No. 898,105. PATENTED SEPT. 8, 1908.

W. P. HERBST.

TOY BALLOON.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1907.

Fig. 1.

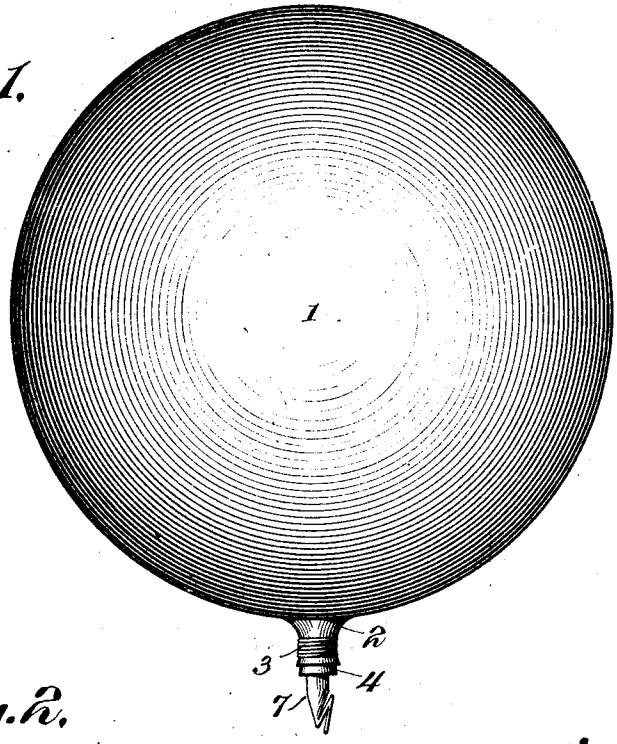


Fig. 2.

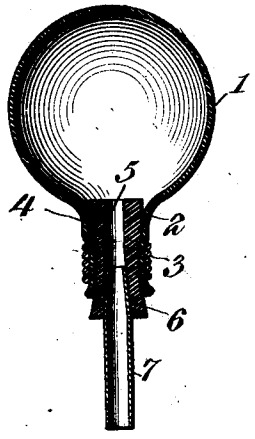


Fig. 3.

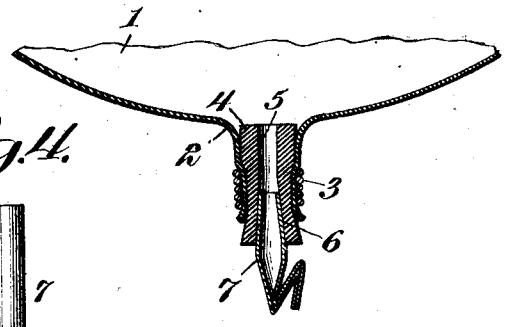


Fig. 4.



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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM P. HERBST, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

TOY BALLOON.

No. 898,105. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 8, 1908.

Application filed October 2, 1907. Serial No. 395,635.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM P. HERBST, a citizen of the United States, residing at 2500 Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Balloons, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in toy balloons.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of toy balloons, and to provide a simple and inexpensive one, adapted to afford a clean mouth piece each time it is inflated, whereby the spread of disease by reason of different persons inflating the same balloon will be effectually prevented.

A further object of the invention is to provide a toy balloon of this character, designed for use in games and for all the various other purposes for which a device of this character may be employed, and adapted to be inflated and deflated at will.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a side elevation of a toy balloon, constructed in accordance with this invention and shown inflated. Fig. 2 is a sectional view, the balloon being deflated. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view, illustrating the arrangement of the mouth piece when the balloon is inflated. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the mouth piece, showing the same before it is introduced into the tubular stem or sleeve.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

1 designates an inflatable bag, constructed of rubber, or other suitable material and provided with a reduced tubular extension or neck 2, which is secured by a band 3 of rubber to a valveless tubular stem or sleeve 4. The elastic band 3 is wrapped around the extension or neck a sufficient number of times to securely retain the same on the sleeve or stem, but a cord, or any other suitable means may be employed for securing the inflatable bag to the stem or sleeve 4.

The stem or sleeve 4, which may be constructed of rubber, or any other suitable material, is provided with a central bore or opening 5, which is inwardly tapered at the outer portion 6 to receive a mouth piece 7. The mouth piece 7, which consists of a short paraffin paper tube, is fitted in the tapered portion of the sleeve being partially crimped by the same to conform to the taper of the sleeve, whereby it is fitted tightly within the same. The elasticity of the paraffin tube assists in holding it tightly within the tapered outer portion of the central bore or opening of the stem or sleeve. The mouth piece, which is exceedingly inexpensive, is designed in practice to be furnished in large quantities, say one hundred or more with each balloon, so that a new mouth piece may be employed at each operation of inflating the balloon. When the balloon is inflated to the desired extent, the outer portion of the mouth piece is flattened or compressed and is folded one or more times, it being first bent backwardly on itself and then forwardly forming transverse creases, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawing. The paraffin tube is sufficiently adhesive to retain it in its folded or closed position and it forms an effective closure, and it has been found by experience that when the mouth piece is employed in this manner, the balloon will remain inflated for hours, which is a clear advantage over the ordinary toy gas balloons. The transverse creasing and consequent closing of the outer portion of the mouth piece prevents the same from being again used as a mouth piece for inflating the balloon, so that it will be necessary to use a new mouth piece each time the balloon is inflated. This will prevent the spread of disease, which often results when a toy is placed in the mouths of a number of children or adults.

The balloon while being adapted for use as an ordinary toy balloon and for use in various games, is designed for use as an exerciser. It is adapted to be used by a person lying flat upon his back in bed, or upon any other supporting surface, the object being to keep the balloon in the air by striking it alternately or otherwise with the hand and feet. This will be found to be a pleasant and healthful exercise. The balloon is also susceptible for various other uses, and the removable sanitary mouth piece may be advantageously

employed in various kinds of inflatable devices, such as lung testers and the like.

The elasticity of the tubular stem and the adhesiveness of the paraffin mouth piece operate to retain the latter within the bore or opening of the former, and when the tubular stem or neck is made of rubber, the inward taper of the outer portion may be produced by partially constricting or compressing the intermediate portion of the stem or sleeve by the elastic band 3.

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

1. The combination of an inflatable bag, a valveless tubular stem secured to the inflatable bag, and a mouth piece consisting of a paraffin paper tube removably fitted in the bore of the stem and foldable to form a self locking closure and also to prevent the mouth piece from being again used for inflating the bag.

2. The combination of an inflatable bag having a neck, a sleeve fitted within the neck and having a valveless bore or opening, fastening means arranged on the outside of the neck for securing the same to the sleeve, and a mouth piece consisting of a paraffin paper tube removably fitted in the bore or opening of the sleeve and foldable to form a self locking closure and also to prevent the mouth piece from being used again for inflating the bag.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM P. HERBST

Witnesses:
JOHN H. SIGGERS,
LEWIS EBERLY.