

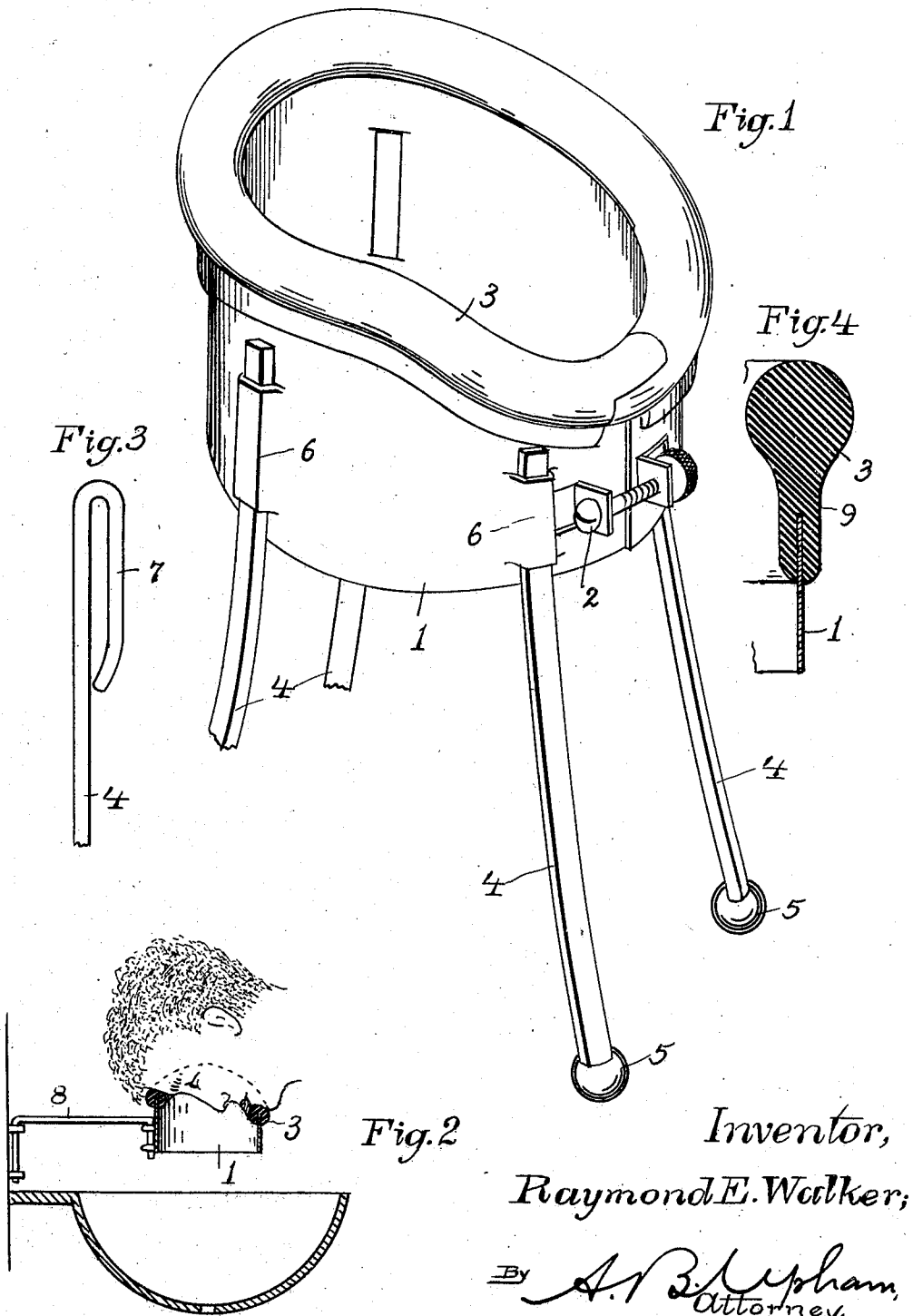
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FACE SHIELD

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FACE SHIELD

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Whenever a person shampoos his head and the soap and lather are sprayed from his hair, with his head bent down to permit the soapy water to drain into a washbowl, the liquid oftentimes gets into the nose, mouth and eyes of the person, to his great annoyance, discomfort and distress.

One object of this invention is the effecting of means for protecting such a person's face from the distressing and strangling soapy water; and the invention for this purpose consists of a shield having a yielding rim against which the face can be pressed to maintain a water-tight contact by which the water pouring down over the person's head cannot reach his eyes and nose and mouth, so that the rinsing can be continued indefinitely without distress.

This invention may also be used as a vapor inhaling device, as it is air-tight at the top when the face rests upon it, so that none of the vapor can escape between the face and the top.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a face shield embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation illustrating the manner in which the shield is used. Fig. 3 shows a modified form of one of the supporting legs. Fig. 4 is a cross section of the yielding pad, substantially full size.

The main body of the shield is a sheet metal shell 1 in a substantially cylindrical shape, having its ends overlapping and held in place by an adjusting screw 2 to enable the shell to be expanded and contracted to suit different sizes of faces. On the top edge of this shell is removably mounted a yielding cushion or pad 3 preferably of soft rubber, having its ends overlapping to accommodate the adjustment of the shell. By making this pad 3 removable a sanitary feature is provided, which is especially desirable when the shield is used in public places such as barber shops, as the pad may readily be taken off the shell 1 and cleansed in the presence of each customer.

As shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the side or cheek portions 32 of the pad 3 are higher than the front or chin portion 3^b and

the rear or forehead portion 3^c, thus making a perfect fit for the face so that by merely resting the face upon the yielding pad 3 it becomes absolutely water and air tight.

To support this shield over a washbasin or other drain, it may be mounted on a swinging arm 8, as illustrated in Fig. 2, or provided with legs 4 whose lower ends are provided with rubber tips 5 to protect from scratching the basin in which the legs are stood.

I prefer to have these legs removable to render the device more compact for transportation and storage; the shell 1 having parts 6 stamped out therefrom to permit the upper ends of the legs to be pressed therein, as shown in Fig. 1. If these legs are formed from bar metal which is wider than it is thick, they will not turn in their sockets 6; but if it is wished to have the legs made of wire, the upper ends thereof can be folded over, as at 7 in Fig. 3, for keeping them from turning in their sockets.

In using this shield, the person presses his face down upon the cushion 3, as illustrated in Fig. 2, so that a practically water-tight fit of the cushion will be formed with his face, and all water flowing upon his head will be discharged down the exterior of the shield and none can reach within the same and interfere with his mouth, nose and eyes.

As shown in Fig. 4, the yielding pad 3 is preferably formed with a flange or neck 9 beneath it in order to permit the pad to have both a lateral and a vertical yield, for the purpose of giving it a more perfect fit to the face of the user. Thus shaped, the metal shell 1 may be dispensed with, although I prefer to use the latter.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. As a new article of manufacture a device of the character described comprising a tubular member having a top edge that is made undulating and of a size and shape to fit throughout its circuit against the front of a person's face so as to bear against the forehead, temples, cheeks and lower lip, and means for supporting said member in an elevated position with its undulating top edge

uppermost and its lower end open to the atmosphere.

2. A device of the character described constructed in accordance with claim 1 wherein said supporting means consists of a plurality
5 of separate legs adapted to rest at their lower ends upon a support, and wherein means is provided for detachably connecting the upper ends of said legs with said member.

10 3. A device of the character described constructed in accordance with claim 1 and wherein said member consists of a tubular sheet metal shell and a soft rubber annulus telescopically engaged with the upper end of
15 said shell and constituting said top edge.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing invention, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of January, 1928.

RAYMOND E. WALKER.

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