Oct. 22, 1963 R. H. GLUTTING, SR 3,107,361

SHOWER BATH CURTAIN

Filed Dec. 26, 1961 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

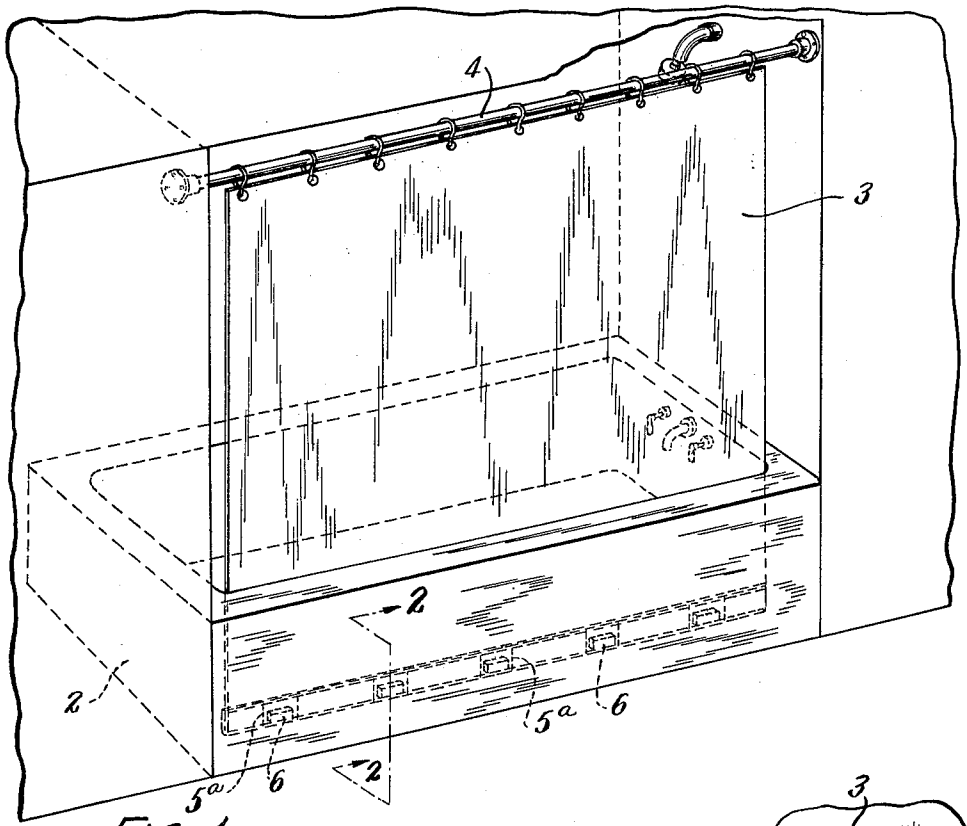


FIG. 1

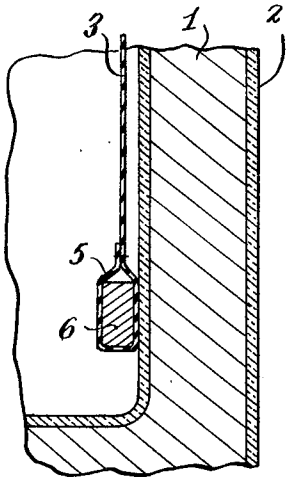


FIG. 2

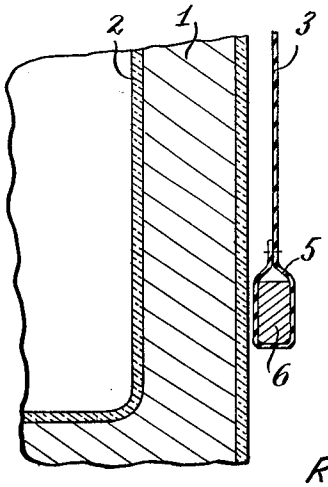


FIG. 3

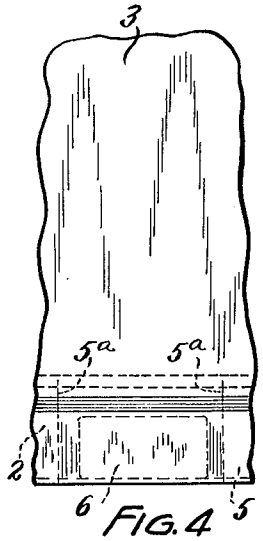


FIG. 4

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Oct. 22, 1963 R. H. GLUTTING, SR 3,107,361

SHOWER BATH CURTAIN

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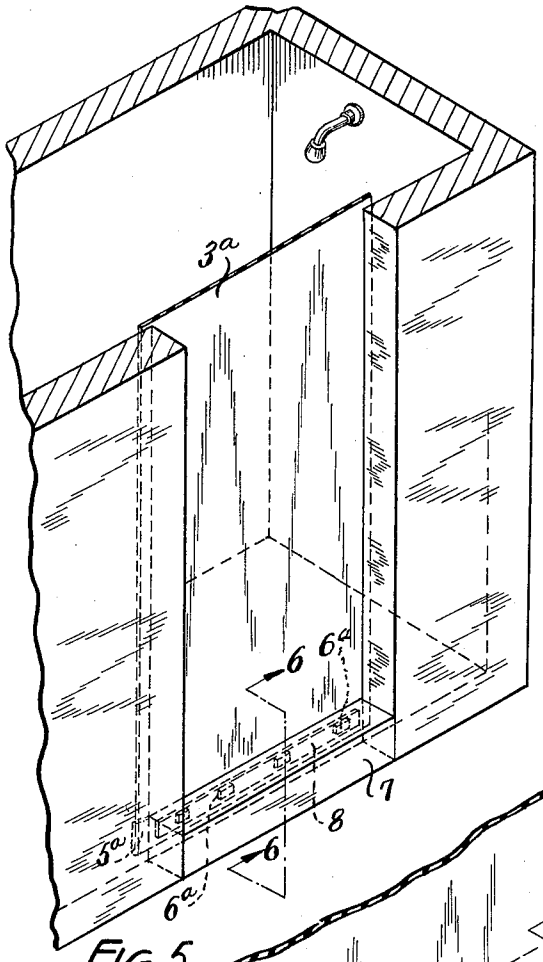


FIG. 5

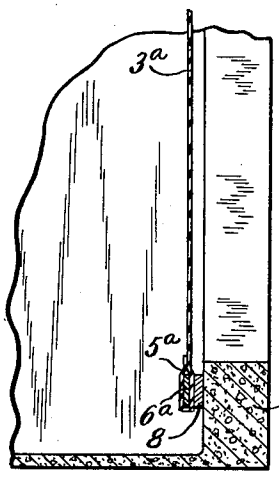


FIG. 6

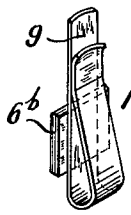


FIG. 9

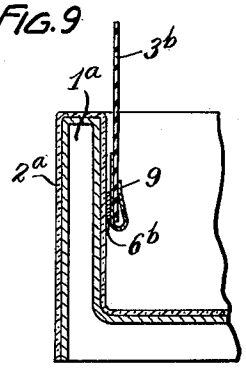


FIG. 8

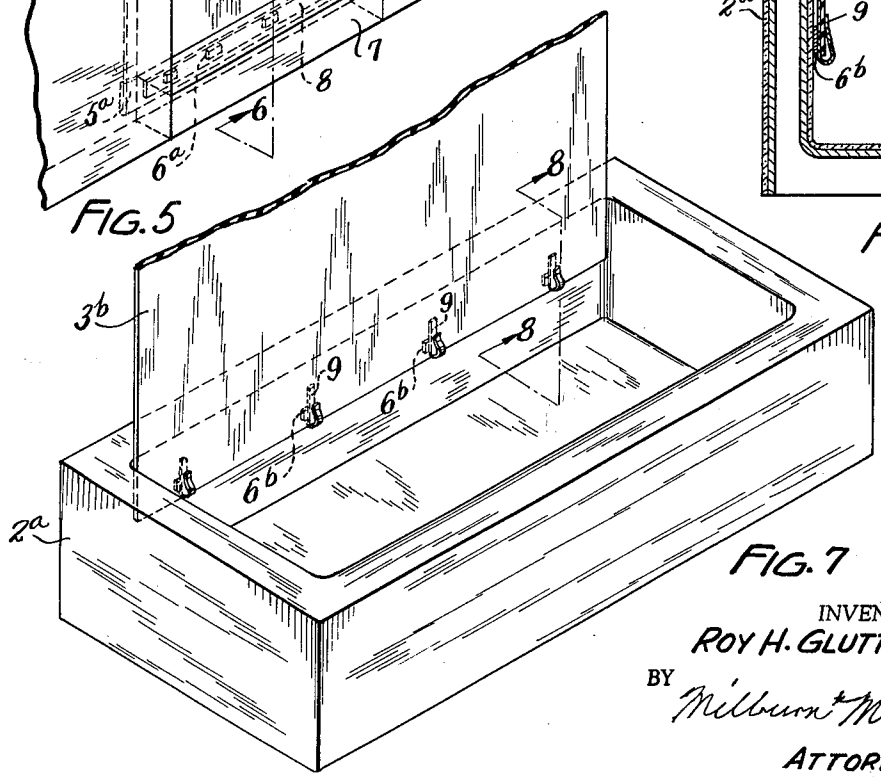


FIG. 7

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3,107,361

SHOWER BATH CURTAIN

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Filed Dec. 26, 1961, Ser. No. 162,024
3 Claims. (Cl. 4—149)

This invention is for an improved shower bath curtain of the same general type as that shown in the U.S. patent to Piken, No. 2,212,326, August 20, 1940.

I am of course aware that in the above-noted patent the provision of permanent magnets at the bottom of the shower bath curtain was recognized as an improvement upon the former suction cups at the bottom part of the curtain for the same purpose. Likewise, my present invention is an improvement upon the form of device disclosed in the Piken patent, supra, as will be observed from the following.

One object of my present invention is to provide a shower bath curtain with magnetic means that will be effective in holding the bottom edge portion of the curtain closely and firmly in the desired position against the wall of the tub or other form of shower compartment only when the curtain occupies position within the same during actual use of the curtain but not when the curtain hangs upon the outside of the tub or other form of shower compartment, the idea being to permit the curtain to be slid along the top rod in a free manner when it occupies position outside of the tub or other shower compartment and yet to prevent the curtain from flapping about the bather during the period of actual use, that is when the curtain occupies position upon the inside of the tub or other shower compartment.

A further object is to devise such an improvement in which the magnetic means at the bottom part of the curtain is inherently proof against rust.

More specifically, my invention contemplates the provision of the lower part of the shower bath curtain with weights that are in effect magnetized upon only one side thereof and that are arranged upon the curtain in such manner that such effective magnetized sides of the weights will be adjacent the inner surface of the tub or other shower compartment wall when the curtain hangs within the same and the weights will be attracted by the ferrous metal portion of the tub or other shower compartment only when in such position, as will be more fully explained.

Other objects will appear from the following description and claims when considered together with the accompanying drawing.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view illustrating the embodiment of my present invention in a shower bath with a tub;

FIG. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view corresponding to line 2—2 of FIG. 1 but showing the curtain upon the outside of the tub;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged partial front elevation;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view illustrating my present invention when used with a shower stall or compartment other than a tub;

FIG. 6 is a sectional view taken on line 6—6 of FIG. 5;

FIG. 7 is a perspective view of a tub with another means for attaching the magnetized members to the bottom of the shower curtain;

FIG. 8 is a sectional view taken on line 8—8 of FIG. 7;

FIG. 9 is a perspective detail view of the form of attachable member shown in FIG. 7 and FIG. 8 and which may be used also in connection with the shower compartment illustrated in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6.

Referring now to the first form of my present invention, there is disclosed in FIG. 1 of the accompanying

drawing a conventional form of bath tub with a ferrous metal core 1 that is enclosed within the usual porcelain body 2, the tub being provided with the familiar shower attachment and a shower curtain 3 that is hung so as to be slidable upon the rod 4 for movement into either closed or withdrawn position and that can have its lower part arranged either within the tub or outside thereof in the well-known manner.

It is of course understood that the force of the spraying water and any current or other disturbance of the air are apt to cause flapping of the curtain when in position of use and this is calculated to annoy the bather especially when the moving curtain strikes his body. This objectionable situation has already been recognized; and it is also understood to be common practice to slide the shower bath curtain 3 along its rod 4 outside of the tub or other shower compartment so as to get it out of the way when not in use.

Accordingly, with this dual situation in mind, I have devised one arrangement in which there are placed within the hem 5 at the bottom of the curtain 3 a number of spaced duplicate weights 6 of suitable material that are held in position by cross-stitching the hem to form pockets 5*a* and that may have the effect of being magnetized upon only one side thereof, these weights being arranged with their effective magnetized sides adjacent the inner surface of the wall of the tub when suspended therewithin during actual use of the shower bath. In such arrangement these weights will be attracted by the ferrous metal core 1 of the tub and the curtain will thereby be effectively held against the tub wall. In this way there is precluded the objectionable flapping of the curtain about the body of the bather. Then, when it is desired to move the curtain to the outside of the tub and to slide the same along the rod 4, the weights may be readily withdrawn from engagement with the tub wall; and, upon placing the curtain upon the outside of the tub, the virtually unmagnetized sides of the weights 6 will be adjacent the tub wall and will not be attracted by the metallic core of the tub but the bottom part of the curtain will hang free so as to permit it to be readily slid along the rod 4 without any hindrance, this condition being emphasized in FIG. 3 of the present drawing by showing a slight clearance between the tub wall and the curtain.

Without attempting to explain exactly and fully the magnetic reaction, I will merely state that there are certain ceramic materials that are capable of being permanently magnetized in such manner that a body of such magnetic material virtually has the effect of being magnetized upon only the one side thereof insofar as the field of magnetic attraction with respect to an outside ferrous body is concerned; and my present invention comprehends the utilization of any such material that is magnetized in such manner. For instance, one of the several ceramic material that possesses this property is as follows: $BaFe_{12}O_{19}$ which is commonly known as barium ferrite.

Thus, with this form of my present invention, the shower bath curtain will be held effectively in desired position within the tub during use of the shower bath and will be freely slidable along the rod 4 when it has been placed outside of the tub so as to move it out of the way when not in use.

In addition to the advantage just referred to, the weights of my present invention, when made of ceramic material, are inherently proof against rust and hence there will be no discoloration of the curtain.

It is to be understood that there might be various forms of my present invention, all of which are intended to be comprehended by the following claims. For instance, the members 6 may be made of any suitable form and size and may be arranged in any suitable manner and may

consist of any inherently rust-proof material that is capable of being virtually magnetized upon only the one side thereof in a permanent manner so as to perform the function as herein contemplated.

Also, this same invention may be employed in connection with a shower bath compartment or stall in which, instead of the conventional full-height tub, there is a low upstanding wall or flange **7** at one or more sides of the bottom of the shower compartment, as illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6 of the accompanying drawing. In this case, the low wall **7** may consist entirely of porcelain and I attach along the inner surface of the wall **7** a strip **8** of stainless steel or other suitable material that will attract the magnetized weights **6***a* that are held within the hem **5***a* of the curtain **3***a* in the same manner as in the first form of device hereinabove described. The co-operation between the strip **8** on the flange or wall **7** and the magnetized weights on the bottom edge portion of the shower curtain will be the same as in the first form of device herein referred to. It is to be understood that in the arrangement shown in FIGS. 5 and 6 the curtain will be designed according to the number of walls **7** in any given case, the present illustration showing the shower compartment with only one open side and hence only one such wall **7** although there may be two or three open sides with the corresponding upstanding low walls.

In FIGS. 7, 8 and 9 I have illustrated another manner of attaching the magnetized weight members to the bottom edge of the shower curtain. That is, instead of enclosing these members within the hem of the curtain, I may secure each magnetized member **6***b* to the one side of a spring metal clip **9** which may be readily slipped onto the bottom edge of the curtain **3***b* so as to have the magnetized side of the member **6***b* adjacent the inner surface of the wall of the tub which is of the same construction as that in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 and which has metallic core **1***a* within porcelain body **2***a*; or so as to have the magnetized side of the member **6***b* adjacent the inner side of the metallic strip **8** on the wall **7** of the shower compartment. The operation of this form of device is the same as in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 and also in connection with FIGS. 5 and 6; the particular advantage of the modification shown in FIGS. 7, 8 and 9 being that the clips **9** with magnetized weight members attached thereto, as illustrated in FIG. 9, may be manufactured and sold

to the user who may readily slip the same onto the bottom edge of his own shower curtain by virtue of the spring action of the clip **9**, without necessitating the purchase of a special curtain. To repeat, this attachment (FIG. 9) may be used in connection with the conventional tub (FIGS. 1, 2 and 3) or with the shower compartment as herein illustrated in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6.

It is believed that other practical advantages flowing from this invention will suggest themselves to those who are familiar with the art to which it relates.

It is to be understood that in the following claims the term "compartment" is employed as a means of convenience in referring to either the conventional tub or any other form of shower bath compartment or stall, in accordance with the present disclosure of my invention.

What I claim is:

1. In combination, a shower bath compartment having an open side with a low upstanding wall at the bottom of said open side, said wall consisting solely of a porcelain body and having ferrous metallic material attached to the inner surface of said low porcelain wall, a shower bath curtain suspended from above and having its bottom edge adapted to hang either inside or outside said wall, portions of magnetized material attached at intervals to the bottom edge of said curtain, said portions being magnetized upon only on one side thereof, said sides facing in the same direction from the bottom edge whereby when the sides face the wall they are magnetically attracted thereto and when the sides face away from said wall there is no magnetic attraction.

2. Structure as in claim 1 wherein each portion has a spring clip attached to the nonmagnetized face, said clip securing the portion to the bottom edge of the curtain.

3. Structure as in claim 1 wherein the bottom edge of the curtain is hemmed over the portions to attach them to the curtain.

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