

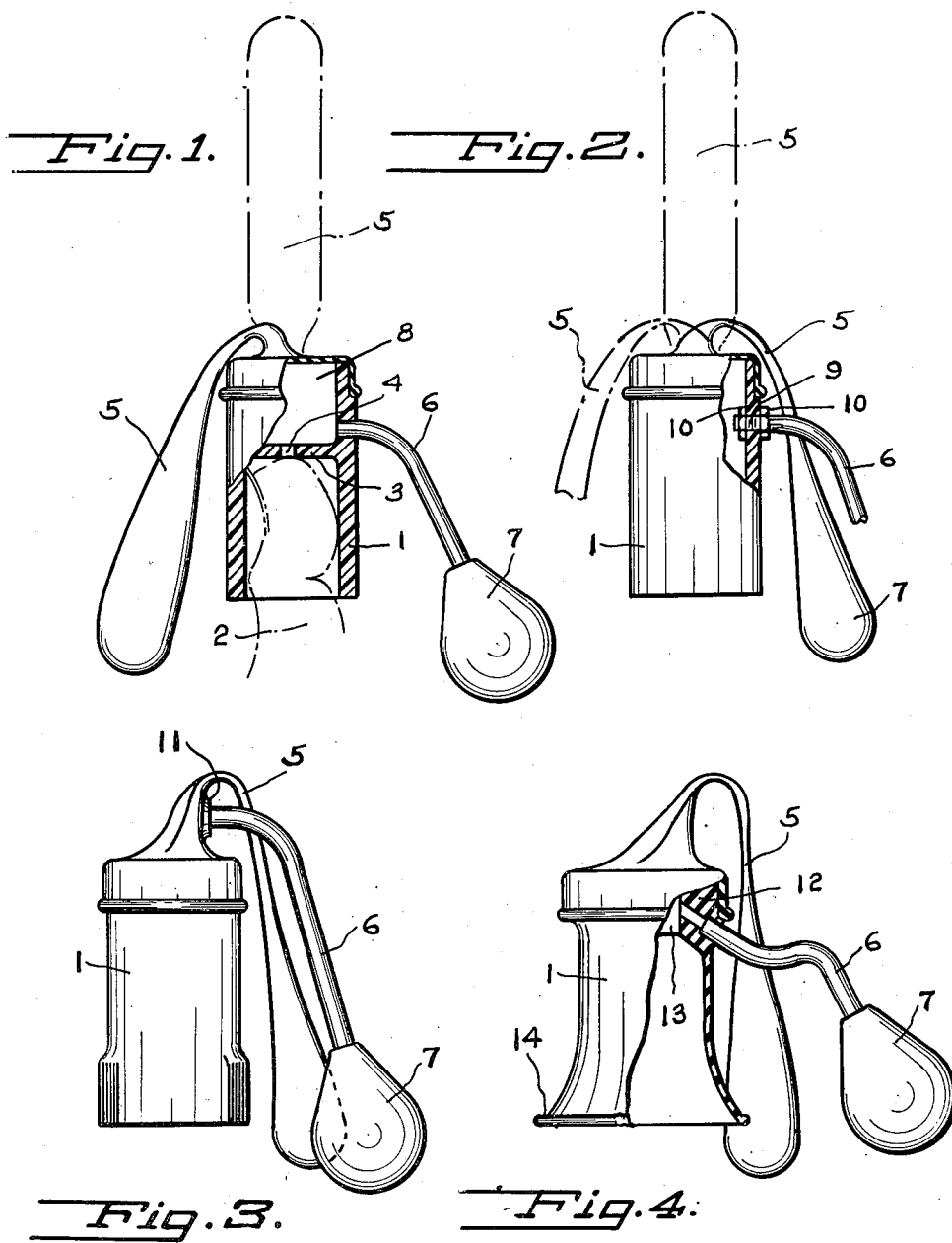
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INFLATABLE TOY

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## INFLATABLE TOY

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9 Claims. (Cl. 46-90)

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This invention relates to a novelty toy and has particular reference to an attention attracting device for assisting the user in obtaining a ride.

An object of the invention is to provide a novelty toy of the type set forth which can be easily carried in the pocket of the user when not in use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novelty toy of the type set forth which can be employed in the spirit of fun for obtaining a lift or ride and which is relatively simple and economical in construction.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings. It will be understood that changes may be made in the details of construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the scope of the invention as set forth in the accompanying claims, as the preferred forms have been shown and described by way of illustration only.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side view, partly in section, of one form of my device;

Fig. 2 is a view generally similar to Fig. 1 of another form of the invention;

Fig. 3 is a side view of another form of the invention; and

Fig. 4 is a side view, partly in section, of still another form of the invention.

Referring more particularly to the drawings wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the form of the invention shown in Fig. 1 comprises a housing portion 1 which can be made of metal, cardboard, glass tubing or molded from plastic material of such size as to receive the thumb or finger 2 of the user which may be inserted through the open end in the housing 1.

Within the housing 1 is provided the wall 3 with the aperture 4.

Over the end of the housing 1 opposite that in which the thumb or finger 2 is to be inserted is positioned a balloon 5 which may be fitted into a recess in the adjacent end of the housing 1 and which is stretched to fit over the end of the housing 1 and preferably retained in position by its own resilience, therefore, being quickly changeable or replaceable, or, if desired, could be cemented or otherwise secured in position over the end of housing 1.

The hose 6 is secured to housing 1 at one end and has its opposite end secured to air bulb 7 which is adapted to be retained in the hand of

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the user whereby operation of the air bulb will force air into the housing chamber 8 and with the aperture 4 closed by the thumb or finger 2, the air will inflate the balloon 5 which may be of the elongated type giving the appearance of an extra long thumb or finger or the balloon 5 could be of a novelty form or have various "sayings" printed thereon or a combination of novelty form and saying and could have luminous or other glowing paint or material thereon for use especially after dark.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 2, the wall 3 has been eliminated and the interior of the housing closed only by the thumb or finger. In this form the fitting 9 is secured to the wall of the housing 1 by the nuts 10, internally and externally of the housing and the hose 6 is secured to the fitting 9. I have found that in this form, when the air bulb is operated, the balloon will "wig wag" or move back and forth thus becoming attention attracting.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 3, the hose 6 is connected directly to the balloon 5 by securing the hose 6 to the fitting 11 which is secured directly to the balloon 5 by cementing or other suitable process. In this form the housing 1 may be either the form shown in Fig. 1 or that shown in Fig. 2.

In this form the balloons could each be formed with an air hose 6 and air bulb 7 secured thereto, or provision could be made on fitting 11 whereby the user could change the balloon and secure the same hose on the new balloon.

In Fig. 4 there is shown a form of the invention which could be made wholly of a resilient material such as rubber.

In this form of the invention the housing 1 could be made of molded rubber or the like with a hard or stiff rubber portion 12 having an air escape opening 13 therethrough and with the resilient integral flared extension portion 14 for a close fit with a finger.

It will be seen that when the thumb or finger is removed from the interior of the housing in all forms, that the balloon will collapse and allow the placing of the toy in the pocket of the user until again desired.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided simple, efficient and economical means for obtaining all of the objects and advantages of the invention.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. In a device of the character described, a housing having a finger receiving portion, an air passage extending therefrom and adapted to be

substantially closed when the finger of the user is positioned in said finger receiving portion, an inflatable member connected to said housing and communicating with said air passage, and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member to inflate the same when the finger of the user is in position to substantially close said air passage in said housing.

2. In a device of the character described, a housing having a finger receiving portion, an air passage extending therefrom and adapted to be substantially closed by the finger of the user when positioned in said finger receiving portion, an inflatable member connected to said housing and communicating with said air passage and an air bulb externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member to inflate the same when said air passage is substantially closed by the finger of the user.

3. In a device of the character described, a housing having a finger receiving portion, an air passage extending therefrom and adapted to be substantially closed by the finger of the user when positioned in said finger receiving portion, an inflatable member connected to said housing and communicating therewith and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member to inflate the same when said air passage is substantially closed by the finger of the user in said finger receiving portion, said means comprising an air bulb and an air hose connecting said air bulb to said housing.

4. In a device of the character described, a housing having a finger receiving portion, an air passage extending therefrom and adapted to be substantially closed by the finger of the user when positioned in said finger receiving portion, an inflatable member connected to said housing and communicating therewith and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member to inflate the same when said air passage is substantially closed by the finger of the user, said housing having a resilient portion adapted to receive a portion of the finger of the user.

5. In a device of the character described, a housing having a finger receiving portion, an air passage extending therefrom and adapted to be substantially closed by the finger of the user when positioned in said finger receiving portion, an inflatable member connected to said housing and communicating therewith and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member to inflate the same when said air passage is substantially closed by the finger of the user, said air forcing means being connected to said inflatable member.

6. In a device of the character described, a housing having a finger receiving portion, an air passage extending therefrom and adapted to be substantially closed by the finger of the user when positioned in said finger receiving portion, an inflatable member connected to said housing and communicating therewith and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member to inflate the same when said air passage is substantially closed by the finger of the user, said air forcing means comprising an air hose connected to said housing and an air bulb connected to said air hose.

7. In a device of the character described, a housing having a finger receiving portion, a reduced air passage extending therefrom and adapted to be substantially closed by the finger of the user when positioned in said finger receiving portion, an inflatable member connected to said housing and communicating therewith and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member to inflate the same when said air passage is substantially closed by the finger of the user.

8. In a device of the character described, a housing having a relatively rigid portion and a relatively resilient extension portion adapted to receive a finger of the user, an inflatable member connected to said rigid portion and communicating therewith and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member.

9. In a device of the character described, a housing having a relatively rigid portion and a relatively resilient extension portion adapted to receive a finger of the user, an inflatable member connected to said rigid portion and communicating therewith and means externally of said housing and communicating with said inflatable member for forcing air into said inflatable member, said air forcing means comprising an air hose connected to said housing and an air bulb connected to said air hose.

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