Dec. 3, 1929. J. A. MILLER 1,738,256

BATHTUB AND SIMILAR STRUCTURE

Filed Dec. 6, 1928

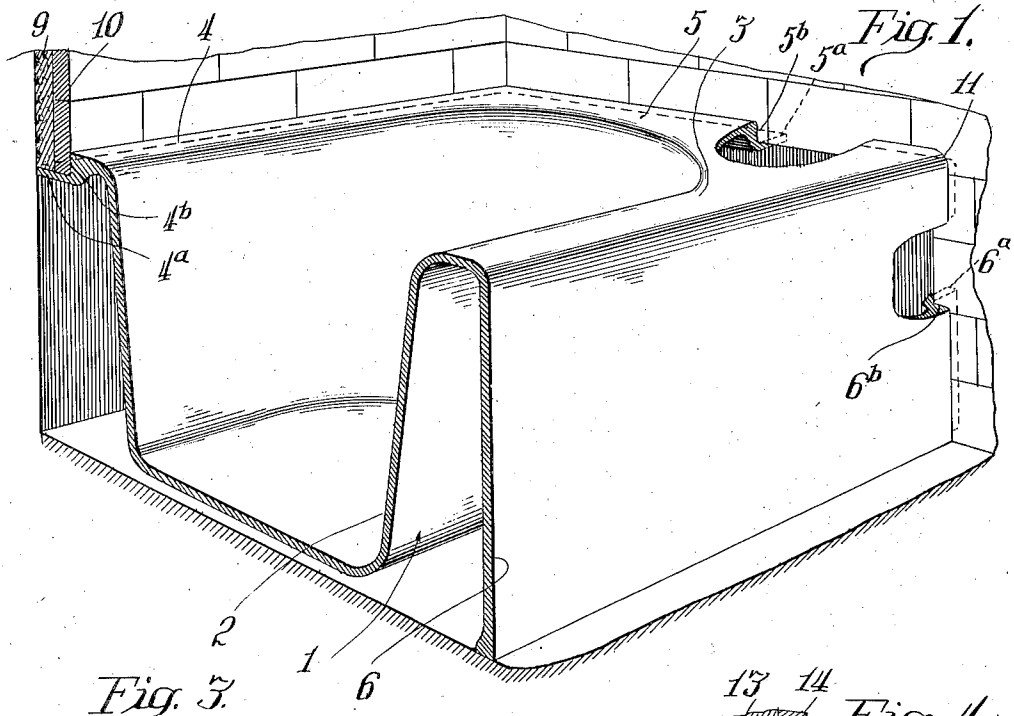


Fig. 1.

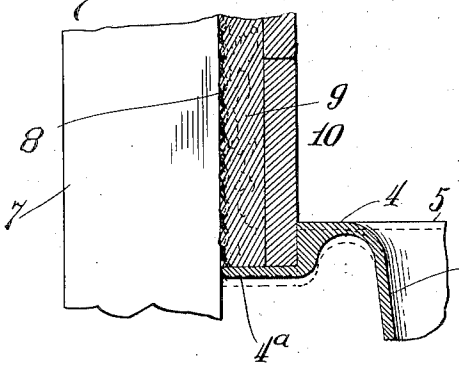


Fig. 3.

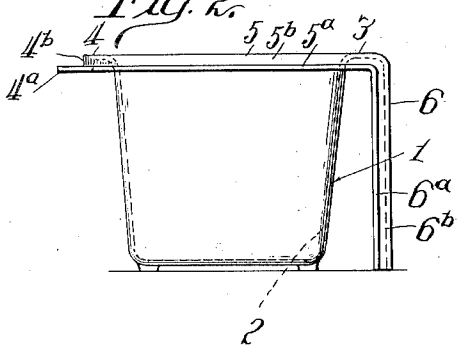


Fig. 2.

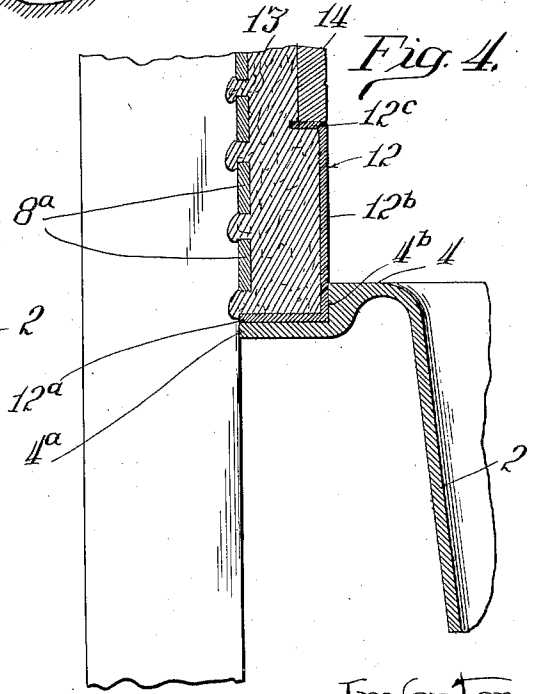


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BATHTUB AND SIMILAR STRUCTURE

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This invention relates to improvements in bath tubs and similar structures and its consists of the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In bath tubs as now made and having rim and apron parts engaged by portions of the bathroom wall finishes, such as tiling or plaster, the usual settling of the tub causes the formation of a soiled crack or line about said tub parts, which is extremely objectional and unsightly and defies repair and obliteration by patching and filling in.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a bath tub having rim and apron parts so formed as to coact with the wall finishing elements to accommodate for the settling of the tub, in a manner preventing the formation of the objectionable soiled crack or line before mentioned.

Another object of the invention is to provide a bath tub having rim and apron parts which include offset portions acting not only as elements for properly positioning the tub with respect to the wall supporting means or studding, but also as supports or shoulders against which the wall finishing elements engage in a manner permitting the inevitable relative movement between the tub and wall without the objections heretofore noted.

These objects of the invention as well as others together with the many advantages thereof will more fully appear as I proceed with my specification.

In the drawing:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective sectional view of a bath tub embodying the preferred form of the invention as it appears in connection with adjacent bath room wall parts.

Fig. 2 is an end view of the tub on a reduced scale.

Fig. 3 is a vertical detail sectional view on an enlarged scale through a rim part of the tub and adjacent parts of a tiled wall of a bathroom.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing the arrangement for a plastered instead of a tiled wall.

The invention is herein illustrated and will be herein described as embodied in a bath tub and adjacent wall parts, but this is to be considered merely as illustrative of one phase of the invention because as will be apparent the invention is also applicable to lavatories, sinks and similar articles where it is desired that the same be placed with portions engaged against adjacent wall parts.

Referring now in detail to that embodiment of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings:—1 indicates the tub as a whole which includes the usual basin-like body 2, having front, rear and end rim parts 3, 4 and 5 respectively at its top, in the manner well known. In this instance the tub is of the built in type and depending from the front rim part is an apron 6 extending the full length of the tub as a whole and of a depth approximating that of the basin to assist the same in providing a stable base for the tub.

In installing such tubs in a bath room it is the common practice to first position the tub against the wall studding and in applying the usual wall finishes such as tiling or plaster, portions of such elements are rested or engaged directly upon the rim and apron parts. Under such conditions, when the tub has settled as tubs of this kind invariably do, the rim parts pull away from the wall finish with the result that an objectionable soiled crack or line forms about several of the rim parts which defies obliteration by patching or filling in.

In accordance with my invention, I provide in connection with the rim parts at the rear side and at both ends of the tub, downwardly offset wall finish supporting or engaging members 4^a and 5^a respectively each spaced a distance below the associated rim parts by a vertically disposed shoulder 4^b and 5^b respectively. In this instance said members are in the form of a flange which extends about the rear and both ends of the tub and connects with a similar flange 6^a integral with but offset inwardly from the apron 6 at each end thereof.

The flange parts 4^a—5^a and 6^a are preferably of a width approximating the thickness of the wall elements applied to the studding while the shoulders 4^b—5^b and 6^b may be of

any suitable depth. Preferably I make the shoulders about an inch deep because this distance is much greater than the actual settling of the tub which acccording to observations approximates about a quarter of an inch. Preferably but not necessarily so the shoulders 4^b—5^b and 6^b are ground down to remove roughness left in casting and to make them true and straight.

In installing my improved tub in a bath room which is to have a wall finish of tile such as in Figs. 1 and 3, I move the tub into position so that the flanges 4^a (5^a and 6^a) engage with the studding 7. Expanded metal or woven wire lath 8 is then secured to the studding above said flange and a cement body 9 is then applied to the lath of a thickness less than that of the depth of the flange. Wall finish in the form of tile 10 is applied, with the bottommost course engaged with the flange and with the glazed side engaging the shoulder 4^b (5^b and 6^b). Should the tub settle as is indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3, the shoulder 4^b moves or slides downwardly along the glazed face of the tile, exposing portions of the glazed face of the tile heretofore concealed behind the shoulder so that no objectionable soiled crack shows up but the appearance is the same as it was before. By reason of the flange 6^a joining the flange 5^a as shown in Fig. 2, no opening appears at the corner 11 defined by the meeting of the rim part 5 and apron 6 at either end of the tub.

In buildings where a wall construction less expensive than a tiled one is desired, I provide a substantially L shaped sheet metal finishing strip indicated as a whole at 12 in Fig. 4. In the use of such a finishing member on a plaster wall, wood lath 8^a is applied to the studding 7. The finishing strip 12 which has a horizontal base 12^a of a width equalling that of the flange 4 and an upright facing portion 12^b with an inturned flange 12^c at its top, is then set in place with the outer surface of the facing portion in engagement with the shoulder 4^b. The facing portion 12 is preferably finished off before the finishing member as a whole is set in place after which a rough coat 13 of plaster is applied to the lath and then a finishing coat 14 is applied to the rough coat. In this respect, the finishing coat may be scored off to simulate tile when the finishing member will simulate the first course thereof. Should the tub settle, it will move or slide downwardly with respect to the wall finish as a whole and thus expose another portion of the finishing member without the formation of any cracks or the like.

The improved construction eliminates any crack formation about the rim parts of the tub when the same settles and is indeed efficient for its intended purpose. The flange parts of the tub do not appreciably increase the cost of making the tub and it is of such formation as to necessitate but little changes in the moulds for producing the same.

While in describing the invention I have referred in detail to the form, arrangement and construction of the various parts thereof, the same is to be considered merely as illustrative so that I do not wish to be limited thereto except as may specifically appear in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A bath tub comprising a tub body having a basin, side and end rim parts and an apron depending from at least one of said rim parts, walls extending from the rim part and from said apron with a flange arranged inwardly of the outermost portions of said walls whereby the tub is adapted to be associated into the walls of a building with the flange overlapping with at least a portion of the building wall and with the wall on the tub concealing the joint of connection between the flange and the building wall.

2. In combination with a wall having a finishing element thereon, a bath tub supported in a position associated with the wall, said tub being provided with a rim part along substantially the portion of contact with the wall, the rim part being provided with a portion extending above the lower edge of the finishing element with a portion extending under the edge of the finishing element so that any settling of the tub will permit a relative movement between the tub and the finishing element while the lower end of the finishing element is still concealed behind the rim.

3. In combination with a wall having a finishing element thereon a bath tub supported in a position associated with the wall, said tub being provided with a rim part along substantially the portion of contact with the wall, the rim part being provided with a portion extending above the lower edge of the finishing element, means disposed under the edge of the finishing element and adapted to act as a guide in the positioning of the finishing element whereby the element may be readily positioned in the formation of the combination and any settling of the tub will permit a relative movement between the tub and the finishing element while the lower end of the finishing element is still concealed behind the rim.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 28th day of November, 1928.

JEAN A. MILLER.