Aug. 3, 1943. M. W. JESSUP 2,326,035

VAPOR BATH CABINET

Filed Nov. 14, 1941 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

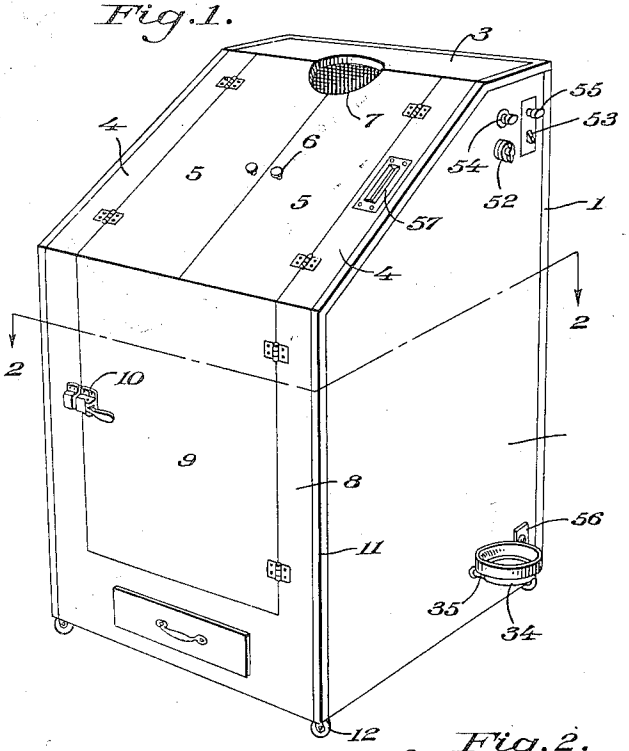


Fig. 5.

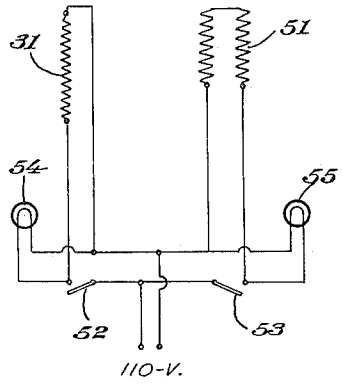
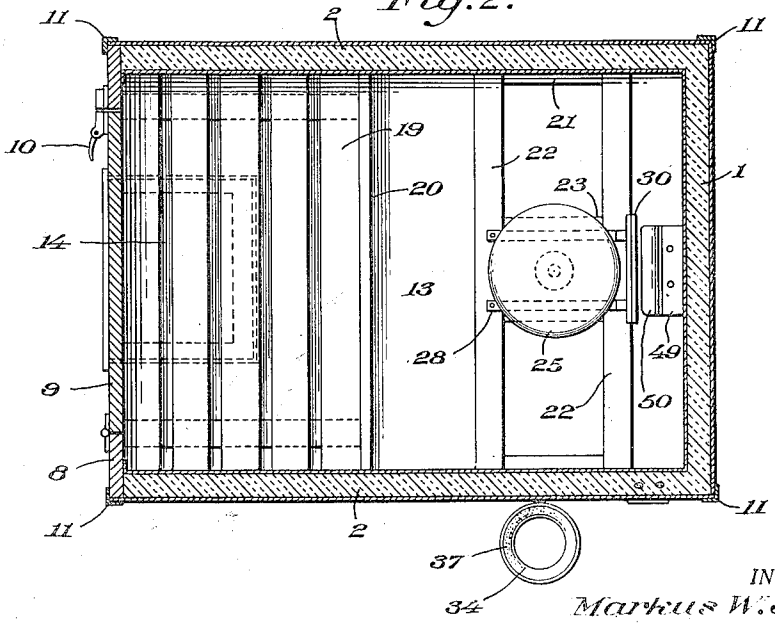


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

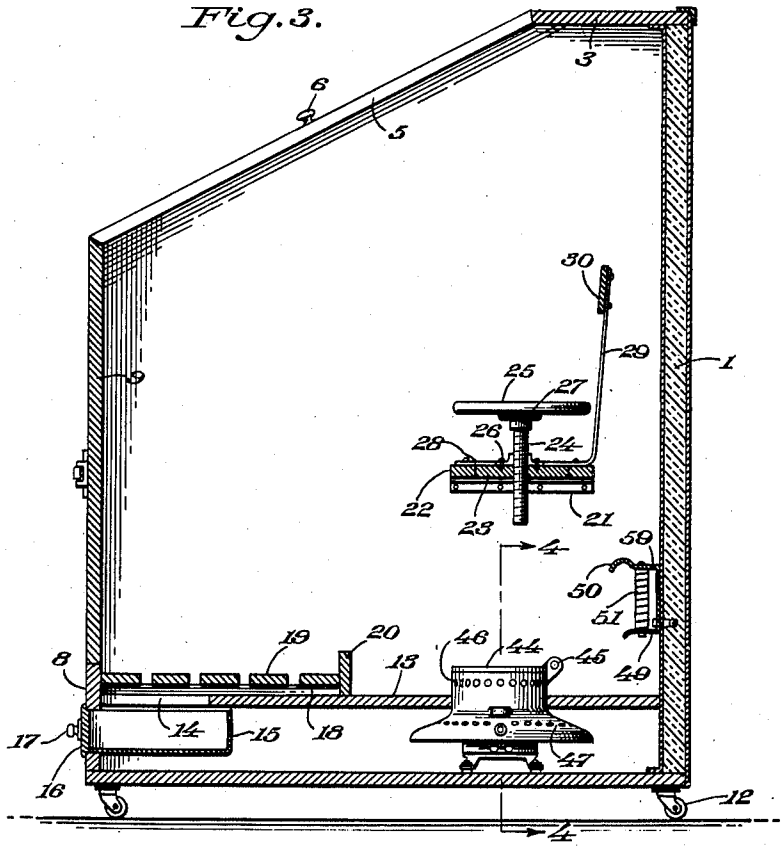
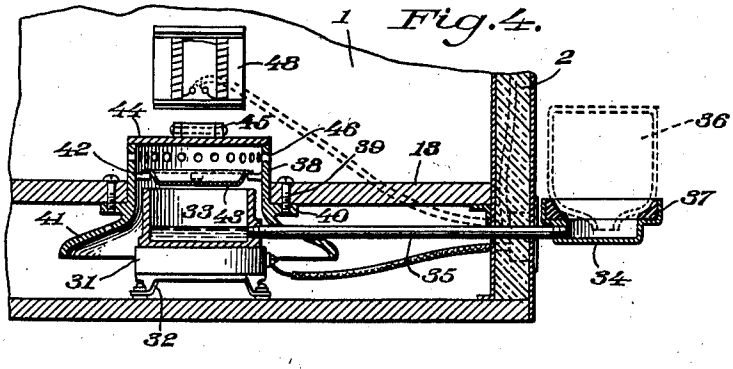


Fig. 4.



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VAPOR BATH CABINET

Markus W. Jessup, Brazil, Ind.

Application November 14, 1941, Serial No. 419,193

1 Claim. (Cl. 4—164)

This invention relates to vapor or steam bath cabinets, and its general object is to provide a cabinet to not only subject a patient to medicated vapors, but also to infra-red rays, the latter being used to bring about advantages and benefits not possible by vapor alone.

An important object is to provide a vapor bath cabinet that includes a vapor generator, capable of producing an ample quantity of medicated vapor in minimum time, as well as to bring about rapid diffusion of the vapor throughout the area of the enclosure formed by the cabinet walls, in that water is supplied to the generator in small quantities and heat is substantially confined below a pan for receiving medicated vapor producing chemicals, and provision is made to allow escape of the vapor radially from the generator.

A further object is to provide a vapor bath cabinet that includes a comfortable seat for the patient, the seat being adjustable as to height and includes a back rest.

A still further object is to provide a vapor bath cabinet including a vapor generator, that is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, and extremely efficient in use and service.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and specifically pointed out in the appended claim.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the cabinet which forms the subject matter of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a horizontal sectional view taken approximately on line 2—2 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view taken through the cabinet, and illustrates parts in elevation.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken approximately on line 4—4 of Figure 3, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 5 is a diagrammatic view of the circuit for the infra-red ray unit and the heating unit for the generator.

Referring to the drawings in detail, it will be noted that my cabinet includes a rear wall 1 and side walls 2 that are insulated, that is each of those walls are made up of inner and outer layers of sheet metal or the like, and a relatively thick layer of insulating material, thus preventing heat losses as will be apparent. The remaining walls, including the doors, may likewise be insulated in the same manner.

The top wall includes a relatively narrow horizontal rear portion 3 and narrow side portions 4, the latter being disposed at a forward and downward angle or inclination from the rear portion. The space between the side portions is closed by a pair of upper doors 5 hinged to the side portions and provided with knobs 6. The rear portion 3 is provided with a recess centrally of the forward edge thereof and the upper ends of the doors are also provided with recesses registering with the first recess when the doors are closed, to form an opening 7 for the neck of the patient, when seated in the cabinet for disposing the head exteriorly thereof.

The major portion of the front wall 8 is provided with a door opening that extends through the upper end thereof, and that opening is closed by a single door 9 that is hinged to one narrow side portion of the front wall. Suitable latching means 10 is provided for the door 9 and the front wall has a relatively narrow opening below the door opening thereof, for a purpose which will be presently described.

The outer corners or meeting edges of the walls are preferably covered by corner strips 11 for not only reinforcing the same, but to add an ornamental appearance to the cabinet. Casters 12 are secured to the bottom wall adjacent to its corners, to facilitate moving the cabinet, as will be apparent.

Suitably fixed in a watertight manner to the upright walls and adjacent to the bottom wall is a horizontal partition 13 that provides a floor, and the partition has a rectangular recess centrally arranged in its forward portion to provide a drain opening 14. Slidably mounted in the narrow opening of the front wall, to underlie the drain opening, is a drawer 15 for receiving moisture formed by condensation as well as water emitted from the patient such as perspiration, the drawer being provided with suitable guides and supporting means, as well as a facing stop 16 engageable with the front wall to limit inward movement of the drawer to a closed position, and the facing stop has a handle 17 secured thereto.

Fixed to the floor and extending rearwardly from the front wall for a portion of the length of the floor is a pair of supporting members 18 disposed adjacent to the side walls, and secured to and bridging the supporting members to be elevated above the floor are spaced strips 19 pro-

viding a rack structure for the feet of a patient. The strips 19 are preferably of a length to abut the side walls and are laid flat upon the supports. A barrier strip 20 of a width to extend above the strips 19 is secured to the inner ends of the supports, and is for the purpose of confining the water to the stripped portion of the floor. By that construction, it will be obvious that the water will pass through the spaces between the strips 19 and drain through the opening 14 into the drawer, which can be removed and emptied from time to time.

Secured to the side walls a suitable distance above the floor and adjacent to the rear edges thereof are elongated angle brackets 21 having fixed thereto for disposal in bridging relation to the side walls a frame like platform that includes a pair of spaced strips 22 and a square center piece 23, in the form shown, the center piece having a central opening therein for passage of a screw stem 24 of a disk like seat 25. The stem is threaded in a flanged collar 26 to extend therethrough, and of course for adjusting the height of the seat. The collar 26 is fixed to the center piece in registration with the opening therein, and the stem is fixed to a head 27 which in turn is fixed to the underside of the seat, so that upon rotation of the seat, the height thereof is varied, as will be apparent.

A back rest is preferably provided for the seat and in the form shown, the back rest includes a pair of right angle strips 28 having horizontal portions fixed to the upper face of the platform and rearwardly inclined upright portions 29 having secured to the upper ends thereof in bridging relation therewith, a back receiving member 30.

The steam or vapor generator includes an electrical heating unit 31 of disk formation in the form shown, and the unit 31 is fixed to and rests upon a legged support 32 having its legs outwardly flared therefrom and secured to the bottom wall, as best shown in Figure 4. Mounted upon the heating unit 31 is a water container 33, which is supplied with water from a reservoir receptacle 34 through the medium of a pipe 35, so that a constant level of water is maintained within the container 33, as best shown in Figure 4 which likewise illustrates that the quantity of water within the receptacle is relatively small, so as to bring about rapid formation of steam, as will be apparent.

The reservoir receptacle 34 is in turn supplied with water by an inverted bottle 36, resting upon an elastic gasket 37 in the upper flanged portion of the receptacle.

The steam or vapor dome for the generator includes an upper cylindrical portion 38 that is mounted in an opening in the floor or partition 13 for disposal therethrough, as best shown in Figure 4, and the dome is fixed to the floor, by screw bolts 39 that are threaded in ears 40 extending from diametrically opposite sides of the cylindrical portion 38 and which bear against the under face of the floor. Formed on the cylindrical portion 38 is a downwardly and outwardly flared annular lower flange like portion 41 having a downturned rim about its lower edge. The dome is disposed in spaced surrounding relation with respect to the water container 33, and the upper cylindrical portion 38 has lugs 42 extending inwardly from its inner face, to act as supports for a chemical receiving pan 43, for the latter to overlie the container.

The upper end of the dome is open to provide ready access to the pan 43, but is normally closed by a lid 44 that is hinged as at 45, with the result it will be seen that steam formed by the heating of the water in the container 33 will be confined about the chemicals in the pan 43 and thus bring about rapid production of medicated vapor which must pass radially from the generator through a row of openings 46 disposed circumferentially of the upper cylindrical portion 38 and adjacent its upper end. The arrangement of the openings 46 brings about diffusion of the vapor throughout the entire area of the cabinet. The shield or flange like portion 41 is likewise provided with an annular row of openings 47 arranged therein adjacent to its juncture with the upper cylindrical portion 38.

The infra-red ray unit includes a bracket like body 48 having a rear wall fixed to the rear wall of the cabinet for disposal adjacent to and slightly above the vapor generator, as best shown in Figure 4 and formed on the rear wall of the bracket like body are upper and lower flanges 49, the upper flange being formed with a deflecting shield 50 for directing the rays from the unit in the general direction of the vapors from the generator. Mounted between the flanges 49 are infra-red ray coils 51.

The circuit for the heating unit of the generator and the infra-red ray unit is shown in Figure 5, and each of the units is separately controlled, there being a switch 52 for the heating unit and a switch 53 for the coils 51. Pilot lights 54 and 55 are likewise provided for the units and the switches and pilot lights are preferably mounted on one side wall of the cabinet, as shown in Figure 1, which illustrates that the switch 52 for controlling the heating unit is of the turn button type and may be a three-way switch, to bring about regulation of the heat for the generator. An inlet socket member 56 is likewise provided for receiving the usual prong type plug, for connecting the cabinet in circuit with a suitable source of current, as will be apparent.

A thermometer 57 is provided for the cabinet, and is shown in Figure 1 as being mounted in one of the narrow side portions of the top wall.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is to be understood that changes may be made in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

In a vapor bath cabinet having a horizontal bottom wall, a horizontal floor partition supported above the bottom wall and having an opening therein, a vapor generator mounted on the bottom wall in registration with the opening in the partition, a cylindrical perforated dome snugly fitted in and projecting through the partition opening, a downwardly flared flange depending from the bottom of the dome below the partition, means for securing the dome to the partition, the said dome concentrically surrounding the upper portion of the vapor generator, chemical pan supporting lugs in the upper portion of the dome, and a hinged cover normally closing the top of the dome.

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