

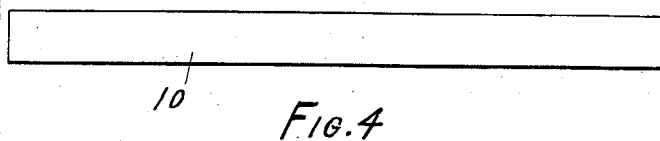
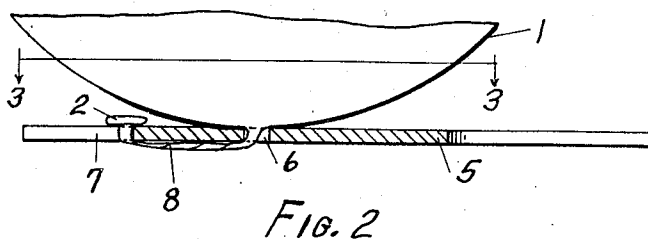
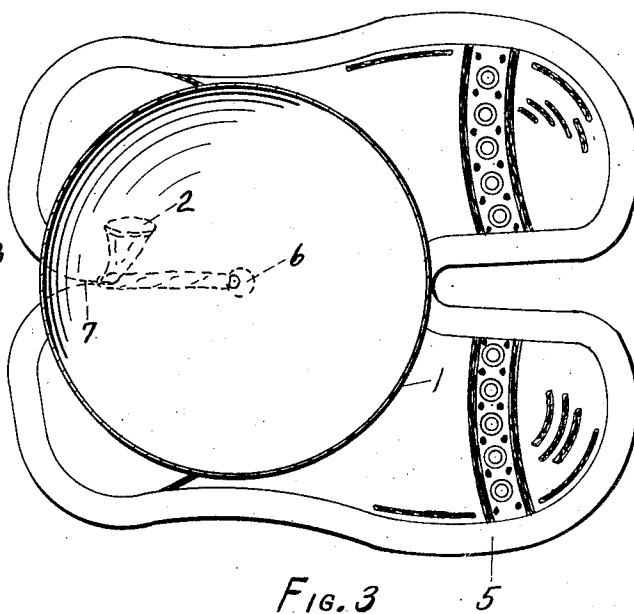
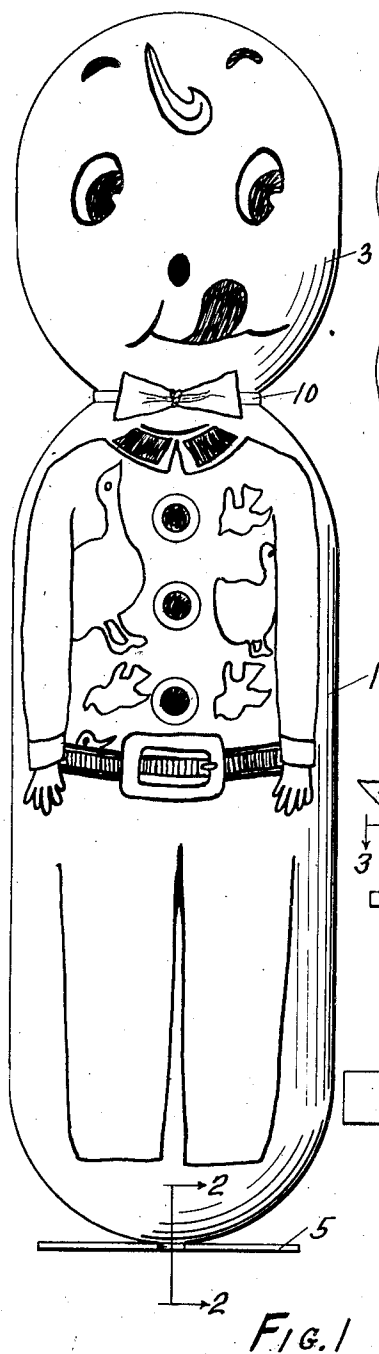
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TOY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOY.

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This invention relates to a toy in the nature of a balloon of rubber which is designed to be inflated and which will permit certain features of novelty and attractiveness. The toy comprises an elongated rubber balloon on which is printed or painted the representation of a figure and which is provided with a restriction band adapted to draw the balloon in at the neck to form a head upon the toy. It is also provided with a base usually cut out and printed to represent feet, the base being formed of cardboard or similar material and of sufficient weight to cause the balloon to land upon its feet in upright position when thrown up in the air.

The object of the invention is to devise a new and improved method of attaching the balloon portion of the toy to the base so as to connect the two parts together and retain the air within the balloon. The new and improved manner of attaching the balloon does not interfere with or present an enlargement on the underside of the base, which, in former types of toys of this general description, has prevented the toy from standing squarely upon the floor.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a new form of restricting device for the neck of the toy which will secure an improved appearance and a more perfect shaping of the body of the toy.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the description and drawings forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the toy in erect position;

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a plan view; and

Figure 4 is a view of the binding or restricting member which forms the necktie.

The toy comprises a main or body portion in the form of an elongated rubber balloon 1, the lower end of which is provided with the usual stem 2 through which the balloon is inflated. The body of the balloon is printed with lines to represent a figure or doll, as shown in Figure 1, having a head portion 3.

The base 5 of the toy is stamped out of a sheet of cardboard or the like, usually in the shape to imitate feet. Through approximately the center of the base is cut an aperture 6, through which the stem of the de-

flated balloon is passed. The balloon is then inflated to its proper size, and the stem is brought under the base and passed through a narrow crevice 7 cut in the base. This operation not only secures the balloon in position but the squeezing together or constriction of the stem holds the air in the balloon. If additional precautions are required to retain the air in the balloon the stem may be twisted at the portion 8 and the crevice 7 retains the twist in the stem which alone, or in addition to the pinching of the stem, will retain the air in the balloon. This will avoid the knot formerly used in balloons of this type. Also the necessity for the use of valves or a stick as heretofore employed has been obviated.

Heretofore, in balloons of this type the drawing-in of the neck to form and shape the head has been accomplished by a string. This makes a rather unsightly appearance and may cut the thin rubber of the balloon. As a substitute for the string or cord, a flat band or ribbon of rubber 10 is employed. In application of this band, the rubber is stretched and while in stretched condition is placed around the neck of the balloon and tied in a knot, which represents the necktie. The constriction may be enhanced by compressing the balloon about the neck during the application of the tie. The rubber band will not cut the rubber balloon as cord will and, in addition, the tension applied to the band during its application to the balloon will exert a constant tendency to further restrict the neck. A more pronounced neck will, therefore, be obtained and the head will be rounded out more perfectly.

What is claimed is:

1. In a toy, an inflatable, elastic balloon, a base upon which the balloon rests, and a stem on the balloon, the base having an aperture therein and a crevice having walls which are adapted to pinch the stem, said crevice being spaced from the aperture, the stem being passed downwardly through the aperture and along the under surface of the base and upwardly through the crevice by which it is pinched to retain the air within the balloon.

2. In a toy, an inflatable, elastic balloon, a base upon which the balloon rests, and a stem on the balloon, the base having an aperture through approximately its central point and a crevice having walls which are adapted

to pinch the stem, said crevice being located in the edge of the base, the stem being passed downwardly through the aperture, twisted and passed along the under surface of the base, and then upwardly through the crevice by which it is pinched to maintain the twist and retain the air within the balloon.

3. A base for an inflatable toy balloon which is provided with a stem, the base being formed with an aperture therein to receive the stem, and a crevice spaced from the aper-

ture and having walls adapted to pinch the stem of the balloon.

4. A base constituting a representation of an appropriate lower portion of a figure, the upper portion of which is to be composed of an inflatable toy balloon having a stem, the base being provided with an aperture to receive the stem, and with a crevice spaced from the aperture and having walls adapted to pinch the stem of the balloon.

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