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R. H. EPSTEIN

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NURSING AND TEETHING NIPPLE AND PACIFIER

Filed Oct. 31, 1931

Fig. 1.

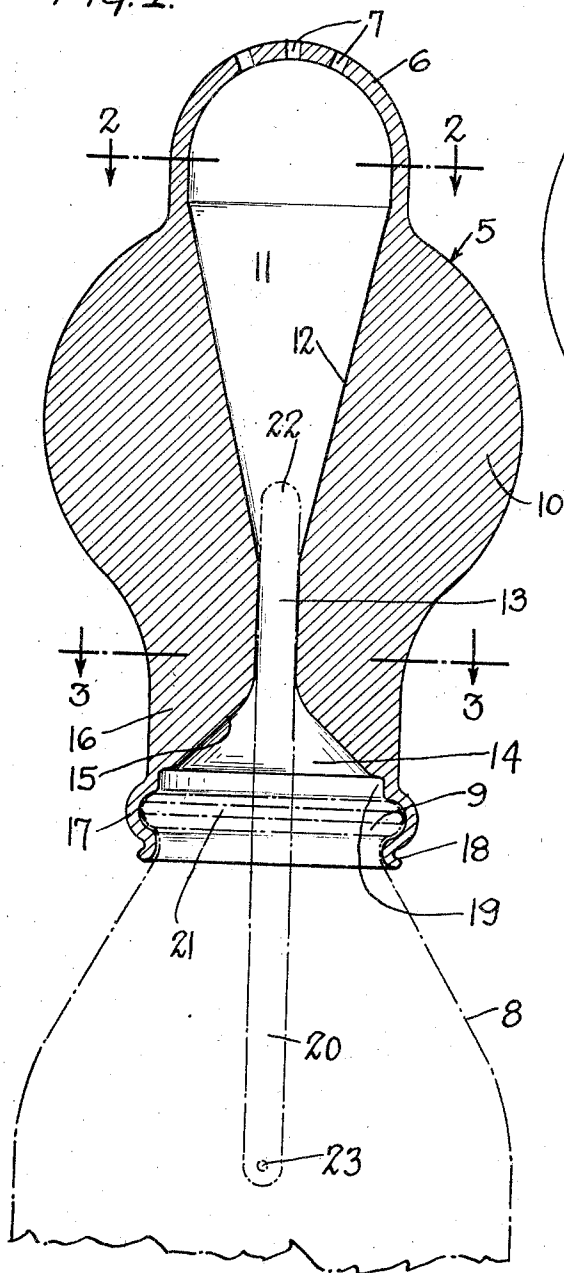


Fig. 2.

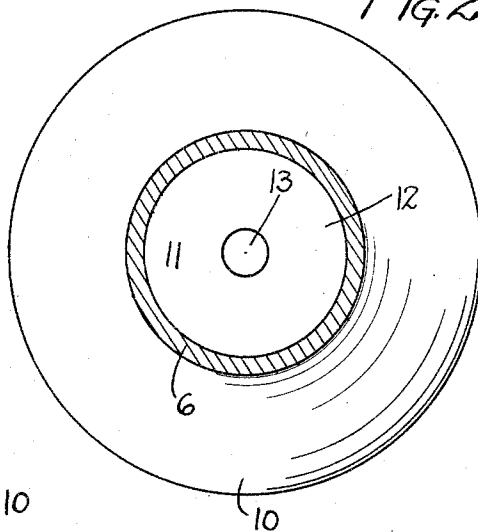


Fig. 3.

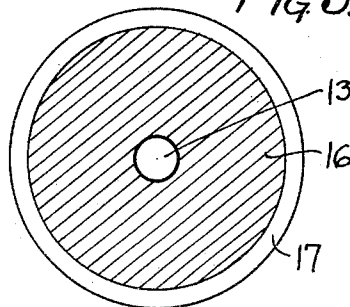
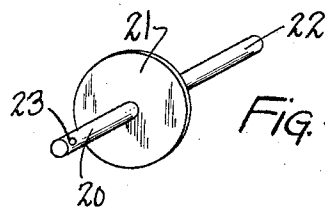


Fig. 4.



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NURSING AND TEETHING NIPPLE AND PACIFIER

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This invention relates to nipples and in particular to the type employed in connection with a baby's feeding bottle.

A particular object of my invention is to provide a feeding nipple in which is formed a solid wall portion for the purpose of providing a teething member, the nipple being also usable as a pacifier and being arranged for use separately from the bottle.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a feeding nipple in connection with which a plug may be employed when the nipple is used as a pacifier, the plug member being arranged to cut the passage of air through the nipple and thus prevent wind sucking by the infant and its consequent results.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a nursing nipple which will give a free feed of milk or other fluid therethrough and which will retain its shape, may be securely attached to the upper end of a feed bottle and may be used as a feeder, a teether and a pacifier.

Changes and variations may be made in the construction shown and described without departing from the principles of the invention or sacrificing its chief advantages; hence such invention is not to be confined to the structures shown in the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a view in sectional elevation of a feeding nipple constructed in accordance with my invention, the use of a bottle or a plug being illustrated in connection therewith in outline.

Figure 2 is a section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1 showing the upper chamber portion of the nipple.

Figure 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1 showing the central bore arranged to receive the stopper plug, and

Figure 4 is a view in perspective of a stopper plug that may be employed in connection with the nipple when the same is to be used as a pacifier.

Referring to the drawing in detail, 5 indicates a nipple constructed in accordance with my invention and moulded to provide an upper, perforated bulb-shaped feed end 6, preferably constructed of relatively soft rubber

and, as before noted, provided with the perforations or openings 7 through which the infant may receive the contents of the bottle 8 indicated in outline and to the upper beaded edge 9 of which is secured the nipple 5.

This bulb end 6 is relatively smaller in diameter than the central portion of the nipple which is of substantially spherical shape as at 10 and is constructed of hard rubber moulded to provide the inner reservoir 11, a wall 12 of which is tapered down to terminate in a plug bore 13. This plug bore 13 disposed in the median line of the nipple opens at its lower end into a lower chamber 14, the walls 15 of which are tapered to provide for easy flow of the liquid from the bottle into the bore 13.

The lower constricted end 16 of the nipple is beaded as at 17 so that the lower edge thereof may be snapped over the beaded top edge 9 of the bottle 8 to securely hold the nipple in place thereon. The lower end 16 of the nipple is further provided with a slightly shouldered portion 19 which adapts the nipple to proper fitting over the ends of bottles having various shaped beads thereon.

When the nipple is used on the end of a bottle, the milk has a free flow through the chamber 14, the bore 13 the chamber 11 and out through the perforations 7 of the bulb end 6, the bulb end 6 being soft, while the solid portion 10 acts as a teething member and while it is formed of relatively hard rubber, will not collapse nor close the receptacle 11 under the chewing action to which it is subjected.

When the nipple is to be used as a pacifier, a plug is employed consisting of a plug rod 20, having a disk 21 secured thereto intermediate its ends, one end 22 of the plug being arranged for insertion into the bore 13 until the disk 21 closes the lower open end of the nipple by engaging in the beaded portion 17 thereof, to prevent passage of air through the nipple. The plug 22 is large enough to be forced into the bore 13 so that it is frictionally held in position and the lower depending end thereof serves as a handle when the nipple is employed as a pacifying device.

The plug 22 prevents passage of air into the receptacle 11 and thus prevents wind sucking by the infant through the perforations 7 in the bulb end of the nipple. The plug 20 is further provided with an opening 23 in the lower end thereof through which may be threaded, if desired, a cord, or other device, to assist the child in holding the combination plug and nipple which serves as a pacifier.

It is evident, therefore, that I have provided a feeding nipple having a portion thereof made of soft rubber and a portion made of hard rubber to provide a soft feed end and a hard teething portion, a plug being provided upon which the nipple may be mounted for use as a pacifier, the plug serving to cut off the passage of air through the nipple.

My invention is not to be restricted to the precise details of construction shown since various changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the scope of the invention or sacrificing the advantages derived from its use.

What I claim is:—

A rubber feeding nipple comprising a relatively soft, perforated feeding end, a flanged bottle attaching end, a lower conical chamber terminating in a passage adapted to receive a stopper plug, the material of the nipple between said feed end and said attaching end being substantially spherical and a relatively long, conical chamber in said spherical part terminating at one end in said plug passage and at the opposite end at the feeding end of the nipple.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

REUBEN H. EPSTEIN. [L. S.]