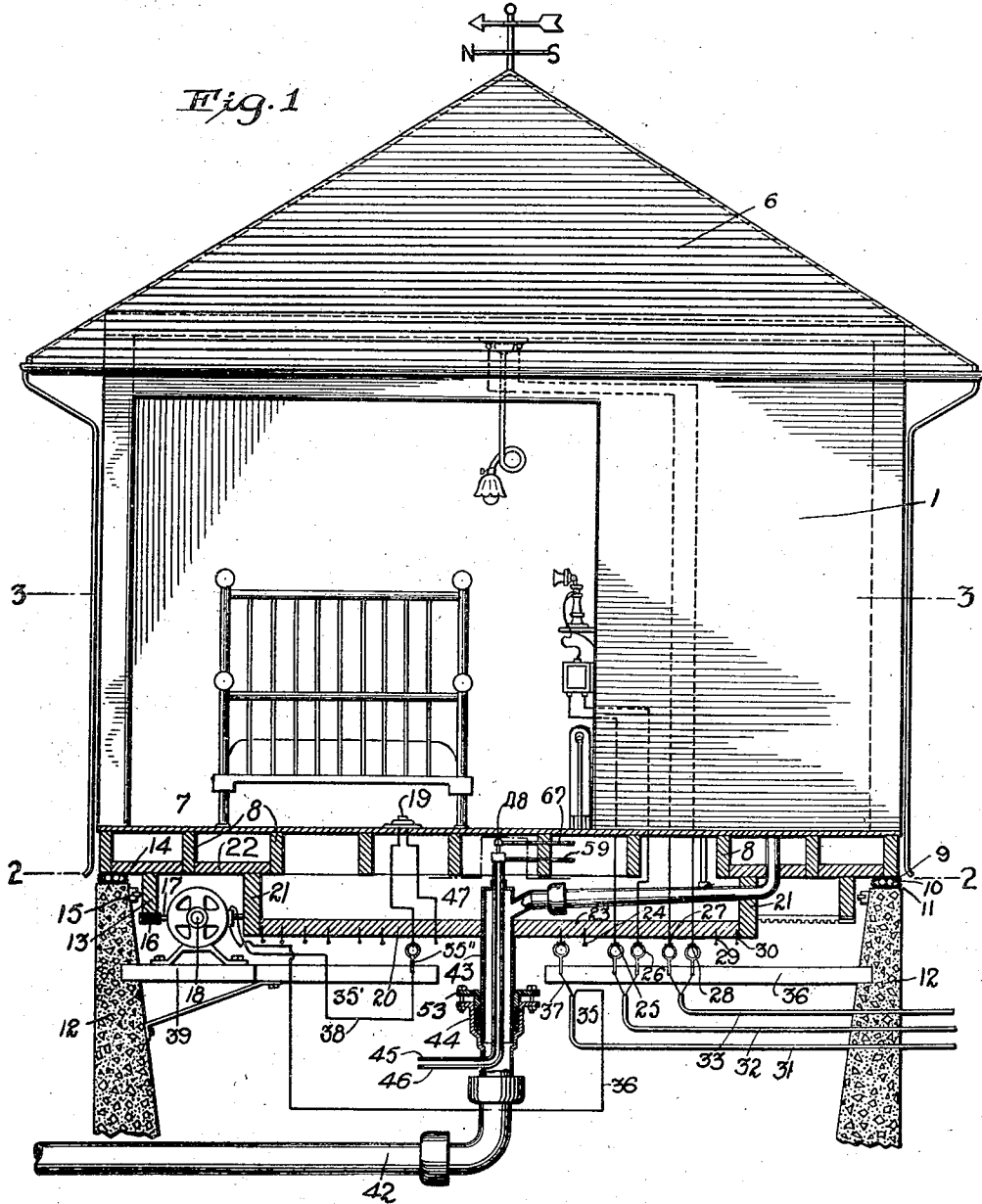


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APPLICATION FILED JULY 11, 1919.

1,353,798.

Patented Sept. 21, 1920.
3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



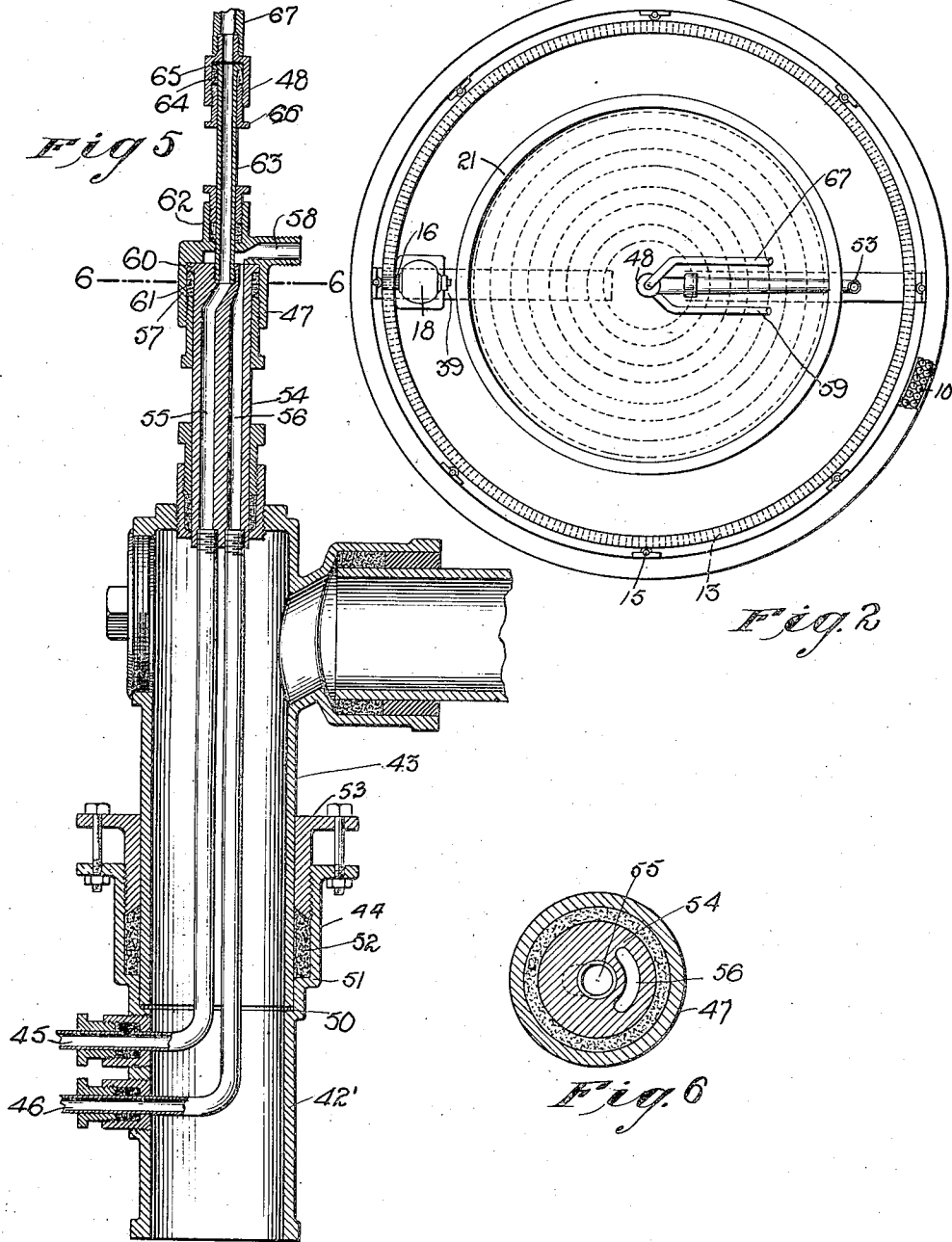
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 3.

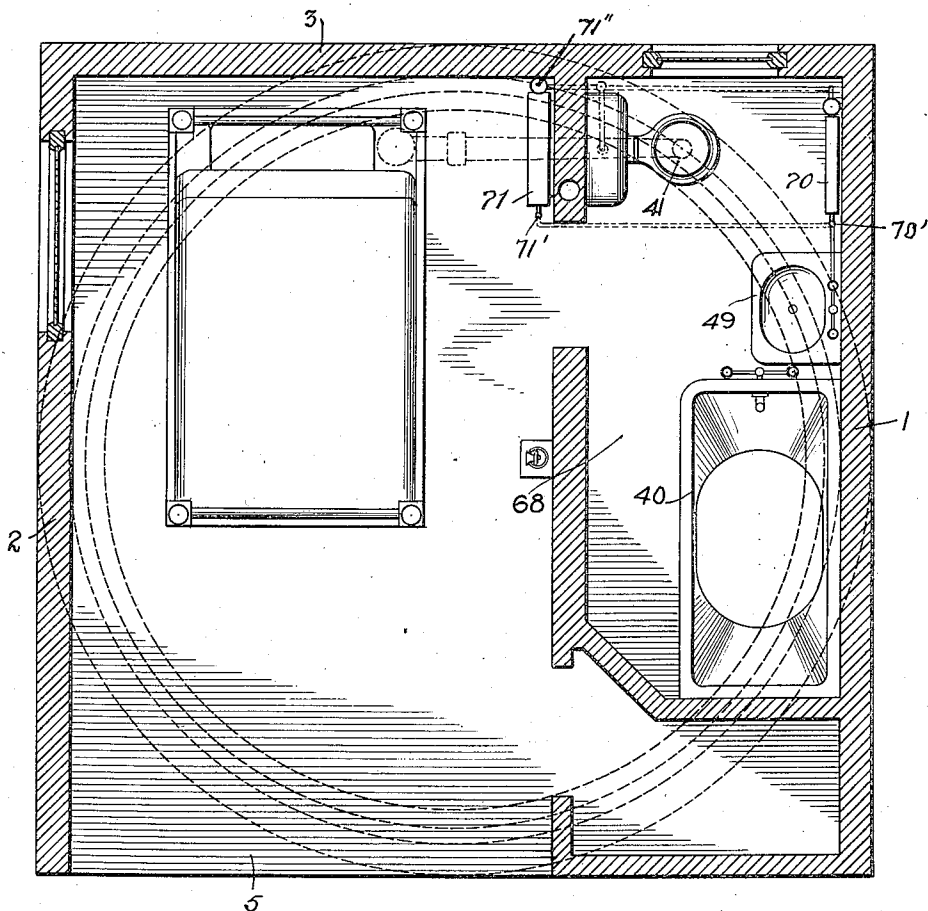
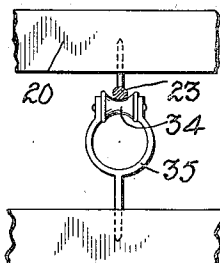


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL MENET STEVENS, OF ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

REVOLVING HOUSE.

1,353,798.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 21, 1920.

Application filed July 11, 1919. Serial No. 310,023.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL M. STEVENS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Asheville, in the county of Buncombe and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Revolving House, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to houses, and particularly to an improved dwelling especially adapted for sick persons, or what is sometimes known as outdoor sleeping, and has for an object to provide a construction wherein the house may be revolved in order that it may face in any desired direction.

Another object in view is to provide a house with an open side and means for shifting the house so that the open side may face substantially in any desired direction.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a revolving house with electrically operated driving means and with a number of connections for providing the usual conveniences of toilet, lights, telephones and the like.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a side view of a house disclosing an embodiment of the invention, the lower part being shown in section for better illustrating the construction.

Fig. 2 is a section through Fig. 1 on line 2-2, the same being on a reduced scale.

Fig. 3 is a section through Fig. 1 on line 3-3.

Fig. 4 is a detail fragmentary view showing a movable connection for permitting the electric current to be passed into the house.

Fig. 5 is a detail section view on an enlarged scale showing the water and sewer pipe connections.

Fig. 6 is a section through Fig. 5 on line 6-6.

Referring to the accompanying drawings by numerals 1 indicates a house in its entirety which is provided with walls 2, 3 and 4 with an open side 5. The house may be square as shown in the drawing or other shape, and may be provided with more than one room without departing from the spirit of the invention. A suitable roof 6 is mounted on the walls and is provided with the usual leaders or down pipes and gutters for taking off the water. A floor 7 is arranged at the bottom of the walls, said floor being supported by suitable joist 8, which

not only support the floor 7, but also a metal ring 9 having downwardly extending edges as shown in Fig. 1. This ring is to accommodate the balls 10 which act as anti-friction bearing members, said balls also being held in place by an annular ring 11 having upturned edges. Ring 11 is mounted on a suitable foundation 12 of concrete or other material, said foundation being of any desired height. By this construction and arrangement the house is rotatably mounted on a suitable foundation, and in order to take advantage of this fact and rotate the house whenever desired a rack 13 is secured through member 14 to certain of the joists 8. This rack also acts as steadying means for the house through the action of the various side truss rollers 15 carried by the foundation 12 and indicated clearly in Fig. 2. The annular rack 13 continually meshes with the pinion 16 which is rigidly secured to the driving shaft 17 of the electric motor 18. This motor is operated by electric current which is controlled by a switch 19 arranged in the house 1 at any desired point. When the switch 19 is closed motor 18 will of course begin to operate and will cause the house to rotate to any desired extent and at a speed in proportion to the strength of the motor 18 and the amount of current supplied thereto. When the house is used for sick patients the switch 19 may be arranged near the bed or other convenient point so that the patient may cause the open side 5 to follow the sun or to be facing in any direction at any time.

In order to provide current for the motor 18 which may be controlled by the switch 19, and also in order to provide current for a telephone in house 1 and suitable lights in house 1 as well as current for other purposes, a platform 20 is connected with the floor 7 through an annular support 21 and member 22 connected with certain of the joists 8. The platform 20 has a number of annular rings or trolleys 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30. A greater or less number, of course, may be provided according to the different instruments to be used. These trolleys are connected to different sources of electrical energy through suitable wiring, said wiring passing through the pipes 31, 32 and 33.

In Fig. 4 will be seen the arrangement of trolley and connecting means upon an en-

larged scale, the trolley consisting of a rather large wire supported by a suitable stem and projecting into the floor 20 which is preferably of wood, though it may be made from better insulating material. If desired, of course, the supporting standard for the respective trolleys may be insulated from the platform 20. In order to pass current on to the trolleys or remove it from the trolleys a trolley wheel 34 for each trolley is provided, each of the wheels 34 being supported by a suitable supporting member 35 carried by the shelf 36' which may be made of wood or other insulating material. The tubes 31 to 33 inclusive carry wires which are connected electrically to the various supporting members 35 as shown in Fig. 1. In regard to the wires 36 and 37 for supplying current to the motor 18 it will be seen that wire 36 is connected directly to the motor 18 while wire 37 is in electrical contact with the trolley 23. A return wire 38 is connected with the motor 18 and also with the roller supporting member 35'' whereby the wire 38 is in electrical connection with the trolley 23. The trolley 23 and trolley 24 are connected by suitable wires with the switch 19 so that when the switch 19 is closed current will pass through wire 36 to the motor 18 and from thence through wire 38 to the support 35'', trolley 24, switch 19, back to trolley 23 and thence to the wire 37. It is, of course, understood that the wires 36 and 37 are connected to suitable electrical supply so that whenever switch 19 is closed current will be supplied to the motor for rotating the house. This particular arrangement in regard to motor 18 is necessary as the motor is on a stationary bracket 39 and the switch 19 is in the revolving house. The trolleys 25 to 30, however, may be connected directly to the respective fittings in the house 1 by suitable wires. In Fig. 1 the trolleys 29 and 30 are not provided with additional connections, but are shown in order to illustrate that a greater or less number of connections may be provided without departing from the spirit of the invention. The trolleys 25 and 26 are intended as phone connections while the trolleys 27 and 28 are intended as connections for the lighting circuit of the house. By this construction and arrangement the usual electrical conveniences may be provided notwithstanding the different positions of the house.

In order to provide a proper connection for the water supply and a waste pipe for the bath tub 40 and closet 41 a stationary waste pipe 42 is arranged to extend to any desired point and to be connected to the revolving member 43 carried by the platform 20. This connection shown at 44 is illustrated somewhat in Fig. 1, but more fully in Fig. 5. In addition the hot and cold water

pipes 45 and 46 extend into the waste pipe 42 and upwardly through the revolving member 43 to fittings 47 and 48 and from thence through certain of the joists 8 to the wash bowl 49, closet 41 and tub 40, the connection of these pipes being ordinary connections now in common use.

Referring more particularly to Fig. 5 wherein the detail construction of members 44, 47 and 48 is shown it will be seen that the extension 42' of the waste pipe 42 may remain stationary while member 43 rotates. This is allowed without allowing the escape of liquid by having the extension 42' formed with offsets 50 and 51 receiving at the lower end packing 52 while the opposite end receives a suitable clamping member 53. Pipes 45 and 46 extend upwardly through member 43 and pass the inlet pipe which leads from the closet 41 and are threaded into a cylinder 54 of any suitable material, as for instance brass. This cylinder has two passageways 55 and 56 through which the hot and cold water may pass. This cylinder is fitted into a suitable packing box 57 whereby it may remain stationary while the member 43 rotates. A passageway 56 discharges into the lower end of the fitting 47 and passes out through the outlet 58 into pipe 59. This may be either hot or cold water as preferred. The fitting 47 is a stuffing box construction very similar to box 57 except that it faces in the opposite direction. It will also be noted that the upper end of the cylinder 54 is provided with a flange 60 against which the packing 61 presses. The upper end of fitting 47 is provided with a stuffing box 62 through which the pipe 63 extends, said pipe being threaded into cylinder 54 and provided with an outlet for the passageway 55, pipe 63 being in actual alinement with the center of cylinder 54, this pipe being provided with fitting 48, which fitting is formed with a packing 64 adapted to press against the annular flange 65 making a tight connection and clamping member 66 being provided for pressing against the packing 64. An outlet pipe 67 is connected to the upper end of fitting 48, said outlet pipe extending to suitable fittings in the bath room 68. It will be noted that the fitting 48 and also the fitting 47 will rotate with the house, while the cylinder 54 and the pipe 63 will remain stationary, yet a free flow of water may be had at any time. The hot water pipe which supplies water for domestic use is also preferably connected with the top of radiators 70 and 71 through suitable valves 70' and 71' (Fig. 3). These radiators are provided with valves 70'' and 71'' at the lower opposite end through which the water passes as it leaves the radiator and from thence is discharged by a suitable conducting pipe 72 into the waste pipe 53. The outlet valves to both the radiators are preferably of the

steam trap variety so that they will automatically open and close for permitting a small supply of water to continually pass through the radiators. These valves are arranged to close when hot water begins to pass from the radiator and open as soon as the water has cooled to a certain extent, thus causing the water in the radiator to remain warm, though wasting a certain quantity of water, which is practically negligible.

What I claim is:

1. A revolving house comprising a house body, means for revolving the house, a plurality of means for connecting a water supply and waste pipe, and electrical wiring to the house body, said means including a fitting for the waste pipe which is rigidly secured to the house body and slidingly connected with the stationary pipe, and a pair of fittings for the water pipes, said fittings being connected with the house body and with the stationary part of the water pipe.

2. A revolving house comprising a house body, a base for the house body, anti-friction means arranged on the base of the house body so as to allow a free rotation of the house body, means for rotating the house body on the base, means for preventing movement of the house body, a waste pipe, a water closet and a bath tub arranged in said house body, means for connecting the water closet with said waste pipe, means for connecting the bath tub to said waste pipe and to a hot and cold water supply, said

means permitting the waste to flow out of the house and the hot and cold water to flow in when the house is stationary or when revolving, said means comprising a rotatable member connected with the house formed with a slip fitting for engaging the stationary part of the waste pipe and also engaging the water pipe from the bath tub to the water closet, said rotatable member also being formed with means for holding the hot and cold water pipes in position, said hot and cold water pipes extending through said fitting and arranged stationary, and a pair of fittings connected with said hot and cold water pipes, part of each of said pipes being stationary and part revolving with the house.

3. A rotatable house comprising a house body, means for rotatably supporting the house body, means for rotating said house body, said means being controlled from within said house body, a platform connected with the bottom of the house body, a plurality of rings or trolleys connected with said platform, a stationary member for each of said trolleys, each of said stationary members having a contact member for engaging the trolleys electric supply wires connected with the respective stationary members, a plurality of electric fixtures carried by said house body, and means for connecting the respective fixtures with certain of said trolleys.

SAMUEL MENET STEVENS.