

Dec. 13, 1949

C. J. RODMAN

2,490,982

BATHTUB

Filed Jan. 10, 1945

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

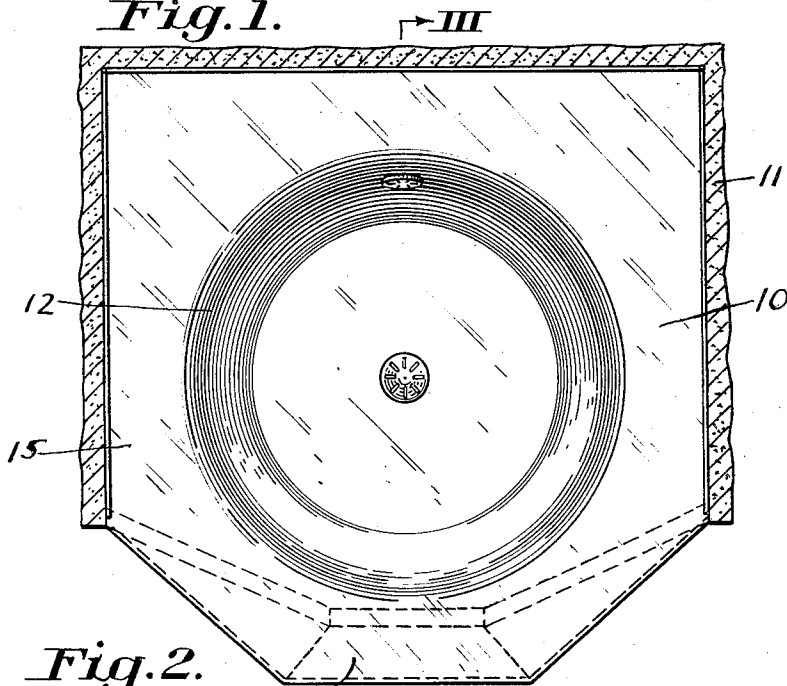


Fig. 2.

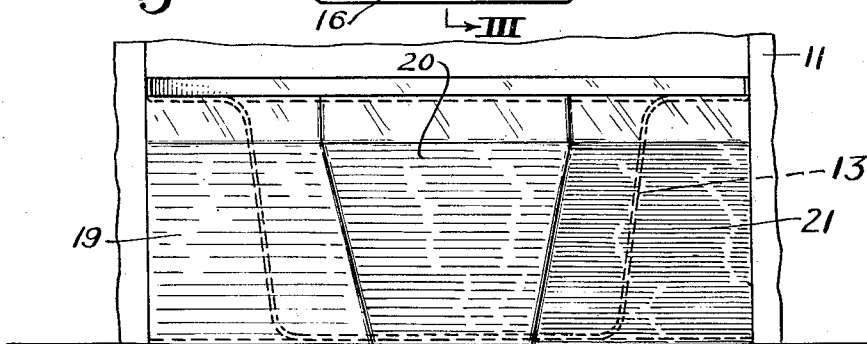
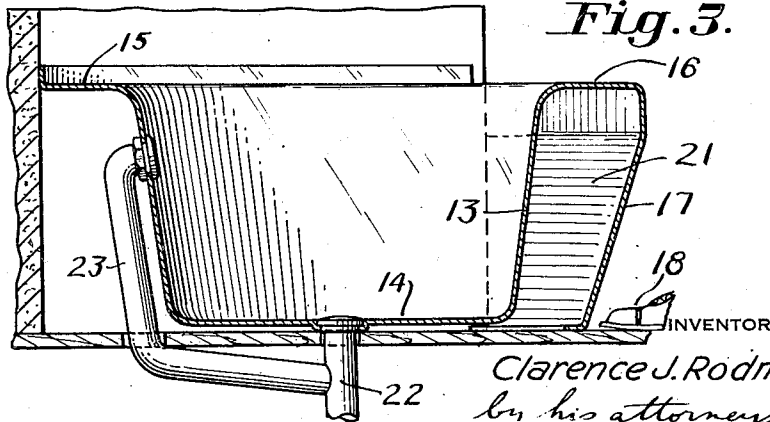


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4

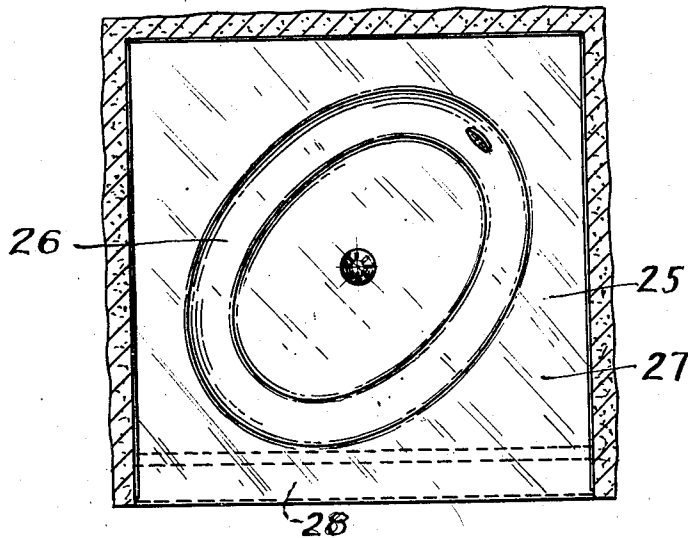
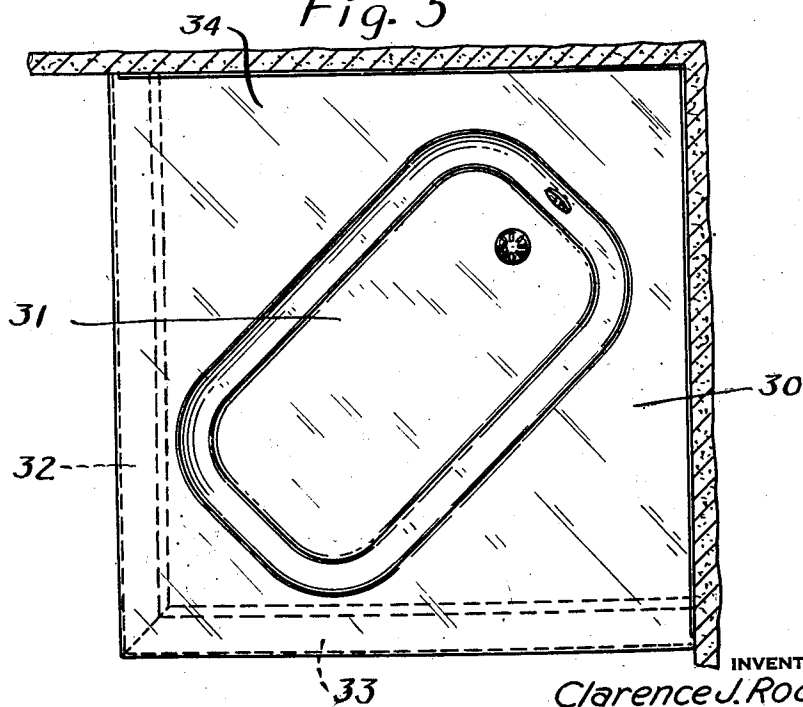


Fig. 5



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Fig. 6

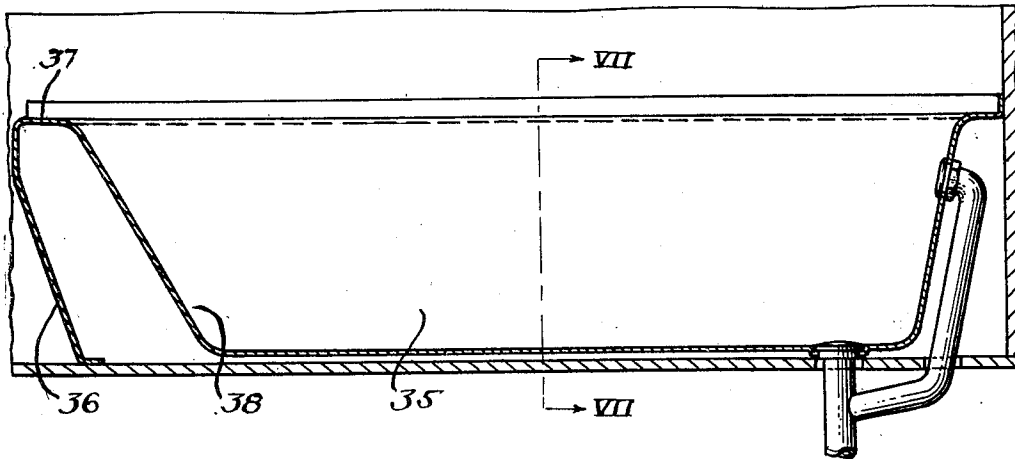
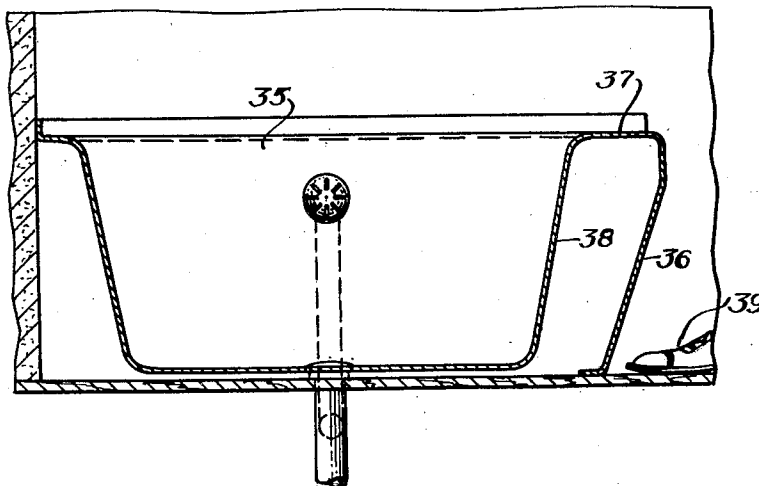


Fig. 7



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BATHTUB

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Application January 10, 1945, Serial No. 572,126

4 Claims. (Cl. 4-173)

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This invention relates generally to bathtubs and, in particular, to a shower bathtub, although certain features of the invention are applicable as well to ordinary tubs in which the occupant sits while bathing.

Various forms of bathtubs have been proposed heretofore and it is the object of my invention to provide an improved tub particularly suited for installation in shower stalls, having an attractive appearance, a relatively low cost of manufacture, and other features of utility which will be pointed out more particularly hereinafter. A special feature of the invention is the provision of an apron depending from the tub rim at the front, which affords toe room for a person standing close to the tub.

In a preferred embodiment, my invention comprises a tub having a body portion or well with a rim extending therearound and merging therewith, and an apron extending downwardly from the rim and sloping inwardly toward the tub body or well. The rim is preferably made wide enough to afford a seat extending circumferentially of the tub.

Further details, novel features and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the following complete description which refers to the accompanying drawings illustrating a preferred embodiment and certain modifications. In the drawings,

Figure 1 is a plan view of a shower tub showing the walls of the stall in which it is located, in section;

Figure 2 is a front elevation;

Figure 3 is a transverse section taken along the plane of line III—III of Figure 1;

Figures 4 and 5 are views similar to Figure 1 showing modified forms of tubs;

Figure 6 is a longitudinal section through a tub of the ordinary type, having an inwardly sloping apron, according to my invention; and

Figure 7 is a transverse section taken along the plane of line VII—VII of Figure 6.

Referring now in detail to the drawings and, for the present, to Figures 1 through 3, a shower tub indicated generally at 10 is adapted to be set in a stall defined by walls 11, open at the front. The tub comprises a tub body or well 12 having a side wall 13 and a bottom 14. As shown in the drawings, the wall 13 is generally cylindrical but tapers slightly toward the bottom. A rim 15 extends around the tub well or body and merges into the side wall 13. The rim is preferably made of such width, as illustrated, to

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afford a seat extending circumferentially of the tub.

In the particular type of tub illustrated in Figures 1 through 3, the rim 15 extends forwardly from the stall as indicated at 16. An apron 17 extends downwardly from the rim portion 16 and slopes inwardly toward the side wall 13 of the tub well, thereby affording toe room for the feet of a person standing close to the tub as indicated at 18. The apron merges into the rim portion 16 and may be integral therewith or formed separately and welded thereto. The tub body and rim are preferably drawn from sheet steel of suitable gage.

As illustrated in the drawings, the rim portion 16 is of bow form being defined by straight lines. The apron 17 conformably comprises a plurality of panels 19, 20 and 21 bowing outwardly from the sides of the stall.

The tub bottom 14 and the rim 15 may be corrugated or embossed in any suitable form to provide increased rigidity and lessen the risk of slipping. The tub is provided with a central drain connection 22 and an overflow connection 23 opens into the side wall 13.

Figure 4 illustrates a tub 25 generally similar to that shown in Figures 1 through 3 except that the tub well 26 is elliptical in shape. The rim 27, furthermore, does not bow outwardly from the sides of the stall. The apron 28 may thus be constituted by a single panel sloping inwardly toward the tub well.

Figure 5 shows a tub 30 having a well 31 of oval form therein. This tub is adapted for corner installations and thus has aprons 32 and 33 extending downwardly from the rim 34 on two adjacent sides thereof, the aprons sloping inwardly toward the tub well as in the case of the tubs previously described.

The tubs shown in Figures 1 through 5 have an almost universal utility. If the tubs are made with a depth in the neighborhood of 10 inches, they will serve very satisfactorily as a shower tub but may be used by children for taking a bath while seated. The inwardly sloping apron affording toe room for a person standing close to the tub is of particular advantage in the bathing of a child by an adult since it permits the latter to stand within reach of the child without discomfort. The tub may also serve as a foot bath. When so used, the bather may sit comfortably on the rim 10. This is also true in the case of a person taking a shower.

The tub may be made in sizes requiring but little floor space. When so made, only a small

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amount of water is required for a seated bath or a foot bath. The relatively low height of the side walls of the tub make it easy for the user to step into it. The possibility of corrugating or otherwise embossing the seat rim and bottom minimizes the danger from slipping. The shape and relative dimensions of the tub and rim permit it to be drawn from relatively light gage metal with sufficient strength and rigidity for all ordinary use.

Figures 6 and 7 illustrate a tub 35 of more or less conventional type except that it has an apron 36 extending downwardly from the rim 37 and sloping inwardly toward the tub body or well 38. This construction provides the advantage of toe room for the feet of a person standing near the tub, as illustrated at 33, in the same manner as in the other forms of tub previously described.

Although I have illustrated and described herein a preferred embodiment of the invention with certain modifications, it will be understood that changes in the details of the constructions disclosed may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A bathtub adapted to be disposed in a room having a floor, the tub having a peripherally closed generally cylindrical upright wall and a bottom spanning the lower extremity of the wall, the wall and the bottom forming a well, a wide rim portion forming a seat completely surrounding the well at the level of the upper edge thereof and an apron extending downwardly from the rim portion to the floor on one side of the well, the apron sloping inwardly adjacent the floor to provide standing space on the floor beneath the outer portion of the rim.

2. A bathtub adapted to be disposed in a room having a floor, the tub having a peripherally closed generally upright wall and a bottom spanning the lower extremity of the wall, the wall and the bottom forming a well, a wide rim portion forming a seat at a side of the well at the level of the upper edge thereof and an apron extending downwardly from the top of the well

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to the floor at another side of the well extending transversely of the first mentioned side, the apron sloping inwardly adjacent the floor to provide standing space on the floor beneath a portion of the tub.

3. A bathtub adapted to be disposed in a room having a floor, the tub having a peripherally closed generally upright wall and a bottom spanning the lower extremity of the wall, the wall and the bottom forming a well, a rim portion at least partially surrounding the well at the level of the upper edge thereof and an apron extending downwardly from the rim portion to the floor on one side of the well, the apron bowing outwardly at the mid-portion thereof, the mid-portion of the apron sloping inwardly adjacent the floor to provide standing space on the floor beneath the outer portion of the rim.

4. A bathtub adapted to be disposed in a room having a floor, the tub having a peripherally closed generally upright wall and a bottom spanning the lower extremity of the wall, the wall and the bottom forming a well, a rim portion at least partially surrounding the well at the level of the upper edge thereof and an apron extending downwardly from the top of the well to the floor on one side of the well, the apron including a plurality of panels disposed in side-by-side relationship, at least one of the panels sloping inwardly adjacent the floor to provide standing space on the floor beneath a portion of the tub.

CLARENCE J. RODMAN.

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