A. H. DU BOIS.

TOY BALLOON.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 24, 1914.

1,151,093. Patented Aug. 24, 1915.

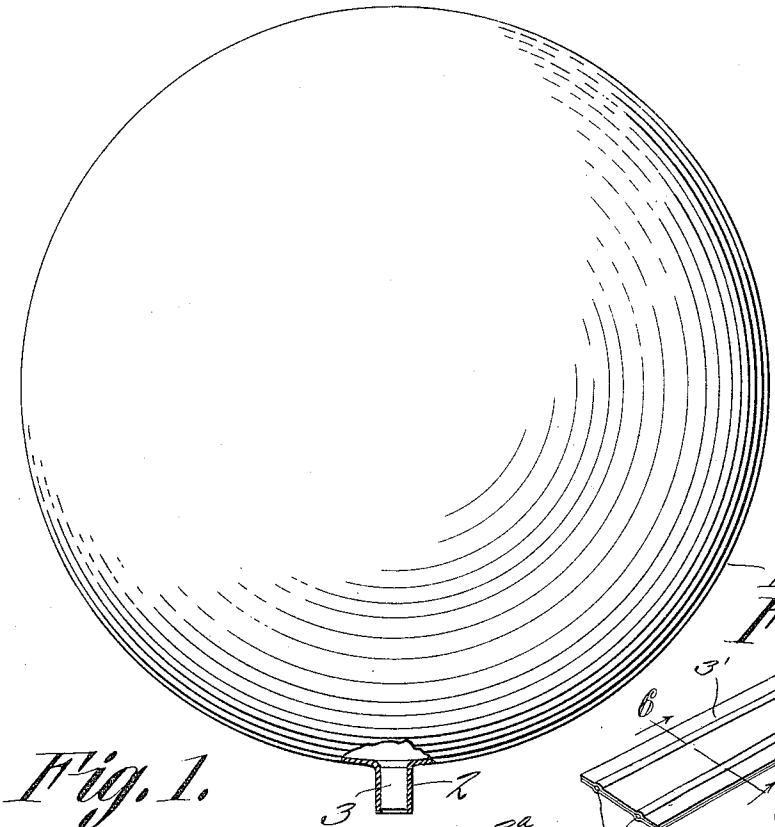


Fig. 1.

Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

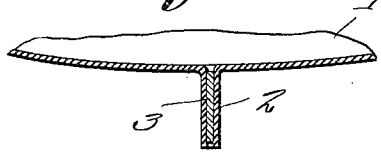


Fig. 2.

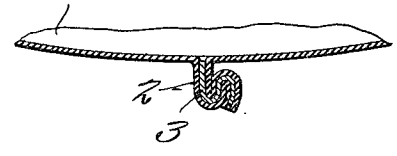


Fig. 3.

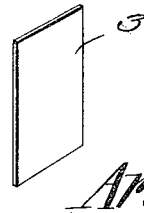


Fig. 4.

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TOY BALLOON.

1,151,093. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 24, 1915.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR H. DU BOIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Toy Balloon, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in toy balloons, one object of the invention, being the provision of a balloon of this character, provided with a flexible air inlet tube, and a pliable non-resilient or malleable distender and closing means therefor, whereby air or gas may be forced into the balloon to inflate the same and whereby the tube may be rolled upon itself to produce a corrugating or folding of the distender so that a closure of the tube is had to prevent the escape of the air or gas.

A further object of the present invention, is the provision of a toy balloon in which a flat strip of pliable non-resilient or malleable metal is inserted within the filling tube thereof so that when the baloon is filled, the tube and also the collapsible material or metal may be folded to produce a sealed closure of the tube and thus prevent the escape of air or gas from the balloon.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a side elevation of the complete balloon showing the tube in cross section with the malleable non-resilient piece of metal in plan. Fig. 2 is a cross section through the tube and malleable piece of metal taken at right angles to that shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the metal and tube corrugated or folded to seal the tube. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the piece of metal used for assisting in the closure. Fig. 5 is a similar view of a strip of pliable non-resilient material provided with a plurality of strands of wire for assisting in forming the balloon closure. Fig. 6 is a section on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the body of the balloon which is provided with the usual tube 2 for permitting the inflation and deflation of the balloon. Adapted to be disposed within the tube to hold the same normally extended, and to itself be held therein by the frictional contact of the elastic tube 2 is a sheet or strip 3 of a pliable non-resilient flexible material or malleable metal, said metal being of a composition containing lead that will permit the same to be readily folded as shown in Fig. 3, so as to produce a sealing of the tube 2 and consequently prevent the escape of air from the balloon body. Or such strip 3′ as shown in Fig. 5, may be made of paper having embedded therein, two or more strands of wire 3^a, which tend to hold the strip in any bent form.

When in use, the plate or strip 3 is inserted within the tube 2 and is of such a width as to be normally held therewithin. By inserting the tube with the strip 3 or 3′ in place between the lips, and blowing, the flexible portion of the tube 2 at the opposite sides of the strip 3 or 3′ extend and permit the passage of air within the balloon body to inflate the same as shown in Fig. 1. When the body 1 has been inflated to the desired extensibility, the tube 2 is gripped and rolled to assume the position as shown in Fig. 3, so that when released, the strip 3 or 3′ will retain its corrugated form and thus produce by coöperating with the adjacent portion of the tube 2, a closure for the body 1 so that the air within the same is prevented from escaping.

What is claimed is:

1. A toy balloon, having a flexible and elastic tube in communication with the body thereof, and a flat strip of pliable non-resilient material insertible therewithin and held therewithin by the engagement of the tube therewith, said strip being of sufficient length to be rolled or corrugated to assist the tube in forming a closure for the balloon.

2. A toy balloon, comprising an inflatable body portion, an elastic tube in communication therewith and projecting exteriorly thereof, and a flat pliable non-resilient strip of greater width than the diameter of the

tube insertible within the tube and held therewithin by the engagement of the tube therewith, said strip providing a distender for the tube to assist in the inflation of the body portion and constituting a foldable means for forming with the tube, a closure for the inflatable portion of the balloon.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ARTHUR H. DU BOIS.

Witnesses:

HERMAN TRESSELT,

KATHRYN T. LEARY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."