

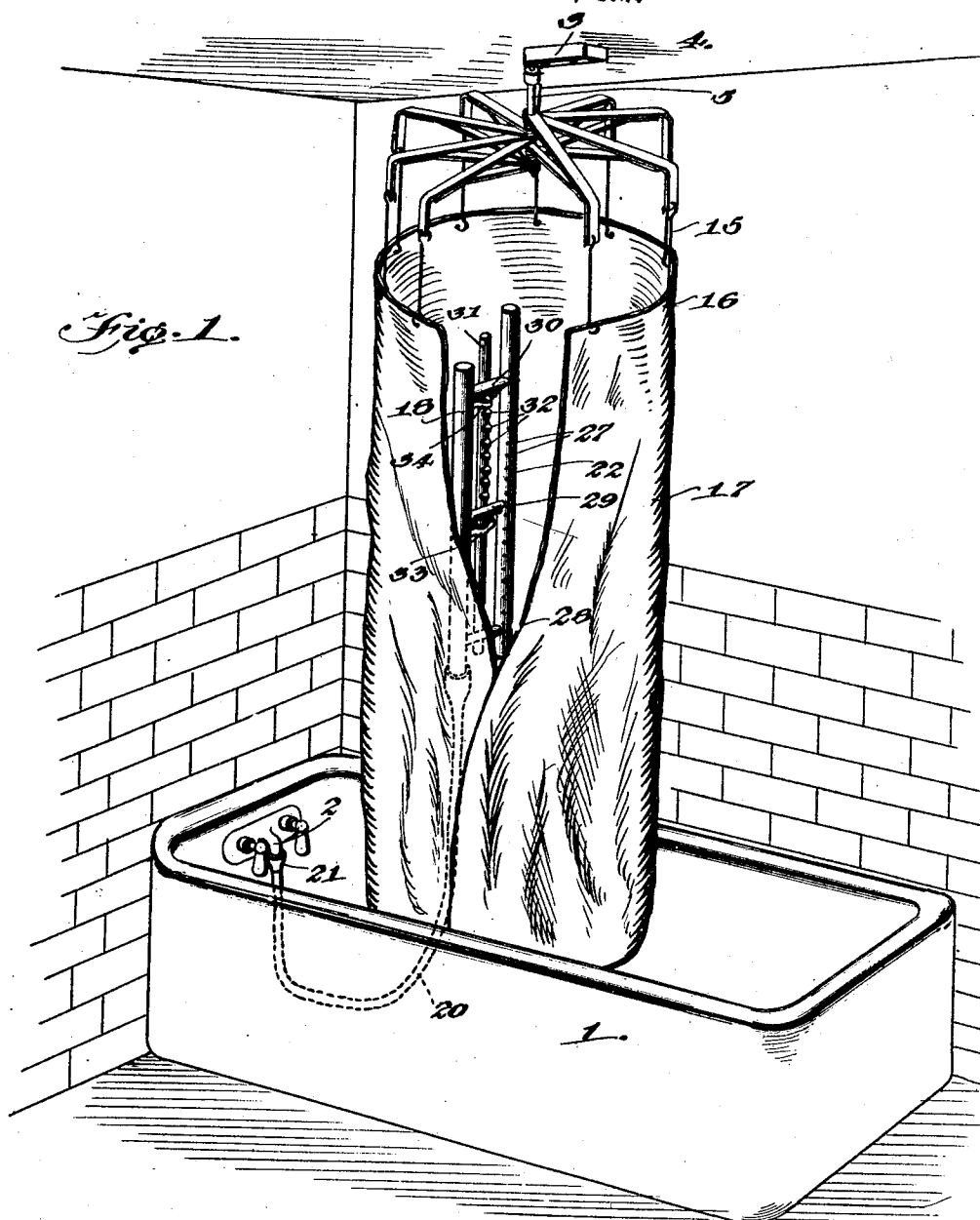
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BATH CURTAIN SUPPORT

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BATH-CURTAIN SUPPORT.

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My invention is a shower bath curtain support.

An object of the invention is the provision in a bath spray apparatus of the character described of a simple and easily adjustable, foldable supporting frame structure which is adapted when expanded to support a curtain over a bath tub in position to surround a user of the apparatus and which also is adapted to be folded when desired to occupy but little space and an out-of-the-way position.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description, considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

The figure is a perspective view of the improved bath spray apparatus in position for use.

The apparatus may be used with a bath tub 1 which is equipped with a water supply nozzle or faucet 2 of any suitable known type of construction. The curtain supporting structure of the apparatus may comprise a block 3 which is secured to the ceiling 4 of the room in which the bath tub 1 is located so that a vertical pivot element 5 which depends from a bearing portion 6 of a bracket 7 that is carried by the block 3 will be supported above the bath tub. A stop 8 is provided on the lower end portion of the pivot element 5 and may be a washer that is supported on the pivot element by a transverse pin 9. A plurality of supporting arms 10 are provided. Each arm 10 may be a substantially flat bar having a downturned outer end portion 11 and having a vertical opening 12 in its inner end portion through which a portion of the pivot element 5 extends. The inner end portions of the respective arms 10 are arranged in superposed relation on the pivot element 5 above the stop 8 and each is maintained substantially horizontal by a brace bar 13 which has its outer end portion secured rigidly to the outer end portion of the associated arm 10 and has its inner end portion provided with a vertical opening through which a portion of the pivot element 5 extends. The inner end portions of the respective brace bars 13 are arranged in superposed relation on the pivot element 5 with the lowermost brace bar resting on the stop 8.

The downturned outer end portions 11 of the supporting arms having horizontal openings 14 with which the upper end portions of suspension members 15 are engaged and such suspension members have hooks at their

lower ends detachably engageable with the upper edge portion of a bath curtain 17. The latter may be a sheet of canvas, rubberized fibre or other material which is practically waterproof. When the points of connection of the hooks 16 with the upper edge portion of the curtain are spaced regularly along the upper edge of the bath curtain as shown, it is obvious that the bath curtain will be supported substantially in cylindrical form when the respective arms 10 have been adjusted about the axis of the pivot element until such supporting arms are spaced regularly about the pivot element substantially as shown in the figure. When desired, the supporting arms 10 can be swung about the axis of the pivot element until such arms are close together and certain of the arms are folded, the relative arrangement of the braces of certain adjacent supporting arms permitting such folding. If the suspension members 15 and the curtain 17 or the curtain 17 alone have not been disconnected from the supporting arms, it is obvious that the curtain also will be folded when the supporting arms are folded and when folded will occupy but little space and an out of the way position above the bath tub.

The spray structure of the apparatus may comprise a supply or distributor pipe 18 which is closed at its upper end and is open at its lower end. The open lower end portion of the pipe 18 preferably is provided with an external bead 19 for frictionally engaging with an end portion of a length of flexible rubber tubing 20 when said end portion of the tubing 20 has been stretched and slipped to place on the beaded end portion of the pipe 18. The opposite end portion of the tubing 20 is provided with a suitable fitting or coupling 21, whereby it can be connected with the discharge member of the faucet 2. The spray nozzle preferably is a straight tubular member 22 which is closed at its opposite ends and is provided at intervals along its length with transverse partitions 23, whereby the space within the nozzle 22 is divided longitudinally into a plurality of spaced compartments such as indicated at 24, 25 and 26, respectively. The tubular nozzle 22 is provided at one side thereof with longitudinally spaced series of small lateral discharge orifices 27. The tubular nozzle 22 is supported in spaced parallel relation with the supply pipe 18 by a plurality of short horizontal distributor tubes, there being a distributor tube between

each compartment of the nozzle and the supply pipe as indicated at 28, 29 and 30, respectively. It will be obvious that the nozzle 22 may be formed in a single piece or of sections joined together in any suitable known manner and that the connections of the horizontal distributor tubes 28, 29 and 30 with the supply pipe 18 and the tubular nozzle 22 may be effected in any suitable known manner. The bores of the distributor tubes 28, 29 and 30 are graduated in cross sectional area according to their height with the distributor tube 30 having the largest bore as clearly shown in Figure 1 so that the flow of liquid from the tube 18 to the respective compartments of the nozzle 22 will be substantially equalized.

The bath spray structure is supported adjustably from the curtain 17 within the latter so that the discharge orifices 27 will be turned toward the person who is standing within the curtain. The means for adjustably supporting the bath spray structure from the curtain 17 may comprise a rod or bar 31 which is parallel with the pipe 18 and the nozzle 22 and is secured to the horizontal distributor tubes 28, 29 and 30 in any suitable known manner, as by means of solder or suitable clamps, (not shown). The supporting member 31 is provided for part of its length on the side thereof that is turned away from the adjacent wall of the bath curtain with a vertical series of spaced teeth or lugs 32. A supporting strap 33 has its ends attached to the curtain 17 and embraces the supporting member 31 below the lowermost tooth 32 and a second similar strap 34 embraces the toothed portion of the supporting member 31 and can be placed in engagement with the teeth 32 selectively to support the bath spray structure as a unit at any one of a plurality of different heights within the curtain 17. It therefore will be manifest that the bath spray structure may be adjusted vertically to adapt the apparatus for use of persons of different sizes or for any other purpose so as to vary the height at which the major part of the spray will be directed against the body of the user of the device.

In use, the curtain supporting frame is adjusted to support the curtain substantially in cylindrical form above the bath tub as shown in the figure. The spray structure may be held within the confines of the curtain and

manipulated by the user of the device as desired, the supply section 18 also being adapted to serve as a handle for the spray structure. When the spray structure has been connected with the faucet in the manner described and the faucet has been opened, water will be sprayed from the lateral orifices of the nozzle onto the user of the device.

Obviously, the invention is susceptible of embodiment in forms other than that which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings and I therefore consider as my own all such modifications and adaptations thereof as fairly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a support for curtains, a pivot element depending from an elevated support, a plurality of supporting arms having vertical openings in their inner end portions through which said pivot element extends, said arms being swingable about the axis of said pivot element, and braces staying said arms to said pivot element and maintaining said arms substantially horizontal.

2. In a support for curtains, a block attachable to a support above a bath tub, a bracket carried by the block, a vertical pivot element supported by the bracket, a stop at the lower end of the pivot element, a plurality of supporting arms having openings in their inner end portions for the reception of the vertical pivot element, brace bars secured to the arms and having inner end portions pivoted with openings through which said pivot element extends, the inner end portion of the lowermost brace resting on said stop, and hanger members carried by the outer end portions of said arms and having hooks at their lower ends attachable to the upper end portion of a bath curtain.

3. In a support for curtains, an elevated support, a vertical pivot element depending therefrom, a plurality of radially disposed arms pivotally mounted on the pivot element, a hook depending from each arm and engageable with a curtain, the arms being normally disposed radially to sustain the curtain in cylindrical formation and capable of being disposed in substantial parallelism to sustain the curtain in open position.

HARRY MADISON.