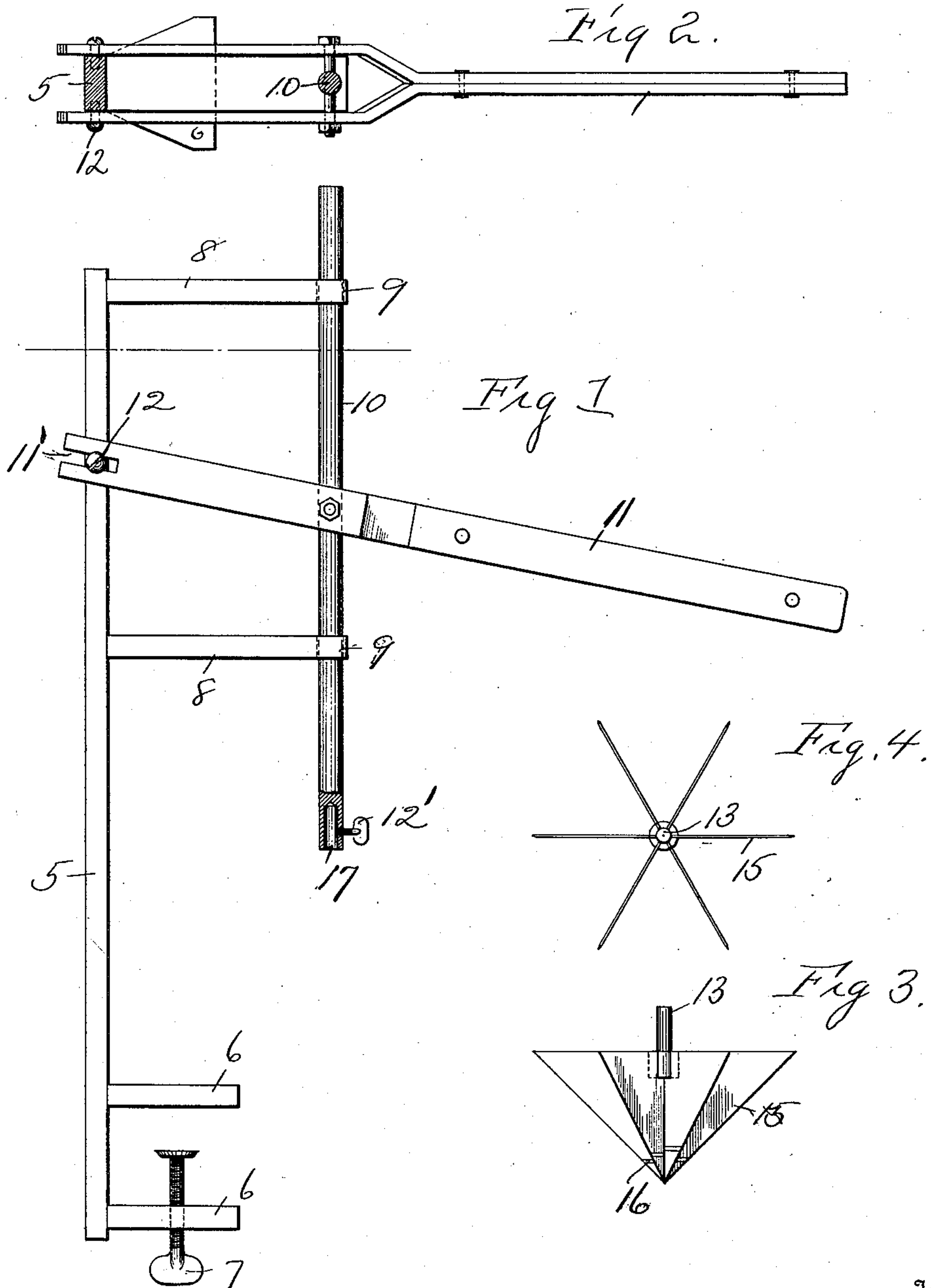


No. 891,443.

PATENTED JUNE 23, 1908.

J. F. RUFF.  
CAN OPENER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1907.



Witnesses  
John P. Ruff, Att.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH F. RUFF, OF NEWBERRY, FLORIDA.

## CAN-OPENER.

No. 891,443.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 23, 1908.

Application filed May 29, 1907. Serial No. 376,431.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH F. RUFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newberry, in the county of Alachua and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to can openers, and its primary object is, to provide a device of the character indicated, of simple and inexpensive construction adapted to be operated by the downward movement of a lever to form radial slits in the top or cover of a can.

A further object of the invention is, to provide means whereby the slitted portions of the can cover will be raised when the cutter or slitting tool is elevated by the upward movement of the operating lever.

The construction of the improvement will be fully described hereinafter, in connection with the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification.

In the drawing: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a can-opener embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on the line indicated in Fig. 1, looking downward. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the cutter-head employed, and Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the cutter-head.

The reference numeral 5 designates an upright from which project two parallel horizontal arms 6, said arms being located adjacent to the lower end of the upright 5. A clamping screw 7 extends through the lower arm 6 to facilitate the attachment of the device to a table or other suitable support. An arm 8 projects from the upper end of the upright 5, and a similar arm 8 projects from the upright at a point below the upper arm 8. Each of these arms 8 is provided at its free end with a sleeve 9, said sleeves being in vertical alinement, and serving as guides for a plunger-rod 10, to which is pivotally secured a bifurcated lever 11. The ends of the forked arms of the lever 11 are formed with elongated slots 11' through which extend oppositely-disposed screws 12, said screws entering opposite sides of the upright 5. The lower end of the plunger rod 10 is formed with

a socket 17 to receive a spindle 13 projecting centrally from a cutter-head comprising a series of equidistant radial cutting blades 15. A set screw 12' is employed to secure the spindle within the socket 17. From each of the blades 15 projects a flange 16 the function of said flanges being to engage the points of the several portions of the cover and raise the same when the cutter head is withdrawn.

The utility and operation of the improvement will be readily understood. The cutter-head is centered on the can cover, after which the lever 11 is depressed forcing the cutting blades through the cover and forming radial slits therein. The upward movement of the lever withdraws the cutter-head, and as above stated the points of the slitted portions of the cover are raised by the contact therewith of the flanges 16 projecting from the cutting blades.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A can-opener comprising an upright, parallel arms projecting therefrom, and provided with vertically-alined sleeves, a plunger-rod guided within said sleeves, a bifurcated lever pivotally secured to said plunger-rod, and loosely secured to said upright, and a cutter-head consisting of radially-disposed blades, secured to the lower end of said plunger-rod.

2. A can-opener comprising an upright provided with means for securing it to a support, and with parallel arms provided with alined sleeves, a plunger-rod guided within said sleeves, a bifurcated lever pivotally secured to said plunger-rod, and loosely attached to said upright, and a cutter-head secured to the lower end of said plunger-rod, and consisting of a series of radially disposed blades, each provided with a projecting flange adjacent to its lower end.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

JOS. F. RUFF.

Witnesses:

JOHN G. WHITE,  
S. P. GETZEN.