May 30, 1933. J. R. O'BRIEN 1,911,285

PLUMBING FIXTURE

Filed Aug. 20, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

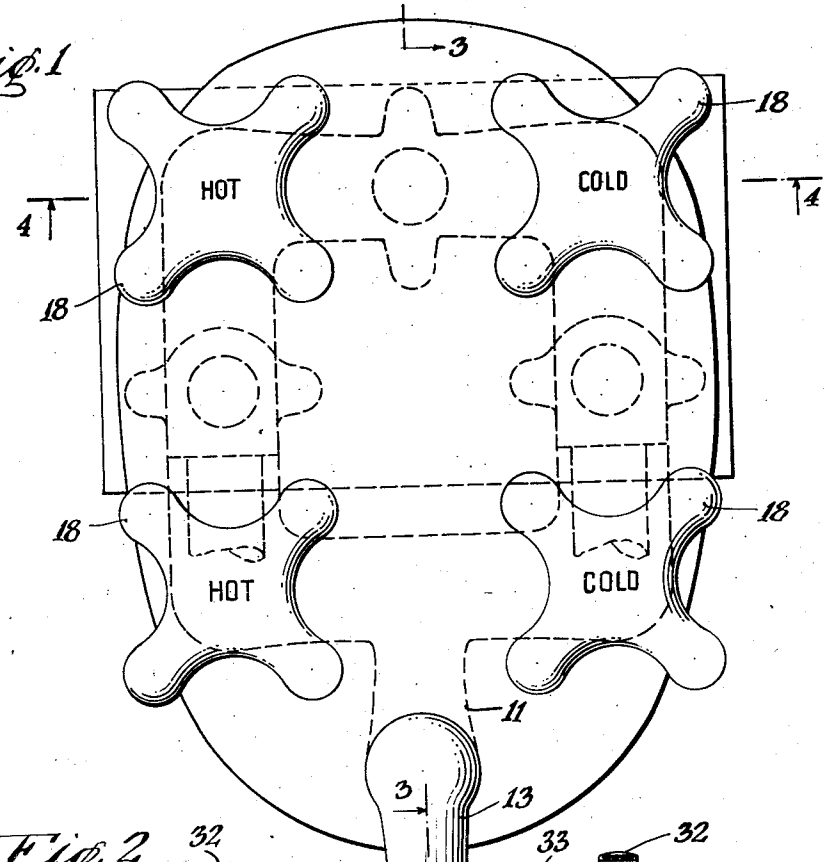
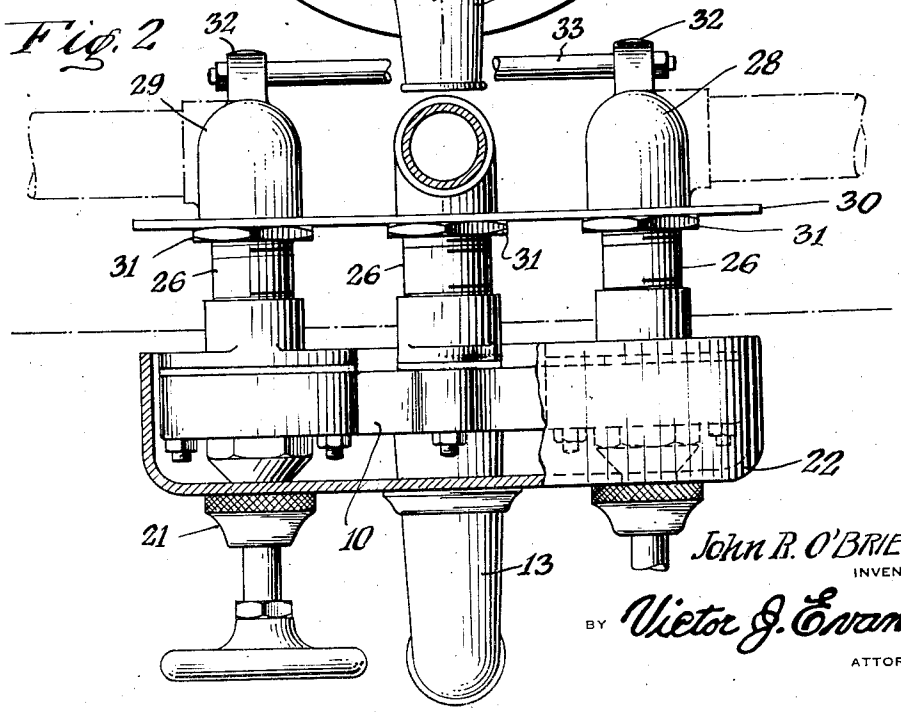


Fig. 2



John R. O'BRIEN
INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans
ATTORNEY

May 30, 1933. J. R. O'BRIEN 1,911,285

PLUMBING FIXTURE

Filed Aug. 20, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3

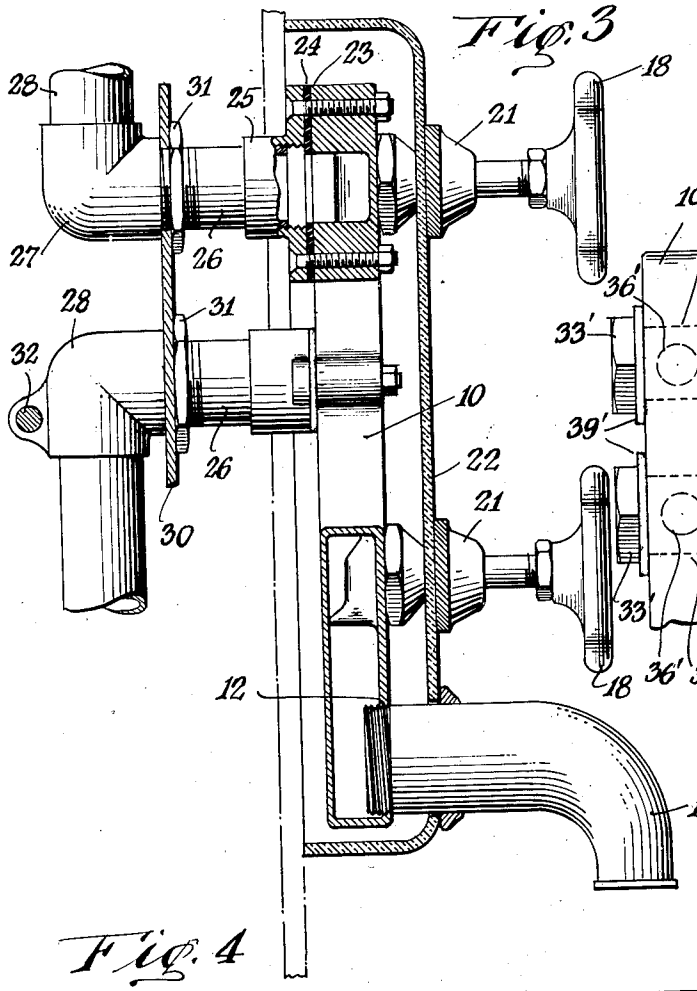


Fig. 6

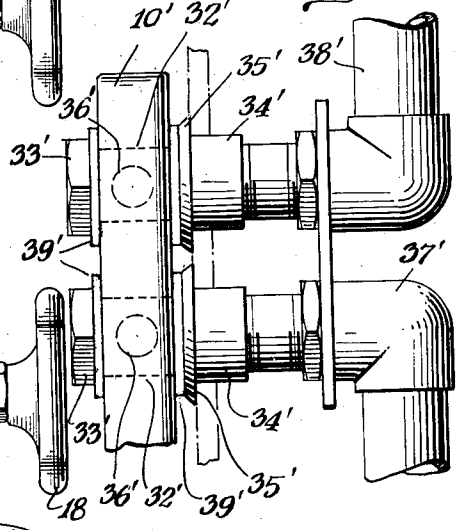


Fig. 4

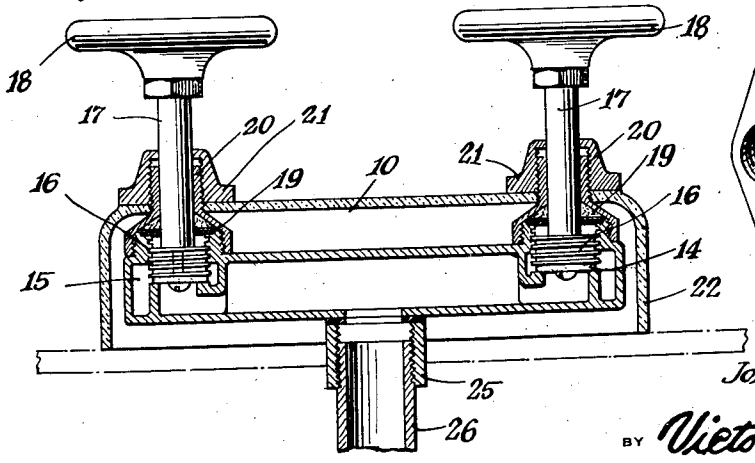
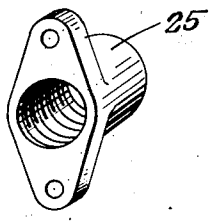


Fig. 5



John R. O'BRIEN
INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans
ATTORNEY

Patented May 30, 1933 1,911,285

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOHN R. O'BRIEN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

PLUMBING FIXTURE

Application filed August 20, 1930. Serial No. 476,673.

This invention relates to improvements in plumbing fixtures and particularly to bath-tub and shower fittings.

The prime object of this invention is to provide a plumbing fixture which may be readily accessible from without the usually employed tiled wall of a bath room, the entire valve lying on the surface of the finished tile, while the hot and cold water supply pipes, and the shower connections project through the wall and are attached at the rear face of the valve; and wherein the valve controlling the hot water supply to the tub, the valve controlling the cold water supply to the tub, the valve controlling the supply of hot water to the shower and the valve controlling the supply of cold water to the shower are all independently, individually controllable at the surface of the tiled wall.

Another object of my invention is to provide a bath room fixture consisting of a multiple valve housing securable to the glazed surface of a tiled wall and from which extend valve control means and a bath-tub spout, while the entire casing is otherwise enclosed in a removable cover.

A still further object of my invention is to provide within a bath room fixture flanged attaching means for the respective pipe connections projecting through the bath room wall and attached to the rear face thereof.

Another object of my invention is to provide in connection with my plumbing fixture a template for securing the pipe connections in proper relation to my fixture and for anchoring the latter to the rear face of the wall.

Another object of my invention is to provide in my plumbing fixture pipe elbows equipped with means for preventing their turning once attached to the template.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be hereinafter specifically pointed out, or will become apparent, as the specification proceeds.

With the above indicated objects in view, the invention resides in certain novel constructions and combinations and arrangement of parts, clearly described in the following specification and fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which latter show embodiment of the invention as at present preferred.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of my fixture, showing the arrangement of valve handles and the bath-tub spout.

Fig. 2 is a top view thereof, partially in cross-section.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of my device partially in cross-section, taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal cross-sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a preferred form of a flanged pipe fitting.

Fig. 6 illustrates a side elevation of a modified form of my device.

Referring to the drawings numeral 10 denotes the body of the valve housing which is preferably arranged in a substantial square shaped design, which is hollow and from which depends an extension 11, provided with a threaded opening 12 adapted to receive a bath-tub spout 13.

At each corner of the housing there is provided a valve seat clearly seen in cross-section at Fig. 4 and denoted by numerals 14 and 15. In each valve seat there is secured a valve member 16 from which extends valve stem 17. At the outer end of valve stem 17, there is attached a handle 18.

Over each valve seat is secured a bushing 19 provided with a threaded extension 20, adapted to be engaged by a bushing nut 21. This nut not only serves for guiding the valve stem but also provides attaching means for a cover or closure 22 adapted to completely enclose valve housing 10 with the exception of the valve stems and spout 13 protruding therethrough.

At the rear of the valve housing there are provided flanges 23, (see Fig 3) against which rest broad washers 24 which are held in place by flanged pipe fittings similar to that shown clearly in Fig. 5 and denoted by numeral 25. There are all together three flanged fittings employed in my device, two of which having attached means disposed in horizontal plane, seen in Figs. 1 and 2 and one having attaching means in a vertical

plane and located between the upper valve pair and designed for connecting thereto the shower outlet. The horizontally attached flanged fittings are adapted to connect with the form of the lead-in for hot and cold water pipes.

From Fig. 1 it will be evident that the valves are arranged in pairs and that the upper pair controls the hot and cold water supply to the shower connection while the lower pair controls the hot and cold water supply to spout 13.

From flange connections 25 lead nipples 26 to elbows, one of which denoted at 27 connects with a shower lead 28, while elbow 28′ receives the cold water supply pipe and elbow 29 receives the hot water supply pipe, as may be clearly perceived from Fig. 2.

All nipples 26 are lodged in a template 30 whereby all pipe connections are retained in proper relation to the valve housing. Each nipple is equipped with a locknut 31 adapted to bear against the template and retain it in position and against the elbows mentioned above.

Elbows 28′ and 29 are preferably provided with lugs 32 in which is lodged a brace in the form of rod 33 which is associated with the elbows when the latter are in their final positions.

The flange attachment between valve housing and the pipe connections permits the attachment or removal of the valve housing without necessitating the tearing up of the bath room wall, in the event the valve housing or any other part of the water connections develop leaks or otherwise require repairs.

The removable construction of the valve housing cover 22 adds to the decided advantage of my device over existing bath room fixtures, in that the appearance of my fixture is greatly enhanced thereby, as it may be constructed of material capable of receiving various color schemes in conjunction with artistically shaping it to conform with a general arrangement of a bath room.

The attachment of the cover is accomplished by slipping it over the valve stems and valve housings for which suitable apertures are provided in the cover. Thereafter bushing nuts 21 are associated with the threaded bushing extensions 20 and tightened down against the cover. An appropriate opening is provided in the cover for spout 13 which is preferably secured to the housing after the cover is attached.

Referring to Fig. 6, there will be seen a modified arrangement of the pipe connections provided in the valve housing 10′. In this construction the housing is provided with through-holes 32′ adapted to receive hollow pipe fittings equipped at their outer ends with heads 33′. Extending from the nuts through housing 10′, the hollow pipe fittings indicated at 34′ and provided with rest flanges 35′ adapted to bear against the tile wall of the bath room. The hollow fittings are preferably perforated as indicated at 36′, so as to permit the water entering through elbows 37′ to pass into the housing and therefrom to either the spout, not shown, or the shower connection 38′.

Between the housing 10′, the pipe fitting heads 33′ and between the casing and flanges 35′ of fittings 34′, there will be seen washers 39′ adapted to make a leak-proof contact between the housing and the fittings. Also this arrangement is accessible so as to enable changes of the housing, replacement of the valve seats and repairs of other nature to be made without the necessity of breaking up or otherwise damaging the bath room wall.

One of the outstanding advantages of my device resides in the fact that the shell covers the four valves and the spout in contradistinction to three valves heretofore employed. A further feature resides in the fact that in the event a leak should develop in the valve housing the water will run directly into the bath-tub without doing any damage to the wall or without penetrating through the wall to a lower story. Another important feature is that my present device eliminates all the unions heretofore commonly employed with shower fittings, thus resulting in marked economy in the number of parts as well as in the labor required for installation and preventing the possibility of damage due to leakage commonly caused by the expansion and contracting of the hot water unions.

The applicant of my device allows its attachment to walls which may be finished irregularly, due to variations in plaster and tile allowances and insures proper placement almost anywhere without preparation of the surface to which it is to be attached.

The hereinbefore described construction admits of considerable modification without departing from the invention; therefore, I do not wish to be limited to the precise arrangements shown and described which are as aforesaid, by way of illustration merely. In other words, the scope of protection contemplated is to be taken solely from the appended claims, interpreted as broadly as is consistent with the prior art.

What is claimed is:

1. A plumbing fixture for hot and cold water control, comprising in combination a hollow valve housing provided with upper and lower outlet ports, valves having valve stems arranged in pairs near each of said outlet ports, inlet ports for hot and cold water disposed between said pairs of valves, inlet connections extending from said inlet ports of the housing, an outlet connection secured to said upper port, a template for said inlet and outlet connections, a cover adapted to enclose the housing except the stems of said

valves, and a spout associated with the outlet port of said housing and projecting through said cover.

2. A plumbing fixture for hot and cold water control of bath-tub and slower discharge means, comprising in combination, a hollow valve housing provided with four valve seats arranged in upper and lower pairs, hot and cold water inlet ports arranged between the pairs of valve seats, an upper outlet port, designed for shower connection, arranged between the upper valve seat pair, a lower outlet port designed for a bath-tub spout connection disposed between and below the lower valve seat pair, inlet connections associated with said inlet ports, and outlet connection associated with said upper outlet port, and a spout connected with said lower outlet port, valve bushings engaging the valve seat portions of the housing and adapted to guide the stems of the valves, a cover enclosing the entire housing and provided with apertures for accommodating said valve bushings and said spout, and bushing nuts engaging said valve bushings and the valve stems and adapted to hold the cover in place.

3. A plumbing fixture for hot and cold water control of shower and bath-tub discharge means, comprising a substantially square-shaped tubular housing having a depending extension, a valve seat provided at each corner of the housing, cold and hot water inlet ports arranged in about the horizontal center plane of the housing, a shower outlet port arranged between the upper valve seats thereof, a bath-tub outlet port provided in the depending extension of the housing, each of the inlet ports and the shower outlet ports having flanged connections, said bath-tub outlet port being threaded for receiving a spout, flanged fittings secured to said flanged connections, nipples engaging with one of their ends said flanged fittings, elbows secured to the other ends of said nipples, a template for said nipples, lock nuts secured to the latter and adapted to lock the template against said elbows, the elbows engaging the inlet port nipples being provided with lugs, a brace bar secured in said lugs and adapted to prevent the elbows from turning, a valve stem provided for each valve seat, a valve bushing engaging each valve stem and associated with said valve seats, a bushing nut secured to each of said bushings, a cover provided over and adapted to enclose said housing, said cover having valve apertures and a spout opening, said bushing nuts adapted to bear against said housing and lock it in position, a spout secured in the housing extension and projecting through its opening in the cover, the upper valve seats and valve stems controlling the upper shower outlet port, and the lower valves controlling the lower tub spout outlet port.

4. A bath room fixture adapted to be accessible from without a bath room wall, comprising a multiple valve housing, a removable cover therefor adapted to bear against the exposed face of the wall, a plurality of valves projecting with their stems through said cover, a tub spout connected with said housing and also projecting through said cover, flanged pipe fittings secured at the rear of the housing, pipe connections associated with said fittings and adapted to pass through a wall, a template holding said pipe connections, two of the latter having brace means for preventing their dislocation or movement.

5. In a bath room fixture adapted to be accessible from without a bath room wall, the combination of a valve housing to be arranged at the tiled face of a wall, a template to be arranged at the rear of the wall, flanged pipe fittings and pipe connections to pass through the wall and connected to the housing and said template, a removable cover secured over the housing to bear against the wall and means associated with and forming part of the valves of the housing for holding the cover in place.

6. A bath room fixture as defined in claim 5, in which two of said pipe connections consist of pipe elbows provided with extending lugs adapted to receive a connecting member, and a connecting rod secured to said lugs and adapted to prevent said elbows from turning.

7. A bath room fixture as specified in claim 5 including a bath-tub spout and a shower connection, valves in said housing controlling hot and cold water supply to said spout and hot and cold water supply to said shower connection, each of said hot and cold water supply valves being independently controllable at the surface of the tiled wall.

In testimony whereof I hereby affix my signature.

JOHN R. O'BRIEN.