May 4, 1926. 1,583,742

E. H. PEARSON

BABY FEEDING DEVICE

Filed April 5, 1924

Fig. 1.

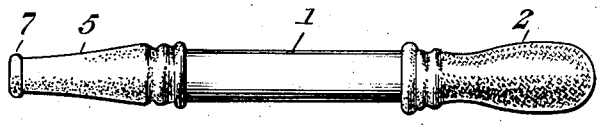
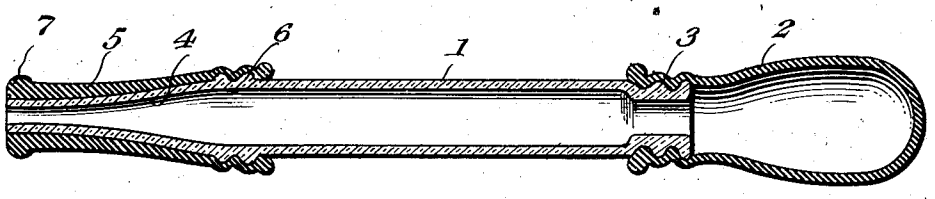


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMMELINE H. PEARSON, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

BABY-FEEDING DEVICE.

Application filed April 5, 1924. Serial No. 704,452.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMMELINE H. PEARSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Baby-Feeding Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention pertains to the administration of foods to infants, and has for its object to provide a simple and inexpensive device through the medium of which liquid food may be conveniently administered to a baby in a natural manner and without liability of injury to the baby.

To the attainment of the foregoing, the invention consists in the improvement as hereinafter described and definitely claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device constituting the preferred embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal central section of the device, on an enlarged scale.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in both views of the drawings.

Among other elements my novel device comprises a rigid tubular body 1 which is preferably of glass though it may be of any other material appropriate to the purpose of my invention without involving departure from the scope of the invention as claimed.

At its rear or heel end the body 1 is joined to an elastic compressible bulb 2, preferably of soft vulcanized rubber, the said bulb being adapted to be compressed for the discharge of liquid food from the body 1 and being also adapted when relieved of pressure to resume its normal state shown in Figures 1 and 2. Any approved means may be employed for joining the body 1 and the bulb 2, though I prefer to rib the body near its heel end, as designated by 3 in Figure 2, and to spring the open end of the bulb over the ribbed portion of the body so that because of its elasticity the bulb will be securely though detachably held to and on the body.

The forward end portion of the body 1 is tapered as designated by 4, and on the said tapered portion is mounted a cushioning sleeve 5 elastic in character and formed by preference, of soft vulcanized rubber. It is within the purview of my invention to depend on the inherent elasticity of the sleeve 5 to retain said sleeve on the body 1 and against casual displacement or to use any appropriate means to secure the sleeve on the body. I prefer, however, for the purpose indicated to rib the forward portion of the body 1 as designated by 6 and to spring the rear portion of the sleeve 5 over the rib or ribs as illustrated at the left of Figure 2. At its forward end which is preferably arranged flush with the discharge end of the body 1, the sleeve 5 is preferably, though not necessarily, flanged as designated by 7.

In the practical use of my novel device, the forward end thereof is immersed in liquid food, and the bulb 2 is compressed and relieved of pressure alternately to effect the filling of the device with liquid food. The forward end of the device is then inserted between the lips of a baby, and the bulb 2 is compressed, whereupon the liquid food will be forced from the device into the baby's mouth and this in a natural manner, the pressure on the bulb 2 being, of course, varied as different conditions require. In this connection it will be noted that the sleeved portion of the device may be inserted a considerable distance into a baby's mouth without danger of injury to the infant in the event that it bites down on the device; and it will also be noted that the sleeved forward portion of the device will be comfortable to the infant and because of this and the naturalness of the administration the infant will be encouraged to take an adequate quantity of food—i. e., all that the nurse wishes to administer.

Manifestly because of the tight fit of the sleeve 5 about the forward portion of the tubular body there is no liability of liquid food getting between the tubular body and the sleeve 5 and hence no necessity of removing the sleeve 5 to assure thorough cleansing of the device after use. It is to be distinctly understood, however, that the sleeve 5 is susceptible of ready removal and may therefore be taken off for cleansing purposes with facility and as readily replaced on the discharge portion of the tubular body.

I have entered into a detailed description of the construction and relative arrangement of the parts embraced in the present and preferred embodiment of my invention in order to impart a full, clear and exact understanding of the said embodiment. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to the specific construction and relative arrangement of parts inasmuch as in the

future practice of the invention various changes and modifications may be made such as fall within the scope of my invention as defined in my appended claim.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

A baby feeding device comprising a tubular body open at its ends and having a tapered forward portion, an elastic compressible bulb joined to the rear portion of the body, and a cushioning sleeve of elastic material secured on and surrounding the forward tapered portion of the body; with the outer end arranged flush with the outer end of the tapered portion of the body, an annular flange at the outer end of the cushioning sleeve, the rear end portion of the body being ribbed and the open end of the bulb being sprung over said ribbed portion, and the body being also ribbed back of its forward tapered portion and the cushioning sleeve being sprung over the last-named ribbed portion.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EMMELINE H. PEARSON.