Dec. 20, 1960 J. G. PURCELL, SR 2,965,153

COLLAPSIBLE BATHTUB SEAT

Filed March 13, 1959

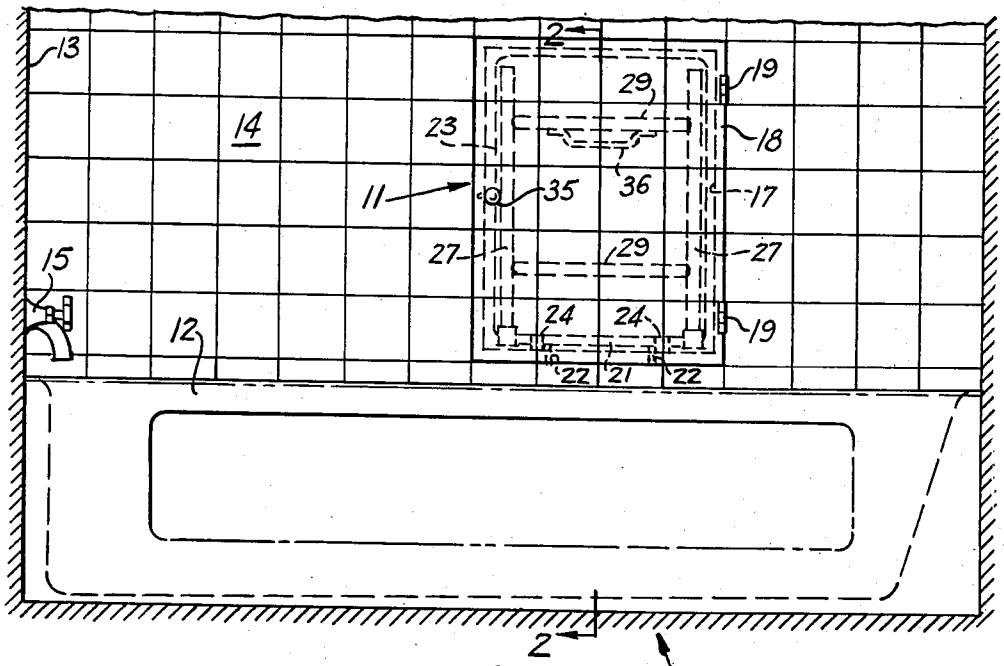


FIG. 1

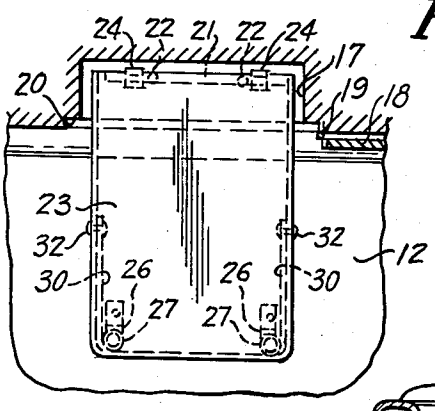


FIG. 3

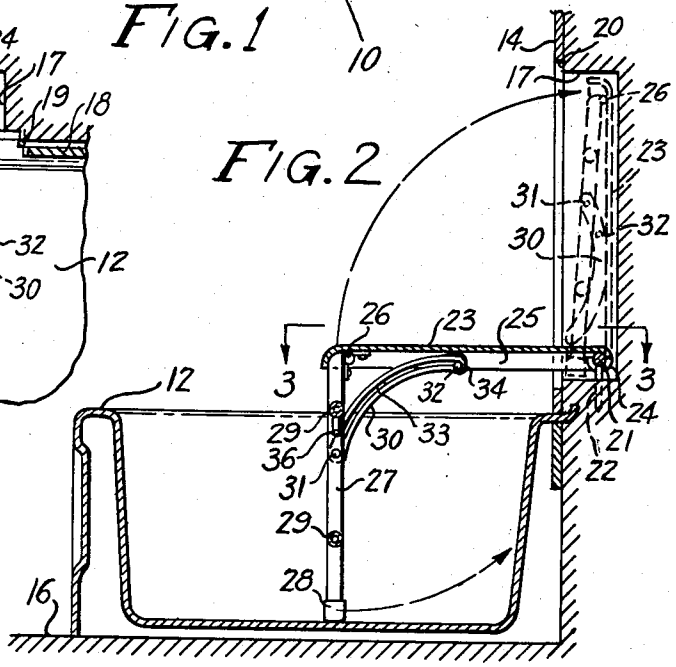


FIG. 2

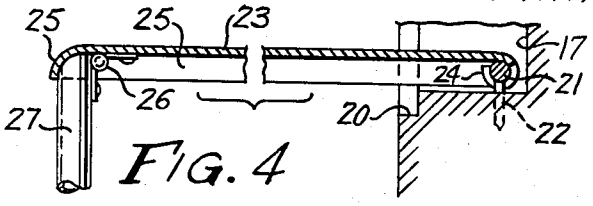


FIG. 4

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COLLAPSIBLE BATHTUB SEAT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 155—36.5)

This invention relates to improvements in bathroom fixtures and more particularly to a collapsible seat that is adapted to be mounted so that it may be used when a person is using a bath tub or shower.

An object of this invention is to provide a collapsible seat that may be mounted in a recess in the wall of a bathroom so that the seat may be moved into position within a tub or shower or moved to storage position within the recess in the wall.

It is known that many serious accidents have been caused by people slipping in the tub or shower when attempting to wash their feet by standing on one foot to complete the operation.

Another object of the invention is to provide a collapsible seat that permits a person to sit down so that he can wash his feet, hair or other parts of his body without the danger of bodily harm.

With the above and other objects and advantages in view, the invention consists of the novel details of construction, arrangement and combination of parts more fully hereinafter described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a typical bath tub installation, showing a collapsible seat embodying the invention installed in a recess in the wall above the bath tub;

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary detailed sectional view of the seat portion of the collapsible seat embodying the invention.

Referring more in detail to the drawing, wherein like parts are designated by like reference numerals, the reference numeral **10** is used to generally indicate a bath tub construction with which a collapsible seat **11** embodying the invention is associated.

In the conventional bath tub construction **10** the bath tub **12** is mounted within an alcove **13** in a wall **14**. Water for bathing is permitted to enter the bath tub **12** from a faucet **15** and the bath tub **12** is mounted on the floor **16** within the alcove **13**.

To mount the collapsible seat **11**, a recess **17** is provided in the wall **14** adjacent the bath tub **12**, and a door **18** hinged at **19**, is used to cover the open face of the recess **17**. The door **18** is inset within an annular depression **20** that is located in the wall **14** in circumjacent relation to the recess **17**.

A pivot bar **21** is mounted in the recess **17** transversely thereof by mounting screw eyes **22** and a seat portion **23** has hinge portions **24** at the rear edge thereof rolled around the bar **21**, as shown in Fig. 4. The seat portion **23** has a curved annular depending flange **25** on the front and side edges thereof and the seat portion **23** is made of aluminum or some other material that is rust and tarnish proof.

Hinged to each front corner of the seat portion **13** by a pair of hinges **26**, is a pair of straight tubular legs **27** and each of the legs **27** has a rubber foot **28** mounted on the lower end thereof.

Extending between the parallel legs **27** in parallel spaced relation to each other are a pair of tubular rungs **29** and the rungs **29** are rigidly secured at their opposite ends to the inner surfaces of the legs **27**.

A pair of curved locking members **30** are each pivotally connected at one end at **31** to each of the legs **27** and a pivot pin **32** mounted on the inner surface of each of the side flanges **25** at right angles thereto engages a curved slot **33** in each of the members **30**. The pins **32** move in the slots **33** as the seat portion **23** is moved from storing position as shown in Fig. 1 to operative position, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. A notch **34** is provided in each of the members **30** contiguous with the end of the slot **33** that is opposite to the ends of the members **30** pivoted at **31** to the legs **27**, and when the pins **32** are seated in the notches **34**, the seat portion **23** is prevented from collapsing while in use.

In the use of the collapsible seat **11** embodying the invention after the collapsible seat **11** has been installed in the recess **17** and the door **18** has been hinged at **19** to close the recess **17**, access is gained to the collapsible seat **11** by opening the door **18** by means of the pull knob **35**. The hinges **19** are of a construction to permit the door **18** to be swung open until it is in contactual relation with the face of the wall **14**, as shown in Fig. 3.

Then a hand grip **36**, secured to the upper rung **29**, is grasped by one hand and the collapsible seat **11** is moved to operable position, as shown in Fig. 2. The pins **32** will engage the notches **34** at the end of the travel of the pins **32** in the slots **33** and the seat portion **23** will be retained in operative position.

When it is desired to move the collapsible seat to storing position, the members **30** are moved to disengage the pins **32** from the notches **34** and the seat portion **23** is moved upwardly until it is received within the recess **17**. During upward movement of the seat portion **23**, the legs **27** will fold into position in engagement with the undersurface of the seat portion **23**, as shown in dotted line position, Fig. 2, and the door **18** may then be closed.

The provision of a collapsible seat **11**, as previously described, will be convenient for a person to sit on while taking a bath within the bath tub **12** and when he is seated on such a collapsible seat while washing his body, he will be prevented from having many serious accidents that occur when a person is taking a bath while standing.

It is believed that from the foregoing description the construction and manner of use of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art and it is to be understood that changes in the minor details of construction, arrangement and combination of parts may be resorted to provided they fall within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claim.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

A collapsible seat construction for use in association with a bath tub positioned within an alcove in a wall comprising a seat portion having a depending curved flange on the front and side edges thereof, said seat portion being adapted to be pivotally mounted in a recess behind the bath tub, a pivot bar mounted in the recess transversely thereof and portions of the rear edge of said seat portion are hingedly connected to said pivot bar, a pair of tubular legs hinged to and collapsible against the bottom of the seat portion, each of said legs having a rubber foot member on the lower end thereof and the upper end of each leg contacting and conforming to the contour of the depending curved flange on the front edge of said seat portion whereby said legs are more firmly retained in vertical relation to the bath tub, a pair of spaced parallel

rungs connected to the inner surface of the legs, a hand grip connected to one of said rungs to move the collapsible seat into and out of the recess, a door hingedly mounted in the wall to close the recess, a curved locking member having a curved slot therein pivotally connected at one end thereof to each of said legs, a pin mounted on the inner surface of each of the side flanges of said seat portion at right angles thereto, said pins being mounted in the slots in said members and each of said members having a notch therein contiguous with the ends of the slots in the free ends of the members so that when the legs are in supporting position the pins will be seated in the notches at the ends of the slots to prevent the seat portion from collapsing.

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