

June 13, 1939.

D. M. KENNEDY

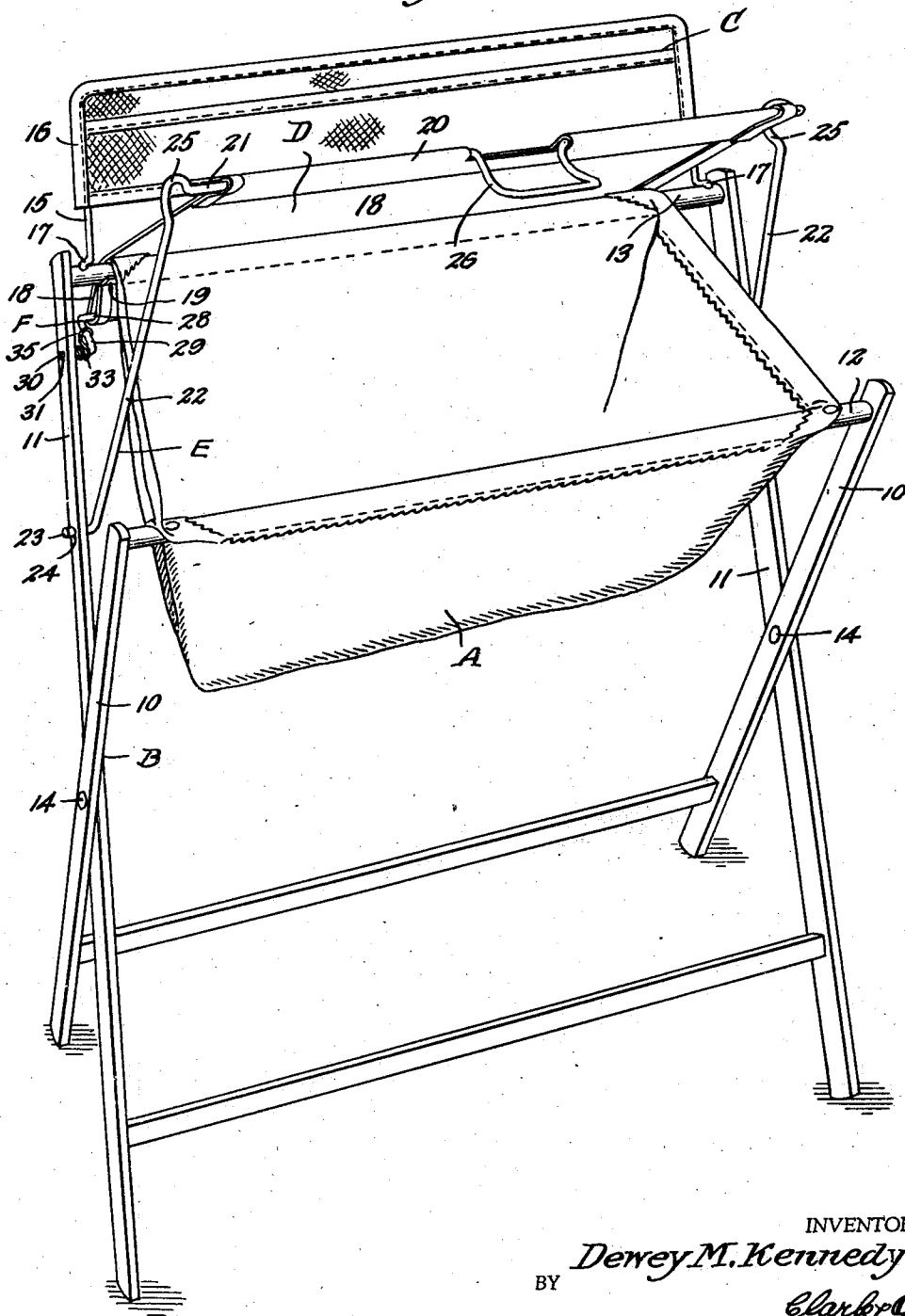
2,162,483

INFANT'S BATHING DEVICE

Filed Aug. 30, 1938

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



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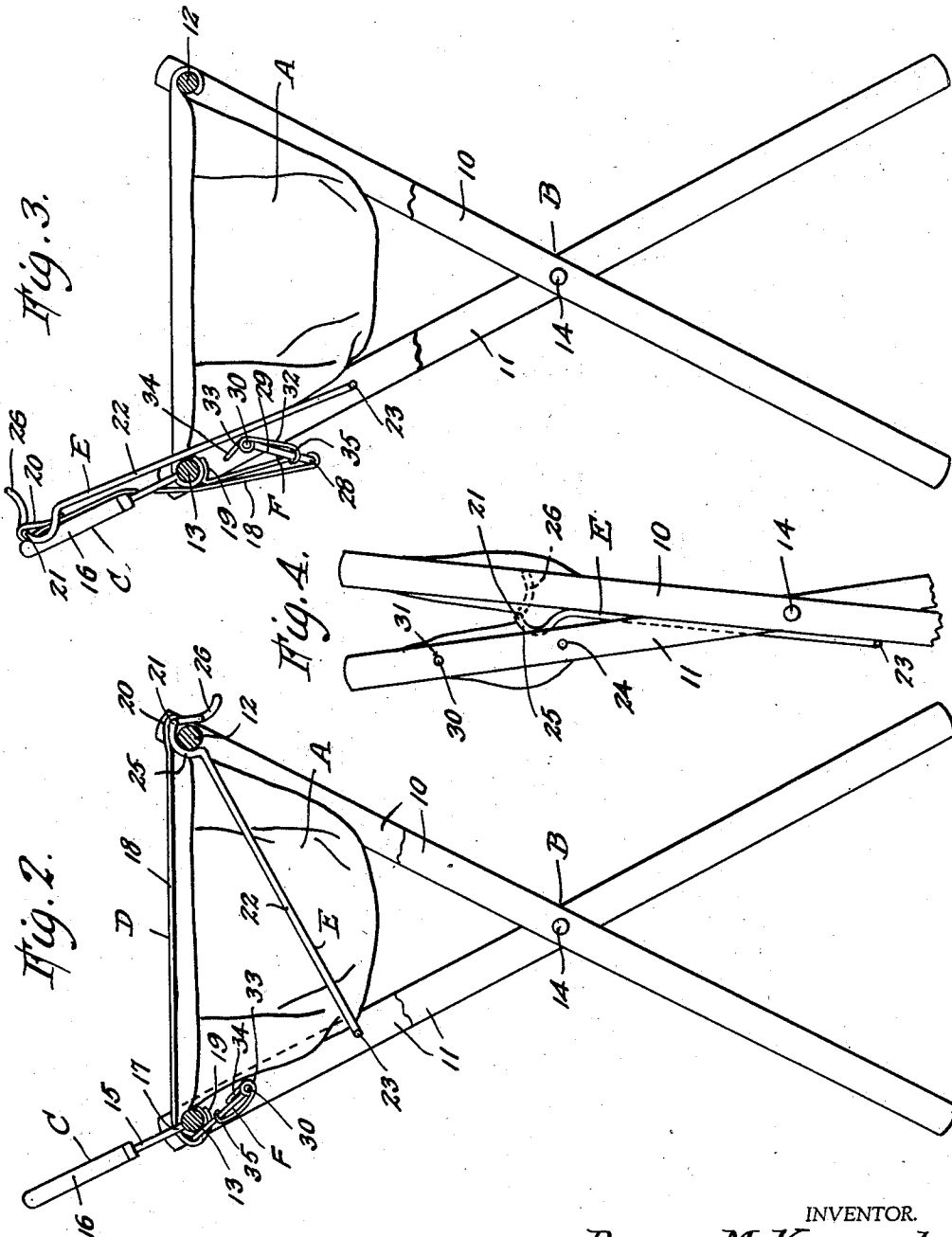
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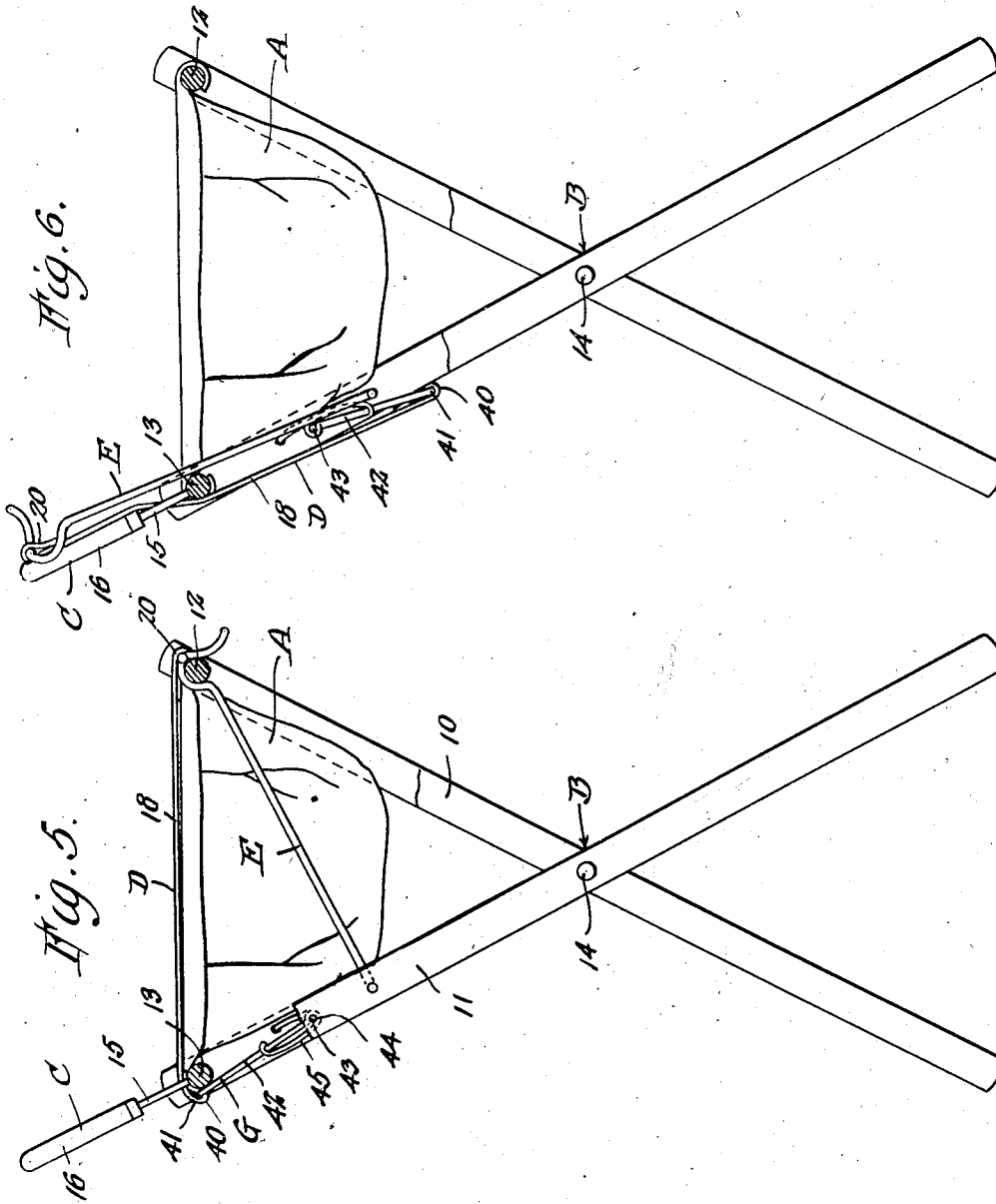
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INFANT'S BATHING DEVICE

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Application August 30, 1938, Serial No. 227,448

10 Claims. (Cl. 4-177)

This invention relates to infants' bathing devices of the type such as disclosed in my prior United States Letters Patent No. 2,102,959, issued December 21, 1937, which includes a folding tub, a collapsible support therefor, and a flexible dressing table associated therewith and adapted for movement to and from a stretched active position overlying the tub and spanning opposite sides thereof.

The present invention comprehends an improved device of the indicated character which embodies means for automatically taking up the slack in the dressing table when the same is moved from active to inactive position and for disposing the dressing table in an inactive out-of-the-way position at one side of the tub.

The invention further comprehends an infant's bathtub and associated support therefor which includes a flexible dressing table adapted to be moved to a stretched active horizontal position in spanning relation to opposite side edges of and overlying the tub and resilient means for taking up the slack and stretching the same in an upright position exterior of the tub when the same is moved from active to inactive position.

As a further feature the invention embodies in a bathing device having a collapsible cross leg support, a bail having arms pivoted to one pair of the cross legs of said support and a bight portion to which one edge of the dressing table is attached, the bail being so constructed as to provide means for interengagement with the opposite pair of legs of the support to lock and retain the cross leg support in extended set up condition and the dressing table in stretched active position thereby obviating the necessity of employing stay hinges to retain the cross leg structure in its extended set up condition.

The invention further resides in the provision of a bail for swingably moving the dressing table to and from its active position, in which the pivoted terminals of the bail arms are detachably associated with the support so that when detached the bail may be compactly nested with the folded tub and collapsed support to occupy a minimum amount of space for storage and shipment.

With these and other objects in view, the invention is set forth in greater detail in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings which disclose several embodiments of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an infant's bathing device illustrating the dressing table in an intermediate position.

Fig. 2 is a side view with parts broken away illustrating the dressing table in its active position.

Fig. 3 is a similar view illustrating the dressing table in its inactive position.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary side view illustrating the device in collapsed condition with the dressing table bail detached from the support and arranged in nested relation therewith.

Fig. 5 is a side view of a modified form of the invention with parts broken away and illustrating the dressing table in its active position.

Fig. 6 is a similar view illustrating the dressing table in its inactive position.

Referring to the drawings by characters of reference, the device includes a foldable bathtub A and a collapsible support therefor designated generally by the reference character B which support consists of a pair of front legs 10 and a pair of rear legs 11, the same being connected adjacent their upper ends by longitudinally extending bars 12 and 13 respectively. Adjacent legs of the pairs of legs 10 and 11 are pivotally connected to each other intermediate their ends by pivot pins 14 so that the pairs of legs may be swung from a substantially parallel collapsed relation, as illustrated in Fig. 4, to an extended set up position as illustrated in the remaining figures of the drawings.

The upper opposite longitudinal side edges of the bathtub A are secured to the longitudinally extending bars 12 and 13 to support the tub therefrom and to dispose the same in opened position depending from the upper ends of the legs when the same are in extended set up relation.

A screen guard; designated generally by the reference character C, is provided and the same comprises an inverted U-shaped wire frame 15 over which is stretched a fabric panel 16. The side arms of the wire frame 15 are provided with offset depending terminals 17 removably fitted in openings in the longitudinal bar 13 whereby the screen guard may be displaced from the support B for storage and shipment.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, a dressing table, designated generally by the reference character D, is provided which consists of a flexible sheet of material 18, the longitudinal rear edge 19 of which is anchored throughout its length to the longitudinal bar 13 constituting a rigid linear element for extending said edge 19 longitudinally of the rear edge of the tub A. The opposite longitudinal forward edge 20 of the dressing table is hemmed to provide a longitudinally extending tunnel and the material 18 is of a sufficient width to extend across the tub in spanning relation to the opposite longitudinal edges thereof when the same is in set up condition.

In order to provide means for moving the dressing table from active to inactive position, a bail, designated generally by the reference char-

acter E, is employed which consists of a bight 21 and angularly disposed side arms 22, the free ends of which arms are outturned to provide trunnions 23 journaled in bearing openings 24 in the legs 11 so as to mount the bail for swinging movement on the support B. The bight 21 extends through the tunnel formed by the hem at the longitudinal edge 20 of the dressing table and said bight serves as a rigid linear element for extending said edge 20 longitudinally of the forward edge of the tub A. The bail E when swung forwardly to dispose the bight 21 adjacent the longitudinal bar 12 stretches the dressing table transversely to an active horizontal position arranged in spanning relation to the opposite side edges of and overlying the tub as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawings. When the bail E is swung rearwardly, as illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings, the dressing table is moved to an inactive position at the rear of the tub.

For the purpose of locking and retaining the cross leg support B in its extended set up condition, the side arms 22 of the bail adjacent their juncture with the bight 21 are formed with offset hooked portions 25 which engage with the longitudinal bar 12. This obviates the necessity of employing stay hinges for locking and retaining the leg structure in extended set up condition. The bight 21 intermediate its ends is formed with a downwardly and outwardly offset handle 26 which also functions to engage over the longitudinal bar 12 to serve as a latch for locking the dressing table in stretched active position, as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

In order to automatically take up the slack in the dressing table and to dispose the same exterior of the tub when the table is moved to its inactive position, a rear bail F is provided which includes a longitudinally extending bight portion 28 and angularly disposed side arms 29 having outwardly directed terminals 30 at the free ends which are journaled in bearing openings 31 in the legs 11. The bight portion 28 of the rear bail F extends longitudinally beneath the dressing table in rear of the rear rod 13 adjacent the anchored longitudinal rear edge 19 of the dressing table, so that when the bail E is swung rearwardly to dispose the dressing table in its inactive position, the rear bail F automatically swings rearwardly and downwardly to the position shown in Fig. 3 to thereby take up the slack in the dressing table by forming a fold therein, thus stretching the table in an upright position exterior of the tub. While the rear bail F may be of sufficient weight to automatically swing downwardly by gravity, in practice it has been found desirable to utilize one or more torsion springs 32 for this purpose which spring, as shown, is provided with a coil 33 surrounding the terminal 30 of the bail with one extremity 34 of the spring anchored to the leg 11 and with the free end of the remaining extremity 35 thereof surrounding the arm 29 of the rear bail.

The material 18 of the dressing table D is of a length corresponding to the length of the tub, and the side arms of the screen guard frame 15 are spaced apart a distance sufficient to permit the material 18 of the dressing table to pass therebetween when the table is moved to and from its active position.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawings, the construction of the tub A, the support B, the screen guard C and the bail E is identical with the previously described form. The dressing table D in this form is con-

nected at its forward edge 20 to the bail E as in the previous form, but in this instance the rear edge of the material 18 of the dressing table D is provided with a hem 40 defining a longitudinally extending tunnel, through which tunnel extends the bight 41 of a rear bail G and said bight 41 serves as a rigid linear element for extending the rear edge of the dressing table longitudinally of the rear edge of the tub A when the dressing table is in its active position. The rear bail G has angularly disposed side arms 42 which are provided with outturned terminals 43 journaled in bearing openings 44 in the legs 11. In this instance, the arms 42 of the rear bail G are of greater length than the arms of the rear bail F so that when the bail E is swung rearwardly to dispose the dressing table in its inactive position, the rear bail G automatically swings rearwardly and downwardly to the position shown in Fig. 6 to move the rear edge 40 downwardly to a position to stretch the dressing table material 18 in an upright position between the bights 21 and 41 thus taking up the slack therein. In this instance, the bail G is preferably provided with a torsion spring 45 identical with the torsion spring 32 of the preceding form of the invention to effect automatic downward swinging thereof and to tension the same against upward swinging movement.

In use with the dressing table in the inactive position shown in Fig. 6, when the bail E is swung forwardly and downwardly to the position shown in Fig. 5, the rear edge 40 of the dressing table material will be drawn upwardly thereby swinging the bail G to the position shown in Fig. 5 where the arms 42 thereof contact with the rear longitudinal rod 13 of the support. This effects the stretching of the dressing table D in a horizontal active position arranged in spanning relation to the opposite sides of and overlying the tub. When in the inactive position shown in Fig. 6, the dressing table will be disposed in an upright stretched position in rear and exterior of the tub.

What is claimed is:

1. In an infant's bathtub and associated support therefor, a flexible dressing table adapted to be moved to a stretched active horizontal position in spanning relation to opposite side edges of and overlying the tub, and automatic means for taking up the slack and stretching the table in an upright position exterior of the tub when said dressing table is moved from active to inactive position.

2. In an infant's bathtub and associated support therefor, a flexible dressing table including a sheet of flexible material and rigid linear elements secured to opposite longitudinal edges of said sheet for extending said opposite edges of said sheet longitudinally, arms pivoted to the support connected respectively with the opposite ends of one of said elements for mounting the dressing table for movement to and from a stretched active horizontal position in spanning relation to opposite side edges of and overlying the tub, and means cooperatively functioning with said arms when the dressing table is moved from active to inactive position to take up the slack and stretch the dressing table in an upright position exterior of the tub.

3. In an infant's bathtub and associated support therefor, a flexible dressing table anchored along one edge to the support adjacent to and above the rear of the tub, means extending longitudinally of and attached to the forward free

edge of said dressing table for retaining the forward edge in longitudinal stretched condition and for moving the same from inactive position at the rear of the tub to a stretched position overlying the tub, and means extending longitudinally of the dressing table engaging the same adjacent its rear anchored edge for automatically taking up the slack and stretching the same in an upright position exterior of the tub when the dressing table is moved from active to inactive position.

4. In an infant's bathtub and associated foldable support therefor, a sheet of flexible material anchored along one edge to the support adjacent to and above the rear of the tub, means extending longitudinally of and attached to the forward free edge of said sheet and having pivotal engagement with said support for swinging movement to thereby move the sheet from an inactive position at the rear of the tub to a stretched position overlying the tub, and to swing rearwardly to thereby move the sheet from a stretched position overlying the tub to an inactive position adjacent the rear thereof, means extending longitudinally of the dressing table adjacent the rear thereof for automatically taking up the slack in said sheet of material and for stretching the same in an upright position exterior of the tub when the dressing table is moved from active to inactive position, and interengageable means on said support and said first named means for locking the dressing table in stretched active position and the support in extended set up condition.

5. In an infant's bathtub and associated foldable support therefor, a sheet of flexible material anchored along one edge to the support adjacent to and above the rear of the tub, means extending longitudinally of and attached to the forward free edge of said sheet and having pivotal engagement with said support for swinging movement to thereby move the sheet from an inactive position at the rear of the tub to a stretched position overlying the tub, and to swing rearwardly to thereby move the sheet from a stretched position overlying the tub to an inactive position adjacent the rear thereof, and interengageable means on said support and on said first named means for locking the dressing table in stretched active position and the support in extended set up condition.

6. In an infant's bathtub and associated foldable support therefor, a flexible dressing table including a sheet of flexible material, means secured to and extending longitudinally of the opposite longitudinal edges of said sheet for extending said edges longitudinally, said means extending longitudinally of the forward edge having pivotal engagement with said support for swinging movement to move the sheet from an inactive position at the rear of the tub, to a stretched position overlying the tub, and interengageable means on said support and on the means extending longitudinally of and secured to said forward edge of said sheet of material for locking the dressing table in stretched active position overlying the tub and the support in extended set up condition.

7. In an infant's bathtub and associated support therefor, a bail having a bight portion and side arms pivoted at their free ends to the support so that the bight portion of the bail is swung over the tub from an elevated position overlying the rear edge thereof to the forward edge,

a dressing table consisting of a sheet of flexible material having its forward edge extending longitudinally of and attached to the bight portion of the bail, a rear bail having a bight portion and side arms pivoted at their free ends to said support to swing to and from a position adjacent the rear of the tub, the rear edge of said dressing table extending longitudinally of and secured to the bight portion of said rear bail, and means for automatically effecting the downward swinging movement of the bight portion of said rear bail for taking up the slack in said dressing table when the first mentioned bail is swung rearwardly and for tensioning the upward swinging movement of said bail and for stretching the dressing table in active position overlying the tub and in spanning relation thereto when the first mentioned bail is swung forwardly.

8. In an infant's bathtub and associated support therefor, a sheet of flexible material, a forward bail having a bight portion and side arms pivoted to the support, and a rear bail having a bight portion and side arms pivoted to said support, said sheet of flexible material being secured at its opposite longitudinal edges to the bight portions respectively of said forward and rear bails and said sheet of material being positioned to serve as a dressing table by swinging the bails about their pivots in a direction to stretch the sheet above the tub and being positioned to permit the use of the tub for bathing by swinging the bails about their pivots in the opposite direction.

9. In an infant's bathing device having a foldable support including longitudinal connecting bars and a collapsible tub carried thereby, the improvement which comprises a sheet of flexible material having front and rear longitudinal edges, a separate linear element connected to each longitudinal edge of the flexible material, pivotal means connecting each linear element to the support, said linear elements being arranged to swing on their respective pivotal means and to stretch the sheet of flexible material to a horizontal position over the tub to serve as a dressing table when the support is in its extended set-up position, and means for locking said support in its extended set-up position and securing the dressing table in stretched active position.

10. In an infant's bathing device having a foldable support including front and rear longitudinal connecting bars and a collapsible tub carried thereby, the improvement which comprises a sheet of flexible material having front and rear longitudinal edges, said rear longitudinal edge being operatively anchored to the rear longitudinal bar, a linear element connected to the front longitudinal edge of said sheet, a side arm connected to each end of the linear element and pivotally connected to the support, said linear element being swingable on the side arms from a position near the rear longitudinal bar in which the flexible material is in an inactive position to a position adjacent the front longitudinal bar in which the flexible material is stretched to an active position above the tub to serve as a dressing table when the support is in its extended set-up position, and locking means for securing the linear element in its position adjacent the front longitudinal bar, said arms being arranged to oppose the tension in the flexible material tending to close the support whereby the support is secured in its extended position.

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