My invention relates to can openers and closures therefor and has for its object to provide a new and efficient milk can opener which may be used to open the can and which may then be replaced on the can after using part of the contents therefrom and used to keep the contents contained in the can until again desired.

A further object is to provide a milk can opener which may be used to puncture the openings on opposite sides of a milk can and to close these openings locking onto the can when desired to transport the can without danger of spilling the remaining contents.

These objects I accomplish with the device illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which similar numerals and letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views and as described in the specification forming a part of this application and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing in which I have shown my device,

Figure 1 is a vertical diametrical section of the top of a can with my device shown as having punctured the top of the can and locked in place thereon for keeping the contents both fresh and within the can.

Figure 2 is an enlarged view of the device, parts cut away, from the side thereof to show the puncturing blades in elevation.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the puncturing blades and bar from which they are formed.

Figure 4 is a sectional view of the top engaging casing of the device with the cutting blades shown depending from the cross bar and with the cross bar riveted to the casing.

Figure 5 is a view of a blade showing that the blade might be secured to the casing by passing a rivet therethrough.

Figure 6 is an end view of one of the cutting blades showing a form having a centrally balanced piercing blade.

Figure 7 is a sectional view of the cover with the blades set to one side so that neither blade can be replaced in the hole or opening made in the can top by the other blade. This is only used when the blades are not true, due to faulty construction.

In the drawings I have shown my device as a cylindrical cover A, having the side walls extending down sufficient distance to firmly engage the walls of the can B and to properly guide the opening or piercing blades 3 and 4.

The blades 3 and 4 are made on each end of a cross bar 5, and the bar 5 is secured to the inner side of the closed end 6 of the cover A. The blades 3 and 4 are made so that the cutting edges 3a are opposed in a rotative direction to each other and the blades 3 and 4 are formed as a part of the bar 5 and bend down therefrom at each end thereof with a slot 9 formed on the blank edge 10 of the blades 3 and 4. The slot 9 is to engage the tin of the top of the can being opened and hold the cover A in fixed relation thereto if desired.

To engage the slot 9 on the top of the can, the operator grasps the cover A and partially rotates it after the blades 3 and 4 have been fully forced down through the top. The partial rotation engages the slot 9 on the tin and one edge 9a of the slot may be made sloping if desired so as to draw the cover A down onto the can top more firmly.

The cutting side 7 of the blades 3 and 4 is formed so that there will be a shoulder 13 formed at the end of the bar 5 in alignment with the blades 3 and 4, the shoulder to cover the opening made in the can top when the cover and blades are partially rotated to lock the cover onto the can for transportation, thus, the shoulder is over the part of the hole which has been left open by rotating the cover to engage the slot 9 over the tin of the top of the can.

As shown in Figure 4 the bar 5 may be secured to the cover A by rivets 18, and in Figure 7 I have shown the bar 5 secured to the inner surface of the cover with the bar set to one side so that the cutting blades are not concentric with the cover, thus, there can be no difficulty in returning the cover to the can as the blades will only fit into the one hole and one hole will be nearer the edge of the can than the other, as shown in Figure 7. In Figure 5 I have shown a cutting blade made separate to be riveted directly to the cover without the use of the cross bar 5, but this method would not have the advantages of the other method of construction.

The lugs 16 of the blade 11 will be used to rivet the blade to the cover.

The form of blade shown in Figure 6 is such that the cutting blade 18 is pointed so that the point is directly centered from the bar 20 and the edges 19 are only sharpened near the cutting end.

The slot 21 allows for partial rotation to lock the cover onto the can and the shoulder 22 closes the opening through the tin in the can.
when the cover has been rotated so that there can be no leaking from the can.

In some cases this shoulder will not be needed and may be omitted from the construction.

5 Having thus described my invention I desire to secure by Letters Patent and claim:

1. In a milk can opener and cover the combination of a closed cylindrical cover to fit over the end of a milk can; a bar mounted transversely of said cover; depending piercing blades formed by turning each end of the bar down so that the blades extend transversely of said bar and sharpening the ends of the portion turned down; a slot formed in each blade in opposed relation to the slot in the other blade said slots to be moved forward over the uncut portion of the can top to lock the entire device in place; and shoulders on said bar on a level with the top of the slot and at the opposite side of the blade to said slot said shoulders to close the opening in the can top when the blades have been rotated to lock the device onto the can.

2. In a milk can opener and cover, the combination of a closed cylindrical cover to fit down over the top end of a milk can; a bar mounted transversely of said cover; depending piercing blades on the under side of said bar, said blades having their lower ends sharpened and having a slot at the top of each blade opposed in relation to each other, said blades being set transversely of said bar; and shoulders on said bar on a level with the top of the slot and the bottom of said bar, said shoulders being on the opposite side of the bar to said slots and being adapted to close the openings in the can top when the cover and blades have been partially rotated to lock the blades in the openings and the cover onto the can.

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