Dec. 29, 1953 H. A. LONGINO 2,663,968

BALLOON HANDLE AND WHISTLE

Filed June 27, 1951

Fig. 1.

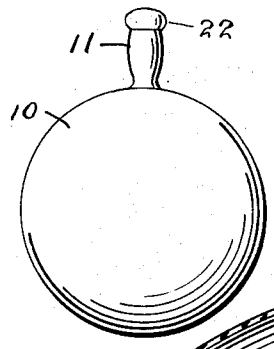


Fig. 2.

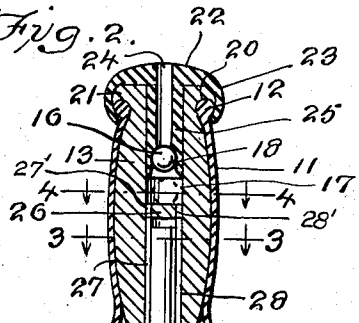
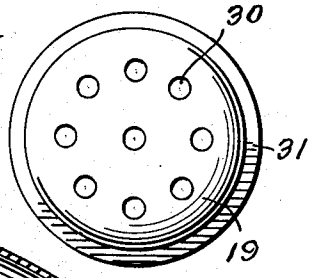


Fig. 5.



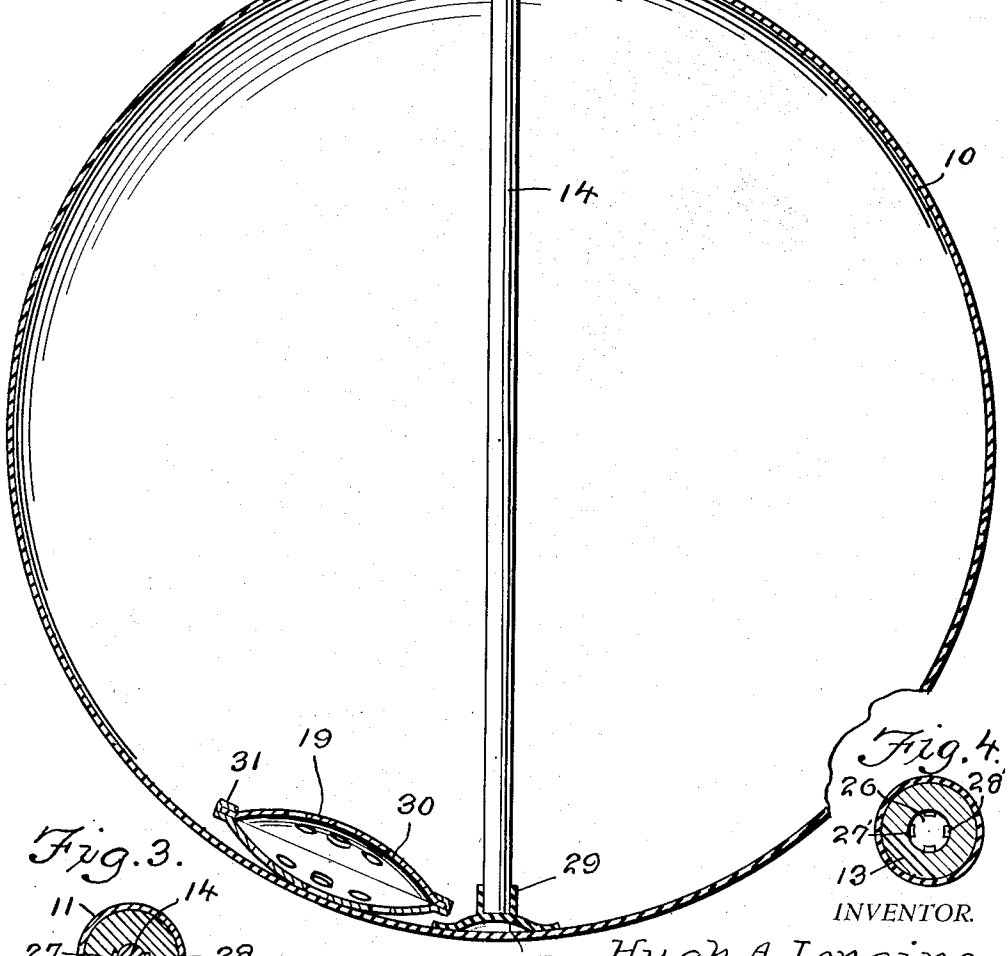


Fig. 3.

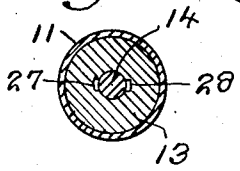


Fig. 4.

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BALLOON HANDLE AND WHISTLE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 46—52)

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This invention relates to toy balloons formed of rubber or other suitable material, and in particular a handle over which the neck of a balloon is stretched and a whistling element freely positioned in the balloon and adapted to be rotated around the inner surface of the balloon by a whirling action of the balloon.

The purpose of this invention is to provide means for inserting a handle in the neck of a toy balloon with a valve in the handle for preventing the escape of air or gas in the balloon and also means for incorporating a whistle in the balloon.

Various attempts have been made to improve the novelty of toy balloons such as by inserting whistles or other noise making devices in the neck of the balloon but such devices are only adapted for temporary use and upon release of the balloon rapid deflation thereof actuates the whistle or noise making device and the balloon collapses. With this thought in mind this invention contemplates means for holding a balloon inflated with a noise making device on the inside, with the neck of the balloon stretched over a rigid member adapted to form a handle and with a check valve positioned in the handle. To further increase the novelty of the balloon a stem having a vacuum cup in the end thereof extends through the balloon from the handle and a cap is placed over the outer end of the handle, so that the handle forms a supporting stem.

The object of this invention is, therefore, to provide means adapted to be incorporated in a toy balloon whereby the balloon may remain inflated and whereby a whistling sound is produced as the balloon is spun around by the handle.

Another object of the invention is to provide supporting and noise making devices that are adapted to be incorporated in toy balloons of the conventional type without changing the design or arrangement of the balloon.

A further object of the invention is to provide a toy balloon having a handle with a check valve therein and also having a whistling element in the body of the balloon, which is of a comparatively simple and economical construction.

With these and other objects and advantages in view the invention embodies a substantially cylindrical handle having a tapering outer surface with a ball check valve in the handle, with a stem having a vacuum cup on the outer end extended from the handle and with a whistling element adapted to be placed in a balloon stretched over the stem and handle.

Other features and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description taken in connection with the drawings wherein:

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Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the improved balloon.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section through the balloon, handle, and whistling element positioned in the balloon.

Figure 3 is a cross section through the handle of the balloon taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a cross section through the handle of the balloon taken on line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a plan view of the whistle element adapted to be placed in the balloon.

Referring now to the drawings wherein like reference characters denote corresponding parts the improved balloon of this invention includes a substantially spherical section 10 having a neck 11 extended from one point with a bead 12 around the end of the neck, a handle 13 adapted to be inserted in the neck of the balloon, a stem 14 extended from the handle and having a suction cup 15 on the extended end, a ball check valve 16 positioned in a passage 17 in the handle adapted to coact with a valve seat 18 positioned in the passage, and a whistling element 19 adapted to be placed in the balloon.

The balloon 10 is of the conventional type and, as illustrated in the drawings, is preferably shaped to form a sphere when inflated and the neck 11 which extends from one side is stretched over the handle 13 with the bead 12 on the end of the neck positioned in a recess 20 spaced from the end of the handle.

A bead 21 extends around the end of the handle and a cap 22 with an arcuate annular flange 23 extended therefrom is positioned over the end of the handle with the flange 23 stretched over the bead 21 on the end of the handle and also over the bead 12 on the end of the neck 11. The cap 22 is also provided with an opening 24 in which air may be blown through the handle into the balloon to inflate the balloon. The cap 22 is also provided with an extended neck 25 on the inner end of which the valve seat 18 is positioned, and as shown in Figure 2, the neck 25 extends into the upper end of the passage 17. A portion of the handle 13 is provided with grooves 27 and 28 through which the air passes into the interior of the balloon, the grooves 27 and 28 being provided in the lower section of the opening 17. A partition 26 is positioned in the opening 17 of the handle 13 and is provided with grooves 27' and 28'. The upper ends of the grooves 27 and 28 are in communication with the grooves 27' and 28' in the partition 26, as shown in Fig. 1,

The suction cup 15 is provided with a hub 29 into which the end of the stem 14 extends and with the suction cup positioned on the end of the stem, as shown in Figure 2, the outer surface thereof is frictionally engaged with the inner surface of the balloon 10 whereby the end of the stem remains in the position shown in Figure 2 whereby the stem extends substantially through the center of the balloon.

It will be understood that any suitable noise making device may be used in the balloon, however, in the design shown a whistling disc 19 having bulging side members with openings 30 therein is provided and the edges of the side members are provided with flanges 31 by which the members are secured together by crimping or other suitable means.

With the parts arranged in this manner the device 19 is first inserted in the balloon and the suction cup 15 on the end of the stem 14 is placed through the neck of the balloon as the neck of the balloon is stretched over the handle 13 as shown in Figure 2. The partition 26 will prevent the end of the stem 14 being inserted into the opening 17 in the handle 13 too far so that it will interfere with the operation of the ball check valve 16. The partition 26 will also prevent the loss of the check valve 16 from the opening 17 prior to the insertion of the stem 14 or should the stem 14 be removed when it is necessary to replace the balloon 10 for any reason. The cap 22 is then positioned over the end of the handle and the balloon is inflated by blowing air, gas, or the like into the interior of the balloon. The ball check valve 16 prevents the escape of the air, gas, or the like so that the balloon remains inflated.

With the balloon inflated with gas it will stand upwardly on the handle with the handle forming a stem.

It will also be understood that the balloon may be formed of any other suitable shape and other means may be provided for forming a noise therein.

With the device shown in the drawing the balloon may be spun around by the handle with the handle held in the hand of an operator and in this spinning action the device 19 travels around the inner surface of the balloon producing a whistling sound.

The balloon may be deflated by inserting a pin or the like through the opening 24 whereby the ball 16 may be held away from the seat 18.

The stem 14 is freely held in the handle 13 and it will be understood that both the stem 14 and noise maker 19 may be omitted if desired.

It will be understood that other modifications may be made in the design and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In a toy balloon the combination which comprises a substantially hollow elastic body having a neck extended from one side, a handle having an arcuate tapering outer surface positioned in the neck of the body, said handle having a longitudinally disposed passage extended therethrough with a valve seat in said passage, a ball positioned in the passage and adapted to coact with the valve seat to prevent air passing outwardly through the handle, a removable stem extended from the handle to the opposite side of the hollow elastic body, a suction cup on the extended end of the stem and positioned to engage the inner surface of the said body, said handle having grooves therein positioned adjacent the periphery of the stem, and a disc having spaced side walls with openings therethrough providing a whistling element positioned in the said hollow elastic body.

2. In a toy balloon, the combination which comprises a substantially hollow elastic body having a neck extended from one side, a handle having an arcuate tapering outer surface positioned in the neck of the body, said handle having a longitudinally disposed passage extended therethrough with a valve seat in said passage, a ball positioned in the passage and adapted to coact with the valve seat to prevent air passing outwardly through the handle, a removable stem extended from the handle to the opposite side of the hollow elastic body, a suction cup on the extended end of the stem and positioned to engage the inner surface of the said body, said handle having grooves therein positioned adjacent the periphery of the stem, a disc having spaced side walls with openings therethrough providing a whistling element positioned in the said hollow elastic body, and a closure cap with an air passage therethrough positioned on the end of the handle.

HUGH A. LONGINO.

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