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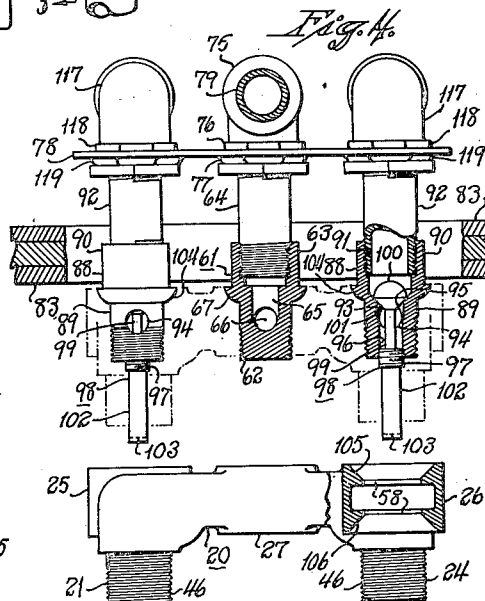
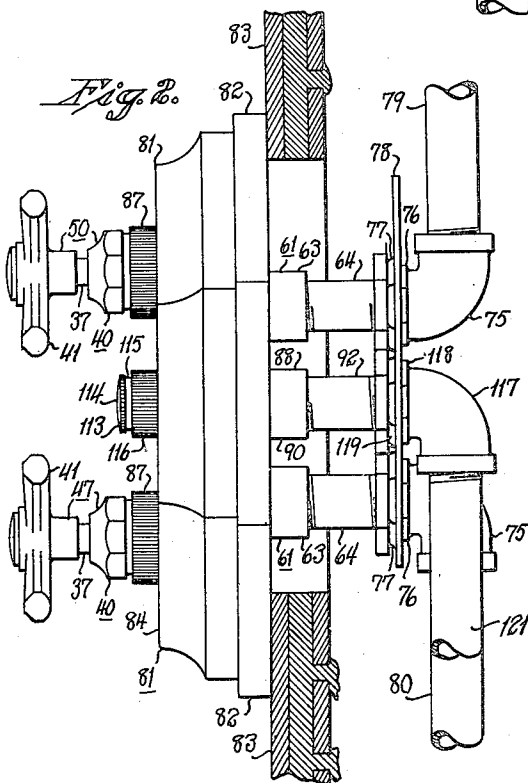
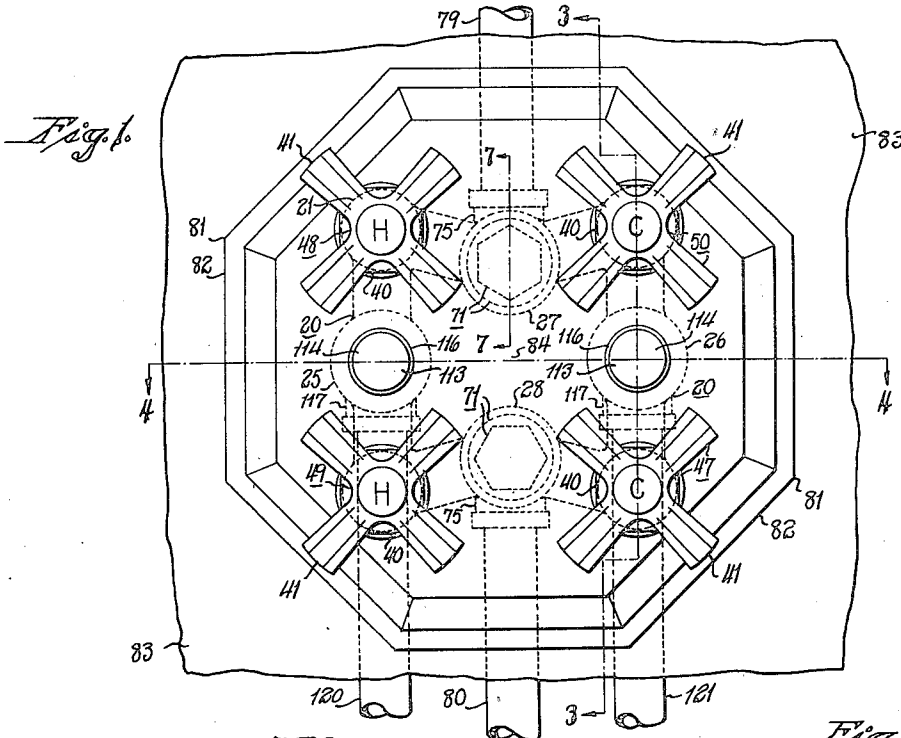
J. R. O'BRIEN

2,138,503

PLURAL-VALVE PLUMBING FIXTURE

Filed June 25, 1937

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Nov. 29, 1938.

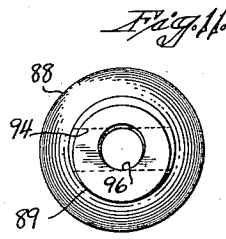
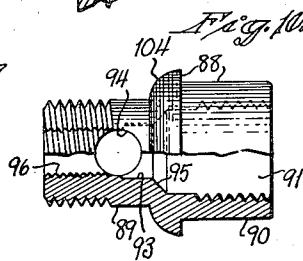
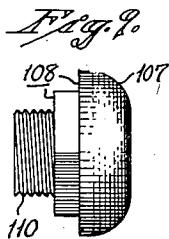
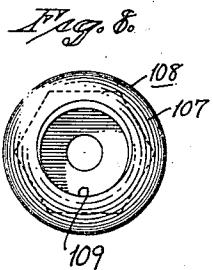
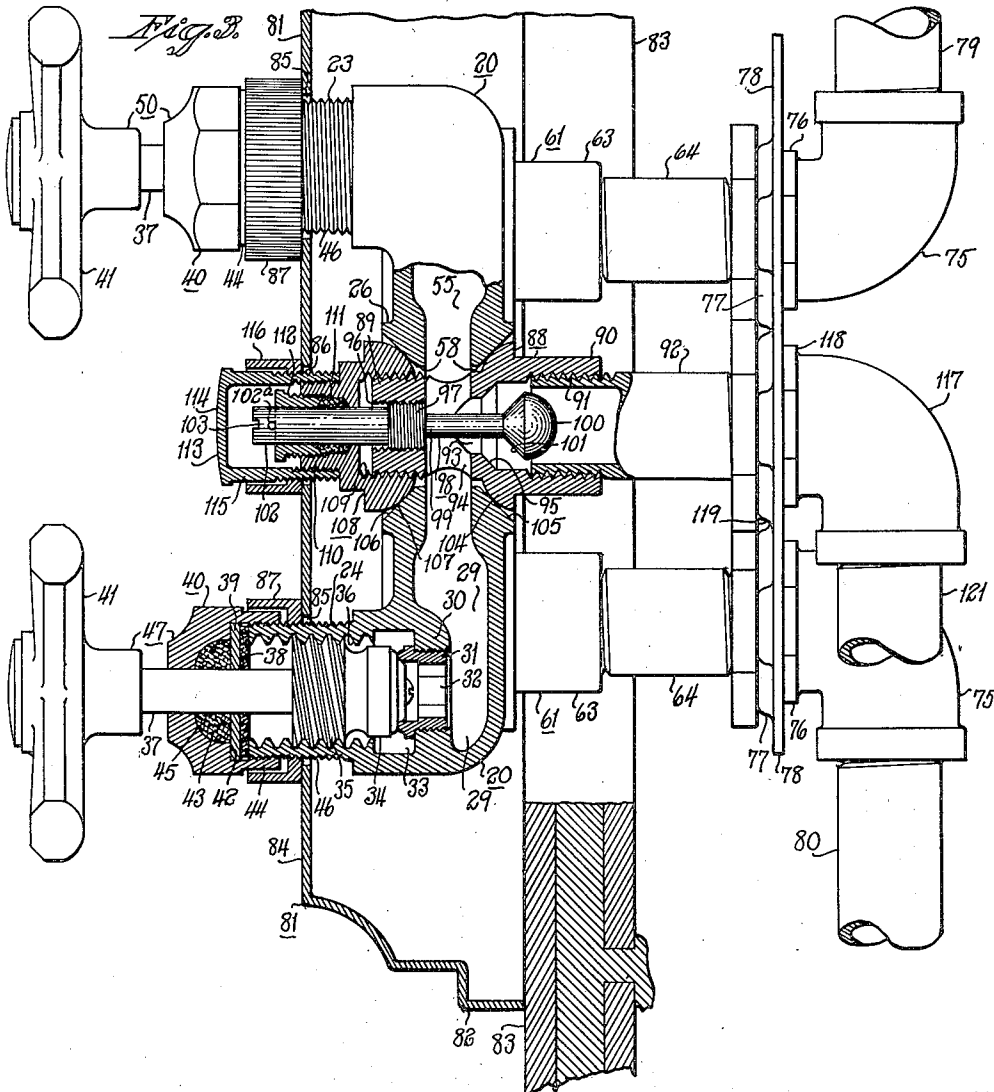
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2,138,503

PLURAL-VALVE PLUMBING FIXTURE

Filed June 25, 1937

3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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2,138,503

PLURAL-VALVE PLUMBING FIXTURE

Filed June 25, 1937

3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 6.

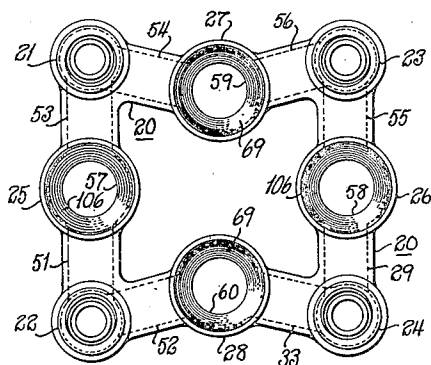


Fig. 13.

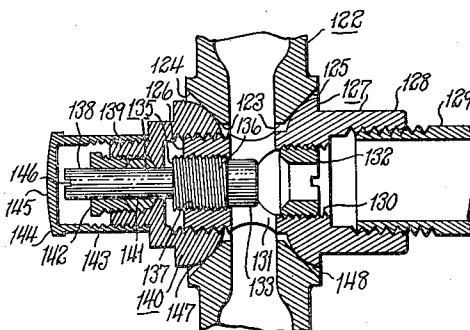


Fig. 5.

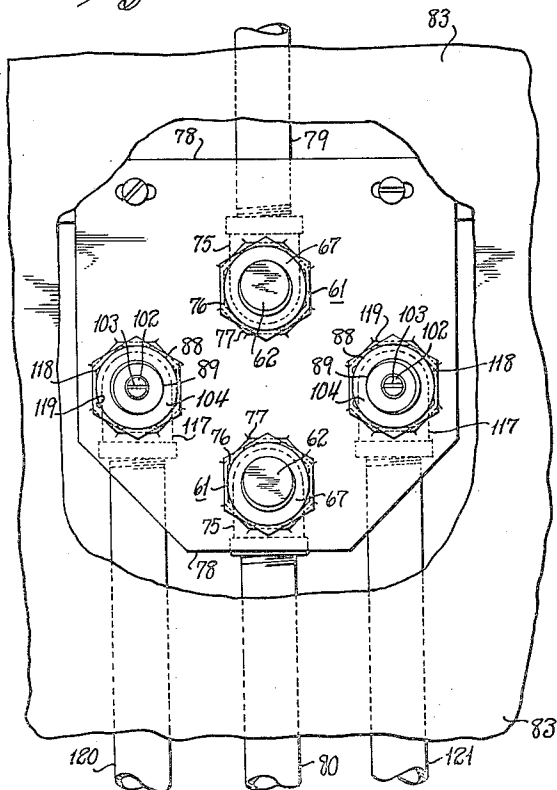


Fig. 12.

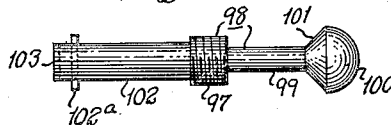
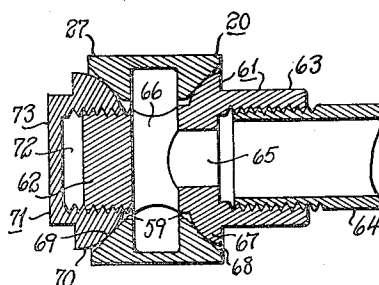


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,138,503

PLURAL-VALVE PLUMBING FIXTURE

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Application June 25, 1937, Serial No. 150,239

19 Claims. (Cl. 277-50)

This invention relates to plumbing fixtures, and more particularly to plumbing fixtures having a plurality of valves for controlling the flow of water to other plumbing fixtures.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a superior plural-valve plumbing fixture in which the supply of water to a desired one or more of the plurality of control-valves may be shut off to permit the convenient inspection and repair of such control-valves without requiring the use of additional piping.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a superior plural-valve plumbing fixture having a distributing-head and so constructed and arranged that the water supply may be conveniently cut off from the said distributing-head and the latter readily removed and replaced as required.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a superior plural-valve plumbing fixture in which the water supply to a given one of the control-valves may be readily shut off at a point adjacent the latter without requiring the removal of the usual escutcheon-plate.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear to those skilled in the art from the present disclosure, this invention includes all features in the said disclosure which are novel over the prior art and which are not claimed by me in a separate application.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view in front elevation of a plural-valve plumbing fixture embodying the present invention and shown as installed in a wall structure;

Fig. 2 is a side view thereof with portions of the wall structure shown in vertical section;

Fig. 3 is a broken sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1, but on a larger scale;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4-4 of Fig. 1, but showing all of the necessary elements removed to permit the removal of the distributing-head which is shown partly in plan and partly in horizontal section, the said distributing-head being shown as spaced from the wall-surface in a position which it would assume during the operation of its removal or replacement;

Fig. 5 is a view in front elevation of the structure shown in Fig. 4, but omitting the distributing-head;

Fig. 6 is a view in front elevation of the distributing-head or ring;

Fig. 7 is a broken view in vertical section taken on the line 7-7 of Fig. 1, but on a larger scale;

Fig. 8 is a view looking toward the inner face of one of the water-inlet sealing-nuts;

Fig. 9 is a view thereof in side elevation;

Fig. 10 is a view partly in side elevation and partly in section of one of the water-inlet connecting-members;

Fig. 11 is a view thereof in end elevation;

Fig. 12 is a view in side elevation of the gate-unit of one of the shut-off valves; and

Fig. 13 is a broken detail sectional view illustrating another form of shut-off valve shown in conjunction with portions of a distributing-head and associated parts.

The particular plural-valve plumbing fixture herein chosen for illustration includes a hollow distributing-head or ring 20 which may be conveniently formed by casting and which in the instance shown is provided with four corresponding forwardly-projecting externally- and internally-threaded tubular extensions constituting valve-bodies or housings 21, 22, 23, 24, and each located at one of the four corners of the distributing-head, which latter is of substantially-rectangular form.

Vertically intermediate the integral valve-bodies 21 and 22, the distributing-head is formed with a hollow enlargement 25 complementing a similar hollow enlargement 26 formed on the opposite side of the distributing-head vertically intermediate the valve-bodies 23 and 24 before referred to. Horizontally intermediate the valve-bodies 21 and 23, the distributing-head is formed with a hollow enlargement 27 corresponding to the enlargements 25 and 26, before referred to, and complementing a similar hollow enlargement 28 located horizontally intermediate the valve-bodies 22 and 24.

Leading downwardly from the hollow enlargement 26 of the distributing-head is a cold-water connecting-passage 29, the lower end of which extends beneath an integral partition 30 (Fig. 3) in which is threaded a removable and replaceable tubular valve-seat bushing 31 having a polygonal water-passage 32 leading forwardly to the adjacent end of a cold-water passage 33 leading to the interior of the enlargement 28 before referred to (Figs. 3 and 6).

Engageable with the forward face of the valve-seat bushing 31 to check or regulate the flow of cold water from the enlargement 26 to the enlargement 28 of the distributing-head, is a valve-head 34 provided with an externally-threaded enlarged portion 35 engageable with threads 36 formed in the inner periphery of the valve-body 24 and serving when rotated by means of a

valve-stem 37 to advance and retire the valve-head 34 as a whole toward and away from the valve-seat bushing 31.

The valve-stem 37, above referred to, extends outwardly through a sealing-washer 38, a clamping-washer 39, and a packing-nut 40, and is provided at its outer end in any approved manner with a valve-handle 41. The packing-washer 38 is preferably formed of indurated fiber and is seated against the outer edge of the valve-body 24 by the clamping-washer 39, which in turn is seated against an inwardly-facing clamping-shoulder 42 formed in the packing-nut 40 intermediate a packing-pocket 43 therein and the internally-threaded skirt 44 thereof. The packing-pocket 43 of the packing-nut 40 is filled with fibrous packing material 45, and the skirt 44 of the said packing-nut is engaged with threads 46 formed upon the outer periphery of the valve-body 24, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

The valve mechanism above described and located in the valve-body 24 constitutes, in the structure shown, a cold-water control-valve and, for convenience of description, will be generally designated by the reference character 47. The remaining valve-bodies 21, 22 and 23 are in the order named provided with a hot-water control-valve generally designated by the reference character 48, a hot-water control-valve generally designated by the reference character 49, and a cold-water control-valve generally designated by the reference character 50. The mechanism of each of the valves 48, 49 and 50 corresponds to the mechanism of the cold-water control-valve 47, and where parts thereof appear in the drawings, such parts bear similar reference characters.

Leading downwardly from the enlargement 25 of the distributing-head 20 to the hot-water control-valve 49 in the valve-body 22 is a hot-water connecting-passage 51, and leading from the said valve to the enlargement 28 is a complementary hot-water passage 52. Leading upwardly from the enlargement 25 to the hot-water control-valve 48 in the valve-body 21 is a hot-water connecting-passage 53, and leading laterally from the said valve to the enlargement 27 is a hot-water passage 54. In a similar manner, a cold-water connecting-passage 55 leads from the enlargement 26 upwardly to the cold-water control-valve 50 in the valve-body 23, and in turn, a cold-water passage 56 leads laterally from the said control-valve 50 to the enlargement 27.

Centrally intersecting the enlargement 25 of the distributing-head 20 and extending from front to rear therethrough is a passage 57. Similarly, the enlargements 26, 27 and 28 are respectively provided with central passages 58, 59 and 60. The passages 59 and 60 respectively formed in the enlargements 27 and 28, each receive one of two corresponding water-outlet connecting-members, generally designated by the reference character 61, one of which is especially well shown in Fig. 7. Each of the said water-outlet connecting members 61 includes a forwardly-projecting externally-threaded stud-like portion 62 and a rearwardly-extending socket 63 having internal threads and receiving the externally-threaded forward end of a water-outlet nipple 64.

Each water-outlet connecting-member 61 is also formed with an axial water-passage 65 communicating at its rear end with the socket 63 and communicating at its forward end with a transverse water-passage 66 extending diametrically through the stud-like portion 62. The passage 66, together with the passage 65, forms a T-

shaped water-passage and communicates at the respective opposite ends of the transverse portion 66 thereof with the water-passages leading to the particular one of the enlargements 27 and 28 in which the given connecting-member 61 is mounted.

Each water-outlet connecting-member 61 is formed with an integral sealing-flange 67 of rounded form in cross-section and adapted to make a substantially-line contact with the sloping surface of a rearwardly-facing sealing-seat 68 formed in the rear face of each of the enlargements 27 and 28 concentrically with the passages 59 and 60 respectively therein. Formed in the forward face of each of the enlargements referred to, concentrically with the passages 59 and 60 respectively therein, is a forwardly-facing conical sealing-seat 69 which is engaged by the transversely-curved inner face 70 of a water-outlet sealing nut, generally designated by the reference character 71. The said sealing-nut is provided with an internally-threaded socket 72 closed at one end by an end-wall 73 and receiving the externally-threaded stud-like portion 62 of the complementary water outlet connecting-member 61.

By tightening the sealing-nut 71, the sealing-flange 67 of its complementary connecting-member 61 is seated against the conical sealing-seat 68 in the rear face of the distributing-head 20, and at the same time the transversely-curved inner face 70 of the said nut is firmly seated against the forwardly-facing conical sealing-seat 69 in the forward face of the said distributing-head. In this manner the leakage of water from within the distributing-head and past the contacting surfaces 67—68 and 69—70 is effectively prevented. Furthermore, any water which may leak between the threads of the portion 62 of the connecting-member and the threads in the socket 72 of the sealing-nut 71 is prevented from leaking outwardly by the end-wall 73 of the said nut.

As before pointed out, each of the connecting-members 61 (one being connected to each of the enlargements 27 and 28) has coupled to it a nipple 64, the rear end of each of which is threaded into an elbow 75. Each of the elbows 75, just referred to, is preferably formed with a polygonal portion 76 seating in a similarly-shaped socket 77 formed in a sheet-metal template 78, all as is more fully shown and described in my co-pending application, Serial No. 130,093, filed March 10, 1937.

The elbow 75 connected to the enlargement 27 has connected to its upwardly-extending arm an outlet-pipe 79 leading upwardly to a shower-head or the like (not shown). Similarly, the downwardly-extending terminal of the elbow 75 connected to the enlargement 28 has connected to it an outlet-pipe 80 leading to a bathtub or the like (not shown).

Placed over the distributing-head 20 and concealing the same, as well as concealing the inner portions of the four valve-bodies 21 to 24 inclusive, is a sheet-metal escutcheon or finishing-plate 81 having in the instance shown a rearwardly-extending polygonal flange 82 contacting with the outer surface of a wall 83 and including a substantially-flat front-portion 84 which is provided with four equidistant perforations 85 through which respectively extend one of the valve-bodies 21, 22, 23 and 24. The front-portion 84 of the escutcheon or finishing-plate 81 is also formed with two corresponding perforations 86—86 respectively located vertically intermediate

the valve-bodies 21—22 and 23—24. For the purpose of conveniently retaining the escutcheon 81 in place, a cup-shaped retaining-nut 87 is threaded upon the external threads on each of the integral valve-bodies 21 to 24 inclusive.

Installed in each of the passages 57 and 58 respectively formed in the enlargements 25 and 26 is one of two corresponding water-inlet connecting-members, each of which is generally designated by the reference characters 88, and each of which is formed with a forwardly-extending stud-like portion 89 and a rearwardly-extending skirt 90 providing a rearwardly-opening threaded socket 91. The socket 91 of each of the water-inlet connecting-members serves as an entry-end thereto, which opens to a source of water supply and in the arrangement shown receives the externally-threaded forward end of a nipple 92. Each connecting-member is also formed with an axial water-passage 93 leading forwardly from the socket 91 and intersecting at its forward end a transverse water-passage 94 extending diametrically through the stud-like portion 89. The passage 94 together with the passage 93 forms a T-shaped water-passage and communicates at the respective opposite ends of the transverse portion 94 thereof with the water-passages leading away from the particular one of the enlargements 25 and 26 in which the given connecting-member 88 is mounted.

Intermediate the socket 91 in each of the connecting-members 88 and the axial passage 93 therein, there is provided at the said entry-end of each water-inlet connecting-member 88 a valve-seat 95 of conical form, but which may be generally characterized as rearwardly facing. The water-inlet connecting-members 88 correspond to the water-outlet connecting-members 61, before described, save that each of the connecting-members 88 is provided with a valve-seat 95 and also has its stud-like portion 89 formed with a threaded axial passage 96. In the passage 96 of each connecting-member 88 is threaded the externally-threaded central portion 97 of a shut-off-valve gate-unit, generally designated by the reference character 98. Projecting rearwardly from the threaded portion 97, just referred to, is a relatively-slender stem 99 carrying at its rear end a valve-head 100 having a conically-contoured forward face 101 adapted on occasion to engage with the valve-seat 95 in the connecting-member 88. Extending forwardly from the threaded portion 97 of the gate-member 98 is a relatively-large cylindrical operating-stem 102 formed in its forward end with a kerf 103 by means of which the gate-unit 98 may be turned, for the purpose as will hereinafter appear.

Each of the connecting-members 88 above described is formed with an integral sealing-flange 104 of rounded form in cross-section and adapted to make a substantially-line contact with the conical sloping surface of a rearwardly-facing sealing-seat 105 formed in the rear face of each of the enlargements 25 and 26. Formed in the forward wall of each of the enlargements 25 and 26 concentrically with the passages 57 and 58 respectively thereof is a forwardly-facing conical sealing-seat 106. Each sealing-seat 106 is engaged by the transversely-curved inner face 107 of a water-inlet sealing-nut generally designated by the reference character 108 and having an internally-threaded socket 109 receiving the externally-threaded stud-like portion 89 of the complementary water-inlet connecting-member 88.

The sealing-nut 108 of each of the connecting-

members 88 is formed with a forwardly-extending sleeve 110 which is both internally and externally threaded as shown in Figs. 3 and 9. The operating-stem 102 of the gate-unit 98 extends forwardly through the sleeve 110 and is surrounded by packing material 111 located in the said sleeve 110 and compressed therein by a gland-nut 112 which is threaded within the said sleeve 110. Removably threaded upon the exterior of the sleeve 110 is a cup-shaped cap 113 having an end wall 114 provided with a knurled periphery and also having a rearwardly-extending tubular flange 115 which is both internally and externally threaded at its inner portion. The internal threads of the flange 115 engage with the external threads of the sleeve 110 of the sealing-nut 108 while the external threads of the said flange 115 are engaged by the internal threads of a cup-shaped retaining-nut 116 which ordinarily bears against the front face of the escutcheon 81 and serves to provide a finishing-member which conceals the external threads upon the cap 113.

As before pointed out, each of the water-inlet connecting-members 88 (one of which is connected to each of the enlargements 25 and 26) has coupled to it a nipple 92. The rear end of each of the said nipples is threaded into an elbow 117 each of which is formed with a polygonal portion 118 seating in a similarly-shaped locating-socket 119 in the sheet-metal template 78 before described.

The elbow 117 connected to the enlargement 25 has connected to its downwardly-extending arm a hot-water supply-pipe 120 and similarly the downwardly-extending arm of the elbow 117 leading to the enlargement 26 has connected to it a cold-water supply-pipe 121.

The particular plural-valve plumbing fixture herein chosen for illustration provides for either selectively or simultaneously supplying a mixture of both hot and cold water either to a shower-head or to a bathtub or the like, as will be obvious from the foregoing description and the accompanying drawings. Thus, for instance, should the valves 48 and 50 be simultaneously opened, both hot and cold water will flow upwardly through the pipe 79. In a similar manner, should the hot-water valve 49 and the cold-water valve 47 be simultaneously opened, a supply of water would be delivered to the depending outlet-pipe 80. If either or both valves of both sets of valves are simultaneously opened, water will simultaneously be supplied to both the pipes 79 and 80.

For the purpose of illustrating certain of the advantages of the present invention, let it be presumed that the fixture is installed in the manner illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 and that it should develop that the distributing-head or ring 20 is defective and leaks. Under such circumstances, both of the caps 113 would be unthreaded from their complementary sleeves 110 (forming a feature of the sealing-nuts 108) to thus make accessible for engagement by a screw-driver or other suitable tool the kerf 103 in the forward end of the operating-stem 102 of each of the gate-units 98. Each of the gate-units 98 is now turned by means of a tool inserted in the kerf 103 until the valve-head 100 is shifted from the position in which it is shown in Fig. 3 to the position in which it is shown in Fig. 4 to thereby bring the said head into sealing engagement with the shut-off valve-seat 95 at the entry-end of the complementary connecting-member 88.

In the above manner the water-pressure is cut

off from all four of the control-valves 47 to 50 inclusive and the same may be dismantled to permit the removal of the escutcheon or finishing-plate 81. All of the retaining-nuts 87 and 5 116 are now removed and the said escutcheon 81 is in turn removed from over the distributing-ring or head 20.

The gland-nut 112, after the stop-pins 102a have been removed is loosened. Each of the two 10 sealing-nuts 71 and each of the two sealing-nuts 108 are now unscrewed from their respective connecting-members 61 and 88.

The distributing-head or ring 20 may now be removed for repairs or immediately replaced by 15 another distributing-head which is known to be in good condition. During the operations before described it will be noted that the water-supply through the water-inlet connecting-members 88 to the interior of the distributing-head or ring is 20 definitely shut off and then the said ring may be removed from the connecting-members without occasioning the leakage of water from the supply-pipes 120 and 121.

In the event that it becomes necessary to repair 25 the control-valves 47, 48, 49 and 50, it is only necessary to remove the appropriate cap 113 and turn the exposed operating-stem 102 by means of a screw-driver to seat the valve-head 100 against the seat 95 in the connecting-member 88.

It will be noted from the foregoing that inas- 30 much as the shut-off-valve gate-units are carried by the inner connecting-members, the effectiveness of such gate-units is not impaired by the removal of the sealing-nuts or even by the 35 removal of the distributing-head or ring itself.

Fig. 13 shows another form of shut-off valve-mechanism suitable for use with plural-valve plumbing fixtures of the present invention. In the structure of Fig. 13 a distributing-head or 40 ring 122 is employed which generally corresponds to the distributing-head or ring 20, before described, and like the same is provided with a transverse water-passage 123 communicating with the hollow interior of the distributing-head 45 122 and terminating at its respective opposite ends in conical sealing-seats 124 and 125. Projecting through the transverse passage 123 is the stud-like portion 126 of a connecting-member which is generally designated by the reference 50 character 127 and which includes a rearwardly-projecting internally-threaded sleeve 128 receiving a water-supply nipple 129.

Formed in the connecting-member 127 and leading forwardly from the interior of the sleeve 55 128 is an internally-threaded passage 130 intersecting at its forward end a water-passage 131 which extends diametrically across the stud-like portion 126 and communicates at its respective opposite ends with the hollow interior of the 60 distributing-head 122. Installed in the water-passage 130, just referred to, is a valve-seat bushing 132, the forward conical face of which is adapted to be engaged by the rear face of a valve-head 133 forming the rear terminal of a shut- 65 off-valve gate-unit, generally designated by the reference character 135. The valve-head 133 extends rearwardly from an externally-threaded portion 136 of the said gate-unit, which portion is threaded into an internally-threaded bore 137 70 formed in the stud-like portion 126 at a point forwardly of the transverse water-passage 131 therein. The gate-unit also includes a forwardly-extending operating-stem 138 which passes through an externally- and internally- 75 threaded sleeve 139 forwardly offsetting from a

sealing-nut 140, generally corresponding to the sealing-nut 108 of the structure illustrated in the figures preceding Fig. 13. Located in the sleeve 139 of the sealing-nut 140 is a body of packing material 141 which is held in place by 5 a gland-nut 142 threaded into the interior of the said sleeve 139.

Threaded over the exterior of the sleeve 139 of the sealing-nut 140 is the tubular flange 143 of a cup-shaped cap 144 which includes also a 10 convex front-end wall 145. By removing the cap 144, the kerf 146 in the forward end of the operating-stem 138 is made available for manipulation. The sealing-nut 140 is provided with an 15 annular transversely-rounded sealing-flange 147 which seats against the conical sealing-seat 124 in the forward face of the distributing-head 122. In a similar manner, the connecting-member 127 is formed about midway of its length with an 20 annular transversely-rounded sealing-flange 148 which seats against the rearwardly-facing sealing-seat 125 formed in the rear wall of the distributing-ring 122.

The invention may be carried out in other specific ways than those herein set forth without departing from the spirit and essential characteristics of the invention, and the present embodiments are, therefore, to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, and all 30 changes coming within the meaning and equivalency range of the appended claims are intended to be embraced therein.

I claim:

1. A plural-valve plumbing fixture constructed and arranged for removable interposition between a source of water supply and outlets therefor including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also 40 having a water-inlet passage opening at an entry-end thereof to a source of water supply and communicating at its opposite end with the hollow interior of the distributing-head; and shut-off means including a valve-seat provided at the said entry-end of the water-inlet passage and cooperating valve-structure arranged substantially axially in line with the inlet-passage of the said distributing-head and normally positioned in non-sealing relation and operable from the forward 50 face of the same to engage the said valve-seat to seal the said inlet-passage at the entry-end thereof against passage of water through the said inlet-passage to the interior of the distributing-head.

2. A plural-valve plumbing fixture constructed and arranged for removable interposition between a source of water supply and outlets therefor including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also 60 having a water-inlet passage opening at an entry-end thereof to a source of water supply and communicating at its opposite end with the hollow interior of the distributing-head; an escutcheon concealing the said distributing-head and having an aperture therein; and shut-off means including a valve-seat provided at the said entry-end of the water-inlet passage and cooperating valve-structure arranged in line with the inlet-passage of the said distributing-head and in line with the aperture in the said escutcheon normally 70 positioned in non-sealing relation and operable from the forward face of the same through the 75

aperture therein to engage the said valve-seat to seal the inlet-passage at the entry-end thereof against passage of water through the said inlet-passage to the interior of the distributing-head.

3. A plural-valve plumbing fixture constructed and arranged for removable interposition between a source of water supply and outlets therefor including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also having a water-inlet passage opening at an entry-end thereof to a source of water supply and communicating at its opposite end with the hollow interior of the distributing-head; an escutcheon concealing the said distributing-head and having an aperture therein; and shut-off means including a valve-seat provided at the said entry-end of the water-inlet passage and cooperating valve-structure having an operating portion arranged in line with the aperture in the said escutcheon and a rearwardly-mounted valve-head arranged in position to engage the said valve-seat to seal the inlet-passage at the entry-end thereof against passage of water through the said inlet-passage to the interior of the distributing-head.

4. A plural-valve plumbing fixture constructed and arranged for removable interposition between a source of water supply and outlets therefor including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also having a water-inlet passage opening at an entry-end thereof to a source of water supply and communicating at its opposite end with the hollow interior of the distributing-head; an escutcheon concealing the said distributing-head and having an aperture therein; shut-off means including a valve-seat provided at the said entry-end of the water-inlet passage and cooperating valve-structure having an operating portion arranged in line with the aperture in the said escutcheon and a rearwardly-mounted valve-head arranged in position to engage the said valve-seat to seal the inlet-passage at the entry-end thereof against passage of water through the said inlet-passage to the interior of the distributing-head; and a removable cap closing the aperture in the said escutcheon and concealing the said shut-off valve.

5. A plural-valve plumbing fixture constructed and arranged for removable interposition between a source of water supply and outlets therefor including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also having a water-inlet passage opening at an entry-end thereof to a source of water supply and communicating at its opposite end with the hollow interior of the distributing-head; an escutcheon concealing the said distributing-head and having an aperture therein; shut-off means including a valve-seat provided at the said entry-end of the water-inlet passage and cooperating valve-structure having an operating portion arranged in line with the aperture in the said escutcheon and a rearwardly-mounted valve-head arranged in position to engage the said valve-seat to seal the inlet-passage at the entry-end thereof against passage of water through the said inlet-passage to the interior of the distributing-head; and a removable cap having a portion extending through the aperture in the said escutcheon to conceal the said shut-off valve and carried by

the said distributing-head independently of the said escutcheon.

6. A plural-valve plumbing fixture constructed and arranged for removable interposition between a source of water supply and outlets therefor including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having two control-valves spaced apart from each other and controlling the outflow of water from the distributing-head, the said distributing-head also having a water-passage located intermediate the two said control-valves, the said water-passage opening at an entry-end thereof to a source of water supply and communicating in the interior of the distributing-head with connecting-passages to the said two control-valves; and shut-off means including a valve-seat provided at the said entry-end of the water-inlet passage and cooperating valve-structure arranged substantially axially in line with the water-passage of the said distributing-head intermediate the two said control-valves and having a normally non-seated valve-head in position to engage the said valve-seat to seal the said water-passage at the entry-end thereof against the passage of water through the water-passage to the said connecting-passages and control-valves of the distributing-head.

7. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a pair of spaced-apart control valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also having a water-passage communicating with its hollow interior; an escutcheon concealing the said distributing-head and having an aperture therein in a position intermediate the two said control-valves; and a shut-off valve organized with the said distributing-head at a point intermediate the two said control-valves and in line with the aperture in the said escutcheon and controlling the flow of water from the water-passage in the said distributing-head to both of the said control-valves.

8. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a pair of spaced-apart control-valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also having a water-passage communicating with its hollow interior; an escutcheon concealing the said distributing-head and having an aperture therein in a position intermediate the two said control-valves; a shut-off valve organized with the said distributing-head at a point intermediate the two said control-valves and in line with the aperture in the said escutcheon and controlling the flow of water from the water-passage in the said distributing-head to both of the said control-valves; and a removable cap closing the aperture in the said escutcheon and concealing the said shut-off valve.

9. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a pair of spaced-apart control-valves organized therewith and controlling the outflow of water therefrom, the said distributing-head also having a water-passage communicating with its hollow interior; an escutcheon concealing the said distributing-head and having an aperture therein in a position intermediate the two said control-valves; a shut-off valve organized with the said distributing-head at a point intermediate the two said control valves and in line with the aperture in the said escutcheon and controlling the flow of water from the water-passage in the said

distributing-head to both of the said control-valves; and a removable cap normally organized with the said distributing-head to conceal the said shut-off valve therein and having a portion projecting forwardly through the aperture in the said escutcheon.

10. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a tubular distributing-ring of substantially-rectangular form having four control-valves organized therewith at each of the four corners thereof and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having two water-passages communicating with its hollow interior and respectively located intermediate a given pair of the said control-valves; and a pair of shut-off valves respectively controlling the flow of water through one of the water-passages of the said distributing-head and operable from the forward face of the same to shut off the flow of water to the particular pair of control-valves between which it is located.

11. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; a connecting-member removably organized with the said distributing-head and communicating with the passage therein and adapted to be connected to a piping system; and a shut-off valve carried by the said removable connecting-member in position to be operated from a position adjacent one of the said control-valves to cut off the supply of water thereto.

12. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; a connecting-member also organized with the said distributing-head and connected to the passage therein and adapted to be connected to a piping system; and a shut-off valve carried by the said connecting-member and having an operating portion arranged axially with respect to the said passage in the said distributing-head and located in a position to be operated from a position adjacent one of the said control-valves for shutting off the supply of water thereto.

13. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; connecting-means organized with the said distributing-head and connected to the passage in the same and adapted to be connected with a piping system, the said connecting-means including a front member and a rear member coupled together and respectively clamped against the front and rear walls of the said hollow distributing-head, the said front member having a passage therethrough for the reception of an operating-stem; and a shut-off valve carried by the said connecting-means and rotatable axially with respect thereto for shutting off the supply of water to one or more of the said control-valves, the said shut-off valve having an operating-stem projecting into the passage in the front member of the said connecting-means.

14. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head hav-

ing a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; connecting-means organized with the said distributing-head and serving to connect the interior of the same to a piping system, the said connecting-means including a rear connecting-member clamped against the rear wall of the distributing-head and having a portion projecting into the passage therein and having an angular water-passage communicating with the hollow interior of the distributing-head; the said connecting-means also including a forward clamping-member having a valve-stem passage therethrough and clamped against the forward wall of the said hollow distributing-head; and a shut-off valve carried by the rear connecting-member and serving to shut off the flow of water to one or more of the said control-valves, the said shut-off valve having an operating-stem projecting into the valve-stem passage in the said forward clamping-member.

15. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; a connecting-member adapted to be connected to a piping system and having a projecting portion provided with a water-passage and extending into the passage in the said distributing-head, the said connecting-member also having a portion in sealing engagement with the rear wall of the latter; a clamping-member connected to the said connecting-member and having an axial passage therethrough; and a shut-off valve having threaded engagement with the said connecting-member and having an operating-stem projecting into the passage in the said clamping-member.

16. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; a connecting-member adapted to be connected to a piping system and having a portion extending into the passage in the said distributing-head and also having a T-shaped water-passage communicating with the hollow interior of the said distributing-head, the said connecting-member also having a portion in sealing engagement with the rear wall of the said distributing-head; a clamping-member engaged with the said connecting-member and having a passage extending axially therethrough and also having a portion in sealing engagement with the front wall of the said distributing-head; and a shut-off valve carried by the said connecting-member and having an operating-stem extending forwardly into the passage in the said clamping-member.

17. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water therethrough, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; a connecting-member adapted to be connected to a piping system and having a projecting portion provided with a water-passage and extending into the passage in the said distribut-

ing-head, the said connecting-member also having a portion in sealing engagement with the rear wall of the said distributing-head; a clamping-member connected to the said connecting-member and having an axial passage there-through; a shut-off valve having threaded engagement with the said connecting-member and having an operating-stem projecting into the passage in the said clamping-member; and an escutcheon covering the said distributing-head and provided with an aperture in line with the operating-stem of the said shut-off valve.

18. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water there-through, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; a connecting-member adapted to be connected to a piping system and having a projecting portion provided with a water-passage and extending into the passage in the said distributing-head, the said connecting-member also having a portion in sealing engagement with the rear wall of the said distributing-head; a clamping-member connected to the said connecting-member and having an axial passage there-through; a shut-off valve having threaded engagement with the said connecting-member and having an operating-stem projecting into the passage in the said clamping-member; an escutcheon covering the said distributing-head and

provided with an aperture in line with the operating-stem of the said shut-off valve; and a cap-member closing the aperture in the said escutcheon and concealing the said shut-off valve.

19. A plural-valve plumbing fixture including in combination: a hollow distributing-head having a plurality of control-valves organized therewith and controlling the flow of water there-through, the said distributing-head also having a passage communicating with its hollow interior; a connecting-member adapted to be connected to a piping system and having a projecting portion provided with a water-passage and extending into the passage in the said distributing-head, the said connecting-member also having a portion in sealing engagement with the rear wall of the said distributing-head; a clamping-member connected to the said connecting-member and having an axial passage there-through; a shut-off valve having threaded engagement with the said connecting-member and having an operating-stem projecting into the passage in the said clamping-member; an escutcheon covering the said distributing-head and provided with an aperture in line with the operating-stem of the said shut-off valve; and a cap having a portion extending rearwardly through the aperture in the said escutcheon and into threaded engagement with the said clamping-member to conceal the operating-stem of the said shut-off valve.

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