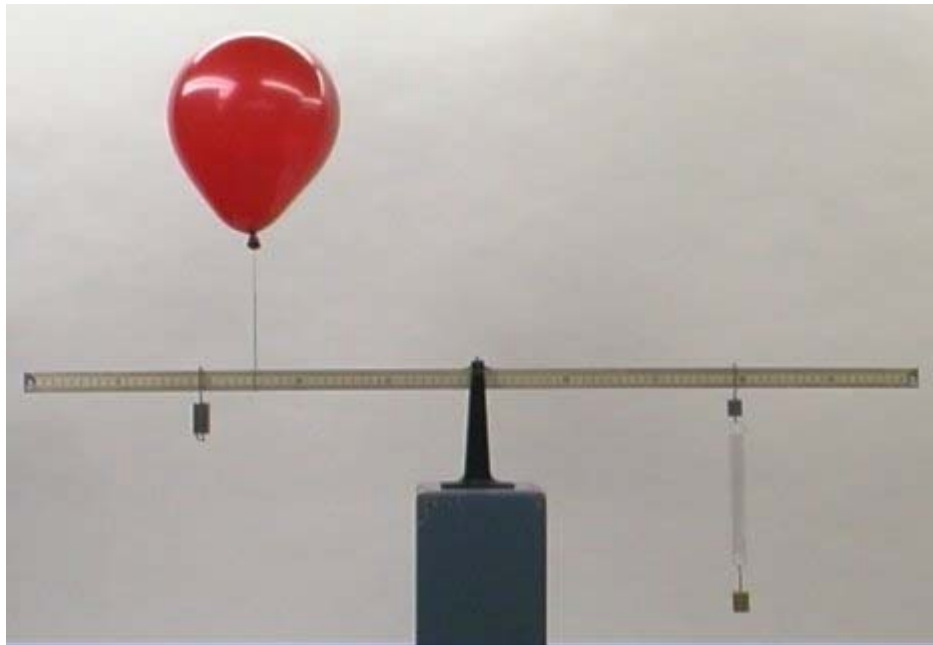


## Answer #240

The answer is (b) the left side of the meter stick will go down, as can be seen in an mpeg video by clicking your mouse on the photograph below.



When the string is burned, the upward buoyant force of the balloon is removed from the left side, leaving a net torque downward on the left side, so the left side will go down.

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For questions and comments regarding the *Question of the Week* contact [Dr. Richard E. Berg](#) by e-mail or using phone number or regular mail address given on the [Lecture-Demonstration Home Page](#).