March 24, 1931. F. E. KRAUSS 1,797,777

BATHTUB

Filed Feb. 24, 1930

Fig.1.

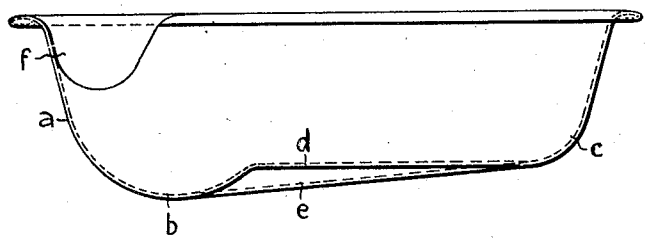


Fig.2.

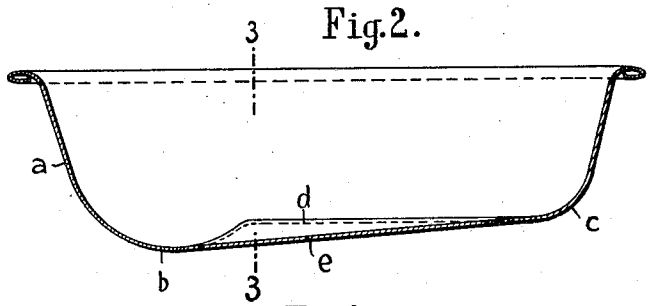
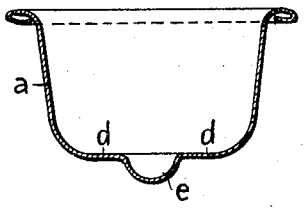


Fig.3.



Inventor:
Friedrich Emil Krauss.
by Paul B. Schilling
Attorney

Patented Mar. 24, 1931 1,797,777

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FRIEDRICH EMIL KRAUSS, OF SCHWARZENBERG, GERMANY

BATHTUB

Application filed February 24, 1930, Serial No. 430,773, and in Germany March 5, 1929.

I have filed applications in Germany on March 5, 1929; Austria Nov. 11, 1929; Switzerland Nov. 14, 1929; Czechoslovak Republic Nov. 18, 1929; France Nov. 19, 1929; Belgium Nov. 20, 1929; England Dec. 12, 1929, of which the following is a specification.

The known bathing tubs with flat bottom suffer from the drawback that especially children can easily glide along upon that bottom towards the foot end of the tub, as they are very unreliably seated therein, in consequence whereof they must be carefully watched during the bathing procedure in order to prevent their being drowned, and this is especially true in the case of small babies with their natural inclination to draw up their legs close to the body.

I am aware of the fact that it has already been proposed to design a sitz-bath in this way that the foot part thereof forms a kind of tray designed and suited particularly for babies and requiring only a comparatively small amount of water. Using the foot part of the sitz-bath for that purpose is possible, however, only for a short time, as it becomes too small for the growing baby already after a few months; besides, just those parts of the child's body which require thorough washing, especially the posteriors are accessible for the washing hand of the mother or nurse or the like only with difficulty.

Now, the present invention relates to a bath tub especially designed for bathing infants and small children, of conventional oblong shape and general conformation, but differing therefrom by the provision of a seat cavity in the tub bottom near the head end of the tub for the reception of the nates of the child, and of a gutter extending from the middle of said cavity in the direction toward the foot end of the tub, the bottom portions righthand and lefthand from said gutter remaining flat or horizontal, as usual, and forming supporting ledges for the legs. The cavity affords a secure seat for the child so as to prevent gliding, and the gutter affords the possibility to bring the washing hand to below the posteriors, especially to the anus and the neighbouring portions of the thighs, whereby the proper and thorough washing is greatly facilitated.

This configuration of the tub bottom enables the child to hold itself in a safe position, and a bathing tub designed in the manner stated can be used for succeeding years in the growth of the child, in that the child when having become older can sit at the other end of the tub where there is no cavity, but only the end of the gutter, this latter gradually rising from the cavity to the foot end of the tub so that it is, at this end, quite shallow and not in the least inconvenient.

The invention is illustrated diagrammatically and by way of example on the accompanying drawing, on which

Figure 1 is a side-view of a bath tub designed according to this invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal section therethrough, and

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse section in the plane 3—3 of Fig. 2.

On the drawing, *a* is the tub, *b* the cavity in the bottom *d*, and *e* the gutter which extends longitudinally in the bottom from the cavity *b* to the part *c*. The bottom is subdivided by the gutter, gradually flattening out, into two parallel parts *d d* which may be regarded as, and termed, leg supports. The gutter ascends from the cavity to the foot part *c* of the tub, and it is obviously easily possible for the washing hand to reach the posteriors and the neighbouring parts of the thighs.

It is suited to the purpose of the tub to provide it with one or two lateral recesses, such as *f*, Fig. 1, through which the person washing the baby or little child can introduce her arm, generally the left arm, into the tub near the back of the child in order to hold this more conveniently and safely. Generally it will be sufficient to provide that recess at the right side of the tub, for the left arm of the respective person, but, if desired, also the left side of the tub may be provided with such a recess.

I claim:

1. A bath tub of the character set forth, especially for bathing infants and young children, comprising in combination with the

tub proper of conventional oblong shape and including a substantially horizontally extending bottom, a seat cavity in the bottom at the head portion of the tub, a gradually rising and flattening out gutter, one-endedly communicating with said cavity at its lowermost portion and extending toward the foot end of the tub and there merging into the flat bottom portion thereof, and the flat bottom portions of the tub, flanking said gutter, forming horizontally extending leg-supporting ledges.

2. A bath tub of the character set forth, especially for bathing infants and young children, comprising in combination with the tub proper of conventional oblong shape and including a substantially horizontally extending bottom, a seat cavity in the bottom at the head portion of the tub, substantially horizontal leg-supporting bottom portions extending from said cavity to the foot portion of the tub, an up-sloping gutter communicatingly extending from said cavity between said leg-supporting bottom portions toward the foot end of the tub, and an arm-receiving recess in at least one of the tub side walls at the head portion thereof open toward the rim of the tub wall.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRIEDRICH EMIL KRAUSS.