Oct. 29, 1957 R. C. HAMILTON 2,810,914

INVALID BATHING DEVICE

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Fig. 1.

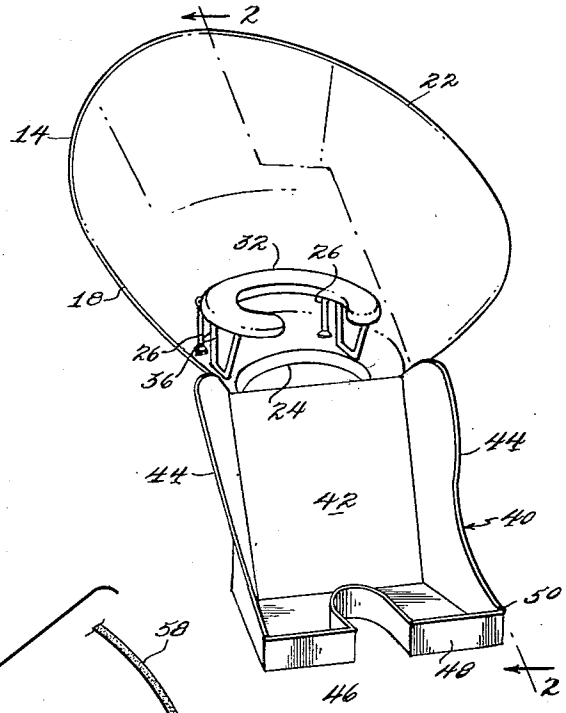
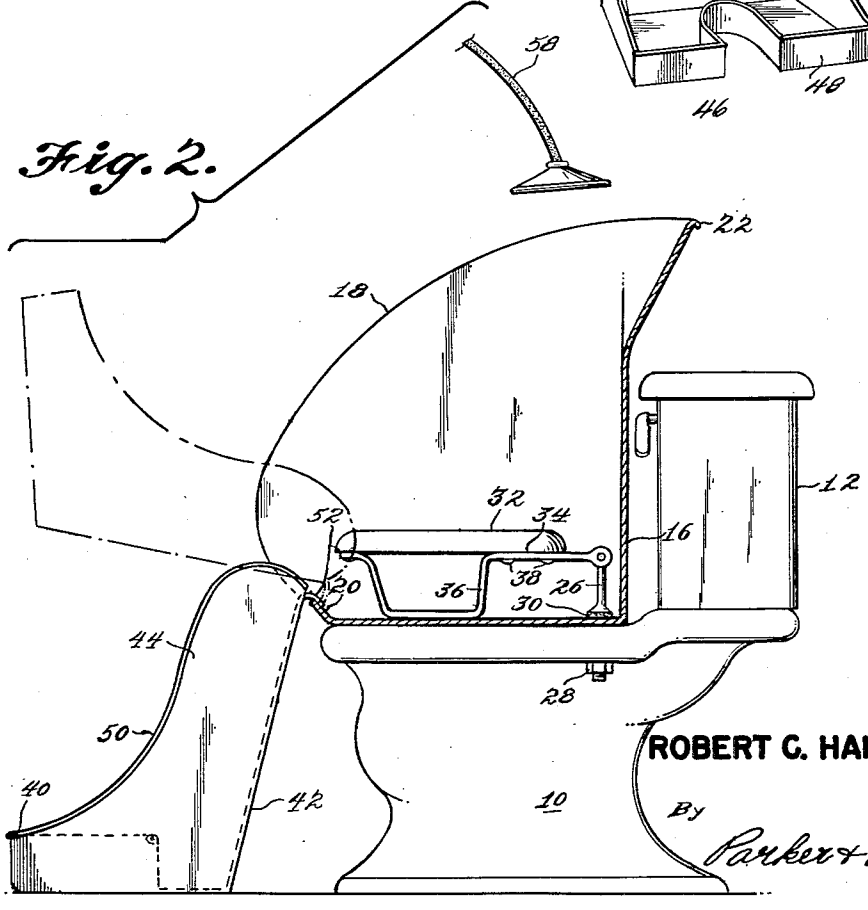


Fig. 2.



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INVALID BATHING DEVICE

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8 Claims. (Cl. 4—1)

This invention relates to a bathing attachment for a conventional toilet bowl to enable a semi-invalid to be bathed with less effort than with the conventional facilities.

The conventional bathing facilities are unsatisfactory for bathing semi-invalids for many reasons. In the case of the usual bathtub, the patient cannot either get in or out by himself. If assisted into the tub by an attendant it is very difficult for him to get out as it imposes a great physical strain upon the attendant to reach over the tub to help lift him; this is especially true of the recessed type tub that is now in extensive use. Sometimes an attempt is made to seat the patient on the side of the tub but generally this is quite unsafe unless two attendants assist in the bath, one to support the patient while the other one carries on the bathing operation. Ordinarily a shower is quite impossible as the patient is unable to stand. All of the foregoing expedients are also unsatisfactory because of the mess that is caused. In some cases a considerable amount of water is dripped on the floor and in every case the attendant's clothes are gotten so wet that they must be changed immediately afterwards.

The alternative to such a bath has heretofore been a bath in bed. This requires some special skill on the part of the attendant, considerable room around the bed for the attendant to work and is make-shift at best. What is frequently the worst consequence of the bath in bed is the bad physiological effect upon the patient who tends to feel that he is a hopeless bed-fast case. Thus his own recovery is delayed by the feeling of inferiority created.

This invention is directed to a simple and inexpensive device that can be attached to a conventional bathroom facility with little requirement for skill or effort. It does not interfere with the normal use of the facility and when the need for its use is past it can be removed without injury to the fixture.

For a fuller understanding of the invention attention is directed to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is an isometric view of the device as it is arranged for bathing, while

Figure 2 is a side elevation partly in section as indicated along the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

In the drawings reference numeral **10** refers to a conventional toilet bowl equipped with water tank **12**. Mounted on the flanges of the rim of the bowl is body pan **14** provided with a back **16** that is generally vertical up to the height of the water tank while above that it flares broadly outwards into sides **18**. The body pan has a front lip **20** and the whole pan has an outwardly rolled rim **22** smoothly finished to prevent injury to the portions of the body coming in contact with it. The pan has a center opening **24** generally conforming to the opening of the toilet bowl. It may be formed of polished rust resisting metal, reinforced molded plastic or conventional carbon steel finished in rust proof enamel.

The body pan **14** is secured to the toilet bowl **10** by means of bolt threaded hinge posts **26** which are substituted for the conventional hinge posts and secured by means of nuts **28**. To prevent leakage of water around the hinge posts **26** gaskets **30** are provided. The seat **32** is supported well above the bottom of the pan **14** by means of hinge leaves **34** having off-set bows **36** to support the sides of the seat. The seat **32** is secured to the hinge leaves **34** by conventional rivets or bolts **38**.

The foot pan **40** is arranged in front of the body pan **14** having a back **42** with flaring sides **44**, a foot tray **46** with front wall **48** to hold drained water. The foot pan **40** also has a slightly rounded rim **50** and at the upper back a rearwardly turned lip **52** cooperating with the front lip **20** of the body pan **14**.

During the bathing process the foot pan **40** is placed in engagement with the body pan **14** and the tray at the base of the foot pan will catch water running down into it. At the conclusion of the bathing operation the water that has accumulated in the tray may be easily emptied by raising the foot pan to the position shown in dash lines in Figure 2 so that the water can run out of the foot pan into the opening **24** and thus be drained away. The foot pan can then be placed to one side out of the way and thus will not interfere with the normal use of the fixture.

During the bathing operation the attendant may either hold in one hand a suitable pan of water for the bathing operation or if desired a shower head **58** may be provided for supplying water in the usual manner.

It will be observed that there is sufficient room around the outer rim of the pans including foot space for the attendant to move freely about the patient to conduct the bathing operation while at the same time there is sufficient room within the flaring sides of the pans for the attendant's hands to be moved to any part of the patient's body for the bathing operation. The attendant is largely protected from water splashing and can conduct the task with comfort and convenience. The seat is sufficiently raised so that the bathing operations can be conducted around it and this arrangement also facilitates the use of the apparatus for irrigation also if that is desired.

It will thus be seen that the present invention provides an improved and economical apparatus adding to the comfort and convenience of the users thereof and while the invention has been specifically described and exemplified herein, this should not be construed in a limiting sense since the breadth and scope of the invention are as defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section being formed as a pan, the rim thereof ranging, at the back, from high and outwardly flaring to low at the front, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally to the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, additional openings in the base of the pan corresponding to the conventional seat bolt holes of the toilet bowl whereby the pan may be bolted to the toilet bowl rim and bolt means for securing the pan to the rim.

2. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section being formed as a pan, the rim thereof ranging, at the back, from high and outwardly flaring to low at the front, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally to the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, a foot-and-leg section including a shallow foot receiving pan having the rear portion elongated to leg height, the upper rim being outwardly turned to overlie the front rim of the body portion and means for securing the pan in position on said bowl rim.

3. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section having a base pan portion with high, wide-flaring back and side portions and a low front portion, the whole rim forming a smooth continuous curve, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, additional openings in the base of the pan corresponding to the conventional seat bolt holes of the toilet bowl whereby the pan may be bolted to the toilet bowl rim, a foot-and-leg section including a shallow foot receiving pan having the rear portion elongated to leg height, the upper rim being outwardly turned to overlie the front rim of the body portion and a seat provided with conventional hinged bolts, said bolts serving to secure the body portion of the toilet bowl.

4. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section being formed as a pan, the rim thereof ranging, at the back, from high and outwardly flaring to low at the front, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally to the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, additional openings in the base of the pan corresponding to the conventional seat bolt holes of the toilet bowl whereby the pan may be bolted to the toilet bowl rim and a seat provided with conventional hinged bolts, said bolts serving to secure the body portion of the toilet bowl.

5. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section being formed as a pan, the rim thereof ranging, at the back, from high and outwardly flaring to low at the front, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally to the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, additional openings in the base of the pan corresponding to the conventional seat bolt holes of the toilet bowl whereby the pan may be bolted to the toilet bowl rim, a seat provided with conventional hinged bolts, said bolts serving to secure the body portion of the toilet bowl and stilt means under said seat whereby the seat is elevated above the pan of the body portion sufficient to allow passage of a hand below said seat.

6. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section being formed as a pan, the rim thereof ranging, at the back, from high and outwardly flaring to low at the front, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally to the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, additional openings in the base of

the pan corresponding to the conventional seat bolt holes of the toilet bowl whereby the pan may be bolted to the toilet bowl rim, bolt means for securing the pan to the rim including flared bosses on said bolts, gasket means interposed between the bosses and the inner surface of the pan for sealing the pan against leakage, a foot-and-leg section including a shallow foot receiving pan having the rear portion elongated to leg height, the upper rim being outwardly turned to overlie the front rim of the body portion and sides of said foot section being extended forwardly and flared outwardly from the rear thereof.

7. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section being formed as a pan, the rim thereof ranging, at the back, from high and outwardly flaring to low at the front, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally to the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, additional openings in the base of the pan corresponding to the conventional seat bolt holes of the toilet bowl whereby the pan may be bolted to the toilet bowl rim, a seat provided with conventional hinged bolts, said bolts serving to secure the body portion of the toilet bowl, including flared bosses on said bolts, gasket means interposed between the bosses and the inner surface of the pan for sealing the pan against leakage and stilt means under said seat whereby the seat is elevated above the pan of the body portion sufficient to allow passage of a hand below said seat.

8. A bath attachment for a conventional toilet bowl comprising a body section adapted to be seated on the rim of the toilet bowl, said body section having a base pan portion with high, wide-flaring back and side portions and a low front portion, the whole rim forming a smooth continuous curve, an opening in the base of the pan corresponding generally to the toilet bowl opening, whereby the pan drains completely into said toilet bowl, a foot-and-leg section including a shallow foot receiving pan having the rear portion elongated to leg height, the upper rim being outwardly turned to overlie the front rim of the body portion, the sides of said foot section being extended forwardly and flared outwardly from the rear thereof and means for securing the body section in place on said bowl rim.

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