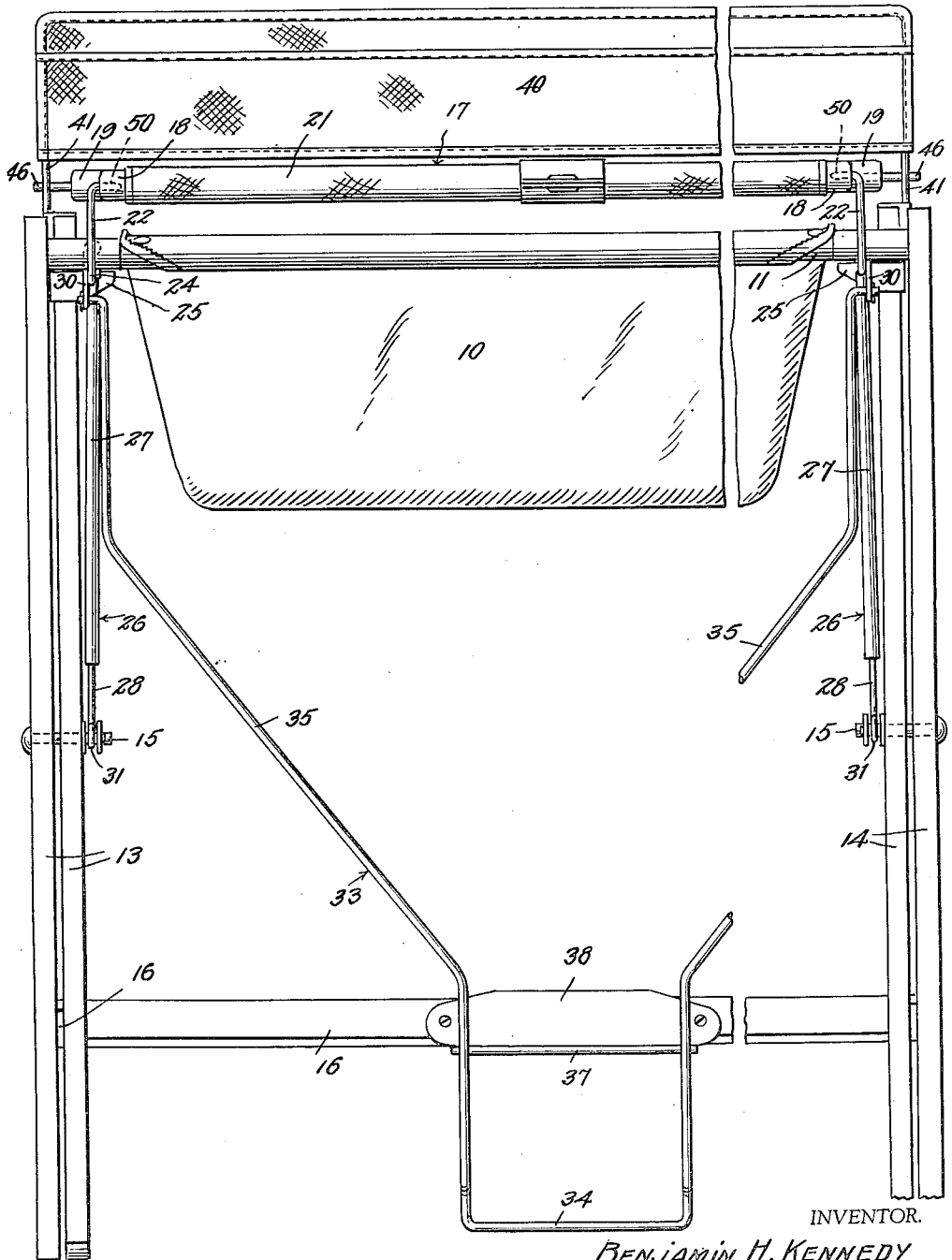
Feb. 23, 1937. B. H. KENNEDY 2,072,038

INFANT'S BATHING DEVICE

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Fig. 1.



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Fig. 3.

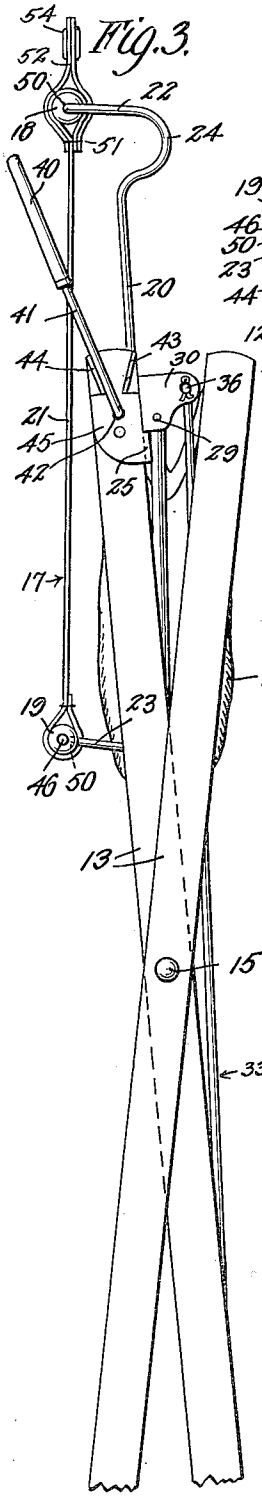
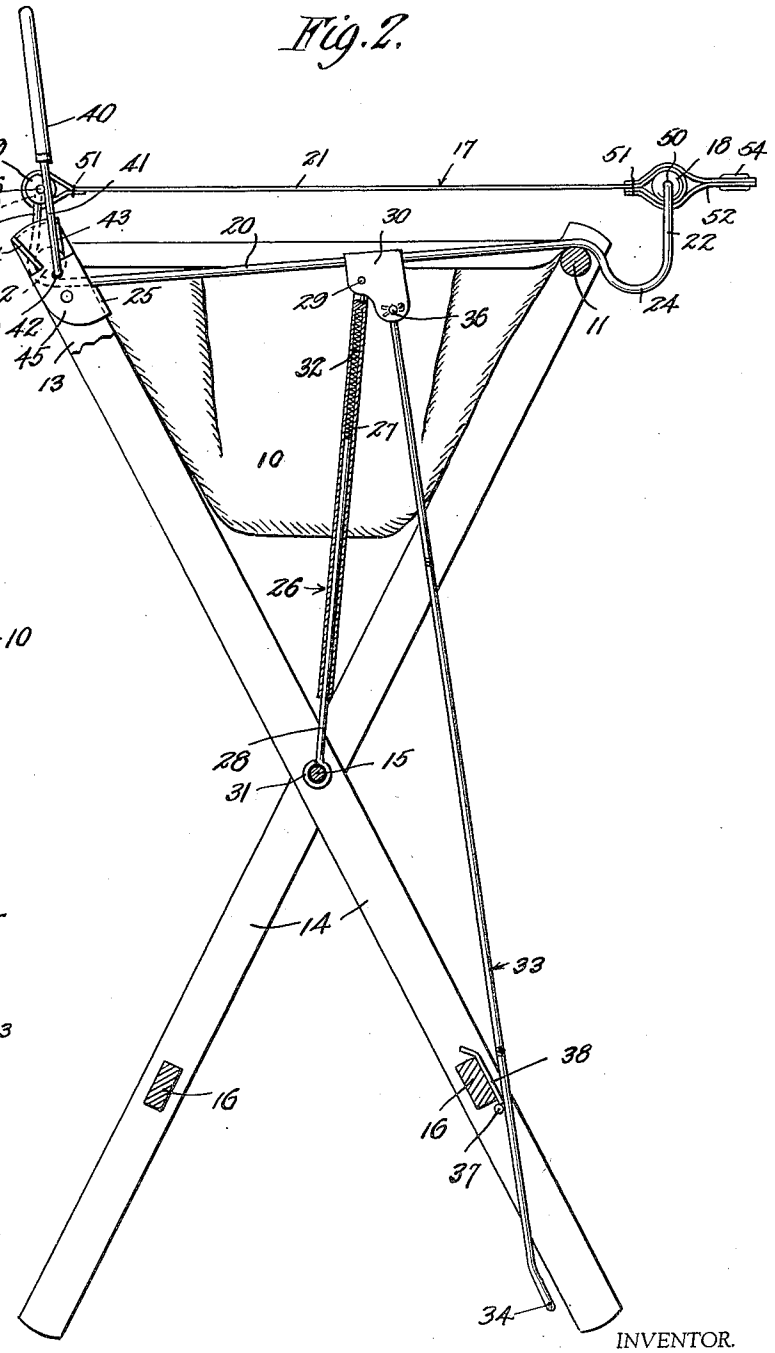


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 4.

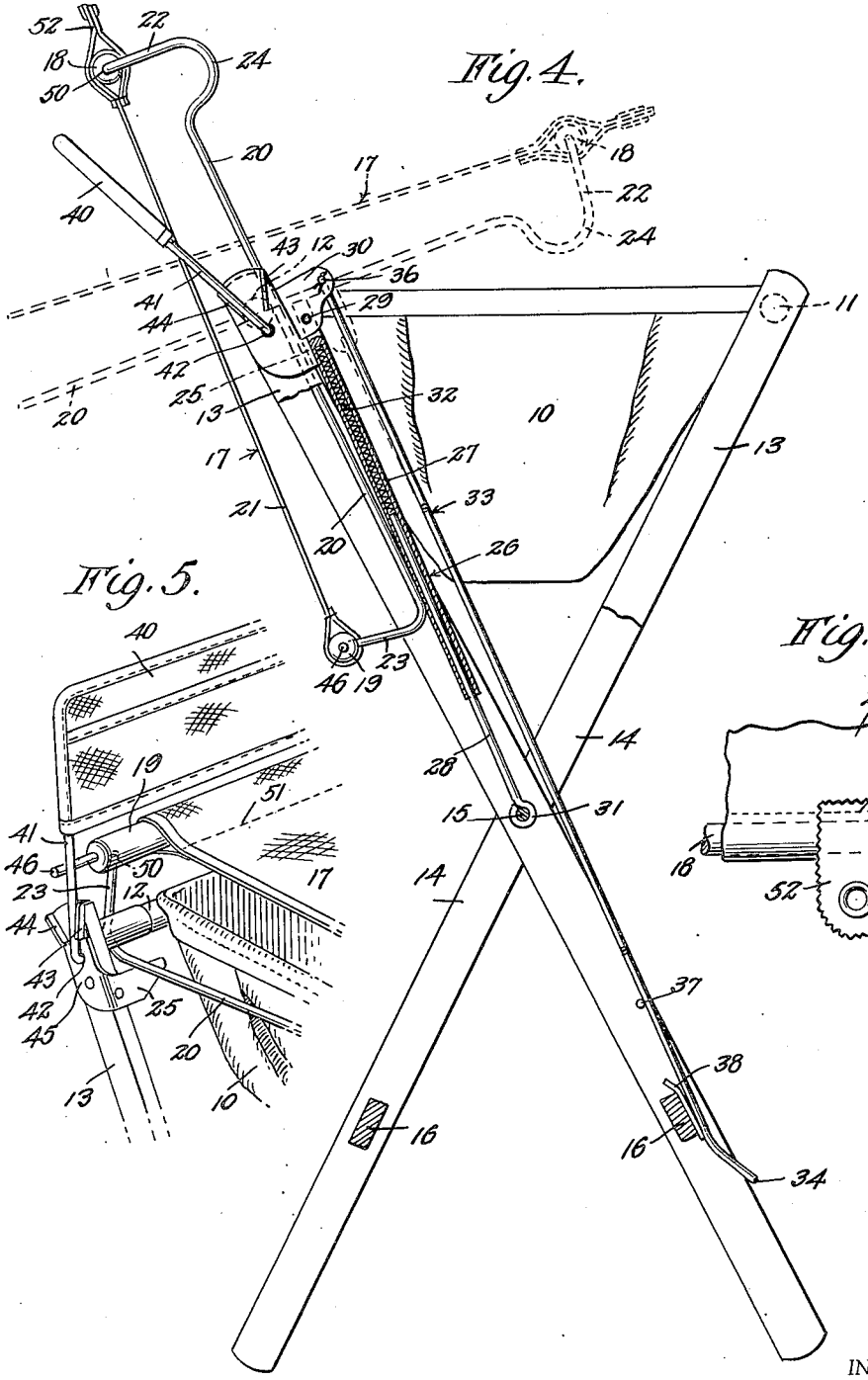


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,072,038

INFANT'S BATHING DEVICE

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Application November 27, 1936, Serial No. 112,873

11 Claims. (Cl. 4—177)

This invention relates to infants' bathing devices of the type which embody a bathtub and a support therefor, together with a dressing table movable to and from active and inactive positions respectively overlying the tub and in rear of the same, and the present invention is directed to a foot actuated means for effecting movement of the dressing table to and from said positions without the necessity of using the hands for such purpose.

The invention primarily comprehends in an infant's bathing device of the character specified, means for moving said dressing table to and from said active and inactive positions which includes a pair of longitudinally extensible arms having pivotal connection at their upper ends respectively with the dressing table intermediate the opposite ends thereof and having pivotal connection at their lower ends with the tub support together with a yoke pivotally connected at the upper ends thereof to the dressing table and depending therefrom and provided with a foot engaging bight portion by means of which the dressing table is caused to slide with reference to the tub and its support and to swing on the arms during its movement to and from the said positions.

The invention further includes in combination with a bathtub having a support consisting of leg members at the opposite ends thereof with inwardly projecting supporting guides on said leg members and spaced parallel front and rear rails connecting the leg members at the upper ends thereof and to which the opposite sides of the tub are secured, of a dressing table movable respectively to active and inactive positions so as to overlie the tub and be disposed alongside thereof, and which table preferably includes front and rear bars, a flexible web extending therebetween and stretcher rods having downwardly offset forward portions and upturned ends connecting the opposite ends of the said bars, said stretcher rods when in active position being adapted to rest adjacent the forward portion thereof upon the front rail of the support, and adjacent the rear thereof upon said supporting guides with the upturned rear ends of the stretcher rods disposed behind and in contact with the rear rail of the said support, a pair of longitudinally extensible arms pivotally connected respectively at the opposite ends thereof with the support and with the stretcher rods intermediate the opposite ends thereof, and a foot actuated yoke pivotally connected at its upper ends to the stretcher rods intermediate the ends thereof for shifting the dressing table from inactive to active position.

The invention also contemplates in a bathing device of the character set forth, a screen guard carried by the tub support for limited forward and rearward swinging movement with means on the dressing table for engaging with and swinging the screen guard forwardly coincident with the movement of the dressing table to its active position overlying the tub.

As a further feature, the invention embodies means releaseable by the foot for locking the dressing table in its active position and for retaining the screen guard in its forwardly swung position.

With the above enumerated and other objects in view, the invention is more particularly described in the following specification and pointed out in the appended claims which cover variations and modifications falling within the scope of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front view of an infant's bathing device constructed in accordance with the invention, with a portion broken out and illustrating the dressing table and screen guard in locked active position.

Fig. 2 is an end view thereof with parts broken away and shown in section.

Fig. 3 is an end view of the device in collapsed folded condition.

Fig. 4 is an end view similar to Fig. 3 illustrating the position of parts when the dressing table and screen guard are in their inactive positions.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of one end of the device.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary plan view of the forward edge of the dressing table illustrating the handle tab.

Referring to the drawings by characters of reference, 10 designates an infant's bathtub which is preferably of the flexible collapsible type, the opposite longitudinal upper edges of which are anchored to the spaced parallel front and rear rails 11 and 12 of a foldable tub support including crossed pairs of end legs 13 and 14, swingably connected by pivots 15, and to the upper ends of which crossed legs the front and rear rails 11 and 12 are secured. The lower ends of the pairs of legs 13 and 14 are secured together by connecting bars 16 respectively extending from the leg of one pair to a leg of the other.

The device further includes a dressing table designated generally by the reference character 17 which is movable to and from an active posi-

tion overlying the tub, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and to and from an inactive position alongside and in rear of the tub as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The dressing table 17 consists of a frame work including front and rear bars 18 and 19, and stretcher rods 20 joining the opposite ends of the bars 18 and 19. A web 21 of canvas or an equivalent flexible material is stretched between the front and rear bars 18 and 19 to provide a soft yieldable surface upon which the infant is adapted to be laid after the bathing operation for dressing the same. The end rods 20 are disposed in a plane below the webbing 21 and are spaced in said position by means of the upturned opposite ends 22 and 23, and the forward portions of the rods 20 are offset downwardly as at 24.

The upper ends of the cross legs 13 and 14 which are disposed at the rear of the device are each provided with inwardly projecting supporting guides 25 disposed below the rear rail 12 upon which supporting guides the rear portions of the stretcher rods 20 are adapted to rest and between which and the rear rail 12 the same are guided in their movement to and from the active and inactive positions of the dressing table. In the active position, the forward portions of the stretcher rods 20 rest upon the front rails 11 with the downward offsets 24 disposed in front of the rail 11, while the upturned rear ends 23 of the stretcher rods are disposed behind and in contact with the rear rail 12 of the support.

The dressing table is connected with the support for bodily swinging and pivotal movement by means of a pair of longitudinally extensible arms 26 each of which includes a pair of telescopic sections 27 and 28, the former being of tubular formation and pivotally connected as at 29 to a bracket 30 secured to the stretcher rod 20, and the latter having an eye 31 surrounding the leg pivot 15 and pivotally connecting said section with the support. Preferably a coiled expansion spring 32 is interposed between the free end of the arm section 28 and the closed pivoted end of the tubular section 27 to normally effect the extension of the extensible arm 26 to elevate the downwardly offset portions 24 above the front rails 11 during the movement of the dressing table to and from its active position.

In order to provide means operable by the foot for moving the dressing table to and from its active and inactive positions, a yoke 33 is provided having a foot engaging bight portion 34 at its lower end, and upwardly divergent arms 35 pivotally connected as at 36 to the opposite ends of the dressing table through the medium of the brackets 30 attached to the stretcher rods intermediate the ends thereof and substantially medially of the ends of the dressing table. Adjacent the lower end, the yoke is provided with a cross rod 37 constituting a latch element for engagement beneath a keeper plate 38 secured to the forward connecting bar 16 of the support.

A screen guard 40 having depending arms 41 at the opposite ends thereof, is pivotally connected as at 42 with the upper ends of the legs 13 and 14 at the rear of the device for limited swinging movement forwardly and rearwardly between the stop elements 43 and 44. As illustrated, the stop elements are formed integral with a fitting 45 with which the inwardly projecting supporting guides 25 are also formed integral. The rear bar 19 of the dressing table is provided with outwardly projecting trunnions 46 at its opposite ends which are adapted to engage with the depending arms 41 of the screen guard as the dressing table approaches the final stage of its movement to active position so as to swing the screen guard forwardly and retain the same in a substantially upright position at the rear of the dressing table.

In use, the device may be set up from the folded condition illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings, to the set up position shown in Fig. 4, by swinging the upper ends of the pairs of crossed legs 13 and 14 apart. After the infant has been bathed, the dressing table is moved from the inactive position alongside and in rear of the tub 10 as shown in Fig. 4, by depressing the bight portion 34 with the foot leaving both hands of the operator free for handling the infant. The initial depression of the yoke 33 by the foot, swings the dressing table on its pivotal points of connection 29 with the arms 26 from the inactive position shown in full lines to the dotted line position in Fig. 4. Continued downward pressure exerted on the yoke 33 with the foot effects a forward shifting movement of the dressing table with the stretcher rods slidably engaging the inwardly projecting supporting guides 25. During this phase of the movement, the springs 32 extend the extensible arms 26 so as to elevate the downwardly offset forward portions and cause them to clear the front rail 11 after which further depression of the yoke swings the forward end of the dressing table downwardly into contact with the front rail 11 of the support placing the springs 32 under compression while the latch rod 37 engages beneath the keeper plate 38 thereby locking the dressing table in its active position, at the same time the trunnions 46 will have swung the screen guard forwardly with its arms 41 in contact with the forward stop elements 43 so that the screen guard is locked in active position projecting upwardly from the rear of the dressing table.

The movement of the dressing table to the inactive position is also accomplished by engaging the foot with the bight portion 34 of the yoke to release the latch rod 37 from the keeper plate 38. The springs 32 then initially distend the extensible arms 26 to swing the forward portion of the dressing table upwardly to an inclined position from which it will slide rearwardly until the arms 26 contact with the inwardly projecting supporting guides 25 from whence the dressing table being overbalanced, will swing on the pivotal points 29 to the inactive position as shown in Fig. 4. As the dressing table moves rearwardly the trunnions 46 permit the screen guard to swing by gravity to the inactive position where the depending arms 41 contact with the rear stops 44.

If desired, the springs 32 may be of a sufficient tension to function to automatically move the dressing table from the active position to the inactive position upon release of the latch bar 37 from the keeper 38.

The dressing table 17 is so constructed that the webbing 21 may be removed therefrom for washing, cleansing and replacement and this is accomplished by making the upturned opposite ends 22 and 23 of the end rods removably associated with the front and rear bars 18 and 19 in the openings or sockets 50 in said front and rear bars. The front and rear edges of the web 21 are provided with stitched seams 51 defining tunnels through which the front and rear bars 18 and 19 are inserted with the opposite extremities of said bars protruding therefrom. A handle

tab 52 made up of two plies of flexible material disposed over and under the upper surface of the forward edge portion of the dressing table is connected therewith by the line of stitching 51 which forms the front tunnel-forming seam and the protruding forward portion of said plies is secured together by a grommet 54. This type of handle tab permits of the removal and reapplication of the webbing 21 with the frame members.

What is claimed is:

1. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and support therefor, means mounting said dressing table for movement to and from active and inactive positions respectively overlying the tub and alongside thereof, said means comprising a pair of longitudinally extensible arms having pivotal connections at their upper ends with the dressing table intermediate the opposite ends thereof and having pivotal connections at their lower ends with said support, and a yoke pivotally connected at its upper ends to the dressing table intermediate the ends thereof, depending therefrom and provided with a foot engaging portion.

2. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and support therefor, a pair of extensible arms pivotally connected at their upper ends to opposite sides of the table and pivotally connected at their lower ends to opposite sides of the support, and foot actuated means operatively connected to opposite sides of said table and adapted when depressed to move the table to its active position over and across the tub and when elevated permitting said extensible arms to move said table to its inactive position alongside the tub.

3. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table, pivoted screen guard and support therefor, means on said support mounting said dressing table for guided movement thereon to and from active and inactive positions respectively overlying the tub and in rear thereof, foot actuated means for effecting movement of said dressing table from inactive to active positions, and means on the dressing table for swinging the screen guard forwardly coincident with the movement of the dressing table to its active position overlying the tub.

4. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and support therefor, means mounting said dressing table to the support for movement to and from active and inactive positions overlying the tub and alongside thereof, said means comprising a pair of longitudinally extensible arms having pivotal connections at their upper ends respectively with the dressing table substantially medially of the opposite ends thereof and having pivotal connections at their lower ends with said support, and a yoke pivotally connected at its upper ends to the dressing table substantially medially of the ends thereof depending therefrom and provided with a foot actuating portion.

5. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and pivotally connected crossed leg support therefor, means mounting said dressing table to the support for movement to and from active and inactive positions overlying the tub and alongside thereof, said means comprising a pair of longitudinally extensible arms having pivotal connections at their upper ends with the dressing table substantially medially of the opposite ends thereof and having pivotal connections at their lower ends with the pivotal connections of said crossed leg support, and a foot actuated yoke pivotally connected with the dressing table substantially medially thereof for moving the same to active position.

6. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and support therefor, means for mounting said dressing table to the support for movement to and from active and inactive positions respectively overlying the tub and at the rear thereof, said means comprising a pair of longitudinally extensible normally resiliently extended arms having pivotal connections at their lower ends with the support and having pivotal connections at their upper ends with the dressing table, and a foot actuated yoke pivotally connected with the dressing table for moving the same from inactive to active position, said extensible arms being under tension when the dressing table is in active position for automatically moving the dressing table from active position to inactive position.

7. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and pivotally connected crossed leg support therefor, means for mounting said dressing table to the support for movement to and from active and inactive positions respectively overlying the tub and at the rear thereof, said means comprising a pair of longitudinally extensible normally resiliently extended arms having pivotal connections at their lower ends with the pivotal connections of said crossed leg support and having pivotal connections at their upper ends with the dressing table, and a foot actuated yoke pivotally connected with the dressing table for moving the same from inactive to active position, said extensible arms being under tension when the dressing table is in active position for automatically moving the dressing table from active position to inactive position.

8. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and pivotally connected crossed leg support therefor, means for mounting said dressing table to the support for movement to and from active and inactive positions respectively overlying the tub and at the rear thereof, said means comprising a pair of longitudinally extensible normally resiliently extended arms having pivotal connections at their lower ends with the pivotal connections of said crossed leg support and having pivotal connections at their upper ends with the dressing table, a foot actuated yoke pivotally connected with the dressing table for moving the same from inactive to active position, said extensible arms being under tension when the dressing table is in active position for automatically moving the dressing table from active position to inactive position, and releasably locking means for retaining the dressing table in active position with the extensible arms under tension.

9. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and support therefor, said support comprising leg members at the opposite ends thereof, inwardly projecting supporting guides on the leg members and spaced parallel front and rear rails connecting the leg members at the upper ends thereof and to which the opposite sides of the tub are secured, and said dressing table including front and rear bars, a flexible web extending therebetween and stretcher rods having downwardly offset forward portions and upturned ends connecting the opposite ends of the said bars, said stretcher rods being adapted to rest upon the front rail of the support adjacent the said forward portion and upon said supporting guides adjacent the rear thereof with the upturned rear end disposed behind and in contact with the rear

rail of said support, means operatively connecting said dressing table to said support for movement to active and inactive positions overlying and alongside the tub, said means including a pair of longitudinally extensible arms pivotally connected to the support and pivotally connected with the stretcher rods intermediate the opposite ends thereof, and a foot actuated yoke pivotally connected at its upper ends to the stretcher rods intermediate the ends thereof for shifting the dressing table from inactive to active position.

10. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and support therefor, means operatively mounting said dressing table to said support for movement of the dressing table to and from active and inactive positions overlying the tub and at the rear thereof, said means comprising a pair of members having pivotal connections at the upper ends respectively with the dressing table intermediate the opposite ends thereof and having pivotal connections at their lower ends with said support, means for lengthwise extending said members and operating means pivotally connected at its upper ends to the dressing table intermediate the ends thereof, depending therefrom and provided with a portion for foot engagement to operate the table.

11. In an infant's bathtub and associated dressing table and support therefor, means operatively mounting said dressing table to said support for movement to and from active and inactive positions respectively overlying the tub and alongside thereof, said means including a pair of arms having pivotal connections at their upper ends respectively with the dressing table intermediate the opposite ends thereof and having pivotal connections at their lower ends with the support, and means cooperating with said arms for automatically elevating the table to a forwardly inclined position whereby the table will be automatically shifted rearwardly from its inclined position to past dead center of the pivotal connections of the arms with the support and to an overbalanced position and will then gravitationally swing to an upright position at the rear of the support.

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