

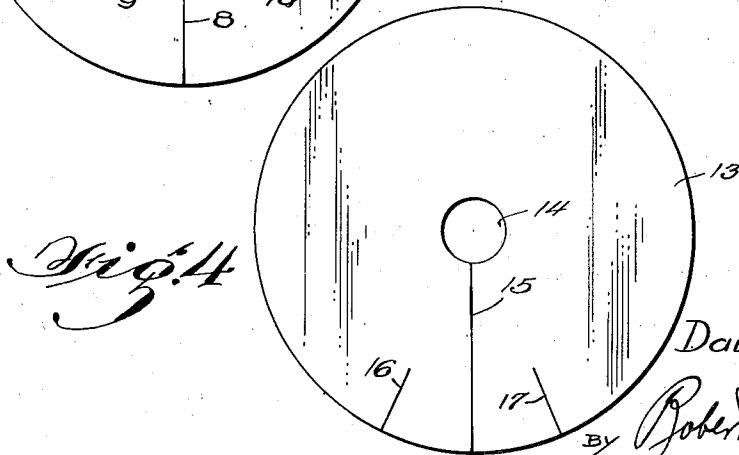
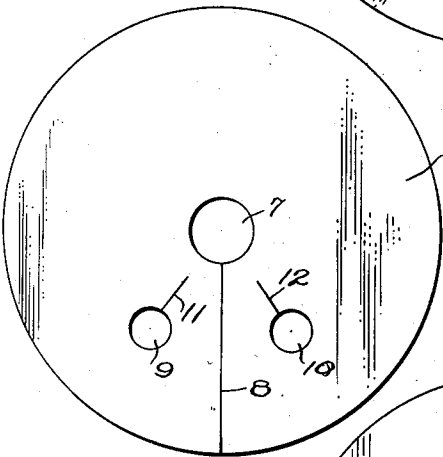
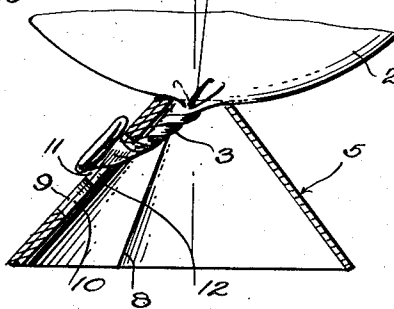
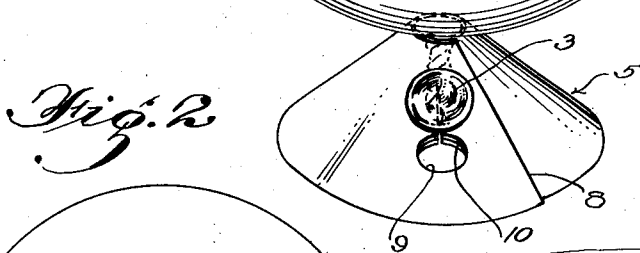
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INFLATABLE GLOBE AND SUPPORT THEREFOR

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INFLATABLE GLOBE AND SUPPORT THEREFOR

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The present invention relates to an improved inflatable globe, wherein a map of the world is graphically inscribed on the surface thereof, for use in teaching geography and as an educational toy.

One of the important objects of the present invention is to provide a novel supporting base for the inflatable globe.

A further object of the invention resides in the provision of an inflatable globe, wherein the twisted stem of the inflatable globe cooperates with incisions formed in the truncated conical shaped base for holding the latter in globe supporting position and at the same time retaining the globe in an inflated condition and secured on said supporting base.

Another object is to provide an inflatable globe and support therefor that can be readily and easily assembled and disassembled, the same being inexpensive in its manufacture.

Still a further object is to provide a device of the above mentioned character that may be used for displaying advertising indicia.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from the following description and accompanying drawing.

In the drawing forming a part of the specification and in which corresponding numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the inflated globe supported on the truncated conical base.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the blank from which the supporting base is formed.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary sectional view through the base showing the twisted stem of the inflated globe pinched in the registering slits in the base, and the inflated globe supported and secured on the base, and

Figure 4 is a plan view of a modified blank from which the supporting base may be formed.

In the drawing, the numeral 1 designates a rubber balloon including a body 2 and a stem portion 3, which when inflated provides a sphere.

Inscribed or otherwise arranged on the surface of the body 2 is a map of the world, although any other indicia may be arranged on the surface of the body. However, the inflatable globe is primarily adapted to be used in teaching geography.

Forming a salient part of the present invention is the supporting base for the inflatable globe, the same being in the form of a truncated cone and being denoted generally by the numeral 5.

The supporting base is formed from a single blank of flexible material such as paper, cardboard, celluloid or light metal.

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The blank of material is shown at 6 in Figure 2 of the drawing and is of circular formation. A central opening 7 is formed in the blank and extending from this central opening to the outer edge of the blank or disk is the radial slit 8.

Also formed in the blank on opposite sides of the radial slit 8 are the smaller circular openings 9 and 10.

Extending from the openings 9 and 10 toward the central opening 7 are the slits 11 and 12, respectively, the purpose of which will be presently described. As will be clearly seen from Figure 2, these slits terminate a short distance from the central opening 7 in the disk.

In assembling my device, the blank or disk 6 is manipulated by hand, so that one edge portion formed by the radial slit 8 overlaps the adjacent edge portion of the blank, with the openings 9 and 10 being disposed in registration with each other, and likewise, the slits 11 and 12 are disposed in registry with each other. Thus a base of truncated cone design will be formed.

The inflated globe 1 has its stem portion twisted and the twisted stem is passed downwardly through the central opening 7 and thence is drawn outwardly through the registering openings 9 and 10, and finally the twisted stem 3 is forced upwardly in the registering slits 11 and 12, wherein this portion of the stem will be pinched and retained in position against casual displacement.

In this manner the base of the inflated globe will rest upon and be supported on the truncated conical base and the air will be retained in the balloon against escape therefrom by reason of the pinching of the twisted stem 3. Further, the twisted stem coacts with the registering openings and slits to hold the base in its truncated conical form.

In Figure 4 a modification of the truncated conical base is illustrated, wherein the circular blank 13 is formed with a central opening 14. A radial slit 15 extends from one side of the central opening to the outer edge of the circular disk 13.

Extending inwardly from the outer edge of the circular disk 13 at opposite sides of the slit 15 are the relatively short slits 16 and 17.

When using a supporting base employing the blank shown in Figure 4, the blank is manually manipulated so that one edge portion of the slit 15 overlaps the other edge portion with the slits 16 and 17 being disposed in registration with each other.

The twisted stem 3 of the inflated globe will

be passed through the central opening 14 and thence drawn outwardly and upwardly in the registering slits 16 and 17 where that portion of the stem engaged in said slits will be pinched, thus holding the globe inflated and simultaneously maintaining the truncated conical base in assembled formation.

It will thus be seen from the foregoing description that I have provided a combined inflatable globe and support therefor that can be readily and easily assembled or disassembled and by reason of its simplicity can be manufactured and sold at a very low cost.

It can now be readily understood that I have produced a unique combination in that the globe and its stem 3 are supported wholly above the bottom edge of the base 5. It is important that the globe 2 and its stem 3 is supported above the lower edge of the base since this structural arrangement provides for upright stability of the combination.

The overlapping of the slitted portions of the base provides a double grip of the twisted stem 3 and thereby holds the stem most securely. In addition when the sheet material of the truncated cone is of resilient material the slitted portions engaging the twisted stem will tend to produce a shearing tendency to further enhance the gripping and holding action of the stem.

The sheet material truncated cone retains the globe in a desired position and the twisted stem of the globe retains the formed or shaped condition of the truncated cone.

Not only can the present device be used as an educational device but can be used as a novel toy as well as employed for displaying suitable advertising indicia that may be carried by the inflatable globe and/or the supporting base.

While I have shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that various changes in the size, shape and arrangement of parts may be resorted to, without departing from the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In combination with an inflatable member having a twisted stem, a truncated conical supporting base for said inflatable member, said base being provided with means located above the lower edge of the base and coacting with the twisted stem of the inflated member to support and retain the latter in its inflated condition, and simultaneously hold the base in assembled truncated conical form, said base being formed from a circular disk of flexible material formed with a central opening and a radial slit extending from the central opening to the outer edge of the disk and a pair of stem pinching registering slits formed in said disk.

2. In combination with an inflatable globe having a twisted stem, a hollow truncated conical base for supporting the inflatable globe, said base having registering radial slits in which the twisted stem of the inflatable globe is pinched for maintaining the globe inflated said stem being located above the lower edge of the hollow base.

3. In combination with an inflatable globe having a twisted stem, a truncated conical base of sheet material for supporting the inflatable globe, said base having registering radial slits in which the twisted stem of the inflatable globe is pinched for maintaining the globe inflated, and for simultaneously holding the base in assembled form

said stem being located above the lower edge of said base.

4. In combination with an inflatable globe having a twisted stem, a hollow truncated conical base for supporting the inflatable globe, said base being formed from a single blank of flexible sheet material, the blank having a central opening, and a slit extending radially from the central opening to the outer edge of the blank, said blank having additional short radial slits on opposite sides of the aforementioned radial slit disposed in registration with one another when the blank is manipulated to form the truncated cone, said twisted stem being disposed through the central opening in the base and pinched in the registering slits for simultaneously keeping the globe inflated and holding the base in assembled form and securing the inflated globe on said base said stem being located above the lower edge of the base.

5. In combination with an inflatable member having a twisted stem, a truncated conical base for supporting the inflatable member and its stem above the lower edge of the base, said base being formed from a single blank of flexible material, the blank being of circular configuration and having a central opening and a slit extending radially from the central opening to the outer edge of the blank, said slit forming edge portions which overlap when the blank is manipulated to form a truncated cone, said blank having additional short radial slits arranged on opposite sides of the first mentioned radial slit, said last mentioned short radial slits adapted to be disposed in overlapping registration with one another when the blank is in truncated cone formation, the twisted stem being disposed through the central opening in the truncated cone and pinched in the registering slits for simultaneously keeping the member inflated and holding the base in assembled form and securing the inflated member over the central opening in the base.

6. In combination with an inflatable member having a twisted stem, a truncated conical base for supporting the inflatable member and its stem above the lower edge of the base, said base being formed from a single blank of flexible material, the blank being of circular configuration and having a central opening and a slit extending radially from the central opening to the outer edge of the blank, said slit forming edge portions which overlap when the blank is manipulated to form a truncated cone, said blank having additional smaller circular openings arranged on opposite sides of the radial slit, said blank also having additional shorter radial slits that extend from the respective smaller openings to a point adjacent the central opening, said smaller openings and the shorter radial slits adapted to be disposed in registering overlapping relation with one another respectively, when the blank is in truncated cone formation, the twisted stem being disposed downwardly through the central opening in the truncated cone and upwardly through the registering smaller openings and pinched in the registering shorter radial slits, for simultaneously keeping the member inflated and holding the base in assembled form and securing the inflated member for rest over the central opening in the base.

7. A base for an inflated globe having a twisted stem, said base comprising a single blank of flexible material, the blank being of circular configuration and having a central opening and a slit extending substantially radially from the

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central opening to and through the outer edge of the blank, said slit forming edge portions which overlap when the blank is manipulated to form a truncated cone, said blank having additional smaller openings arranged on opposite sides of the radial slit, said blank also having additional shorter substantially radial slits that extend from the respective smaller openings to a point adjacent the central opening, said smaller openings and the shorter radial slits adapted to be disposed in registering overlapping relation with one another respectively, when the blank is in truncated cone formation.

8. A base constituting a support comprising a truncated cone, said base being formed from a single blank of flexible sheet material, said blank being of circular configuration and having a central opening and a slit extending substantially radially from the central opening to and through the outer edge of the blank, said slit forming edge portions which overlap when the blank is manipulated to form a truncated cone, said blank having additional short radial slits arranged on opposite sides of the first mentioned radial slit, said short radial slits being adapted to be disposed in overlapping registration with one another when the blank is in truncated cone formation, said short radial slits constituting double pinching means.

9. A base constituting a support comprising a truncated cone, said base being formed from a

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single blank of flexible sheet material, said blank being of circular configuration and having a central opening and a slit extending substantially radially from the central opening to and through the outer edge of the blank, said slit forming edge portions which overlap when the blank is manipulated to form a truncated cone, said blank having in addition two short radial slits arranged on opposite sides of the first mentioned radial slit and extending inwardly through the outer edge of the blank toward its central opening, said short radial slits being adapted to be disposed in overlapping registration with one another when the blank is in truncated cone formation, said short radial slits constituting double pinching means.

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