

J. P. KEELEY.
CAN OPENER.

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953,843.

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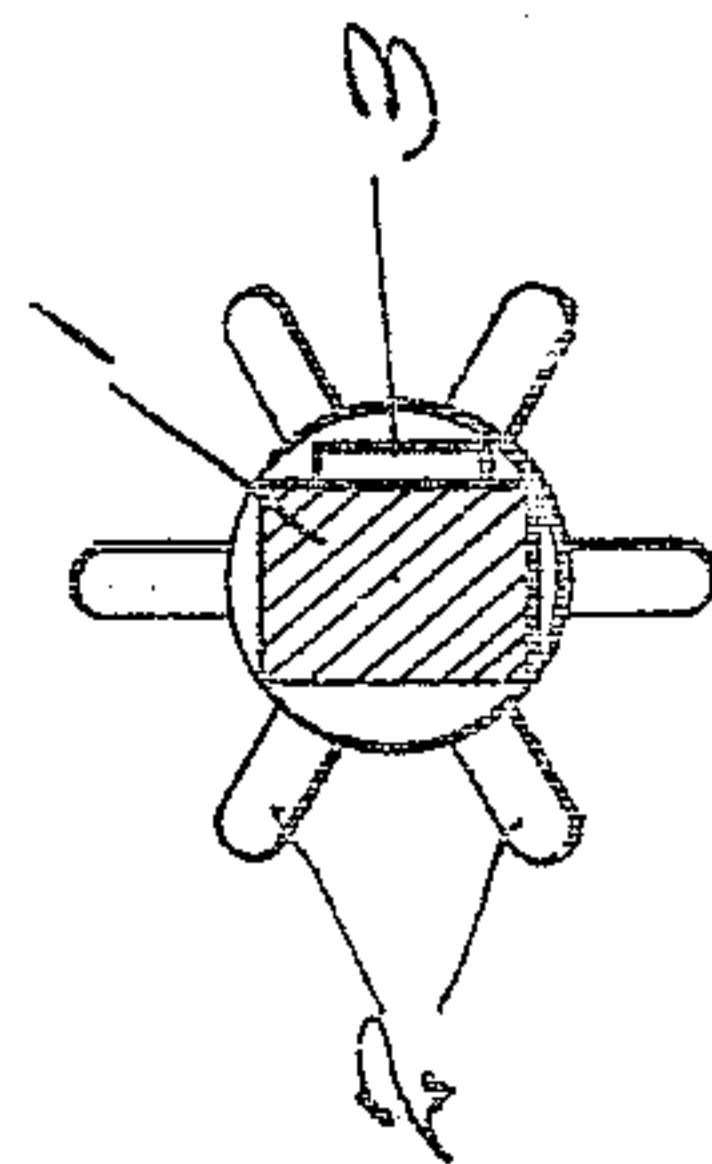
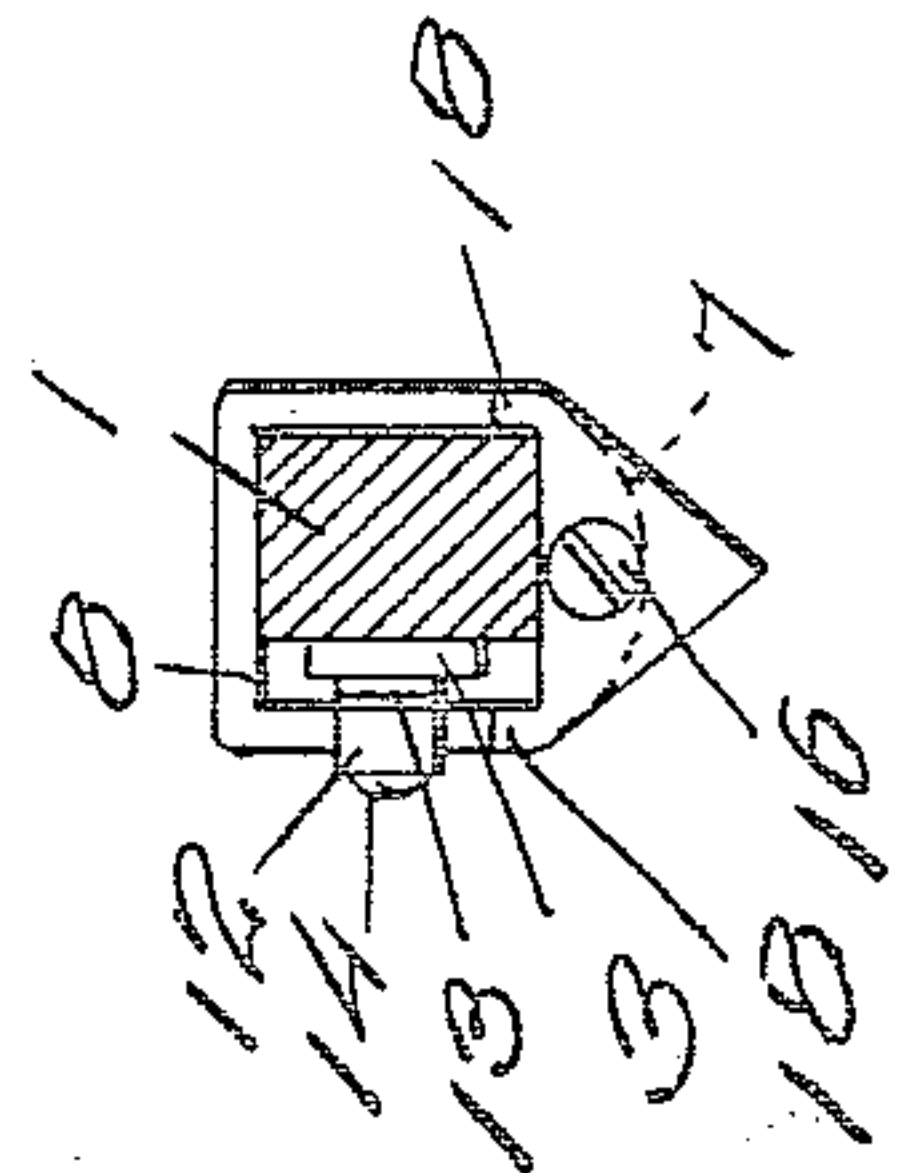
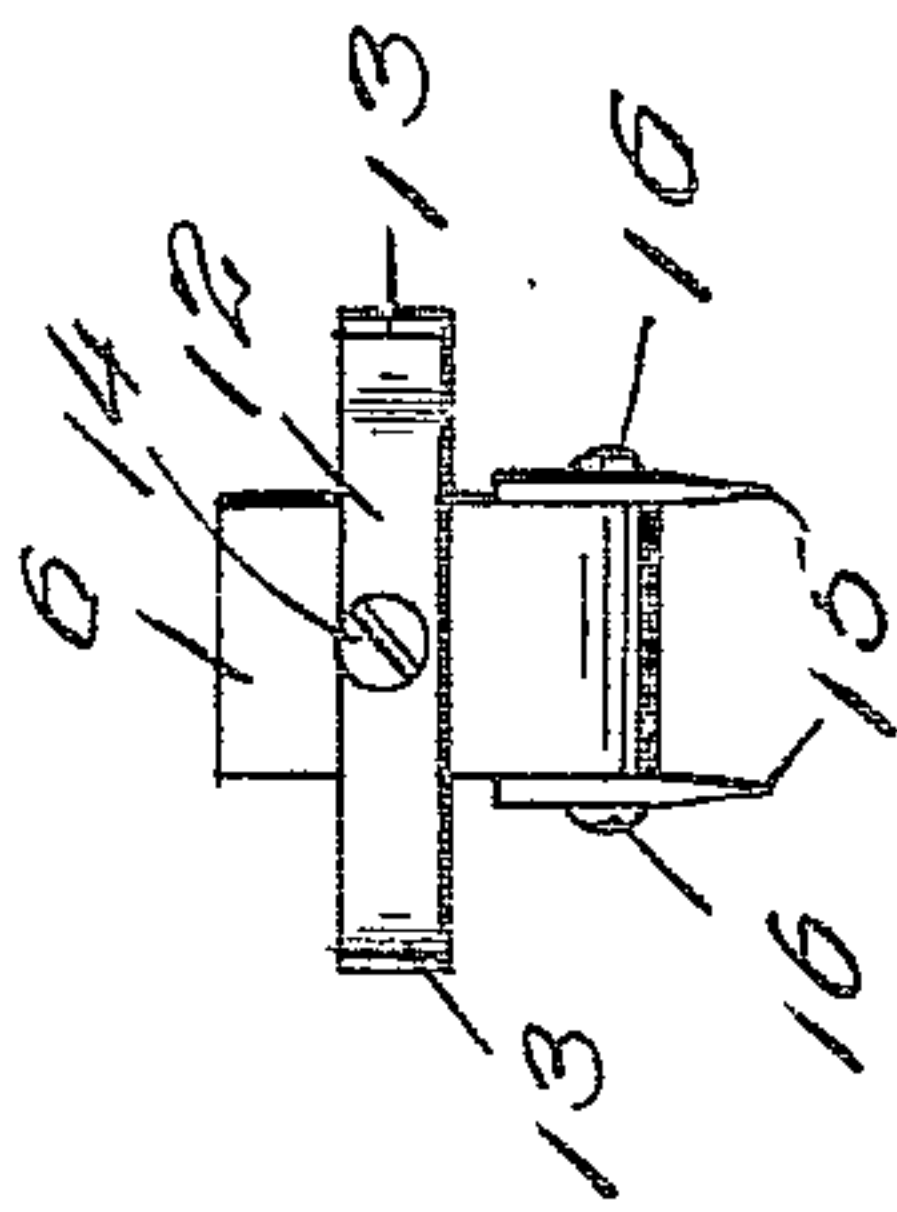
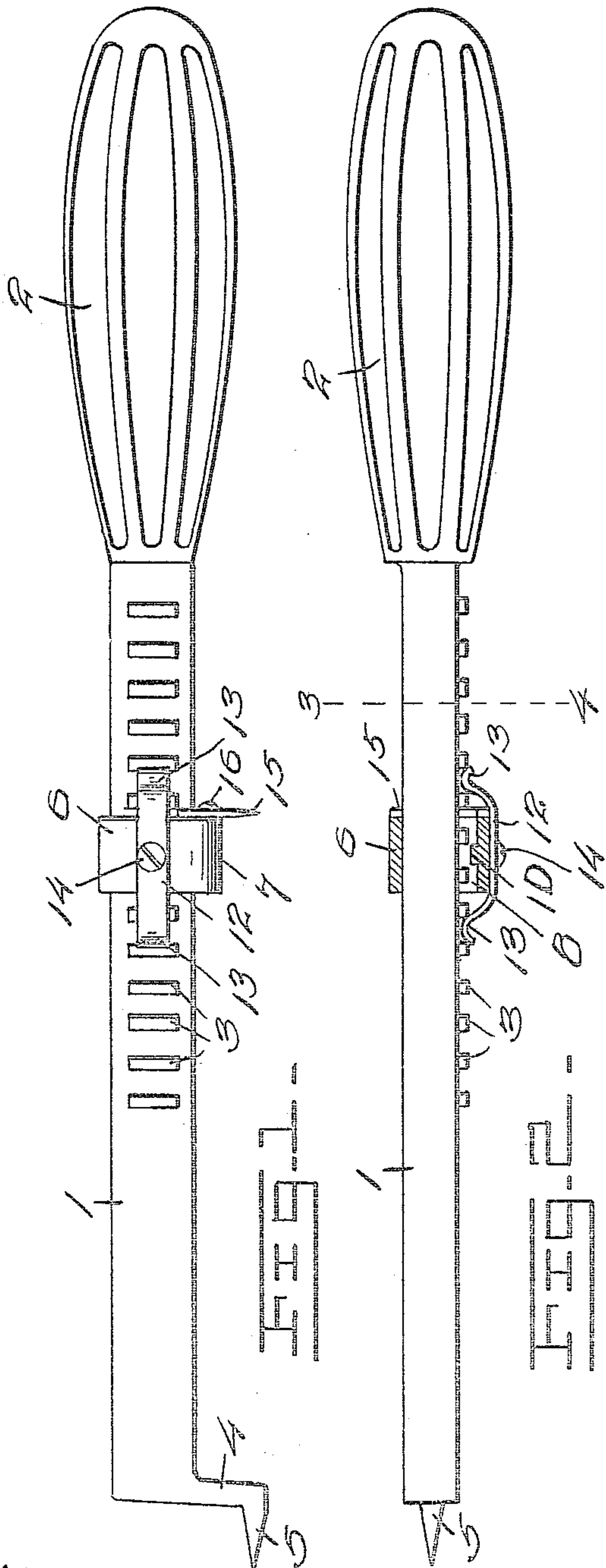


Fig. 3-

Fig. 4-

Fig. 5-

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN P. KEELEY, OF COATESVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

CAN-OPENER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN P. KEELEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coatesville, in the county of Chester and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

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

The object of my invention is to provide a can opener in the form of a square metal bar having a bayonet point, and carrying a normally freely held knife carrier which upon the operation of the opener, is brought into positive engagement with the operating bar.

Another object of my invention is to simplify the manufacture of can openers of that class to which my present invention relates.

A still further object is to provide a can opener the blade-carrying member of which may be provided with two knives or cutters so that the two may be used in cutting leather, rubber or other like washers.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description, and it will be understood that changes in the specific structure shown and described may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings forming a portion of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a can opener embodying my invention, Fig. 2 is a top view partly in section, Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—4 of Fig. 2 looking toward the handle, Fig. 4 is a section on the line 3—4 of Fig. 2 looking toward the point, Fig. 5 shows the carrier provided with two cutting knives.

My invention has for its aim, to improve the construction and operation of that class of can openers, in which a radius bar is employed, having a fulcrum point which is forced into the can, the cutting knife carried by the bar then being carried in a circular path to cut a disk-shaped can section which upon being removed leaves a circular opening through which the contents are emptied.

An operative embodiment of my invention includes a square bar 1, having the integral rib handle 2. As shown in the draw-

ings one side of this bar is provided with the rack teeth 3, the bar ending in a bayonet point including the laterally extending offset portion 4, which is held approximately at right angles to the bar portion 1, and from which extends the conical fulcrum point 5 this point being continued approximately at right angles from the offset portion 4 and in prolongation with said stem or bar portion 1, as clearly disclosed in Fig. 1. Slidably held upon this bar 1, is a knife carrier 6 which is approximately rectangular in cross section but has its lower face slightly curved as is shown at 7, this carrier being provided with a rectangular slot 8 within which the bar 1 is slidably held. As shown, the slot 8 is of a width greater than the thickness of the bar 1, so that this bar may be horizontally reciprocated within the carrier 6. Within the slot 8, is positioned the lug 10 arranged to find a seat between the teeth 3 of the bar. Secured to this carrier 6 is a bow spring 12 having the recurved ends 13, this spring 12 being held to the carrier 6 by means of the screw 14. The curved ends 13 of this spring 12 are arranged to be held between the rack teeth as is disclosed in the drawing. By means of this spring 12, the lug 10 is normally held out of engagement with the teeth 3 so that this carrier 6 can at all times be freely moved backward and forward upon the bar. The movement of the carrier however is against the tension of the spring 12 so that this carrier is yieldingly held upon the bar 2.

In order to provide a maximum of strength with a minimum of weight, and further to insure a handle which can be firmly held and easily grasped by the hand of the operator, the handle is in the form of a plurality of round edged ribs as disclosed in Fig. 3.

Upon each end of the carrier 6 may be secured a knife or cutter 15. When the tool is to be used as a can opener but one such cutting knife 15 is employed. Where the tool is used in cutting washers, however, two knives are necessary. Each knife is provided with an aperture arranged to receive the securing screw 16 by means of which the knife is held to the carrier. Each knife is further provided with two upstanding shoulders 18, the upper edge 19 of the knife contacting with the under surface of the bar 1 as shown. By this means the knives are firmly held to the carrier, against any

casual displacement. The carrier at each end is provided with a threaded aperture arranged to receive one of the set screws 16.

As the handle forms an integral part of the bar 1, the carrier 6 is placed upon the bar before the bayonet point is formed in upsetting the pointed end of the bar.

The bar and handle as above described may be formed entire at one operation, in being stamped from suitable metal or in being cast in a mold.

The operation of the device is very simple. It is of course understood that this can opener is especially adapted to be used in opening round or cylindrical cans, though the same can also be used in opening large square cans in providing the same with a circular discharge opening. The opener is secured to the can in forcing the conical point 5 into the can and then bringing the bar 1 in a horizontal position above the can when the knife is driven into the can and the handle is advanced toward that side.

The carrier is normally out of contact with the rack teeth. In order to operate the knife, the carrier is forced sidewise against the tension of the spring 12 to bring the lug 10 into engagement with the rack.

The tool is simple and inexpensive in construction and both durable and efficient in operation, and the knife adjustments may be made with ease, accuracy, and despatch.

Having thus described my said invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. The herein described can opener comprising a square bar having an integral ribbed handle at one end and a laterally extending offset portion at the other from which is continued at right angles and in prolongation with said bar a conical ful-

crum point, one side of said bar having rack teeth, a knife carrier laterally movable upon said bar having a lug to engage between said rack teeth, a bow spring secured to said carrier having its curved ends contacting with said teeth to hold said lug normally out of engagement with said teeth, and a knife pendent from and removably secured to said carrier.

2. The herein described can opener comprising a square bar having a laterally extending offset portion at one end from which is continued at right angles and in prolongation with said bar a conical fulcrum point, one vertical side of said bar having rack teeth, a knife carrier movable upon said bar having a lug to engage between said rack teeth, a bow spring secured to said carrier having its curved ends contacting with said teeth to hold said lug normally out of engagement with said teeth, and a knife removably secured to said carrier.

3. A can opener having in combination a square bar provided with a laterally extending offset portion from which is continued a conical fulcrum point, one vertical side of said bar having rack teeth, a knife carrier horizontally movable upon said bar having a lug to engage between said rack teeth, a bow spring secured to said carrier to normally hold said lug out of engagement with said teeth, and a knife secured to said carrier all arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

JOHN P. KEELEY.

Witnesses:

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BESSIE W. BERKEHISER.