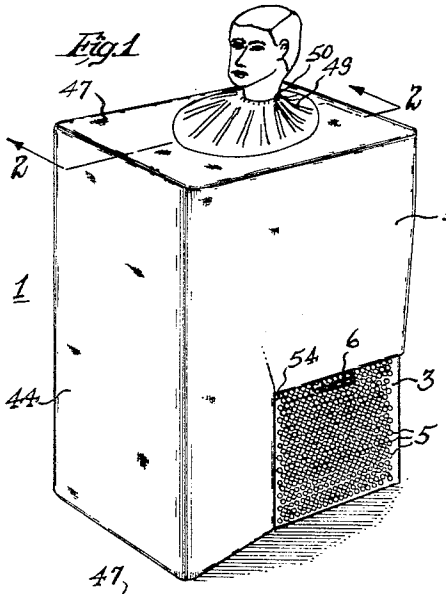
Oct. 24, 1933. G. A. SCHULTE 1,932,122

CABINET BATH

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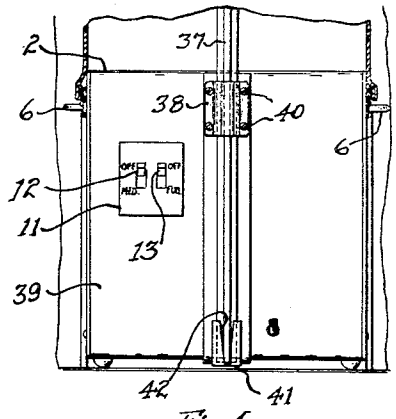


Fig. 4

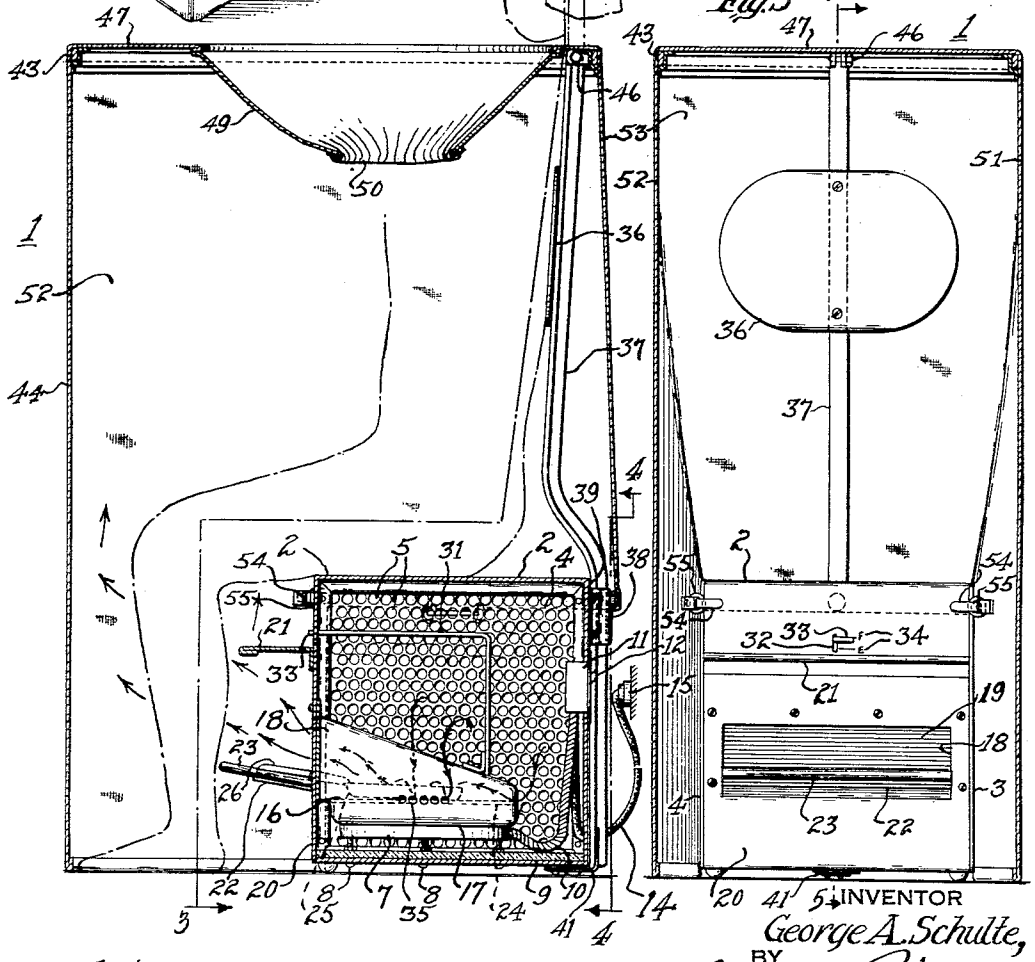


Fig. 2

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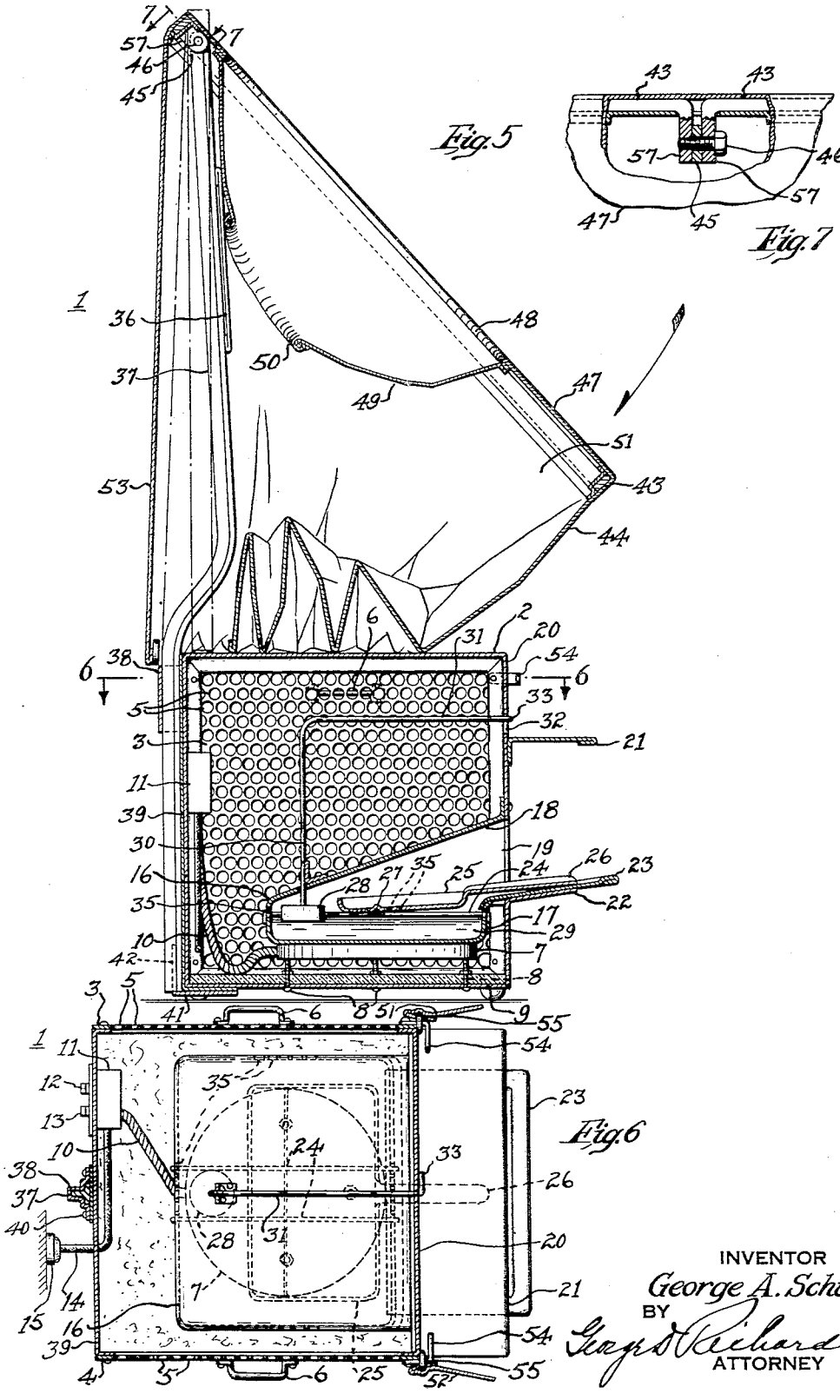


Fig. 5

Fig. 7

Fig. 6

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CABINET BATH

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7 Claims. (Cl. 4—164)

This invention relates, generally, to cabinet baths; and the invention has reference, more particularly, to a novel vapor cabinet bath.

Cabinet baths, as heretofore generally constructed, usually subject the body of the user to abnormally high temperatures exceeding that of the blood temperature of the body. Such high temperatures are objectionable because they cause weakening and enervation of the user and as a result such baths cannot generally be used by weak, feeble or old persons. Also, such baths usually employ merely water vapor as the main treating element, although some of these baths use mineral vapors along with the water vapor.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a novel cabinet bath which is especially adapted for home use, the said bath being designed to treat the body of the user with a mixture of water vapor, mineral vapor and air, the said cabinet bath being designed so as not to subject the body of the user to temperatures exceeding blood temperature.

Another object of the present invention lies in the provision of a novel cabinet bath which is of compact and simple design and which is readily portable, the same being suitable for use in a bath tub, if desired.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a novel cabinet bath of the above character which comprises a seat under which the vapors are generated for passage outwardly and upwardly between the calves and around the thighs of the user, the vapors being confined in the region of the user's body by a flexible cabinet.

Other objects of this invention, not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the same.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating the novel cabinet bath of this invention in use.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken substantially along line 2—2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken substantially along line 3—3 of Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a part sectional view taken along line 4—4 of Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view taken substantially along line 5—5 of Fig. 3, the flexible cabinet being illustrated as partly folded downwardly toward an out-of-the-way position.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary, sectional view taken substantially along line 6—6 of Fig. 5 but illustrates the flexible cabinet positioned as in use; and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged, fragmentary, part sectional view taken along line 7—7 of Fig. 5.

Similar characters of reference are employed in all of the above described views to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring now to said drawings, the reference numeral 1 designates the novel cabinet bath of this invention as a whole. Cabinet bath 1 comprises a seat in the form of a box 2, which box seat has side walls 3 and 4 provided with a plurality of perforations 5 for admitting air into the interior of the box seat. The sides 3 and 4 are illustrated as having handles 6 thereon to enable the easy carrying of the seat from place to place.

Contained within the lower portion of the box seat 2, there is provided a circular electric heating element 7 which is mounted as upon screws 8 that extend upwardly from an insulating bottom panel 9. The heating element 7 is adapted to be supplied with electric current by means of a cable 10 that connects with a switch box 11. The switch box 11 is illustrated as having two switches 12 and 13. Switch 12, when turned on, is adapted to cause the heating element 7 to give off a medium heat, whereas switch 13, when turned on, causes heating elements 7 to give off its full heat. Current is supplied to the switch box 11 as by a cable 14 having a base plug 15 attached thereto.

As especially shown in Figs. 2, 5, and 6, an evaporator 16 is contained within the interior of box seat 2 and the under-surface of this evaporator rests upon the top surface of heating element 7. The evaporator 16 is in the form of a metal container having a substantially rectangular pan portion 17 for holding water or a mixture of water and other liquid or liquids. The pan portion 17 is provided with a number of openings 35 in its front, rear and side walls just above the liquid level within this pan portion. The openings 35 permit the ingress of a desired quantity of air in use, such air passing initially inwardly through the perforations 5 in the side walls of cabinet box seat 2 and through openings 35 and into the interior of evaporator 16. Above the pan portion 17, the evaporator 16 extends upwardly and forwardly to provide a delivery flue 18 having a discharge opening 19 at the front of the seat 2. The flue 18 serves to conduct vapors generated in evaporoator 16 upwardly and forwardly into the region of the calves and thighs of the user. The front wall 20 of the seat 2 is illustrated as provided with forwardly projecting panels or fins 21 and 22. The panel 21 extends substantially the full width of seat 2 and aids in conducting the vapors, emitted from the evaporator, forwardly and upon the calves of the user. The panel 22 extends the width of the discharge opening 19 and is slightly upwardly inclined.

A tray or panel 23 is attached to the forward upper part of pan portion 17 of the evaporator

and extends forwardly over the panel 22, the said tray 23 projecting beyond the panel 22 and also serving to aid in suitably directing the vapors forwardly and upwardly from the evaporator. A pair of spaced rods 24 extend within the upper part of pan portion 17 of the evaporator and have their ends secured to the front and rear walls of this pan portion. Rods 24 are adapted to support a mineral pan 25 which is of substantially rectangular shape in plan and has a handle 26 which projects outwardly through opening 19. Pan 25 is illustrated as provided with an upwardly directed bead or transverse dividing ridge 27 which serves to divide the interior of the pan 25 into suitable compartments which are intended to receive suitable minerals and oils used in the treatment of various diseases.

A float 28 is adapted to float upon the surface of the liquid 29 within the pan portion 17 of the evaporator. A rod 30 extends upwardly from the float 28 and has an upper forwardly directed portion 31 which projects through a vertical slot 32 provided in the front wall 20 of the box seat. The outer free end of forwardly directed portion 31 is bent over as at 33 for cooperating with legends or indicia 34 provided on the front wall 20. As the liquid 29 within pan portion 17 evaporates, the float 28 will move downwardly, thereby causing rod 30 to also move downwardly so that the end portion 33 will indicate a corresponding decrease in the amount of liquid in the evaporator. When the evaporator pan portion 17 is filled, the end portion 33 of rod 30 will be opposite the full mark "F" and when the pan portion 17 is empty, this rod end portion will have descended to the empty mark "E".

The box seat 2 is provided with a back rest 36 which is attached to a substantially vertically extending rod 37 of T cross section. The rod 37 is removable and is adapted to have its lower end portion pass downwardly through a comforming bracket 38 secured to the upper portion of the rear wall 39 of box seat 2 as by screws 40. An additional plate bracket 41 is provided at the bottom of box seat 2, which plate bracket has an upwardly directed portion, spaced slightly from the rear wall 39 and provided with a V-groove 42 into which the web of rod 37 is adapted to project. This rod is removably secured in vertical position by bracket 38 and plate bracket 41.

A substantially rectangular metallic frame 43 serves as a support for a collapsible cabinet 44 and is hingedly mounted upon the upper end of the rod 37. The frame 43 is provided with two opposed and slightly spaced inwardly directed end portions 57 (see Fig. 5), which end portions lie at opposite sides of the upper end portion 45 of rod 37. A hinge screw 46 extends through an aperture provided in one of the offset frame end portions 57, through an aperture provided in rod end portion 45 and is threaded into the other frame end portion 57. By tightening screw 46, the frame 43 may be held in any angular position desired, with respect to this hinge screw 46.

The flexible cabinet 44 is preferably made of suitable waterproof material, such as rubberized fabric. This cabinet has a top surface 47 which is stretched across the frame 43 and has a central opening 48 therein, to the marginal edge of which opening is attached a flexible neck-piece 49, which neck-piece has a neck-opening 50 therein. Opening 50 may be readily expanded, owing to the flexible nature of neck-piece 49, for passing over the head of the user to encircle his neck in use, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The full width of the front wall of the flexible cabinet 44 extends from the frame 43 down to the floor, whereas the two side walls 51 and 52 and the rear wall 53 have their lower edges cut away so as to conform to the peripheral edge portions of box seat 2.

This box seat is provided with two brackets or clips 54 at the front thereof, which clips are adapted to be engaged by rings 55 secured to the side walls 51 and 52 of the flexible cabinet adjacent the forward upper edge of the box seat 2. With the clips 54 positioned at the front upper portion of box seat 2, these clips are readily accessible to the user so that he may attach the sides of the flexible cabinet in place as he sits on the seat 2. Also, when through using the device, he merely has to detach the rings 55 from the clips 54, whereupon the cabinet is released from the seat 2 and the whole cabinet, including frame 43, may be swung upwardly into the dot and dash line, out-of-the-way position, shown in Fig. 2. Also, when it is desired to fold the novel cabinet bath of this invention into a compact space, as when shipping, the frame 43 may be folded downwardly, as illustrated in Fig. 5. In this way, the frame 43 and the flexible cabinet may be folded flat against the rod 37, thereby making the device very compact. If desired, this rod may be removed from the seat 2 and shipped separately.

In operation, the user pours water or a combination of water and other liquids, if desired, in the pan portion 17 of the evaporator 16 and places the desired minerals and oils in the pan 25. He then turns on one of the switches 12 or 13, depending upon what temperature of bath he desires to take. Even with the full heat switch 13 turned on, however, the temperature of the bath never exceeds that of blood temperature. This is due to the design of the heater element 7 which is made of such capacity as to retain the temperature within the cabinet 44 at all times below blood temperature. The user then sits upon the seat 2 and inserts his head through opening 50 of neck piece 49. He then drops the cabinet down, as illustrated in Fig. 1, and engages the rings 55 over the clips 54, thereby drawing the lower rear edge portion of the cabinet snug about the upper peripheral surfaces of the rear wall and side walls of the box seat 2, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

The heat from the heater element 7 serves to evaporate the water in pan portion 17, the vapors of which water pass over the oils and minerals within pan 25, thereby abstracting the desirable constituents of these minerals and oils and carrying the same to the body of the user. The heat of the water within pan 17 also serves to warm up the minerals and oils from below, thereby aiding in the evaporation of the desirable volatile constituents of these substances. A desired quantity of air will pass inwardly through apertures 5 of cabinet seat 2, through apertures 35 of the evaporator 16, which air intermingles with the volatile constituents of the evaporator, thereby forming a gaseous mixture that passes upwardly for treating the body of the user. Thus, the user receives an intermixture of water vapor, air and the volatile constituents of the oil and minerals. Practice has shown that this type of treatment produces the most desirable results for asthma, arthritis, rheumatics, sinus trouble, skin infections, insomnia, colds and other ailments.

Owing to the design of the novel cabinet bath of this invention, whereby a desired volatilization of the oils and minerals used takes place without the temperature within the bath exceeding normal blood temperature, the bath is very beneficial for all persons regardless of physical condition. The warm comfortable heat of the mineralized vapors causes a gradual opening of the skin pores, permitting the sweat glands to drive from the body any accumulation of poisonous waste. The blood starts to circulate freely to all parts of the body, purifying itself and absorbing such of the elements as it requires. The lungs and respiratory tract are cleansed and purified, while the entire body and nerve system is completely relaxed.

If desired, the user may insert his head into the cabinet, in which event the aperture 50 rests on top of his head. In this way, the user may obtain a scalp and facial treatment as well as treatment through inhalation for the respiratory tract.

A suitable foot rest may be attached to the front wall of box seat 2 for holding the user's feet on a level with the discharge opening 19, where the cabinet is used for foot treatment.

As many changes could be made in the above construction and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, as defined by the following claims, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

What is claimed is:

1. In a cabinet bath of the character described, a seat, an evaporator positioned under said seat, said evaporator having a lower pan portion for receiving liquid, a removable pan arranged to be positioned in said evaporator and adapted for holding minerals and oils, the heat from said lower pan portion serving to volatilize the volatile constituents of said minerals and oils, said evaporator having discharge means positioned under said seat for discharging vapors upon the calves and thighs of the user, a heater element cooperating with said evaporator for heating the contents thereof, a back rest support attached to the rear portion of said seat, and a flexible cabinet mounted at the upper part of said back rest support.

2. In a cabinet bath of the character described, a seat in the form of a box having perforations in the walls thereof, an evaporator contained within the interior of said seat, said evaporator having a discharge mouth at the front of said seat, said evaporator having apertures in the walls thereof, whereby air entering through the apertures of said seat may pass inwardly through the apertures in the side walls of said evaporator for intermixing with the vapors therein in use, a heater element contained within said seat immediately below said evaporator, a back rest support attached to the rear of said seat and a flexible cabinet adjustably mounted upon the upper portion of said back rest support.

3. In a cabinet bath of the character described, a seat in the form of a box, an evaporator contained within the interior of said seat, said evaporator having a discharge mouth at the front of said seat, means on said seat for deflecting the vapors from said evaporator onto the calves and thighs of the user, a removable pan contained within said evaporator for holding minerals and oils, a heater element positioned below said evaporator for heating the contents thereof, a back rest support secured to the rear portion of said seat, a flexible cabinet having a frame member hingedly mounted upon the upper portion of said back rest support, means for securing said cabinet frame member in desired adjusted angular position, and means accessible to the user for fastening the lower portion of said flexible cabinet to said box seat in use.

4. In a cabinet bath of the character described, a seat in the form of a box, an evaporator contained within the interior of said seat and having a pan portion for receiving liquids, said evaporator having a discharge mouth at the front of said seat, means on said seat for deflecting the vapors from said evaporator onto the calves and thighs of the user, a removable pan contained within said evaporator for holding minerals and oils, means within said evaporator for supporting said removable pan so that the contents of said pan will not contact directly with liquid in said evaporator, a heater element positioned below said evaporator for heating the contents thereof, a back rest support secured to the rear portion of said seat, a flexible cabinet having a frame member hingedly mounted upon the upper portion of said back rest support, means for securing said cabinet frame member in desired adjusted angular position, and means accessible to the user for fastening the lower portion of said flexible cabinet to said box seat in use.

5. In a cabinet bath of the character described, a seat in the form of a box having perforations in the side walls thereof, an evaporator contained within the interior of said seat, said evaporator having a lower pan portion for receiving liquid and an upper flue portion for conducting vapors upwardly and forwardly to the front of said seat, said pan portion having apertures in the walls thereof, whereby air entering through the apertures in the side walls of said seat may pass inwardly through the apertures in said pan portion for intermixing with the vapors therein in use, a removable pan arranged to be positioned in said evaporator and adapted for holding minerals and oils, the heat within said evaporator in use serving to volatilize the volatile constituents of said minerals and oils, and a heater element contained within said seat immediately below said evaporator.

6. In a cabinet bath of the character described, a seat in the form of a box having perforations in the side walls thereof, an evaporator contained within the interior of said seat, said evaporator having a lower pan portion for receiving liquid and an upper flue portion for conducting vapors upwardly and forwardly to the front of said seat, said pan portion having apertures in the walls thereof, whereby air entering through the apertures in the side walls of said seat may pass inwardly through the apertures in said pan portion for intermixing with the vapors therein in use, a removable pan arranged to be positioned in said evaporator and adapted for holding minerals and oils, the heat within said evaporator in use serving to volatilize the volatile constituents of said minerals and oils, a heater element contained within said seat immediately below said evaporator, a back rest support attached to the rear of said seat, a flexible cabinet having a supporting frame hingedly mounted upon the upper portion of said back rest support, and means for holding

said frame in adjusted position about its hinged connection, said flexible cabinet having a top surface provided with an apertured flexible neckpiece adapted to fit around the neck of the user.

7. In a cabinet bath of the character described, a seat in the form of a box having perforations in the side walls thereof, an evaporator contained within the interior of said seat, said evaporator having a lower pan portion for receiving liquid and an upper flue portion for conducting vapors upwardly and forwardly to the front of said seat, said pan portion having apertures in the walls thereof, whereby air entering through the apertures in the side walls of said seat may pass inwardly through the apertures in said pan portion for intermixing with the vapors therein in use, a removable pan arranged to be positioned in said evaporator and adapted for holding minerals and oils, the heat within said evaporator in use serving to volatilize the volatile constituents of said minerals and oils, a heater element contained within said seat immediately below said evaporator, a back rest support attached to the rear of said seat, a flexible cabinet having a supporting frame hingedly mounted upon the upper portion of said back rest support, means for holding said frame in adjusted position about its hinged connection, said flexible cabinet having a top surface provided with an apertured flexible neckpiece adapted to fit around the neck of the user, said cabinet having side and rear walls cut out to conform to the peripheral contour of said box seat, and fastener means operable from said seat for attaching the lower portion of said cabinet to said seat.

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