April 3, 1928. 1,664,491

S. SIEGEL

COMBINED SHOWER CABINET AND TUB

Original Filed Feb. 16, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

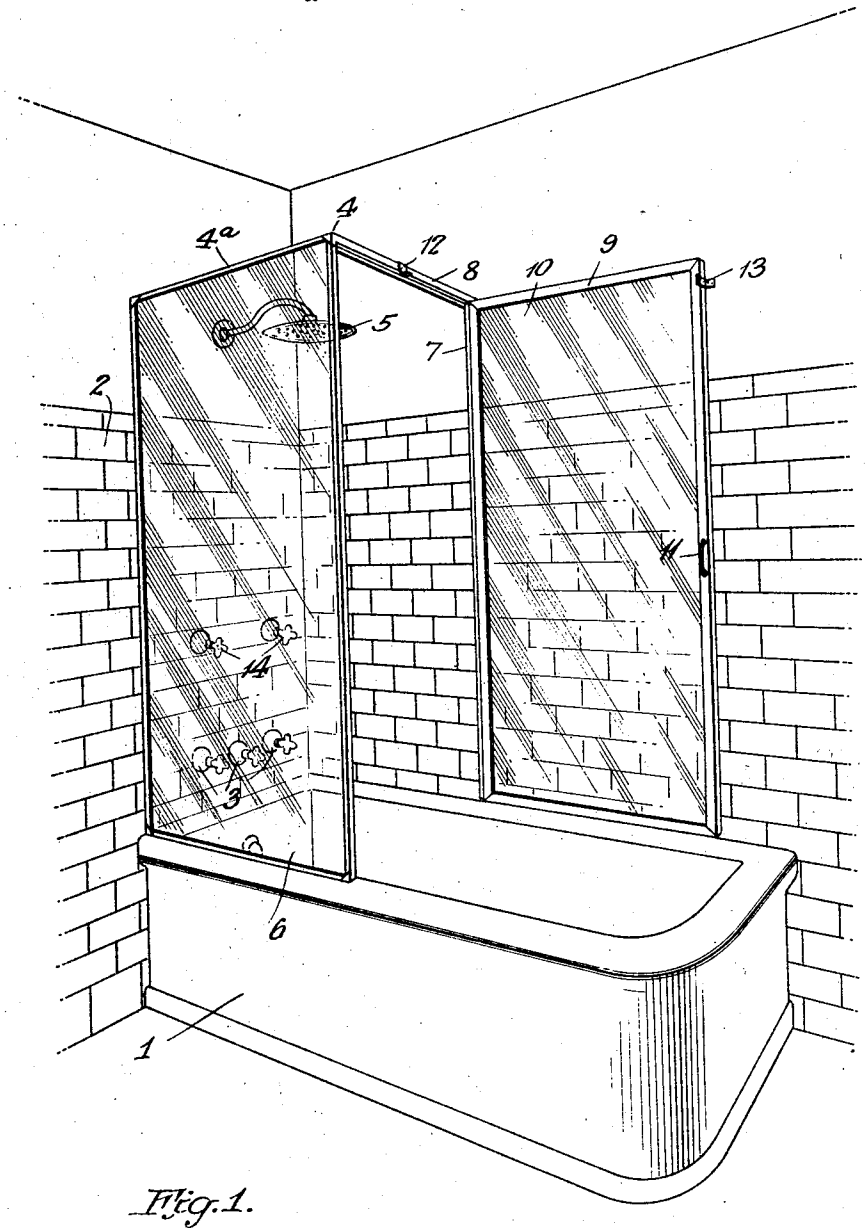

Fig. 1.

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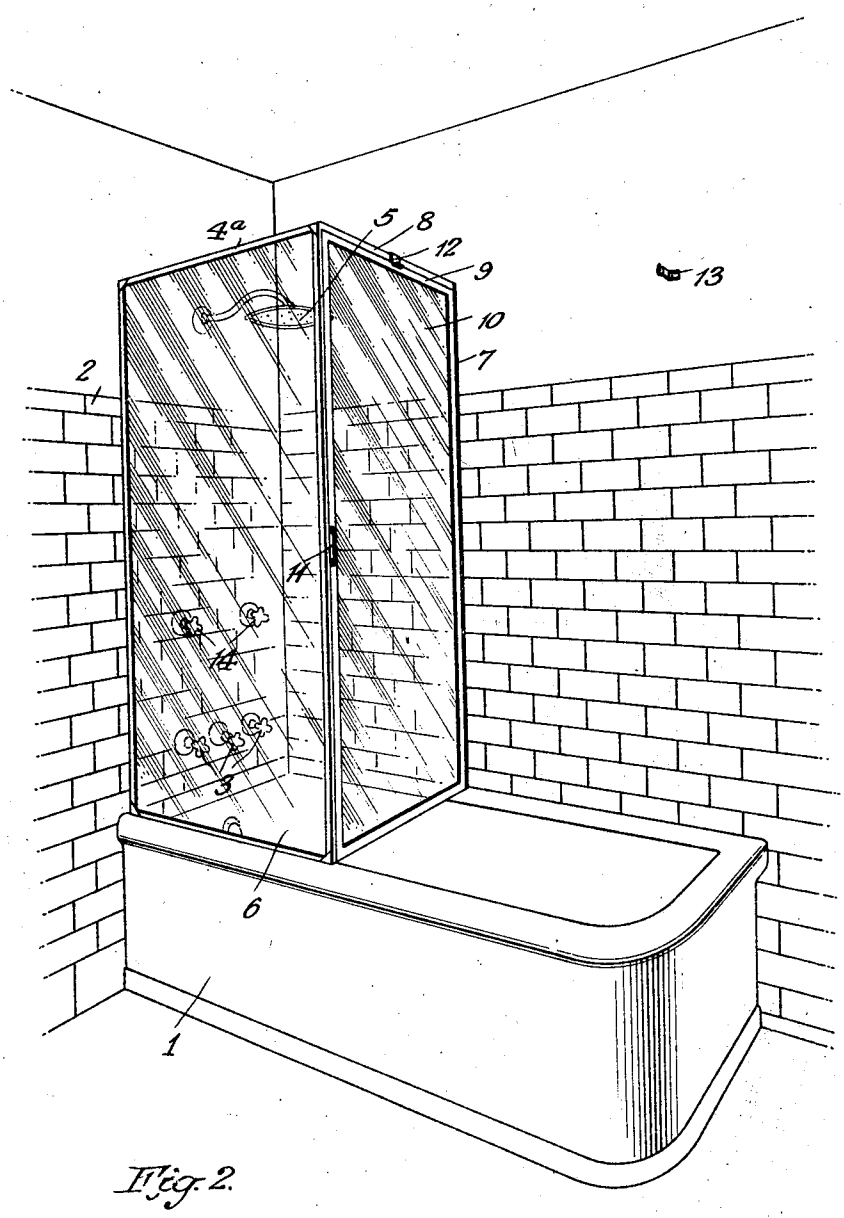

Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMBINED SHOWER CABINET AND TUB.

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This invention relates to constructions for bath rooms and particularly to combined shower bath cabinets and tubs. It has heretofore been proposed to support a curtain within a tub so as to provide a cabinet in which a shower is taken, with the tub acting as the drain pan for the shower cabinet. Such curtains are necessarily of opaque material and, therefore, do not transmit light. Inasmuch as such curtains fit rather closely around the person taking a shower, little light can enter through the open top. A person taking a shower in such a device is therefore more or less in the dark and cannot readily determine while within the cabinet, the degree of cleanliness obtained by the shower. Furthermore, more difficulty has been experienced in providing a satisfactory manner of closing the curtains, which will permit ready entrance and exit to the enclosure, and which will not allow escape of the water from the shower through the opening or entrance.

An object of this invention is to provide an improved construction for bath rooms which is convertible at will for use either as a shower bath cabinet or as an ordinary tub; which, when used as a shower bath cabinet, will be well illuminated in the interior by the usual lighting fixtures of the bath room; which will not interfere with the usual use of the tub alone for the taking of tub baths; and which will be simple, durable, attractive in appearance, and relatively inexpensive.

A further object is to provide a structure for accomplishing the above objects which may be readily formed by easily accomplished additions to present types of bath tubs.

Various other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description of an embodiment of the invention, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out hereinafter in connection with the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective of the interior of a bath room, having a combined shower cabinet and bath tub constructed in accordance with this invention, the structure being converted for use as an ordinary bath tub; and

Fig. 2 is a similar perspective with the structure converted for use as a shower cabinet.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating an embodiment of the invention, the bath tub 1 may be of any usual or ordinary type and, in the conditions illustrated, is fitted into one corner of a room having tiled side walls 2. The tub is provided with the usual or suitable stopper and water control valves 3, as usual in bath tub constructions.

A relatively rigid cabinet superstructure 4 is superposed upon one end portion of the tub and, preferably the base end, and inasmuch as the tub is fitted into a corner of the room, the two tiled side walls of the room may be utilized as two of the side walls of the cabinet superstructure. It will be understood, however, that all separate walls may be provided for the superstructure, if desired, as in cases where the walls of the room are not tiled, or where the tub does not fit closely to the walls of the room. This superstructure comprises a frame 4^a fitted upon the forward side edge of the tub, extending a short distance from the end wall of the room, and having a suitable height such as at approximately the height of the shower spray 5. This frame 4^a carries a glass or other transparent panel 6.

A frame strip 7 is secured along the other tiled wall at the rear side edge of the tub, and at its upper end is connected by a cross frame member 8 to the upper end of the forward upright post of the frame 4^a of the cabinet side wall, so as to form a door-opening having a width at least equal to the width of the tub and a height sufficient to permit a person in the tub to walk through the opening without stooping. A door 9 carrying a transparent or glass panel 10 is hinged to the vertical wall strip 7 so as to be movable into a position transversely across the tub to close the door opening of the superstructure. A flange 8^a, depending from the cross frame member 8 serves as a door stop to limit the closing movement of the door.

When the cabinet door is closed, the light from the usual lighting fixtures of the bath room may enter the cabinet through the transparent door and walls and thoroughly illuminate the cabinet interior as effectively as any other part of the bath room. The door frame is provided with handles 11 upon its inner and outer faces, by which it may be pulled closed by a person entering the cabinet or pulled or pushed open by a person leaving the cabinet.

A suitable spring catch 12 may be provided upon a suitable part of the super-

structure, such as upon the top cross member 8, to engage and hold the door in closed position. A suitable clip or latch 13 may also be provided upon the side wall of the room to engage with the door frame when the door is opened flat against the side wall, and hold the door in that position as shown in Fig. 1. The usual hot and cold water controlling valves 14 are provided above the valves 3 for controlling the supply and temperature of water passing through the shower spray nozzle 5 at the upper end of the superstructure.

In the use of the invention, when the door is opened flat against the side wall as shown in Fig. 1, the bath tub 1 is substantially unobstructed and may be used for tub baths, there being room for perfect freedom of movement at the head end of the tub where a person usually sits. The door will be held in this open condition by the latch 13. When one desires to take a shower bath, he enters the tub and passes into the cabinet superstructure, disengages the door from the latch 13 and pulls it into closed position across the tub as shown in Fig. 2, the door being held closed by the spring latch 12 or other equivalent means.

A shower bath may then be taken as in any cabinet and, inasmuch as the superstructure is of the full width of the tub, it will provide a maximum horizontal area for the cabinet interior, thus offering a maximum of freedom in movement for the person using the shower. The light from the usual room lighting fixtures will pass directly through the transparent door and side walls and thoroughly illuminate the interior of the cabinet, so that a person using the shower will be able to visually observe the effectiveness of the shower while within the cabinet.

The door will make a quickly operable and perfect closure for the cabinet, so that the spray will not spatter into the room, and at the same time ready ingress or egress from the cabinet will be possible. The construction, therefore, has all the advantages of a separate cabinet shower and of an ordinary tub, and occupies no more floor space than the ordinary tub. This advantage is particularly important in connection with small bath rooms where a minimum of floor space is available.

It will be obvious that various changes in the details, which have been herein described and illustrated in order to explain the nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art, within the principle and scope of the invention, as expressed in the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. A construction for bath rooms comprising a tub, a rigid shower cabinet superstructure provided upon one end portion of the tub and utilizing the tub as the drain pan therefor, a wall of the said superstructure extending across intermediate the ends of the tub to complete the shower bath cabinet and hingedly movable into an open position in which it extends along a side of the tub so as to permit of the normal use of the tub for a tub bath.

2. A construction for bath rooms comprising a bath tub, a superstructure including a rigid shower cabinet provided upon the tub across one end portion thereof and having a door opening in its cross wall intermediate the ends of the tub, and a door for said opening movable between a position in which it closes the door opening to complete the shower cabinet and another position in which it extends along a side of the tub so as to permit unrestricted use of the tub for a tub bath.

3. A construction for bath rooms comprising a bath tub, a rigid shower cabinet superstructure provided upon the tub across one end portion thereof and having a door opening in its cross wall intermediate the ends of the tub, and a door for said opening movable between a position in which it closes the door opening to complete the shower cabinet and another position in which it extends along a side of the tub so as to permit unrestricted use of the tub for a tub bath, said superstructure having transparent areas permitting the passage of light while confining the water to the cabinet.

4. A construction for bath rooms including a tub, a frame carried on said tub, said frame being formed of rectangular panels, a sheet of glass in all but one of said panels, said panel being incomplete at the bottom and free for passageway, and another glazed panel hinged to close and fill said passageway, and adapted when not in use to align itself with a wall of said tub to leave the tub free for use as a tub.

5. A construction for bath rooms including a tub, to be set in a corner, a frame carried on said tub, said frame being formed of rectangular metal panels, a sheet of glass in and filling all but one of said panels, said panel being incomplete at the bottom and free for passageway, and another glazed panel hinged to close and fill said passageway, and adapted when not in use to align itself with a wall of said tub, and contacting a wall of the room, to leave the tub free for use as a tub.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my signature.

SAMUEL SIEGEL.