O. U. PEACOTT.

CAN CUTTING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 29, 1914.

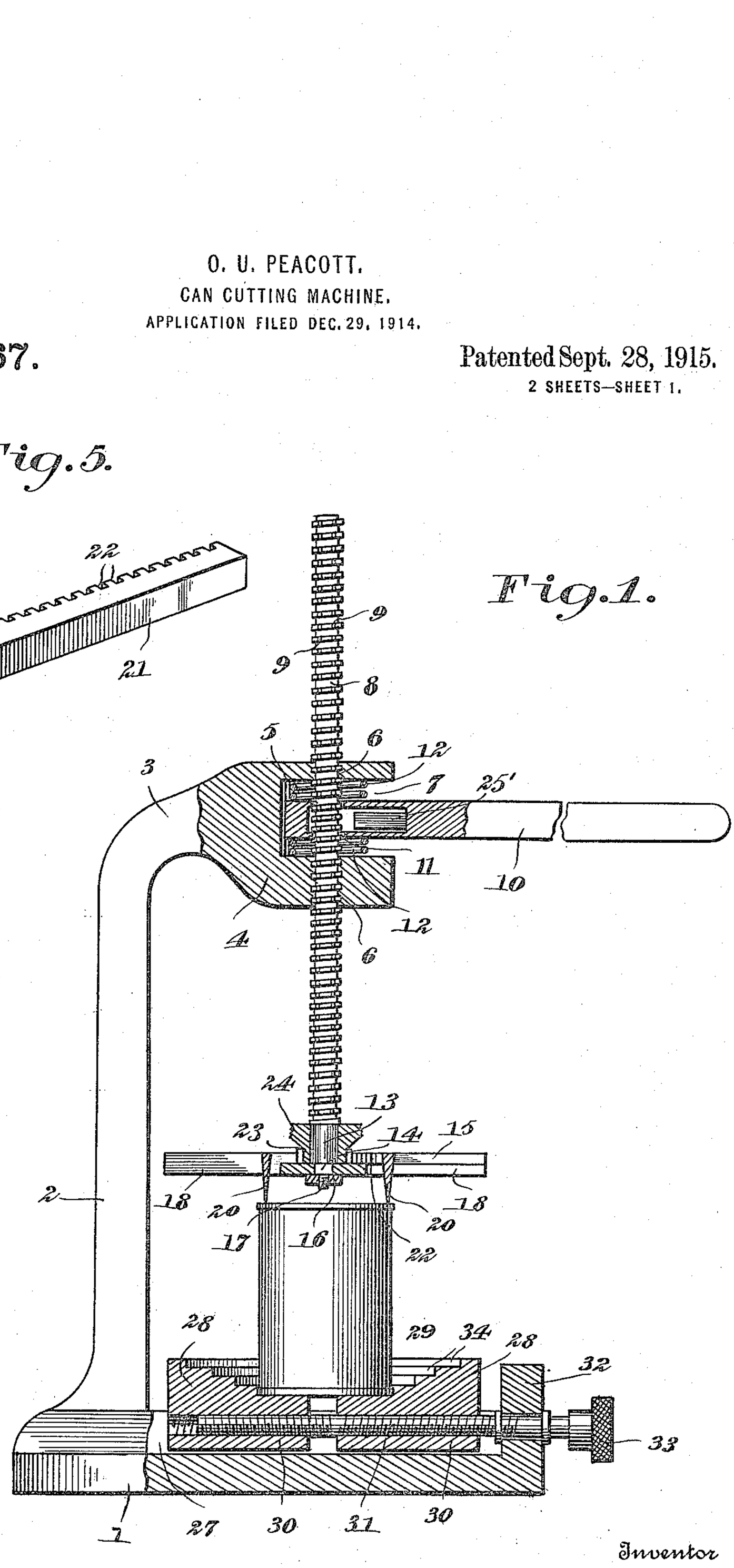
1,155,267.

Patented Sept. 28, 1915.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

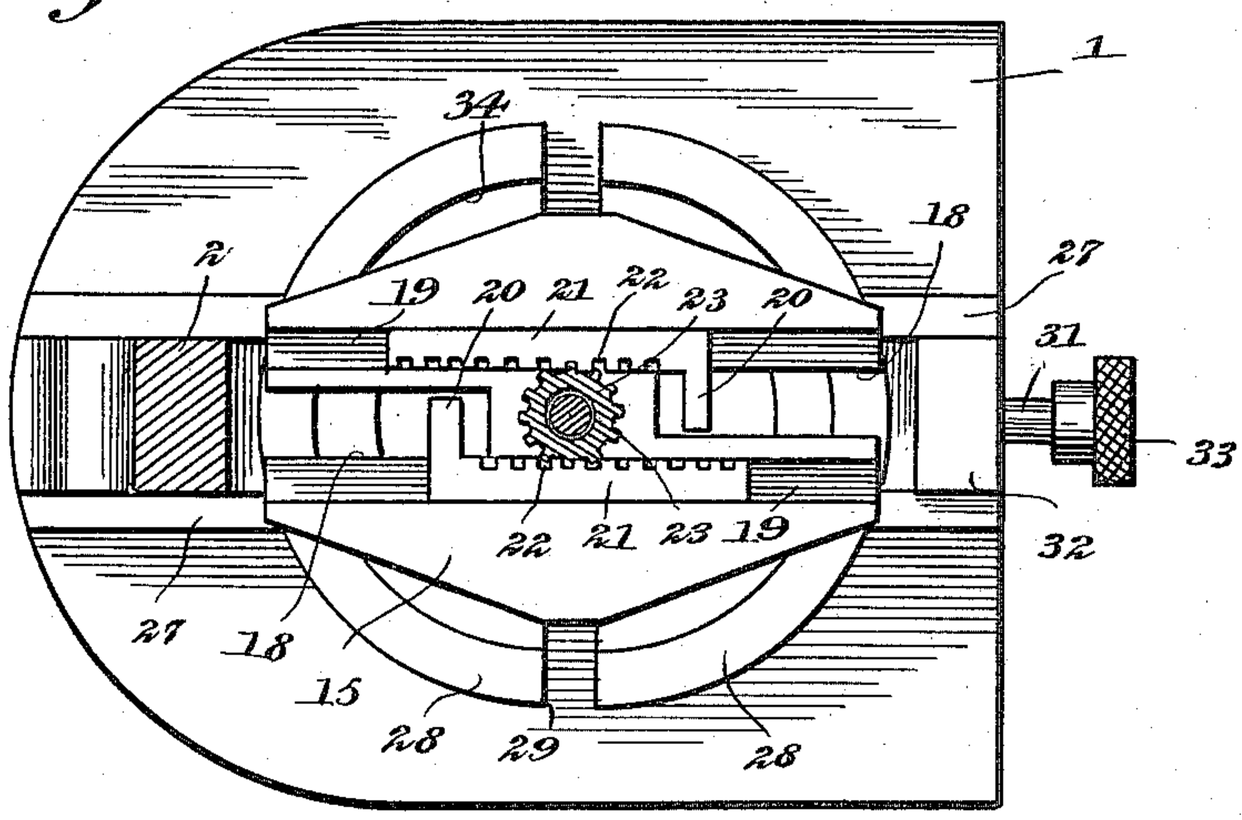


Fig. 3.

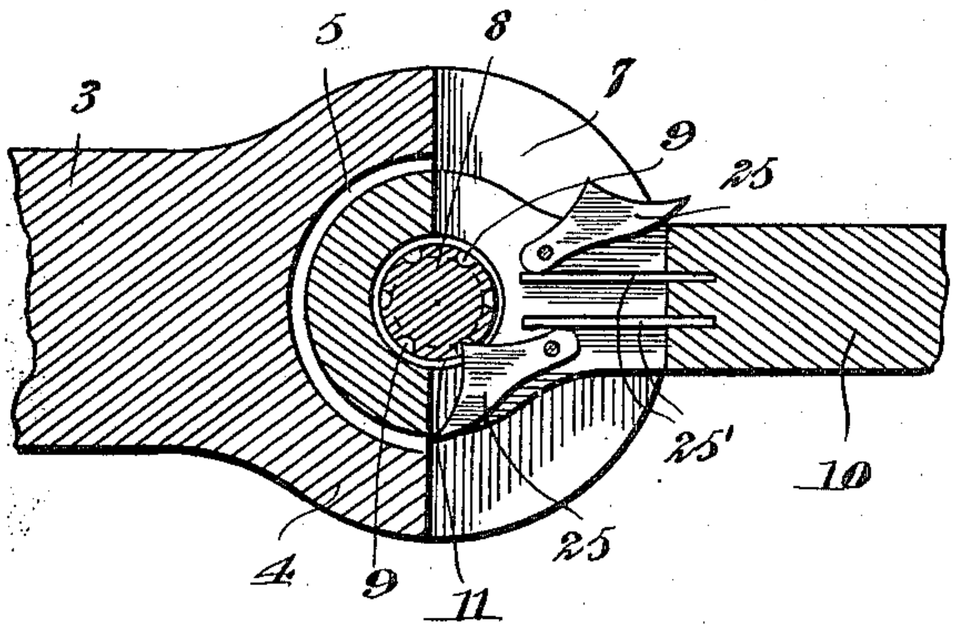
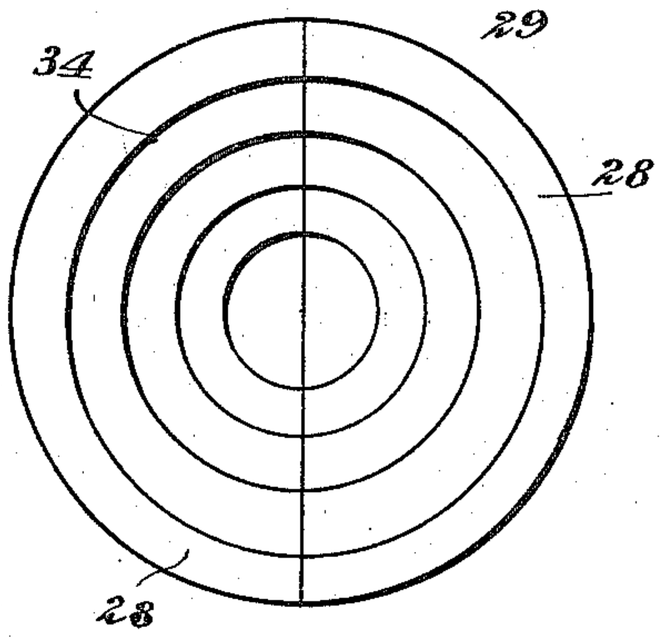


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CAN-CUTTING MACHINE.

1,155,267. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 28, 1915.

Application filed December 29, 1914. Serial No. 879,552.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OLLIE U. PEACOTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterville, in the county of Douglas and State of Washington, have invented new and useful Improvements in Can-Cutting Machines, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improved can cutting machine especially adapted for cutting out the tops of cans of various sizes, the object of the invention being to provide an improved machine of this character which is cheap and simple, is adapted to be operated manually and which may be used for cutting out the top of a can of any ordinary size.

The invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of devices hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is partly an elevation and partly a vertical sectional view of a can cutting machine constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a detail transverse sectional view through the cutter head and on the plane at right angles to that of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail horizontal sectional view through the head of the supporting standard and showing the operating lever for the feed screw and the dogs carried by said lever. Fig. 4 is a plan of the centering base chuck. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the rack and knife elements used in my invention.

In the form of my invention here shown a base 1 is provided and on one side thereof is a standard 2 which has an arm 3 at its upper end that extends above the center of the base and terminates in a head 4. This head is provided with a chamber 5 and also with threaded openings 6 at the top and bottom of said chamber. In the outer side wall of said head is a segmental opening 7.

A vertical screw shaft 8 extends through the center of the chamber 5 and its threads engage those of the openings 6 so that the head acts as a fixed nut in which the screw shaft operates. This screw shaft is provided with vertical notches 9 which extend across the threads and thereby convert them also into ratchet elements or teeth. A lever 10 which extends through the opening 7 has an unthreaded opening 11 through which the screw shaft extends, the inner end of said lever being mounted in the chamber 5 and adapted to move vertically, to some extent, therein. Counteracting springs 12, which are here shown as coiled springs, are arranged in the upper and lower sides of the chamber and bear one above and the other below the lever the springs serving to normally hold the lever against vertical movement but enabling it to move vertically when required. The lower end of the screw shaft has an unthreaded stem 13 provided at its lower end with a non-circular portion 14 which extends through a similarly shaped opening in the center of a cutter head 15, said cutter head being secured by a nut 16 that is screwed to the reduced lower extension 17 of the said stem.

The cutter head is provided with slots 18 which extend from near its center to its ends and said cutter head is also provided with guideways 19 on opposite sides of said slots. A pair of knives 20 are mounted for movement in the slots toward and from the ends of the cutter head and each knife is formed or provided with an arm 21 that operates in one of the guideways 19. The knife arms are provided on their opposite sides with rack teeth 22. The rack teeth are engaged by an adjusting pinion 23 which is mounted for rotation, independently of the screw, on the stem near the lower end of the latter and said pinion is provided on its upper side with an enlarged thumb head 24 which is here shown as circular and milled. Any suitable means may be provided whereby the pinion may be turned to move the knives toward and from each other according to the size of the can to be cut.

The lever 10 is provided on opposite sides, near the inner end, with pivotally mounted dogs 25 which engage the ratchet grooves or teeth on opposite sides of the screw shaft and springs 25 are also provided to hold the dogs in engaged position. Either of the dogs may be thrown out of engagement with the screw shaft to permit the other dog to operate, when the lever is moved back and forth, to turn the screw shaft in the desired direction. Any one of the said dogs is operated by the lever, the screw shaft will be revolved by step by step movement and move downwardly and when the other dog is engaged and the lever operated said screw shaft will be turned by step by step movement in the opposite direction and moved, upwardly as will be understood. The cutter head is movable with and by screw shafts.

A pair of guide bars 27 are arranged on

the base, at opposite sides of its center and the members 28 of a base chuck 29 are mounted for movement on said guide bars toward and from each other. The said chuck members are provided on their lower sides with blocks 30 which operate between the guide bars and are provided with reversely threaded openings. An adjusting screw 31 which is reversely threaded, has its respective threaded portions engaged with the reversely threaded openings of said blocks and the said adjusting screw is swivelly mounted in a lug 32 between the outer ends of the guide bars and provided at its outer end with a milled head 33 whereby it may be turned to cause the chuck members to move toward or from each other. Each chuck member is provided in its upper side with a series of semi-circular depressions 34 concentrically arranged and varying in diameter and hence the lower end of a can of any size may be fitted in one of the recesses or depressions thus formed in the chuck and engaged and clamped firmly in the chuck and centered below the screw 8 by appropriately turning the adjusting screw. After a can has thus been held by and fastened on the base chuck the screw 8 is operated by the lever as hereinbefore described to move the cutter head downwardly and the knives of the cutter head having been adjusted as required, a semi-rotation of the cutter head with the screw 8 will cause the knives to cut out the top of the can as will be understood.

While I have herein shown and described a preferred form of my invention I would have it understood that changes may be made in the form, proportion and construction of the several parts without departing from the spirit of the invention and within the scope of the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

In a can cutting machine the combination of a supporting element having a threaded opening, a screw shaft engaging said threaded opening and means to turn the screw shaft, a cutter head attached to one end of the screw shaft for movement therewith, knives having rack arms arranged for movement in said cutter head toward and from each other, and an adjusting pinion mounted for rotation on an unthreaded portion of the screw shaft and engaging said rack arms.

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

OLLIE U. PEACOTT.

Witnesses:
J. JUCLMES,
CHAS. NARDINGER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."