

E. E. STEPHENS.
SEAT.
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1,058,270.

Patented Apr. 8, 1913.

Fig. 1.

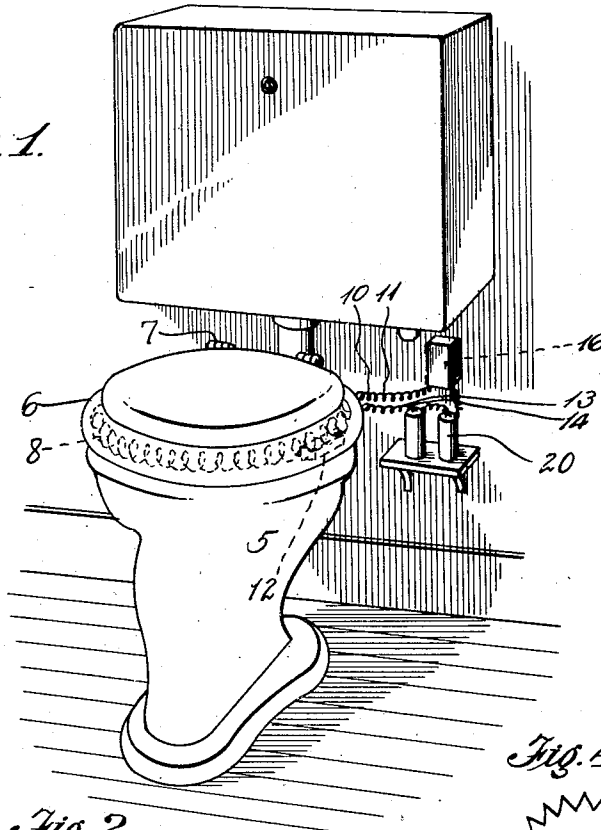


Fig. 2.

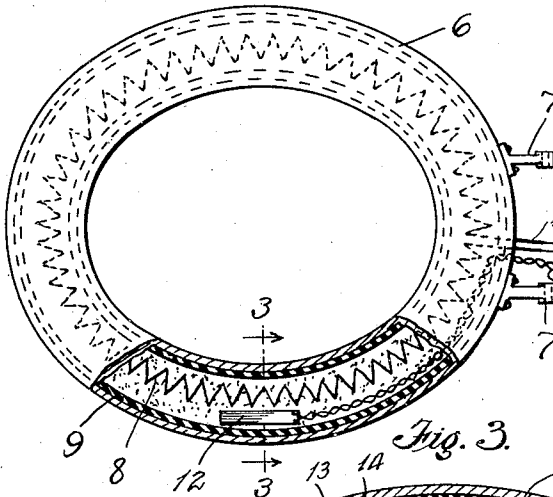


Fig. 4.

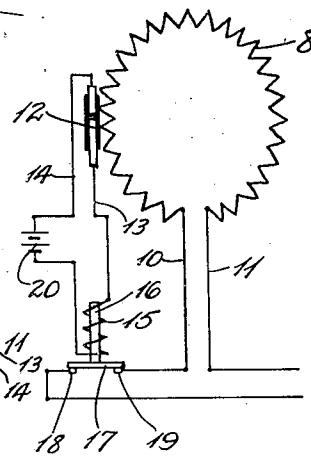
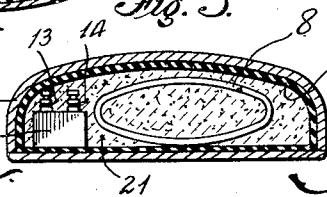


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELMER E. STEPHENS, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

SEAT.

1,058,270

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER E. STEPHENS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Seats, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in seats and particularly to toilet seats.

It is an object of the invention to provide a seat particularly for closets which may be made in a thoroughly sanitary manner, and yet which can be prevented from chilling the flesh when brought in contact with the same.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a sanitary toilet seat which may be made of porcelain or other sanitary ware, and which is provided with means incorporated therein whereby it may be kept warm and maintained at an agreeable temperature to the touch.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a water closet provided with a seat constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the seat, a portion thereof being broken away and shown in section to reveal the interior arrangement of the parts within the seat. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail sectional view taken upon the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic view showing the heating coil and thermostat together with the manner in which the same are electrically connected for carrying out the principle of the invention.

The details and features of the invention will now be more particularly described, reference being had to the said drawing in which—

5 indicates a closet of ordinary construction and 6 a seat therefor. The seat is preferably made of sanitary material such as porcelain, covered metal or the like, and is hollow as clearly indicated in Figs. 2 and 3. The seat is shaped in any preferred form and is provided with hinges 7 by which it may be mounted in the usual manner upon the closet. Within the hollow seat is a resistance coil 8, any usual or ordinary resistance material being employed and the said coil is insulated from the material of the seat, in any preferred manner and usually by providing an insulating lining 9 within said seat. The resistance coil 8 is connected

by suitable conductors 10 and 11 with any source of electrical energy as for instance the lighting system of a house or building or with suitable batteries as may be desired. To prevent the seat from becoming too warm and to accurately maintain a proper temperature therein, an automatically operated mechanism is employed for controlling the passage of the current through the said resistance coil. A circuit making and breaking device preferably a thermostat 12 of any usual or ordinary structure, is employed and arranged within the seat so as to be acted upon by the temperature therein and the said thermostat is connected with conductors 13 and 14, the conductor 13 including a winding 15 of a magnet 16, the said magnet being provided with a contact member 17 adapted to connect contacts 18 and 19 which are included in the conductor 10 of the resistance coil. When the member 17 engages said contacts the circuit through the conductors 10 and 11 is completed through the said resistance coil. When the member 17 is withdrawn from engagement with said contacts by the magnet 16 the current will be broken through the resistance coil and the heat will be prevented from rising above a certain temperature.

The conductor 14 includes a battery or other source of electrical energy 20 so that when the thermostat is actuated by the heat within the seat, the magnet 16 will be energized and caused to break the circuit through the resistance coil. As soon as the seat begins to cool again below the desired temperature the thermostat will break the circuit through the battery 20 and permit the member 17 to again engage and connect the contacts 18 and 19 for energizing the resistance coil. The temperature of the seat may thus be maintained at a proper degree for avoiding any disagreeable feeling to the touch. Heretofore it has been necessary to employ seats made of wood which cannot be rendered sanitary or be preserved in a sanitary condition and metallic or porcelain seats have not been used for the reason that they are cold and chilling to the touch. The present invention therefore affords an opportunity for producing a sanitary seat for a closet or toilet, and thus complete the sanitary formation of such mechanisms.

If desired the hollow seat may be filled with an asbestos or other non-conducting filler as indicated at 21.

What I claim is:

1. A sanitary seat for water closets comprising a hollow casing of metal, a resistance coil in said casing, an insulating medium surrounding and supporting said coil, means for temporarily maintaining the seat at a proper temperature, and electrical means controlled by said means for energizing the resistance coil to heat the seat.
2. A porcelain seat for water closets, comprising a hollow casing, insulation within the same, a resistance coil support within the insulation, means for conducting an electric current to said resistance coil, a circuit breaker for breaking said current, and a thermostat mounted in said seat for controlling the action of said circuit breaker in accordance with the temperature of the seat.

In witness that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto subscribed my name this 16th day of March, 1912.

ELMER E. STEPHENS.

Witnesses:

EDWARD A. STRAUSE,
EARLE R. POLLARD.