While the stamp is specially designed for marking cold storage eggs, it may be used in connection with various other articles or articles to which it may be found applicable.

The handle 1 may be of any desired shape or form having a hollow cup-shaped end 2, into which the neck 3 of the spherical bulb or rubber ball 4 is inserted, so that the end 2 of the handle forms an annular seat 5 for the bulb or ball. The neck 3 is provided with a band or thimble 6 having a spiral groove 6° cooperating with a lug 7 on the inner side of the handle end 2 for attaching the neck 3 to the handle. The groove also forms means for attaching the neck 3 to the band. The mouth of the neck 3 is provided with a suitable stopper 8, which not only closes the mouth of the neck 3 but also impinges the rubber mouth with the band 6, and stiffens the band so that it may be readily screwed on to the handle lug 7. The bulb or ball is partly filled with liquid 9 the stopper inserted, and the neck screwed into the cup of the handle until the ball is firmly seated on the annular seat 5 of the handle. Obviously the bulb or ball may be removed or separated from the handle for refilling or for any other purpose by revolving the bulb for unscrewing the neck band.

The rubber type plate 10 is rubber glued or soldered to the bulb or ball opposite the neck 3, and may be of any size or shape desired. Obviously the type plates are made independent of the bulb, and are applied thereto after the bulb is inflated. In lieu of the plate 10, the type or letters, or other indicia may be glued to the bulb in proper position for stamping, or bulbs may be molded with the indicia thereon.

Referring to Fig. 5 of the drawings, a pneumatic or inflated rubber ball 11, is shown attached or glued at 11' to the counter-sunk head 12 of an ordinary handle, and the letters 13 are formed on the surface of the ball. In this form of stamp, the balls are made in the usual way, and have the desired letters or other mark molded thereon, then the balls are attached to the handles with the letters centrally opposite the said handle end. In Fig. 6, the bulb 15 has a tube 14 extending throughout the handle 12, and is closed by a screw 16.

It will be understood that the bulbs or balls may be pneumatically inflated or they
may be inflated by charging the balls with liquid, and in the latter case the filling of the balls may be varied so as to vary the elasticity or resiliency of the balls and thereby vary the same according to the nature or character of the article to be stamped, so that a ball will not have too great resistance in a stamping operation.

I do not wish to confine myself to any particular material or element for filling or inflating the balls or spheres or for varying the elasticity or pressure resistance, or to any particular means for attaching the bulbs to the handles, neither do I wish to be understood as confining my invention to any particular size, shape or material in the manufacture of the parts, nor to separate and attachable type plates for the spheres, but reserve to myself the right to make such changes, improvements and variations in the practical manufacture and application of my invention as may come within the scope of the appended claims.

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

1. A hand stamp of the character described, comprising an inflatable hollow sphere, an element contained within the sphere for inflating it, a handle having an annular concavity extending into the neck of the handle and forming a seat for the sphere, and means for securing the handle to the sphere.

4. A hand stamp of the character described, comprising a handle having an annular concavity forming a seat and a retainer, an inflatable spherical cushion fitting the seat and having a neck fitting the retainer and terminating in a mouth within the handle, and means for opening and closing the mouth.

5. A hand stamp of the character described, comprising a handle having a hollow portion terminating in a seat, an inflatable cushion fitting the seat and having a neck terminating in a mouth within the hollow portion, and means for detachably securing the neck within the handle, and means for opening and closing the mouth.

6. A hand stamp of the character described, comprising a handle having a hollow portion terminating in a seat, a resilient sphere fitting the seat and having a neck terminating in a mouth within the hollow portion, a liquid contained in the sphere for controlling the resiliency thereof, a screw cap for detachably connecting the neck with said hollow portion, and a stopper for opening and closing the mouth.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

RILEY L. HOWELL.

Witnesses:
JOHNSON S. ALBRIGHT,
M. C. CONWAY.