May 22, 1928. 1,671,014

C. D. CUMMINGS

CAN OPENER

Filed March 14, 1927

FIG. 1

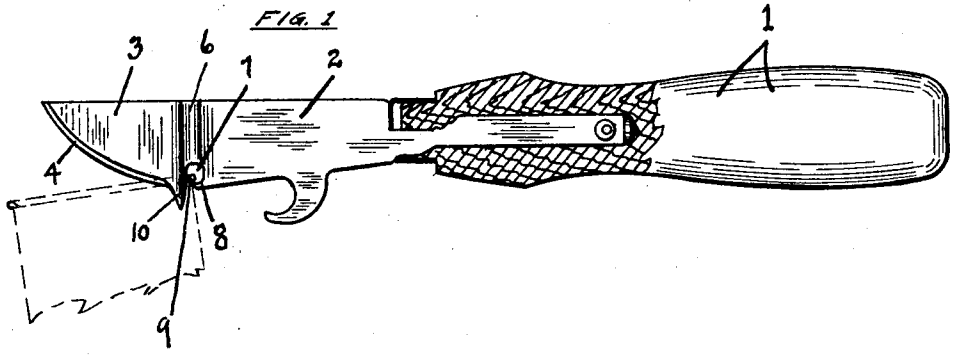
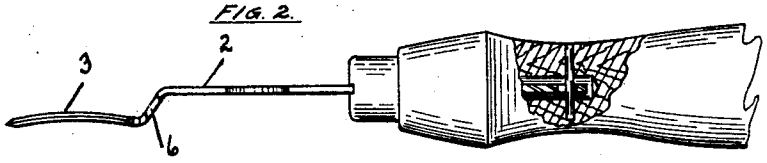


FIG. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES D. CUMMINGS, OF TULLY, NEW YORK.

CAN OPENER.

Application filed March 14, 1927. Serial No. 175,210.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in can opening devices.

It is usual with can openers of the hand operated type to use the point of the blade for first forming a perforation in the top of the can to permit the insertion of the blade, but it is found in using the point of the blade for this purpose that the opening is ordinarily formed some distance within the rim of the can so as to leave a projecting edge portion when the main body of the top of the can is cut out which interrupts the free flow of material from the can and forms a dangerous cutting edge, and the main object of this invention is to provide a special means for forming the original or starting opening at a point very close to the outer wall of the can so that practically no surrounding edge remains when the top of the can is cut out.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the can opening device of this invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical elevation of the structure shown in Figure 1 looking up.

The structure as here disclosed comprises a handle —1— which carries a thin metallic member —2— terminating in a tapered blade —3—, the edge —4— of which is sharpened. The blade portion —3— is offset from the body portion some distance, as best shown in Figure 2, and is connected to the body portion by an integral radially extending somewhat inclined connecting strip —6—.

In order to provide means for producing the initial hole in the top of the can at a point closely adjacent the side wall, the connecting strip —6— is cut away at —7— so as to form a prong —8— which is preferably inclined slightly upwardly at its end so as to extend under the rim —9— of a can illustrated in dotted lines, Figure 1. The base or rear end of the blade —3— is formed with a vertically projecting tooth —10— which extends downwardly beyond the prong —8— and is offset from the prong —8— due to the fact that the blade —3— is offset from the body —2—.

As a result of this offset relation of the prong or hook —8— and the perforating tooth —10— when the prong —8— is hooked underneath the rim —9— the entire can opening structure can be tilted slightly to bring the tooth —10— against the inner surface of the side wall of the can, and by tilting the handle upwardly a perforation is readily formed in the can top at a point closely adjacent the side wall of the can. The handle —1— may then be tilted still further upwardly which will cause the edge —4— of the blade —3— to cut through the can top. The handle —1— may thereupon be brought down to the horizontal position and the hook —8— moved along the rim —9— of the can in the direction of the just made cut which will place blade —3— in a position where the raising of handle —1— will cause the edge —4— to extend the cut along the top of the can. This operation may be repeated until the cut extends around the top of the can as far as may be desired.

Altho I have shown and described a specific form and relation of parts as constituting an embodiment of this invention, I do not desire to restrict myself to the exact details of form or arrangement of the parts, as various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A can opening device comprising a body portion and a blade offset from the body portion and connected to the body portion by a laterally extending integral strip being cut away to form a prong, and a tooth extending vertically from the blade adjacent to but offset from the hook portion.

2. A can opening device comprising a body portion and a blade offset from the body portion and connected to the body portion by a laterally extending integral strip, said body portion being provided with a prong and a tooth extending vertically from the blade adjacent the prong and offset therefrom.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of March 1927.

CHARLES D. CUMMINGS.