

# ***Just For Openers January-December 2021***

## **John Westerland Milk Can Punch and Opener Patented January 13, 1948 (D148,400)**

All done. opener is unusual. That's why I decided to mount it alongside patent info. I did find scribbled-out words in ink on the back below the patent number stamp, which is also in ink, and was able to read beneath the scribble. It says, "Patent Applied For". Having seen that, still makes me want to believe this was an early prototype or possibly even used for the patent application? There's a few other indications and markings on it, pointing to my conclusion this particular piece was all hand made. It would have been a very labor-intensive job to make just one example of Westerland's design if wood was the only material for it to be constructed from. Feels and looks more like a folk-art piece, rather than a kitchen aid. Filed for patent May 7, 1946, approved 1948. Cool, interesting, and strange 76-year-old piece of history.

Jan. 13, 1948.

J. WESTERLAND  
CAN PUNCH AND OPENER  
Filed May 7, 1946

Des. 148,400

FIG. 1

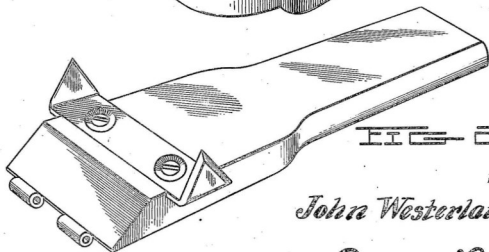
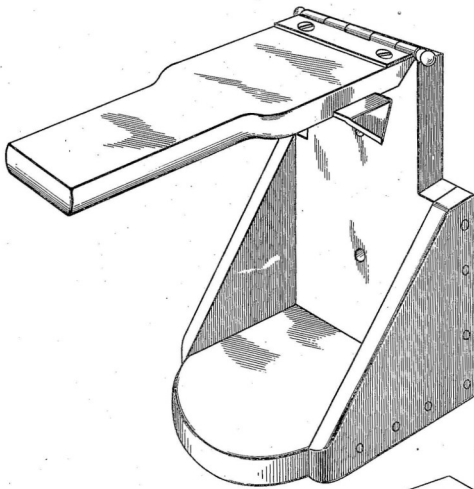


FIG. 2

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