C. F. BLANKE.
POURING SPOUT FOR TIN OR PAPER RECEPTACLES.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 24, 1912.

1,079,388. Patented Nov. 25, 1913.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CYRUS F. BLANKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Pouring-Spout for Tin or Paper Receptacles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in dispensing receptacles for coffee, spices, and other dry granular substances, which will readily run through a spout, and has for its object to provide a receptacle with a simple adjustable pouring spout, which is applied in position without the use of hinges, solder or other securing means, and which, when moved to the open or closed position, will automatically maintain itself in such position.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will appear in the course of the following description, and the invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of the parts as hereinafter set forth and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a can furnished with my improved spout, the latter being shown in a closed position. Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 through that portion of the can in which the spout is mounted, the parts being enlarged. Fig. 3 is a similar view with the spout shown in an open or pouring position. Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the upper portion of the can with the spout removed. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the spout detached.

Referring to the drawing, which illustrates the preferred embodiment of my invention, 10 designates a can, which may be of any suitable shape or material, with a rectangular opening 11 in one side thereof near the top. The bottom wall of the opening is provided with an inwardly bent flange 12, which is of slightly less width than the opening and extends diagonally inward at an angle between 30 and 45 degrees. The flange is provided at the point where it joins with the body of the can with a narrow transverse slot 13.

Pivotally mounted in the opening 11 and normally closing the same, is a pour spout 14, which has a straight, flat bottom or outer wall 15 of a width corresponding to that of the opening and a length some-

what greater. The lower transverse edge of the bottom has a straight centrally-disposed tongue 16, which extends in line with the bottom. The top transverse edge of the bottom is preferably turned over on its front face to present an enlarged, smooth rim for the finger of the person manipulating the spout. Extending inwardly from the longitudinal edges of the bottom 15 are correspondingly-shaped, parallel segmental sides or wings 19 having a radius of preferably less than forty-five degrees. The segmental sides are of a length substantially that of the opening 11 and extend outwardly and upwardly from the lower edge of the bottom to a point near the top thereof. The rear or free edge of each segmental side is furnished with an outwardly extending flange 20, the lower free edge of which is inwardly beveled.

The spout 14 is mounted in position by first inserting the tongue 16 through the slot 13 until the lower edge of the bottom 15 rests or pivots on the flange 19 at the ends of the slot. Then the sides 19 are pressed by the fingers toward each other until the flanges 20 are moved in far enough to permit them to enter between the side walls of the opening 11, when upon releasing the pressure on the sides, the latter from their inherent resiliency will spring outwardly and resume their normal position, thus frictionally engaging the edges and locking the spout in position. The bottom 15 of the spout is of such length that, when closed or moved to a vertical position, the upper edge thereof extends above the top of the opening 11 and contacts with the outer side of the can. The width of the segmental sides is such that when the spout is moved to the open position, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, its bottom will be inclined upwardly so that the contents of the can will not fall out until it is tilted.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that I have produced an exceedingly simple yet highly efficient spout, which is securely mounted in position without the use of hinges, solder or other fastening means.

The spout can, if desired, be placed in position after the can has been filled, and it will be securely held in an open or closed position by the inherent resiliency of the sides 19 causing them to frictionally engage the side walls of the opening 11.

While I have shown my spout mounted in
the flat side of a can, near the top thereof, the spout can be satisfactorily positioned in the top of the can or any other suitable place. Also the spout can with equal facility be mounted in cans of different shapes, as for instance in the side of a cylindrical receptacle, in which case the bottom of the spout would be curved in cross section to conform to the contour side of the can.

The spouts can be made of tin, paper, or any other suitable material similar to that of which the receptacle proper is made or different as desired, and the spouts are designed to be employed in connection with receptacles containing coffee, spices, or any other dry granular substance or material which will run satisfactorily through a spout of my construction.

The operation of the spout is exceedingly simple. A person takes the can in one hand and with the end of a finger of the other hand engages the upper edge of the bottom and pulls the spout down until the flanges engage the inside of the can, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, when the can is tilted to pour the contents through the spout.

While the spout, by reason of the frictional engagement of the sides with the sides of the opening, will be held in an open or closed position, as desired, yet in shipping the receptacles, the paper labels, which usually surround them, could extend over and cover the bottom of the spout, thus doubly locking it in a closed position until it is desired to remove the contents of the receptacle, when that portion of the label covering the spout could be broken or removed.

What is claimed is:

A receptacle provided with an opening, said opening having an inwardly bent flange at one end thereof extending into the receptacle, said flange being provided with a transverse slot, a spout comprising a bottom adapted to normally close the opening, a straight tongue of less width than the bottom carried at one end thereof and arranged in substantially the same plane as the said bottom and projecting through said slot with the edge of the bottom on each side of the tongue supported on the flange to permit the spout to be swung away from the receptacle to uncover the opening, rearwardly extending segmental resilient sides connected to the bottom of the spout and adapted to frictionally engage the receptacle at the sides of the opening, said sides having arcuate edges located at the end of the said opening opposite that at which the flange is arranged and outwardly projecting flanges carried at the rear ends of the sides to limit the outward movement of the spout.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

CYRUS F. BLANKE.

Witnesses:

MINNIE SPRATTE,
THERESA McNULTY.