This invention relates to shower curtain supports and more particularly to a shower curtain support which is rotatable in order to raise or lower the shower curtain and to change the lateral position of the curtain with respect to a bath tub over which the shower curtains usually are supported in homes.

It has been noted that with the use of a fixed shower curtain rod the curtain is usually supported over the center of the edge of a bath tub so that the curtain may hang within the tub or outside accordingly whether the shower is in use or not. In order that, when the curtain is hanging outside the tub, the curtain and bathroom will have a pleasing appearance it is customary to have the curtain of sufficient length to cover the entire height of the bath tub. While this purpose is accomplished, when the curtain is used inside the tub the lower end of the curtain will lie in any water in the tub and soap and other film adheres to the lower end of the curtain. Also when the curtain is wet, it adheres to the side, either inside or outside, of the tub, which greatly delays the lower adhering end of the curtain from drying and in many cases this causes the lower end of the curtain to become mildewed, causing an unpleasant appearance and deterioration of the curtain.

It is an object of this invention to provide an adjustable shower curtain support whereby a curtain of a length to cover the outside of the tub may be used and so supported that when the support is rotated the curtain will be supported within the tub above the water in the tub and yet below the upper edge of the tub.

Another object of this invention is to provide a rotatable shower curtain support whereby the curtain is supported away from the side of the bath tub, either inside or outside, so that the lower end of the curtain will dry quickly, thus preventing mildew and lengthening the useful life of the curtain.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a rotatable shower curtain support by which the curtain may be selectively positioned laterally and vertically within the limits of the radius of rotation of the support, and means for holding the support at the selected position.

To the foregoing objects, and others which may hereinafter more fully appear, the invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be more specifically referred to and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, but it is to be understood that changes, variations, and modifications may be resorted to which fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

In the drawings:
Figure 1 is an end elevation, partly in section, of a curtain support constructed according to an embodiment of my invention,
Figure 2 is a vertical section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1,
Figure 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2,
Figure 4 is a detail plan view of a base of the support,
Figure 5 is an end elevation, partly in section, of a modification of the support,
Figure 6 is a fragmentary top plan view of the support in Figure 5,
Figure 7 is a top plan view of a second modification of the support,
Figure 8 is a section on the line 8—8 of Figure 7,

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 10 designates generally a bath tub, above which the shower curtain 11 is supported. The curtain 11 is fixed by any conventional means to a curtain rod or supporting bar 12, which is removably attached to a pair of correlated curtain rod supports generally designated as 13 and 14.

The curtain rod support 13 is constructed with a circular base or plate 15 which is formed with countersunk openings 16 in which bolts 20 are adapted to be secured to fasten the plate 15 to a wall or other supporting element. The plate 15 is formed with an annular opening 17 at the center thereof through which a pivot bolt 18 is adapted to engage the plate and the wall.

One end of a lever or arm 19 loosely engages about the shank of the bolt 16 so that the arm 19 is free to swing about the bolt 18 and is held on the bolt 18 between the head of the bolt 18 and the plate 15. A plunger housing 20 is fixed on the arm 19 within the radius of the plate 15 and supports a lock or plunger 21 which is slidable in the housing 20, and extends through one end of the housing and from the arm 19, so as to engage in one of the openings 22 in the plate 15, thereby locking the arm 19 in that selected position. A rod 23 extends through the other end of the housing 20 and is fixed to the plunger 21. A handle 24 is fixed to the rod 23 whereby the plunger 21 may be pulled from a hole 22 and the arm 19 swung to another selected position. The spring 25, between the housing 20 and plunger 21 constantly urges the plunger 21 to the extended or locked position.

The openings 22 are located radially about the center of the plate 15. As shown three such openings 22 are provided whereby the arm 15 may be locked vertically, horizontally or at a sharp angle upwardly in inwardly.

A lug or projection 26 is fixed to the other end of the arm 15 and is fastened thereto by rivets 27 or other suitable fastening means.

The correlated support 14 is not made with the
locking members but is composed only of a base plate 28, fixed to a wall by recessed screws 29, a bolt 18 and an arm 30, one end of which arm 30 is loosely mounted on the bolt 18, and on the other end a lug 26 is fastened.

The curtain rod 12 is adapted to slide over the locking members fixed thereto by a pin 31 engageable through the rod 12 and lugs 26. In the use and operation of this device, the curtain rod 12 is attached to the lugs 26 by the pins 31 and then the curtain may be positioned as desired by pulling the handle 44 to unlock the arm 19 from the plate 18 and moving the arm 19 to the desired position. In the vertical down position as shown in full lines in Figure 1, the curtain will be hung nearly to the floor thus covering the outside of the tub 10. In the horizontal dotted position the curtain will be spaced outwardly from the tub 10 and up from the floor so the curtain may readily dry. In the third position, not shown, the curtain, as at 41, will be suspended within the tub 10 spaced from the bottom.

This type of curtain rod support is adaptable to new or original installations. In order to provide a device which may be used with presently installed shower curtain rods, I have shown a modification of this invention in Figures 5 and 6.

A split sleeve or clamp formed of correlated sections 40 and 41, having ears 40 are fixed together by bolts 42 and 43, about a fixed curtain rod 44. One of the bolts, as 43, is provided with a wing head 45 so the sections 40 and 41 may be tightened or loosened by an operator.

The guide rod 48 is provided with a tubular projection or boss 46 into which an arm 47 is fixed. A second or guide rod 48 is fixed to a pair of such arms 47. The shower curtain 11 is fixed to the curtain rod 44 by any conventional means and the guide rod 48 is adapted to press against the side of the curtain 11 near its upper edge to hold the curtain in the desired position. The rod 48 may be moved to the selected positions by loosening the bolt 45 and tightening it when the desired position is reached. The full line position as shown in Figure 5 corresponds to the dotted line position of Figure 1, in which the curtain is spaced from the tub for drying. The lower dotted line position of Figure 5 corresponds to the full line position of Figure 1, where the curtain is allowed to hang normally from the rod 44. The upper dotted lines of Figure 5 represent the third position of Figure 4,1, where the curtain 11a is inside the tube 10 and spaced upwardly from the bottom.

As a second modified form of this invention which may be readily adapted to presently existing shower curtain rods 44, I have shown another type in Figures 7, 8 and 9. There are provided, a pair of flat metal strips 50, one end 51 of each which is reverted so as to fit loosely about a shower curtain rod 44. The ends 51 are secured to the strips 50 by bolts. One strap 50 may be fastened with any ordinary bolt 52 so that this end will be loosely clamped about the rod 44. The other strap 50 is provided with a wing bolt 53 so this clamp may be tightened to fix the clamps in any desired position.

The outer ends of the strips 50 are bent around a guide rod 54 and are fastened thereto by any suitable fastening means as bolts 55 which pass through the strips 50 and the tube 54. The use and operation of this type of shower curtain support is the same as that shown in Figures 5 and 6.

The exact configuration illustrated is regarded as the optimum, but some of the desirable results inherent in this disclosure may be obtained by various slight modifications including some departure from the exact configuration shown, and it is therefore requested that the scope of the invention should be regarded as limited only by the terms of the claims.

What I claim is:

1. The combination of a bathtub having an upstanding side wall, and shower curtain support means including a fixed support extending upwardly and spaced apart from said wall, an end plate secured to each of said fixed supports above and in substantial vertical alignment with said side wall, pivot means on each of said plates, a lever arm rockably carried at one end thereof by each of said pivot means, a shower curtain rod supported at the opposite ends thereof by the other ends of said lever arms, a plurality of circumferentially spaced apart openings formed in at least one of said plates, one of said openings being disposed outwardly of and in horizontal alignment with said pivot means, another of said openings being disposed inwardly and above said pivot means, and a spring-pressed plunger carried by at least one of said lever arms and adapted to selectively engage said openings whereby said lever arms may be rotated outwardly to engage said plunger in said outwardly disposed opening for supporting a shower curtain on said rod in outwardly spaced relation to said side wall, and whereby said lever arms may be rotated inwardly to engage said plunger in said inwardly and upwardly disposed opening to support the lower end of a shower curtain depending from said rod in inwardly spaced and raised relation to said side wall.

2. The combination of a bathtub having an upstanding side wall, and a shower curtain support including a pair of plates fixed to a support in substantial vertical alignment with said side wall of said bathtub, a shower curtain rod, horizontally aligned bearing members carried by said plates, lever arms supporting said rod in said relation to said bearing members for circumferentially displaced thereabout, means including a spring-pressed plunger carried by one of said lever arms engageable in a selected one of a plurality of circumferentially spaced apart openings provided in said plates securing said rod in a selected one of a plurality of possible positions about said bearing members whereby the lower end of a shower curtain on said rod may be disposed within or without said side wall of said bathtub.

GEORGE G. PORTER.

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