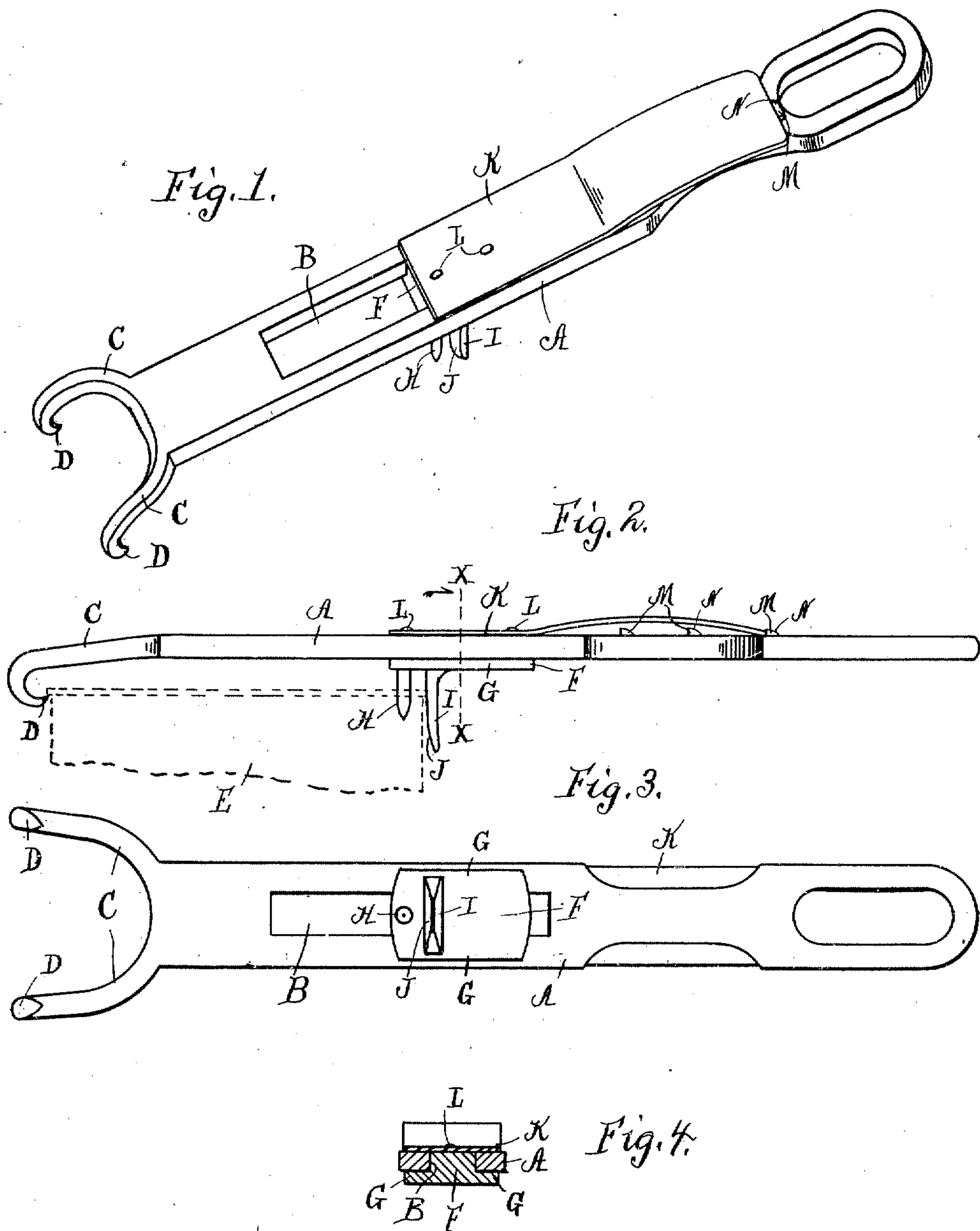


E. A. COLL.
CAN OPENER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 2, 1910.

984,418.

Patented Feb. 14, 1911.



WITNESSES

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EDWARD A. COLL, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

CAN-OPENER.

984,418.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 14, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD A. COLL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in can openers, and has for its object to provide an exceedingly simple and effective device of this character, whereby a can may be perforated, the device being principally designed for use upon cans holding evaporated milk, in which it is only necessary to make two small openings, one for the admission of air, the other for the outlet of the contents.

Another object of the invention is to provide a can opener which may be readily and quickly adjusted to fit upon different sized cans, and further to provide means whereby the device will adjust itself to the varying sizes of cans supposed to be of the same diameter.

Another object of the invention is to provide a can opener having a bifurcated end, from the arms of which are formed gripping hooks, adapted to engage the flange upon the top of the can, thereby preventing the accidental withdrawal of the can opener.

A still further object of the invention is to produce a can opener of few parts, which will be inexpensive in the cost of manufacture, yet strong and durable, and one in which the parts may be readily and quickly assembled.

With these ends in view, this invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same, I will describe its construction in detail, referring by letter to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a can opener made in accordance with my improvement. Fig. 2, an edge view thereof showing it used upon a can, said can being shown in dotted lines. Fig. 3, a bottom plan view thereof, and Fig. 4, a section at the line $\alpha-\alpha$ of Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrow.

In carrying out my invention as here embodied, A represents the handle or body of the can opener, having a lateral slot B formed therein, and having one end bifurcated to form the arms C, said arms being curved outwardly and forming an angle with the lower face of the handle, the outer ends of these arms having gripping hooks D projecting therefrom which engage the flange of the top of the can E, shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2.

In the slot B is mounted the sliding carriage F, having a flange G upon both sides, which overlap the side walls of the slot and rest upon the under face of the handle A. With the carriage F is formed the punch H, and in proximity to said punch and also formed with the carriage is a pressure foot I, the front face J being slightly curved so that the pressure is gradually brought to bear upon the side of the can.

To the top of the carriage is secured the flat spring K by the rivets L or their equivalent, said spring being approximately the same width as the handle A, so that it overlaps the side walls of the slot B and rests upon the upper face of the handle, thus producing between said spring and the flanges G, grooves which engage that portion of the handle upon both sides of the slot B. A portion of said spring bulges upward, its free end engaging the stops M, said stops being formed integral with the handle, and having a portion thereof beveled, as indicated by N to allow the spring to freely slide therefrom.

In practice it is only necessary to perforate a can in two places when the contents of said can are in the form of a liquid, such as evaporated milk. With the herein described can opener these perforations may be readily and quickly made by placing the hooks D upon one side of the can so that they engage the flange upon the top of the can, then by pressing down upon the outer part of the handle the pressure foot I will engage the opposite side of the can, thus drawing the hooks D into the side of the can, insuring a firm grip, and by further pressure upon the handle the punch H will perforate the top.

The spring K allows the pressure foot to adjust itself to varying diameters of cans supposed to be the same size, thus causing the punch H to always enter the top the same distance from the edge of the can. The

engagement of this spring with the different stops M permits the device to be used upon cans of different size.

Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction here shown, as these may be varied within the limits of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, is—

1. A can opener consisting of a handle provided with a lateral slot and having one end bifurcated to form arms, hooks produced from the ends of said arms, stops formed integral with the handle, a sliding carriage mounted in the slot, a punch formed with said carriage, a pressure foot having a curved face formed with said carriage adjacent said punch, and means mounted upon the carriage adapted to engage the stops for holding the carriage in various adjustments.

2. A can opener consisting of a handle provided with a lateral slot and having one end bifurcated to form arms, hooks projecting from the ends of said arms, stops mounted upon the handle, one side of each of said stops being beveled, a carriage mounted in the slot, said carriage having a flange formed upon each side thereof overlapping the side walls of the slot and engaging the under face of the handle, a punch formed

integral with said carriage, a pressure foot having a curved face formed integral with said carriage, and a flat spring mounted upon the carriage, its free end engaging the stops.

3. A can opener consisting of a handle provided with a lateral slot and having one end bifurcated to form arms, hooks projecting from the ends of said arms, stops mounted upon the handle, one side of each of said stops being beveled, a carriage mounted in the slot, said carriage having a flange formed upon each side thereof overlapping the side walls of the slot and engaging the under face of the handle, a punch formed integral with said carriage, a pressure foot having a curved face formed integral with said carriage, a flat spring, rivets for securing said spring to the carriage, a portion of said spring being bulged upward, its free end engaging the stops, acting as an adjusting device, and a tension for the pressure foot.

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

EDWARD A. COLL.

Witnesses:

GEORGE P. FULTON,
S. M. GALLAGHER.