Aug. 31, 1926 1,597,922

E. T. OSBORN

BATH APPARATUS

Filed Sept. 19, 1925

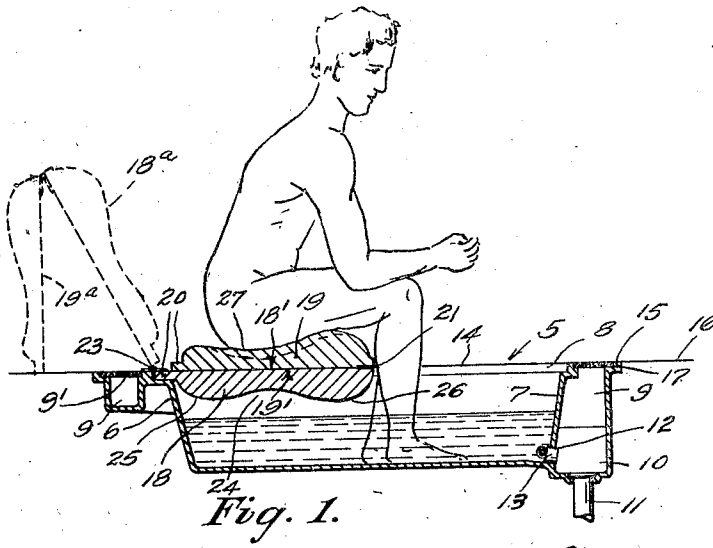


Fig. 1.

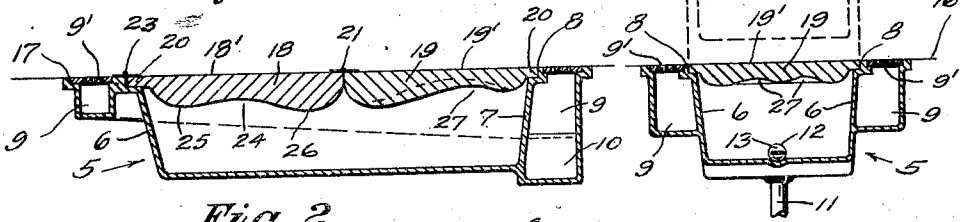


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

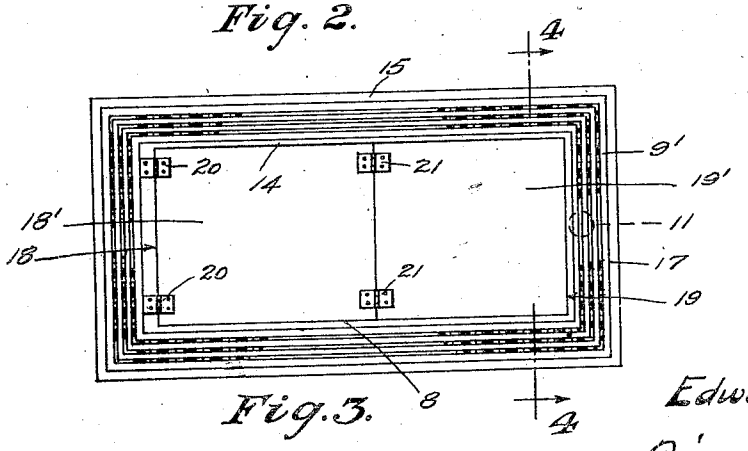


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BATH APPARATUS.

Application filed September 19, 1925. Serial No. 57,317.

This invention relates to bath appliances for use with foot and hip bath tubs and, more especially, with tubs of this character which are intended to be employed below the floor level of a room.

The object of my invention is the provision of foldable devices which, upon occasion, may be utilized to conceal the tub and constitute, in effect, a part of the floor of the room in which the tub is installed, and by suitably arranging such foldable devices enable the same to be used to furnish either a back rest or a seat for the bather.

More specific objects will appear in the following description.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of devices embodying my invention applied to a bath tub, said devices being shown in full lines as arranged for a bather's seat, and in dotted lines as arranged for a back rest. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 with the seat and back rest devices employed as a cover for the tub. Fig. 3 is a plan view with the parts arranged as illustrated in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3, and indicating by dotted lines the back rest when in the position in which it is represented by dotted lines in Fig. 1.

In said drawing, the reference numeral 5 represents an open top vessel, constituting a leg and foot bath tub having in the upper portion of each of its side and end walls 6 and 7 a rabbet 8.

The tub is surrounded by a series of gutters 9 of less depth than the tub and arranged to drain into a sump 10 having an outlet into a waste pipe 11. 12 represents an opening provided in the wall 7 between the sump 10 and the interior of the tub to serve as a drainage for the latter.

13 represents a removable stopper for said outlet. The upper surfaces 14 and 15 of the walls of the tub and gutters, respectively, are flush with each other and also, in practice, with the upper surface, indicated by 16, of the floor of the room in which the tub is employed.

Fitted in rabbets 17 above the gutters 9 is a grille 9^1 whose upper surface is also in the plane of said floor. The above described devices are or may be substantially similar to corresponding parts illustrated and described in U. S. Patent No. 1,522,261, issued to me January 6, 1925.

According to the present invention I provide for the tub a cover comprising two members 18 and 19, each having a plane upper surface 18^1 and 19^1 and provided with marginal tongues 20 adapted to fit within the rabbet 8. Said tongues are of a thickness so that when supported in the respective rabbets the plane surfaces 18^1 and 19^1 of the cover members will be flush with the floor line 16. Said members are foldably connected together at their meeting ends by suitable means, such means being shown as hinges 21. At its end opposite to the end thereof which is connected to the member 19, the member 18 is connected by hinges 23 to the tub structure.

The underside of the member 18 is formed desirably to provide a curved surface to afford a concavity 24 between two convex portions 25 and 26 which will fit against the back of a bather sitting upon the bottom of the tub when the back rest member 18 occupies the position in which it is indicated by dotted lines 18^a in Figs. 1 and 4.

When thus employed the member 19 will serve in its dotted line position 19^a, Fig. 1, as a brace for the back-rest member. The member 19 when turned up over upon the member 18 serves, as shown in Fig. 1, as a seat for a bather and for which purpose the normally underside surface of the seat member 19 is formed concave or hollowing as at 27 to fit the posterior of a person when sitting as illustrated in Fig. 1 for bathing his feet in the tub.

The use of the present invention is, however, not limited to foot and hip baths as it may be advantageously used with shower baths such, for example, as illustrated in the patent above referred to.

For use in connection with a foot bath, the seat member 19 is swung over upon the top of the back member 18 thereby presenting the curved under surface 19^1 uppermost to serve as a seat for the bather as represented in Fig. 1. For use as a hip or leg bath the tub cover members are moved into the positions in which they are represented by dotted lines 18^a and 19^a in Fig. 1, in which positions the seat member serves as a rear brace for the back member, as shown. With the parts thus arranged, the bather sits upon the bottom of the tub and em-

ploys the back rest in its 18ª position to serve as a support for his back.

The curving of one side of each of the foldably connected members assures surfaces which conform to the respective parts of a person, thereby promoting the comfort of a bather.

The member 18 when used as a back rest may be regulated as to its angular relation with the tub by having the member 19 inclined more or less as desired, thereby permitting the back rest member to be used when the bather's body is in an upright or reclining position. When the devices are not used as a seat or back rest, they are returned to the positions in which they are shown in Figs. 2 and 3, furnishing a floor section which is practically coextensive with the floor of the room in which the appliances may be employed.

What I claim, is,—

1. In bath apparatus, the combination with a tub, of a plurality of members connected together to fold upon themselves and hingedly connected to the tub permit the members to be swung into positions to serve as a cover for the tub and also as a seat for a bather using the tub.

2. In bath apparatus, the combination with a tub, of two members hingedly connected together, one of said members being hingedly connected to the tub, the upper side of each of said members being plane, the under sides of the members being formed to furnish curved seat and back rest surfaces, respectively.

3. In bath apparatus, the combination with a tub, of a back rest member hingedly connected thereto, a seat member hingedly connected to the aforesaid member, said seat member having its under side formed with a curved seat surface, the upper side of each of said member being plane.

4. In bath apparatus, the combination with a tub, cover members for the tub, the under side of one of said members being formed to curves corresponding to the back of a person, the underside of the other member being formed to curves corresponding to the posterior contour of a person, means to hingedly connect said members together, and means to hingedly connect one of said members to the tub and cooperating with the first named means to adapt the members to be arranged to serve as a cover for the tub, and to have the members serve as a seat and back rest respectively.

5. In bath apparatus, the combination with a tub having a rabbet in each of its side and end walls, of cover members for the tub, said members having marginal portions thereof adapted to seat within the respective rabbets, the underside of one of said members being formed to curves corresponding to the back of a person, the underside of the other member being formed to curves corresponding to the posterior contour of a person, means to hingedly connect said members together, and means to hingedly connect one of said members to the tub and cooperating with the first named means to adapt the members to be arranged to serve as a cover for the tub, and to have the members serve as a seat and back rest respectively.

6. In a bath tub apparatus, two members hingedly connected together to fold upon themselves, one of said members being adapted to be hingedly connected to the bath tub to serve as a back rest for a bather sitting in the tub, the other of said members being arranged to be used selectively as a seat and a brace for the back rest member.

Signed at Seattle, Washington, this 3rd day of September, 1925.

EDWARD THOMAS OSBORN.