

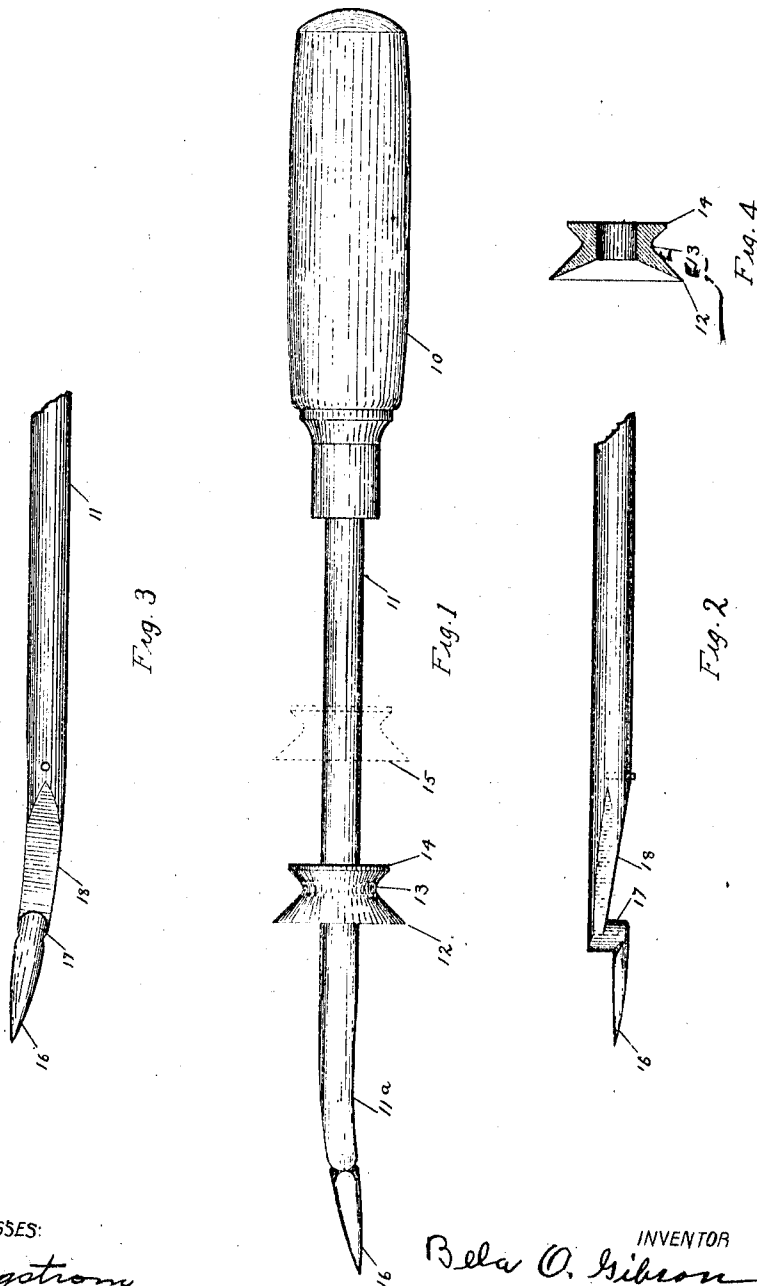
B. O. GIBSON.

CAN OPENER.

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1,004,013.

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WITNESSES:

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BELA O. GIBSON, OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON.

CAN-OPENER.

1,004,013.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BELA O. GIBSON, citizen of the United States of America, residing at Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention pertains to can-openers, and has for its object to provide a device of the character mentioned that will automatically adjust the knife to a position on the cover of the can adjacent to the rim thereof and maintain the same at a uniform distance from the rim whether the pivoted point of the shank carrying the knife is at the center of the top of the can or not.

Other objects will be hereinafter disclosed and shown in the drawings.

The principal features of the device are, a shank carrying a disk knife, a hub and a shoulder, cast integral and slidably adjusted to the shank, the shank having a handle at one end and a perforating point at the other end, a hub between the point and the shank and connecting the two, all cast integral and other detail features hereinafter described and pointed out in the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1, is an elevation of the device, complete, Fig. 2, is a side elevation of the end of the shank carrying the hub and perforating point, Fig. 3, is a bottom view of the same, and, Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the combined disk-knife, hub and shoulder.

No special construction is claimed for the handle 10 nor for the upper end of the shank 11, provided however, the shank at that end should be cylindrical. The shank 11 has slidably adjusted thereto a combined disk-knife 12, a hub 13 and a shoulder 14. The periphery of the circular disk-knife 12 constitutes the cutting edge, the hub 13 is adapted for rotation over the top outer edge of the can being opened and the shoulder 14 to bear against the upper outer edge of the can to act as a sustaining means to hold the mechanism in such a uniform position in relation to the top of the can, that the cutting edge of the disk 12 will at all times be a uniform distance from the outer edge thereof. The combined parts 12, 13 and 14 are slidably adjusted to the shank 11 so that the same may assume a position thereon nearer the handle portion 10 as

shown by the dotted lines 15 or a position nearer the other end of the shank. This feature is to permit of the adjustment of the mechanism to different sized cans, also permitting the automatic adjustment of the disk-knife and connecting parts to a uniform position, as relates to the upper outer edge of the can, in their rotation thereon, whether the pivoted bearing of the shank is at the center of the can or not. An elongated perforating point 16 is provided at the lower end of the shank 11, extending outward therefrom and substantially horizontal therewith but on a lower plane, and connected with the end of the shank by a hub 17. The shank 11, hub 17 and point 16 are integral, the end of the shank being beveled as at 18. The lower end of the shank 11 is deflected as at 11^a in order to give the disk-knife 12 a proper angle in opening cans having a top of small diameter and prevent the same from being forced from its desired uniform rotation in its relation to the top outer edge of the can. This deflection of the shank between the hub and the cutter results in angularly displacing the cutter with reference to a radial line from the hub-center, and in giving it a proper angle in opening cans of small diameter.

In the practical application of the device in opening cans, the point 16 is forced through the top of the can as near the center thereof as may be reasonably calculated, the shank 11 brought to a nearly horizontal position, the hub 13 adjusted to the outer edge of the can and the disk-knife 12 thrust through the top thereof, a circular motion of the handle 10 with a little downward pressure thereof carries the disk-knife 12 around the inner surface of the outer edge of the can, severing the top therefrom. It matters not as to whether the top of the can is perforated by the point 16 at its exact center, as the slidability of the adjustment of the disk-knife 12 and integral parts upon the shank 11 will maintain the uniformity of the cutting edge in its relation to the top edge of the can. The oblong point 16 is useful in maintaining the rigidity of the top of the can while being severed from the can as the same binds against the under surface thereof as the disk-knife portion is being forced around the outer edge thereof. The beveled end 18 of the shank 11 provides a bearing for the top of the can on the upper surface thereof.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and useful and desire to secure by Letters Patent is,

5 In a can opener provided with a shank having a knife adjusted thereto and a handle at one end thereof, an elongated point at the end opposite the handle, substantially horizontal with the shank but on a lower plane and connected therewith by a hub,

the end of the shank adjacent to the elongated point being beveled on its under side and horizontally deflected.

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

BELA O. GIBSON.

Witnesses:

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