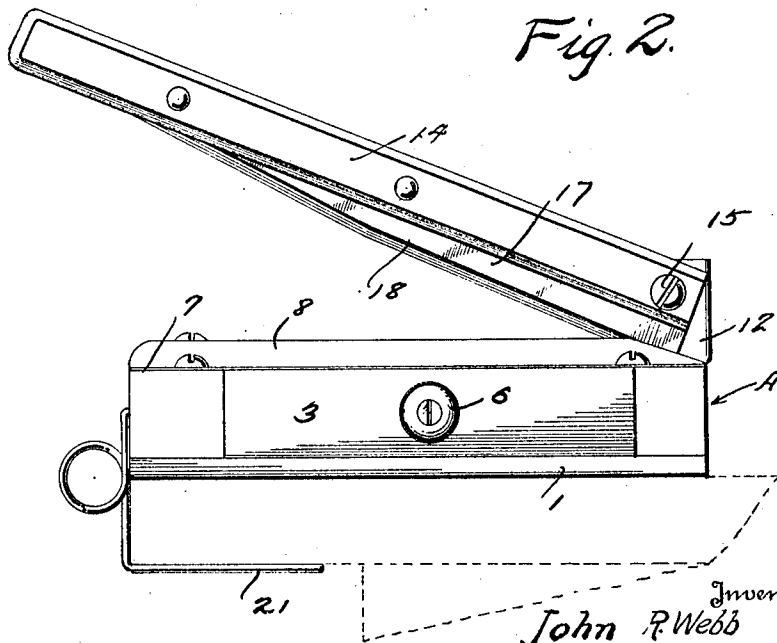
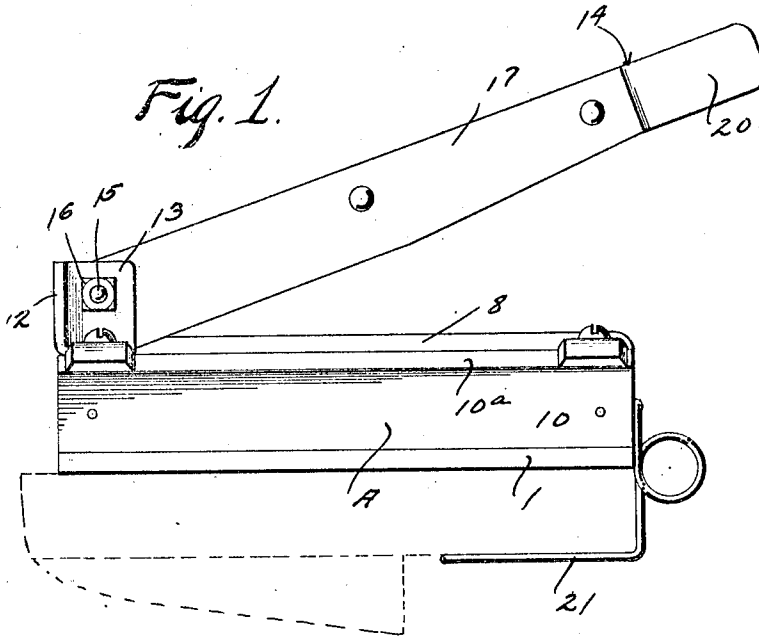


J. R. WEBB.
CUTTING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 23, 1918.

1,292,181.

Patented Jan. 21, 1919.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witness
Gle Walling
W. H. Balch

Inventor
John R. Webb

By *Richard R. Allen*
Attorney

J. R. WEBB.
CUTTING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 23, 1918.

Patented Jan. 21, 1919.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

1,292,181.

Fig. 3.

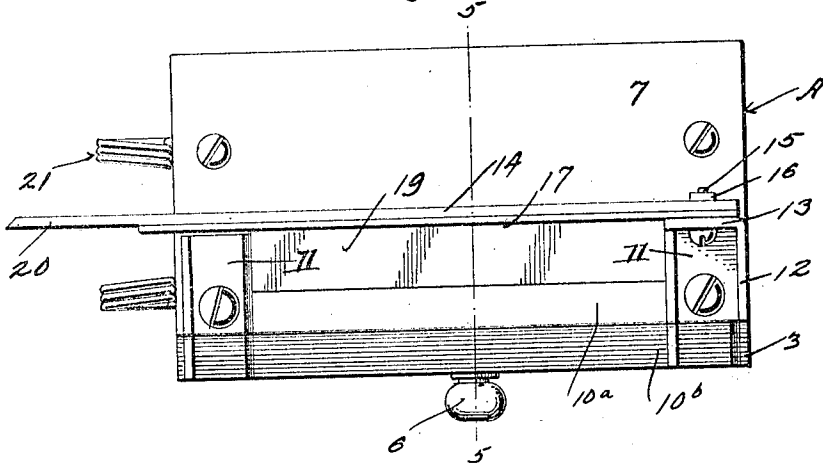


Fig. 4.

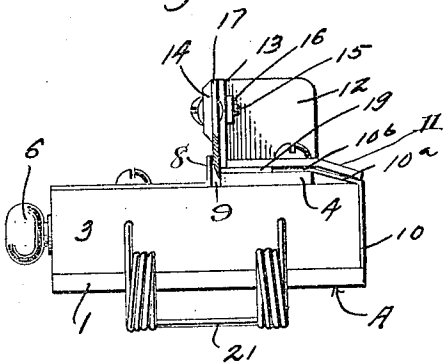
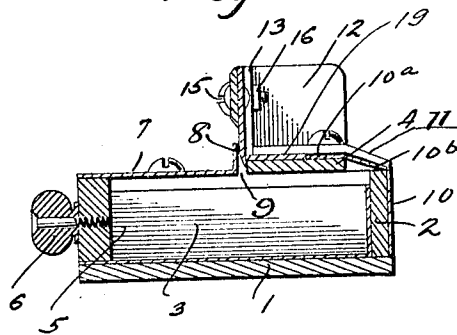


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
E. Walling
W. H. Babcock

Inventor
John R. Webb

By Richard E. Allen
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN R. WEBB, OF PARKERSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA.

CUTTING DEVICE.

1,292,181.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 21, 1919.

Application filed January 23, 1918. Serial No. 213,411.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN R. WEBB, a citizen of the United States, residing at Parkersburg, in the county of Wood and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cutting Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to cutting devices, and more particularly to a device adapted especially for opening envelopes, and similar containers.

The main object of the invention is to provide a device as illustrated of simple construction and operation, which may be manufactured at a comparatively small cost.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device having a vertically operated cutting blade, which is pivotally mounted at one end so as to be moved into engagement with the envelop to be opened to promote cutting or shearing of the end portion thereof.

A further object is to provide a blade and a stop member so related as to insure that but a very small portion of the end of envelop be cut off, this stop portion and the slot in which the blade operates cooperating to direct the cut off strip or shaving into the interior of the supporting base.

A further object is to provide a device in which the cuttings are collected in a removable container.

Further objects will appear from the detailed description.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1, is a side view of a cutting device constructed in accordance with my invention;

Fig. 2, is a view taken from the opposite side of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3, is a top plan view;

Fig. 4, is an end view; and

Fig. 5, is a section taken substantially on line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

The cutting mechanism proper is supported on a base A, which is in the form of a box having a bottom 1, sides 2, and walls 3 and top strip 4. A drawer 5 is slidably mounted in this base through one side thereof and provided with the usual hand knob 6, for easy manipulation thereof. A plate 7 of sheet metal is secured to the top edges of the end walls 3, and extends the full length of the base A. This plate is of such width as to extend to with-

in a short distance of the inner edge of the top strip 4, and is provided at its inner edge with an integral vertically directed flange or stop member 8. This plate cooperates with the strip 4 to produce a slot 9, which extends the full length of the base. A plate 10 is secured to side walls 2 of the base, the upper portion 10^a of the plate being secured over the top strip 4, and the intermediate portion 10^b of the plate being inclined downwardly thus providing means whereby the letter to be cut may be easily moved upon the table constituted by the upper strip 4 and the upper portion 10^a of the plate. To facilitate movement of the letter transversely of this table, suitable guide strips 11 are secured to the plate 10 adjacent each end thereof and extending across the portions 10^a and 10^b of the plate. These guide strips serve to prevent displacement of the envelop when being moved upon the table longitudinally of the base.

The top surface 4 is formed of strap metal of suitable gage. This strip is bent upwardly and inwardly at right angles, at one end, to provide a supporting arm 12. This arm is provided, at its inner edge, with an integral finger 13 which is disposed in parallelism with the slot 9, the inner face of this finger being in the plane of the inner edge of the strip 4. A cutting arm 14 is pivotally secured at one end to finger 13 by a screw 15 inserted through this arm and finger this screw being maintained in operative position by the usual nut 16. A cutting blade 17 is secured to the arm 14, this blade being positioned intermediate the arm and finger 13. The lower edge portion of the outer face of the blade is beveled, as at 18 to provide a cutting edge, this cutting edge being substantially in the plane of the inner end of the cutting plate or strip 17 which is secured to the upper face of top strip 4, the inner edge of the top strip 4 being flush with the inner edge of the plate 19. The cutting edge of the plate 17 is inclined to give a draw cut, as shown. The operating lever 14 is extended beyond the cutting blade, to provide a handle 20. To permit the base and the cutting means carried thereby to be readily secured to a table or other means of support, a spring clamp 21 is secured to one end of the base A, this clamp projecting beneath bottom 1 and being adapted to fit snugly about the edge portion of a table, as indicated. By this means, the base may be fix-

edly and easily secured to a table on which the letters to be opened are placed, the letters being then opened in succession by cutting a strip from the end of each one.

5 In using this device, the letters are placed on a table to which the base A is secured, as indicated, after which the letters are moved one at a time across the table 10^a and plate 19 so as to bring the inner end of the envelop
10 into engagement with stop member 8. After the envelop has been moved into such position as to bring the inner end thereof into engagement with the stop member 8, the arm 14 which has been raised is depressed thus
15 bringing the cutting edge of the blade 17 into engagement with the envelop so as to cut a narrow strip of material from the inner end thereof, thus opening the container. This strip of material which has been cut
20 from the envelop will be directed downwardly through slot 9 into the drawer 5, due to the fact that the lower edge portion of the cutting blade is beveled downwardly toward the cutting plate 19. The drawer 5
25 may be removed and emptied, when necessary as will be obvious.

It will be evident that there may be slight changes made in the construction and arrangement of the specific form of my invention, without departing from the spirit
30 of the invention or the scope of the claims, and I intend to include all such variations as fall within the scope of the appended claims, in the application, in which a preferred form only of my invention is disclosed.
35

What I claim is:

1. An envelop opener comprising a hollow base provided with a centrally located longitudinal slot, one edge of the slot having
40 an upstanding flange, a blade pivotally mounted on the base near one end thereof, and having its cutting edge disposed to move adjacent the edge of the slot opposite to the
45 said flange, the said blade being beveled from the cutting edge toward the said flange whereby a beveled recess is formed when the said blade is moved into the said slot, the said blade being adapted to force the cut

portion of the envelop through the said slot 50 when it reaches its downward limit of movement.

2. In a device of the character described, a box like base, said base provided with a slot through its top, a stop member defining
55 one edge of said slot and adapted to positively limit inward movement of envelops across the base, a blade pivotally secured on the base at one end and movable toward and away from the top thereof, said blade hav-
60 ing its lower edge portion beveled from one face so as to form a cutting edge which is disposed substantially in the plane of the other edge of the slot, the beveled edge of the blade and the stop member cooperating
65 to direct cuttings through the slot.

3. In a device of the character described, a box like base, a top strip secured to the upper edges of the ends of said base, said top strip being provided at one end with a
70 supporting standard and an inwardly directed finger formed integral therewith, said finger being disposed substantially in the plane of the inner edge of said top strip, a top plate secured to the upper edges of the
75 ends of the base and provided at its inner edge with an upwardly directed stop member, this stop member being spaced from the inner edge of the top strip and cooperating therewith, to provide a slot extending lon-
80 gitudinally of the same, a cutting knife pivotally secured at one end to said finger and movable toward and away from the top of the base, said knife being operative in the slot and having its lower portion beveled
85 from one face to provide a cutting edge substantially in the plane of the inner edge of the top strip, the beveled cutting edge of the knife and the stop member cooperating to direct cuttings through said slot into the
90 base.

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

JOHN R. WEBB.

Witnesses:

G. R. SAMS,
C. M. STUKEY.

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