

I. W. GRUHL.  
 COMEDIAN'S SUIT.  
 APPLICATION FILED DEC. 29, 1919.

1,373,423.

Patented Apr. 5, 1921.

FIG. 1.

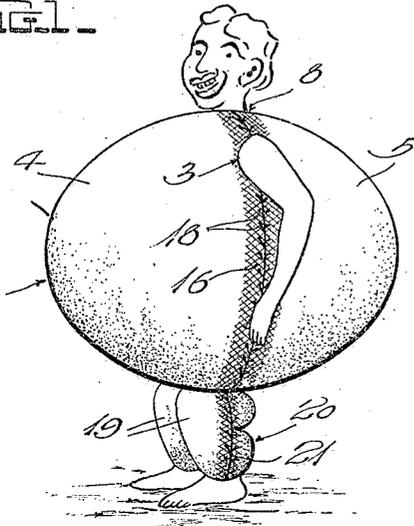


FIG. 2.

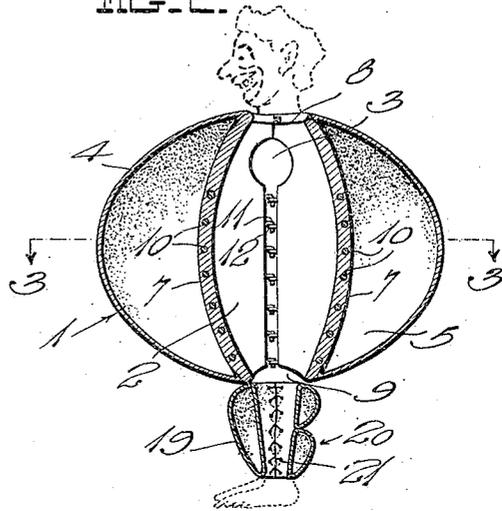


FIG. 3.

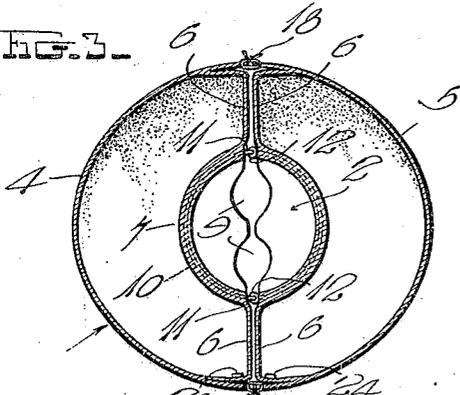


FIG. 4.

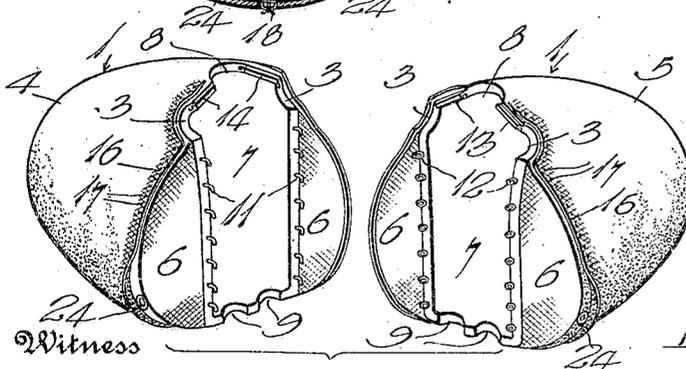
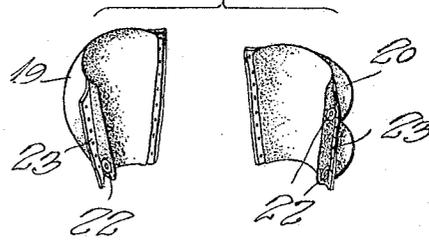


FIG. 6.

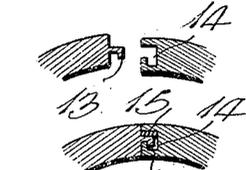


FIG. 7.  
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FIG. 8.

304

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COMEDIAN'S SUIT.

1,373,423.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 5, 1921.

Application filed December 29, 1919. Serial No. 348,245.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, IRVIN W. GRUHL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Comedians' Suits; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has for its object to provide a suit for comedians, in the form of an inflated ball possessing sufficient resiliency to permit the wearer to bounce at will in a very amusing manner. The device is intended for use at circuses, carnivals, on the stage, or when acting for motion pictures; and in all instances will be highly amusing when properly operated.

With the foregoing object in view, the invention resides in the novel construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed, the descriptive matter being supplemented by the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a suit constructed in accordance with my invention showing its application.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the plane indicated by line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a disassembled perspective view.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing the pneumatic leg cushions which may be used.

Figs. 6 and 7 are detail sections of the shoulder fastening means which assist in holding the two sections of the suit together.

My invention consists primarily in an inflatable ball 1 which may be of any configuration desired, said ball having there-through an opening 2 to receive the body of the user, and having arm holes 3 extending from said opening for the comedian's arms. The ball 1 is preferably formed of front and rear sections 4 and 5 having substantially abutting walls 6 recessed or driven at 7 to form the opening 2. The arm holes 3 are formed by co-acting notches in the two sections of the ball and the same may be said of the neck openings 8 and two leg openings 9. The recessed central portions of the walls 6 are preferably formed of comparatively

hard rubber while the remainder of such walls may well be constructed of non-stretching rubbered fabric, and the peripheral walls of the two ball sections are preferably formed of yielding rubber, although other suitable material might well be used. A plurality of reinforcing wires are embedded in the hard rubber walls of the recesses 7 and the ends of said wires are formed with hooks and eyes 11 and 12 respectively, all hooks being carried by one section of the ball while all of the eyes are on the other section. By this means, the two sections may be detachably connected around the user's body.

In addition to the connecting means afforded by the hooks and eyes 11 and 12, I preferably provide the shoulder portions of one section with hook flanges 13 for reception in corresponding grooves 14 in the other section, keys 15 being driven in said grooves to hold the flanges 13 in place, this construction being shown most clearly in Fig. 6. Flaps 16 of canvas or the like are preferably vulcanized to the outer walls of the two sections 4 and 5 and are provided with eyes or the like 17 so that laces 18 may be employed to lace the two sections together. These laces and flaps, in connection with the hooks and eyes, and the parts 13 and 14, and 15, form effective connections between the two sections of the ball, which will not be affected by the rough treatment to which the suit is subjected.

Preferably used in connection with the device above described, are leg coverings each formed of a front section 19 and a rear section 20, the two being laced or otherwise secured together at 21. The section 20 may consist of one air bag, while two such bags are preferably provided for the rear section, thus producing a very comical appearance. Inflation valves 22 may be provided for the sections 19 and 20, and they may well be located under the flaps 23 which are laced together by the laces 21. Similarly, the inflation valves 24 of the ball sections 4 and 5, may be located under the flaps 16 as seen in Fig. 4.

By wearing the suit, clowns and other comedians may bounce at will after the fashion of a rubber ball, and by their antics may create much amusement. The device is preferably constructed as shown and de-

scribed but may vary within the scope of the invention as claimed, and numerous minor changes may well be made.

I claim:

- 5 1. A comedian's suit comprising an inflatable ball having therethrough an opening for the user's body, said ball also having arm holes leading from said body receiving opening.
- 10 2. A comedian's suit comprising an inflatable ball formed of two sections, detachably secured together, the two sections having recesses together forming an opening to receive the user's body.
- 15 3. A comedian's suit comprising an inflatable ball formed of two sections having recesses together forming an opening for the

user's body, and reinforcing wires embedded in the walls of said recesses and having fasteners on their ends coacting to detachably unite the two sections. 20

4. A comedian's suit comprising an inflatable ball formed of two sections having recesses together forming an opening for the user's body, reinforcing wires embedded in the walls of said recesses and having fasteners on their ends coacting to detachably unite the two sections, flaps on the two sections, and means for lacing said flaps together over the joint between the two sections. 25 30

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

IRVIN W. GRUHL.