

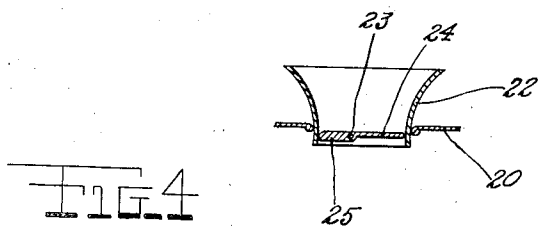
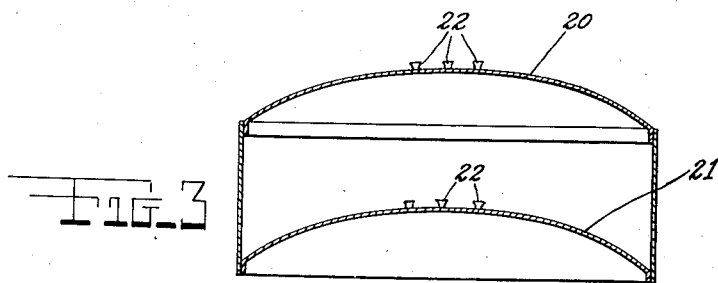
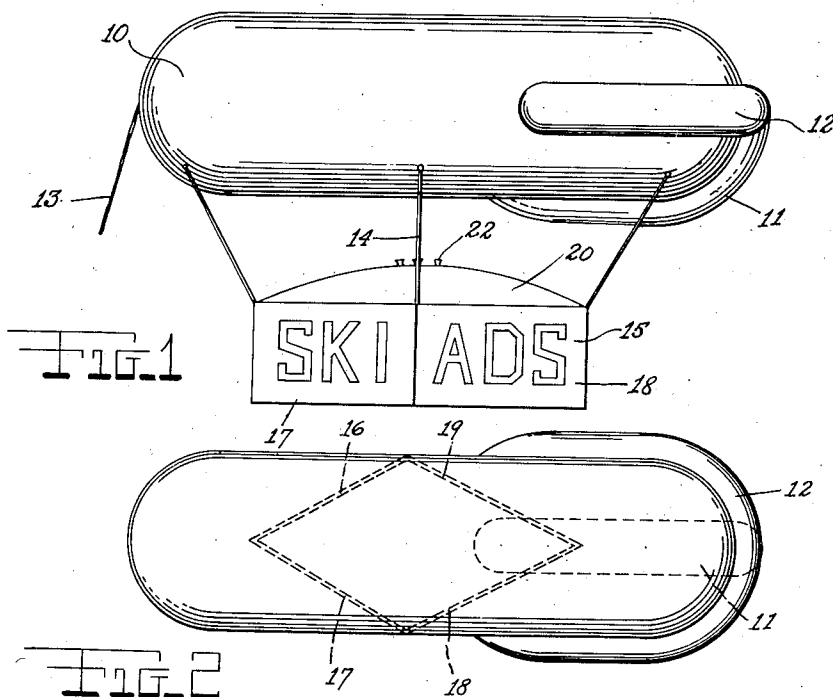
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FLOATING ADVERTISING DEVICE

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FLOATING ADVERTISING DEVICE.

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The main object of this invention is to provide an advertising device consisting of a buoyant balloon which is anchored at a height above the ground and carries a body or fuselage on which advertising matter is displayed.

Another object of the invention is to provide an advertising device which has a buoyant balloon from which is suspended a fuselage constructed in the form of a parachute by providing a flexible floor and roof in which a plurality of valves are mounted the latter being adapted to slowly permit the sustaining air to escape so that a slow and gradual landing may be made.

The above and other objects will become apparent in the description below in which characters of reference refer to like-named parts in the drawing.

Referring briefly to the drawing, Figure 1 is a front elevational view of the advertising device.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the same.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional elevational view of the fuselage showing the position of the valves as mounted on the parachute sections.

Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional side elevational view of one of the valves used on the device.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the numeral 10 indicates an inflated buoyant balloon of the well-known blimp type. This balloon has an inflated vertical ridge 11 and a similar inflated ridge 12 which are provided to maneuver the balloon at all times head on into the wind. The balloon is anchored to the ground by a guy rope 13 and is adapted to change its position accordingly as the wind shifts.

A plurality of cables 14 are attached to the sides of the blimp and have a fuselage 15 secured thereto at their lower ends. This fuselage is shaped similar to a parallelogram having four corners. The diagonal passing thru the corners of fuselage is coaxial with the longitudinal axis of the balloon so that the front corner of the same heads into the wind.

The upper edges of the walls 16, 17, 18, and 19 have the edge of a flexible fabric roof 20 attached thereto in a leak-proof manner so that air from beneath the roof will not leak thru the point of jointure. A similar

floor 21 is secured to the lower end of the fuselage structure and the expanses of both roof and floor are adapted to be deflected upwardly by the pressure of the air from beneath.

At various positions in the material forming the roof and floor of the fuselage a plurality of openings are formed in which funnels 22 are secured in inverted position. The funnels serve as housings for the valves which are adapted to flutter and thereby retard the air as it passes thru the openings in the floor and roof. The ends of pins are rotatably secured in the walls of the funnels and are indicated by the numeral 23. These pins are offset from the diameter of the funnels and are aligned with the same and support annular disks which constitute the flutter valves of the device used for the purpose of retarding the air passing therethru. The disks are formed of two thicknesses and the greater area 24 existing to the right of the pins 23 are thinner in cross section than the area 25 to the left of the pins 23 so that the said disks may normally be retained in perfectly balanced horizontal position, as is indicated in Figure 4.

The blimp balloons are usually equipped with valves which may be opened from the ground or from the fuselage by a rope similar to the guy rope 13 when a landing is desired. The particular device illustrated and described in the specification is for advertising purposes only and the walls of the fuselage serve as surfaces for the display of advertising matter which may be painted or otherwise placed thereon. When the blimp has been gradually deflated, when it is desired to make a landing, the descent may be too precipitous and damage to the device would ensue. To retard such descent of a rapid nature, the fuselage serves as a parachute by the construction of the fabric floor 21 and roof 20 thereon. The sustaining air passes thru the openings in the funnels 22 but its passage is retarded on account of the disks which are normally balanced in closed position at the mouths of the disks but are caused to flutter and rotate by the sustaining air passing there-thru thereby retarding this air beneath the roof and floor and insuring a slow gradual landing of the fuselage.

It is to be noted that certain changes in

form and construction may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:

5 1. In an advertising device, a buoyant balloon, a fuselage suspended therefrom, a flexible roof and floor mounted on said fuselage and valves mounted in the floor and roof of said fuselage for retarding the descent of said device when the balloon is partly deflated.

10 2. In an advertising device, a buoyant blimp-like balloon, a fuselage shaped as a parallelogram suspended therefrom, a flexible roof and floor mounted on said fuselage for retarding the descent of the device when landing, said floor and roof having openings therein, and flutter valves in said floor and roof for passing the air at a retarded rate thru the roof and floor.

15 3. In an advertising device, a buoyant balloon, a fuselage shaped as a parallelogram suspended therefrom, a flexible fabric roof

and floor mounted on the top and bottom of said fuselage and rotatable flutter valves 25 mounted in said roof and floor for permitting air beneath the floor and roof to pass thru the latter from below to above the same.

4. In an advertising device, a buoyant balloon, a fuselage shaped as a parallelogram suspended therefrom, the diagonal thru said fuselage being coaxial with the longitudinal axis of said balloon, a fabric roof and floor on said fuselage, valves in said roof and floor 35 comprising funnels mounted in said roof and floor, pins pivoted in said funnels at a position offset from the diameter of said funnels and parallel thereto, and annular disks mounted on said pins, the expanse on 40 opposite sides of the disks being unequal to each other, said disk having different thicknesses on opposite sides of the pins for balancing the latter in horizontal position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

OTTO BRINKMANN.