engagement of the point beneath the edge of a can top or glass cover.

In each form described it will be noted that the point is formed by the intersection of two side faces and a top face.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the class described comprising a strip of strap metal bent to form a handle and a fulcrum arm approximately at right angles to each other, the handle being twisted at its inner end to lie in a plane approximately coincident with the direction of the arm, and having a lifting tooth formed from the material thereof on its inner edge.

2. A device of the class described comprising an elongated piece of sheet metal bent to form a fulcrum arm, adapted for engagement across a top, and a handle at an angle thereto to lie spaced adjacent the body of a receptacle over which the arm may be located, said handle being twisted adjacent its base for a quarter-turn on an axis coincident with the major one of the handle, and a tooth formed integrally at the edge formed by the junction of the inner edge face and one side face of the handle intermediately of the twisted portion, for penetration of material in the path of the tooth when presented laterally against a receptacle, as described.

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

BENJAMIN GARBEIL.

Witnesses:

F. H. RIDGWAY,
MINA M. MARR.