

H. W. FRANKLIN.
 INFLATABLE TOY.
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1,413,978.

Patented Apr. 25, 1922.

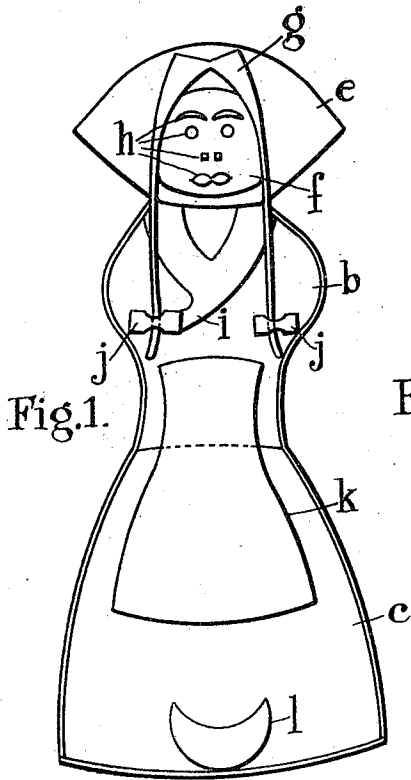


Fig. 1.

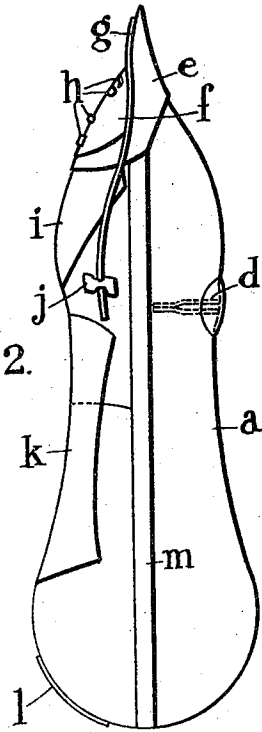


Fig. 2.

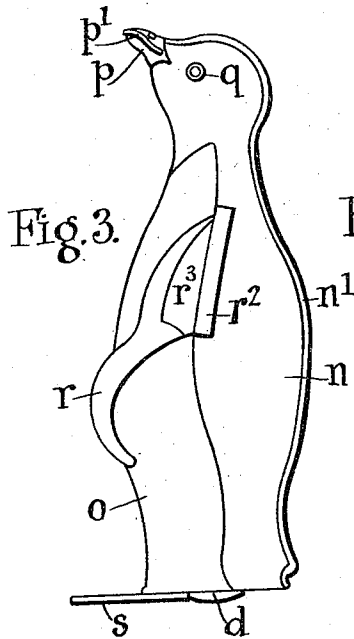


Fig. 3.

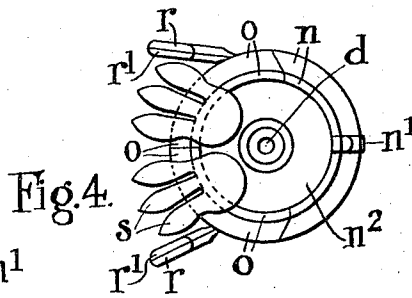


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5. d

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INFLATABLE TOY.

1,413,978.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD WILLIAM FRANKLIN, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at 17 Colvestone Crescent, Dalston, London, E. 8, England, have invented a new and useful Inflatable Toy, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to that kind of toy which is made of india rubber and inflated. Such toys have hitherto been made by dipping a mould and are very thin and unsuitable for use by young children as they are very readily punctured, and if coloured, they are the same colour all over, or are painted, and the paint either washes or wears off.

The object of the present invention is to produce an inflatable toy which is sufficiently strong for rough use and one on which the colours are permanent even if the toy be used in a bath.

According to the present invention, sheets of coloured rubber compound are stamped or otherwise cut to the required shapes to produce the toy.

Two or more of these sheets are cemented together to produce an air chamber having the desired shape such as what is known as a golliwog, an animal, bird or reptile. To the chamber thus formed are then cemented strips or other shaped pieces, stamped or cut from sheets of coloured rubber compound to represent for instance, eyes, lips, a collar, arms, buttons, and trousers or legs. An extra thick piece may be employed for the nose.

The larger shaped pieces of rubber thus cemented to the under layers, strengthen the toy.

To strengthen the seams, strips of coloured rubber compound may be applied thereto.

Such a toy is provided with a non-return valve made of rubber of known construction which is practically flush with the outer surface and which may be readily opened to release the air contained in the toy when it is desired to pack the toy away.

All the parts are suitably vulcanized or cured.

In the coloured sheets employed, the colour penetrates throughout the mass and is waterproof.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which Fig. 1 is a front

elevation of a doll and Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a toy representing a penguin and Fig. 4 is an underside view of the same.

Fig. 5 is a section of a valve.

The inflatable doll shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is made from three sheets of rubber *a*, *b*, and *c* which form the air chamber. *a* is a single sheet of rubber which may be green and which forms the back of the air chamber. *b* is a yellow sheet of rubber which is joined to the sheet *c* which may be blue. The sheets *b* and *c* together form the front of the air chamber. The sheet *a* is provided with a non-return valve *d* made of rubber of the kind shown in Fig. 5. It consists of a rubber tube *d* which is flattened at its inner end so that the two sides of the flattened portion are permanently in contact except when they are opened by air entering the toy or when the flattened sides are removed from contact with each other by inserting a rod for the purpose of deflating the toy.

At the upper part a sheet *e* of white rubber representing a head dress is cemented to the air chamber, and on this white rubber *e* is cemented a sheet of pink rubber *f* to represent the face. The hair is represented by pieces of black rubber *g*. The eyebrows, eyes, nostrils, and lips are represented by suitably shaped pieces of coloured rubber marked *h* which are cemented to the pink sheet *f*.

A trimming around the neck is represented by a piece of blue rubber *i* and the bows on the hair may be pieces of red rubber marked *j*.

The apron is a sheet of white rubber *k* which is cemented partly on the sheet *b* and partly on the sheet *c*. The wooden shoes are represented by the black piece of rubber *l*.

The larger pieces of rubber *e*, *f*, *g*, *i*, and *k*, greatly strengthen the air chamber which latter being made of sheet rubber is much stronger than the very thin air chambers hitherto used and made in a single piece by dipping a mould. The air chamber is further strengthened at the seams by the strips *m*.

The inflatable toy shown in Figs. 3 and 4 represents a penguin and the air chamber is made from two sheets of dark grey or black rubber *n* and two sheets of white rubber *o*

joined down the centre lines of the front and back. A strengthening strip n^1 is employed over the top and down the back but the white sheets o are merely overlapped. The sheets n and o are fastened at their lower parts to a stiffer base n^2 having a valve d similar to that shown in Fig. 5. The beak is made by a piece of yellow rubber p which is wrapped around the upper part of the air chamber.

10 The opening in the beak is indicated by a strip of black rubber p^1 , and the eye q is made of an under layer of yellow rubber with an upper central piece of black rubber. The wings are separate air chambers each made of two

15 pieces of rubber, the outer sheets r being dark grey or black, and the inner sheets r^1 being white. These sheets are cemented together at their upper ends at r^3 to close the air

20 inflatable air chamber. A strengthening strip r^2 is employed to connect each wing to the inflatable chamber. The feet s are made from separate pieces of thick sheet rubber which are cemented to the lower face of the

25 base n^2 .

What I claim as my invention is:

1. An inflatable india rubber toy having an air chamber made from sheets of rubber compound cemented together, other sheets

of different colored rubber compound ce- 30
mented onto the air chamber to strengthen the same and indicate various parts of the toy and a non-return air valve practically flush with the outer surface of the toy, sub- 35
stantially as set forth.

2. An inflatable india rubber toy having an air chamber made from sheets of rubber compound cemented together and cemented onto a stiffer base made of india rubber, other sheets of different colored rubber compound 40
cemented onto the air chamber to strengthen the same and indicate various parts of the toy and a non-return air valve practically flush with the outer surface of the toy, sub- 45
stantially as set forth.

3. An inflatable india rubber toy having an air chamber made from sheets of rubber compound cemented together, other sheets of different colored rubber compound cemented onto the air chamber to strengthen the same 50
and indicate various parts of the toy and a non-return air valve practically flush with the outer surface of the toy consisting of a rubber tube which is flattened at its inner end so that the two sides of the flattened por- 55
tion are in contact, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have set my hand.
HOWARD WILLIAM FRANKLIN.