This invention relates to devices for closing receptacles of a flexible character, such as paper or cloth bags.

An object of the invention is to provide a device which can be readily secured to the mouth of a bag so as to completely close the same, but having means readily opened whereby the contents of the bag may be poured out, where such contents are of character to be poured, such as coffee, sugar and the like, the device therefore providing a means whereby such contents may be kept fresh and clean after the initial opening of the receptacle.

Another object is to provide a device for accomplishing the above objects which is of relatively simple form or construction and may, therefore, be inexpensively produced and marketed.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the description of the same proceeds and the invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing forming a part of the specification, with the understanding, however, that the invention is not to be understood as limited to the exact details of construction shown and described since obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a bag closure device constructed in accordance with the present invention, with the clamp partly removed.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section taken in connection with the accompanying drawing forming a part of the specification, with the understanding, however, that the invention is not to be understood as limited to the exact details of construction shown and described since obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a bag closure device constructed in accordance with the present invention, with the clamp partly removed.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, showing, in section, a portion of a bag.

Figure 3 is a transverse section taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a view in perspective of the clamping fork.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the numeral 10 generally designates the body of the bag mouth closing device. This body, as shown, is in the form of a rectangular block which is of such size as to be easily inserted in the mouth of a bag B, of paper, cloth or the like, with its side and end surfaces against the inner surfaces of the bag and the wide top surface 11 about level with, or a little above, the top edge of the bag.

Each of the two long side faces 12 of the body has cut therein, throughout its length, a dovetail slot 13, into which a part of the adjacent side of the bag is pressed as indicated at 14, in Figure 3.

The width of the bag, upon the inside at the mouth, will be taken up by the length of the body 10, so that when the body is in the bag mouth and the bag material is pressed into the slots 13, there will be relatively tight contact between the sides and ends of the body, and the inner sides of the bag.

To maintain the said tight contact between the bag and the closure body, there is provided a locking member 15, which is in the form of a relatively long U-shaped fork having the two parallel legs 16, which are of dovetail cross section as shown in Figure 3 and spaced apart the proper distance to slide into the slots 13 from one end of the body and tightly press the bag material in the slots, as shown.

The fork member has its two legs 16 joined together at one end, as at 17, and from this end part 17 extends a neck 18 carrying a head 19. The free ends of the legs 16 may be tapered, on their inner sides, as shown at 20, to facilitate slipping the legs into the slots 13.

Intermediate its ends the body has formed thereon, on the top 11, the upstanding pouring spout 21, which has the threaded passage or throat 22, which joins the larger passage 23 extending through the body 10 and opening through the underside thereof.

The passage 22 is closed by the screw plug 24 having upon its outer end the cross head 25, which provides a handle for turning the plug, so that the latter may be readily removed for discharging material from the bag.

From the foregoing it will be seen that there is provided, by the present invention, a novel bag closing means which may be furnished as an item for use with any bag, or which may be sold as an already attached part of a bag of a purchased commodity, such as coffee, sugar or the like.

I claim:

1. The combination with a receptacle having a discharge mouth, of a body disposed within the receptacle mouth and completely filling and closing the same, a member slidably transversely of the mouth and gripping the body from opposite sides and clamping the material of the receptacle to the body, the body having a material discharge passage therethrough leading into the receptacle, and removable means closing said passage.

2. The combination with a receptacle having a discharge mouth, of a body disposed within the receptacle mouth and completely filling and closing the same, a member slidably gripping the body from opposite sides and clamping the material of the receptacle to the body, the body hav-
3. A device for closing the mouth of a receptacle such as a bag, comprising a body formed to position in the bag mouth, the body having each of two opposite sides provided with a slot extending the full length of the body, a pouring spout carried by the body on one side thereof and having a passage opening through the other side of the body, means for closing said spout, and a long substantially U-shaped member having spaced legs between which the body is received, said legs being adapted to slidably engage in said slots and to press into the slots adjacent portions of the bag to clamp the bag to said body.

4. A device as set forth in claim 3, in which said slots are of dove-tail form and said member legs are of corresponding cross sectional form.

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