Nov. 18, 1952 T. F. PLUSKA 2,618,054

CAN TOPPER

Filed July 12, 1950 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

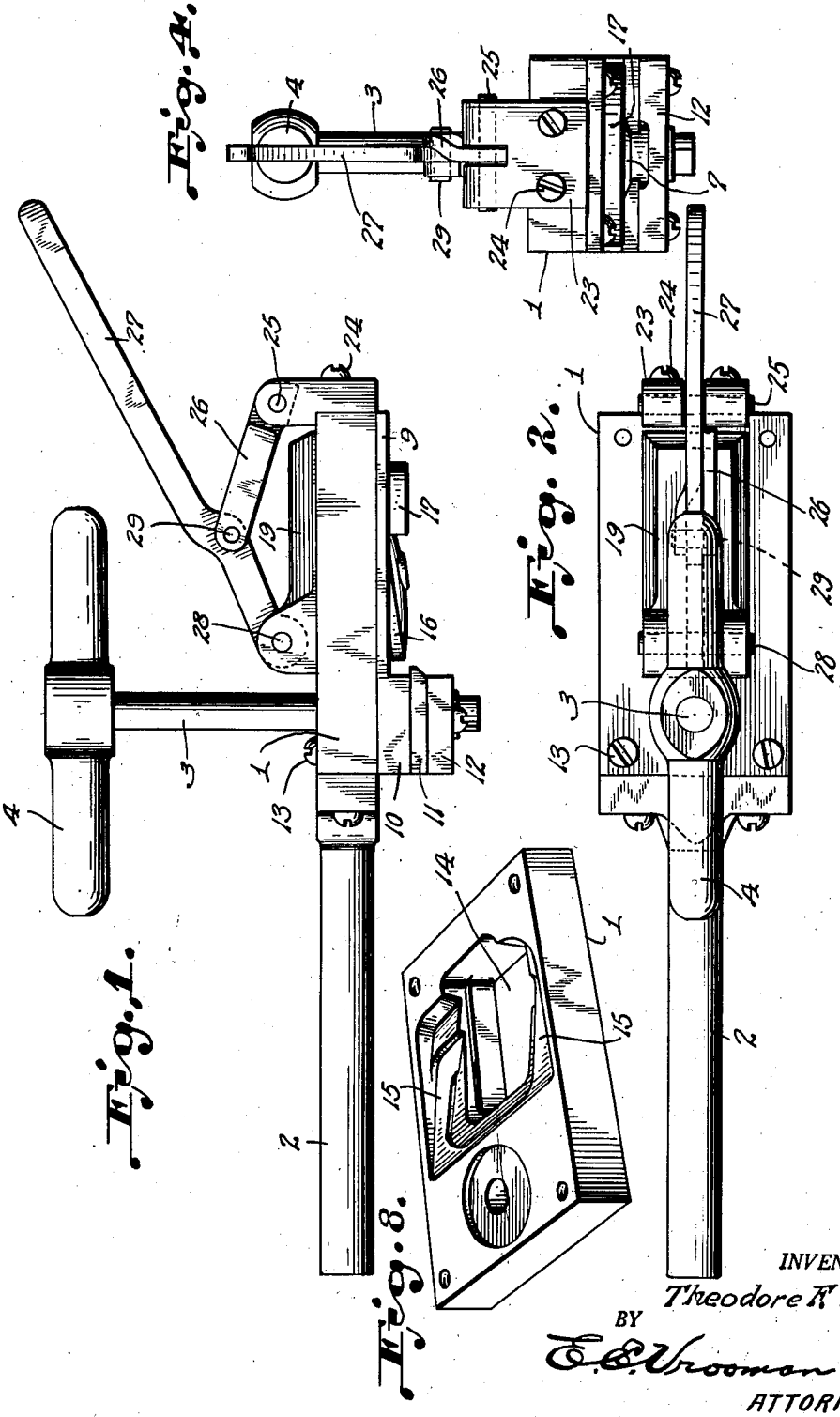


Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 8.

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Fig. 5.

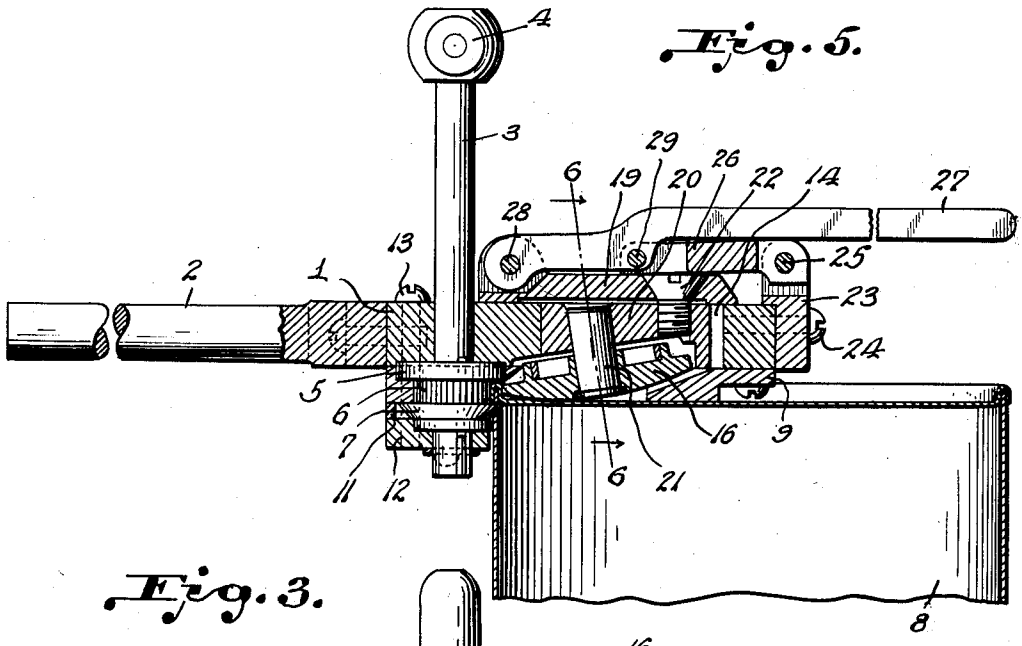


Fig. 3.

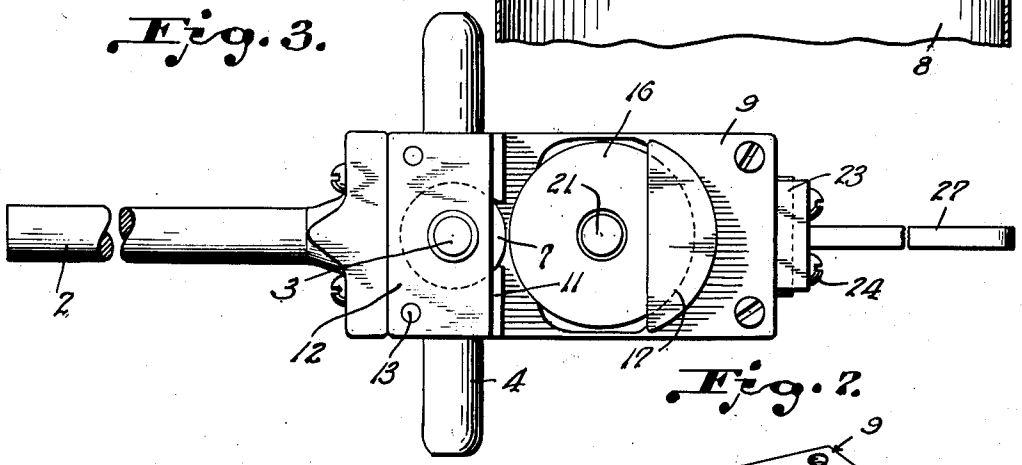


Fig. 7.

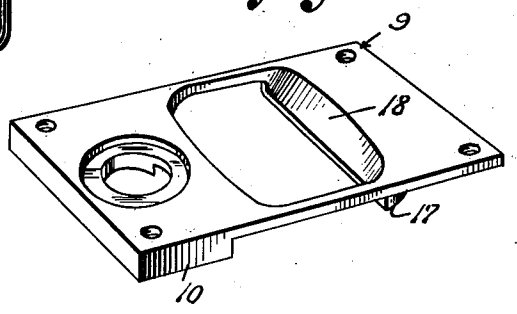
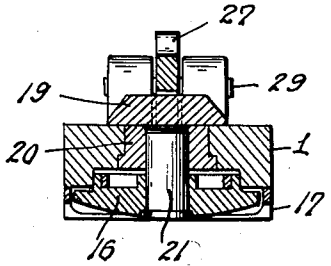


Fig. 6.



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Patented Nov. 18, 1952

2,618,054

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,618,054

CAN TOPPER

Theodore F. Pluska, Chicago, Ill.

Application July 12, 1950, Serial No. 173,275

3 Claims. (Cl. 30—15.5)

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This invention relates to a can topper.

An object of the invention is to provide an efficient device for removing the top of a can by cutting around the side of a can near its top, whereby the top of the can is prevented from falling into the can, and leaving the contents of the can free to be removed from the can.

Another object of the invention is to provide an efficient lever and link means for holding the pressure disc firmly against a portion of the top of a can while the cutting action is taking place.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, this invention comprises certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a device constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a top plan view.

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the device.

Figure 4 is a view in elevation of the right-hand end of the device.

Figure 5 is a view partly in elevation and partly in longitudinal section, showing the device in operation, as when cutting off the top of a can.

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken on line 6—6, Fig. 5, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the bottom plate.

Figure 8 is an inverted perspective view of the frame.

Referring to the drawings, in which the preferred embodiment of this invention is illustrated, 1 designates the frame of the device, to one end of which is suitably secured a handle 2. A main shaft 3, Fig. 5, is journalled on the frame 1, and this shaft is provided on its upper end with a suitable grip 4. On the shaft 3 is positioned a spacing collar 5, and under collar 5 is a roughened or toothed disc 6. This disc 6 is secured to the cutter disc 7, the disc 6 and cutter disc 7 forming a single unit which is fixedly mounted on shaft 3. Therefore, when shaft 3 is rotated, the cutter disc will be operated to cut the side of a can 8. The frame 1 is provided with a bottom plate 9 that bears against the bottom of said frame. This bottom plate is provided with a depending enlarged portion 10 which receives part of the spacing collar 5, Fig. 5. A guide plate 11 is against the bottom portion of portion 10 and resting against said guide plate 11 is a head plate 12. Screws 13 extend through the frame 1,

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guide plate 11 and head plate 12, securing the same together.

The frame 1 is provided with a central opening 14 and it is also provided with inclined tracks 15, on which the pressure disc 16 slides. The bottom plate 9 is provided with a pocket 17, and said pocket is beveled at 18. The pressure disc 16 moves in pocket 18.

A primary sliding plate 19 is positioned above opening 14 and slides on the top of the casing 1. An auxiliary sliding plate 20 is in opening 14. On the auxiliary sliding plate 20 is secured a stub shaft 21. On stub shaft 21 is rotatably mounted pressure disc 16. The primary sliding plate 19 and the auxiliary sliding plate 20 are connected by means of large screw 22.

A bifurcated bracket 23 is secured by screws 24 to the right end of frame 1. In the bifurcation of bracket 23 is pivotally mounted at 25 a link 26. A lever 27 is pivotally mounted at 28 on the sliding plate 19. The link 26 and lever 27 are pivotally connected at 29. Therefore, it will be seen that upon operating lever 27, the disc 16 will be operated. In the position shown in Fig. 5, the lever 27 is down in a locking position, with the pressure disc 16 engaging the top of the can 8 and pressing against the sealing edge of the can, while the cutting disc 7 is engaging and cutting the side of the can.

When the lever 27 is raised upwardly, the pressure disc 16 is moved from its clamping position and then the device can be moved off the can.

The device is admirably adapted for removing can tops so that it can be used in the home as coasters. Further, by using this device, the top of the can will not fall into the can, and the contents of the can, such as salmon, cranberry sauce, and the like, will be exposed and removed without necessarily cutting down the side of the food which the can contains. In other words the contents of the can can be more easily removed than if the top were cut around its inside.

While I have described the preferred embodiment of the invention and illustrated the same in the accompanying drawings, certain minor changes or alterations may appear to one skilled in the art to which this invention relates during the extensive manufacture of the same, and I, therefore, reserve the right to make such changes or alterations as shall fairly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a can topper, an elongated rectangular main frame, a vertical main shaft extending through said frame adjacent one end thereof, said frame having an opening extending longi-

tudinally of the frame and spaced from its other end, said frame having shoulders at the sides of said opening and inclined downwardly from the end of the opening nearest the main shaft, a bottom plate fixed on the under side of the main frame and provided with an opening positioned beneath the frame opening, a primary sliding plate mounted on said frame and covering the opening therein, an auxiliary sliding plate fixed beneath the primary plate and extending into the main frame opening to slide longitudinally thereof and having an inclined bottom face parallel to said shoulders, a stub shaft projecting from said bottom face perpendicular thereto, a pressure disc revolubly and slidably mounted on said stub shaft, a toothed disc and cutter disc fixed on said main shaft in opposition to said pressure disc, and means to move said auxiliary plate to and fro in the frame opening.

2. In a can topper, an elongated rectangular main frame, a vertical main shaft extending through said frame adjacent one end thereof, said frame having an opening extending longitudinally of the frame and spaced from its other end, said frame having shoulders at the sides of said opening and inclined downwardly from the end of the opening nearest the main shaft, a bottom plate fixed on the under side of the main frame and provided with an opening positioned beneath the frame opening, said bottom plate having a thickened end wherethrough said shaft passes, a primary sliding plate mounted on said frame and covering the opening therein, an auxiliary sliding plate fixed beneath the primary plate and extending into the main frame opening to slide longitudinally thereof and having an inclined bottom face parallel to said shoulders, a stub shaft projecting from said bottom face perpendicular thereto, a pressure disc revolubly and slidably mounted on said stub shaft, a toothed disc and cutter disc fixed on said main shaft in opposition to said pressure disc, said toothed disc resting in the recess in the bottom plate and projecting therefrom towards the pressure disc, and means to move said auxiliary plate to and fro in the frame opening.

3. In a can topper, an elongated rectangular main frame, a vertical main shaft extending through said frame adjacent one end thereof, said frame having an opening extending longitudinally of the frame and spaced from its other end, said frame having shoulders at the sides of said opening and inclined downwardly from the end of the opening nearest the main shaft, a bottom plate fixed on the under side of the main frame and provided with an opening positioned beneath the frame opening, said bottom plate having a thickened end wherethrough said shaft passes, a primary sliding plate mounted on said frame and covering the opening therein, an auxiliary sliding plate fixed beneath the primary plate and extending into the main frame opening to slide longitudinally thereof and having an inclined bottom face parallel to said shoulders, a stub shaft projecting from said bottom face perpendicular thereto, a pressure disc revolubly and slidably mounted on said stub shaft, a toothed disc and cutter disc fixed on said main shaft in opposition to said pressure disc, pivot lugs on said primary sliding plate, other pivot lugs supported by said frame, and a toggle device connecting the lugs on the plate with the last mentioned lugs.

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