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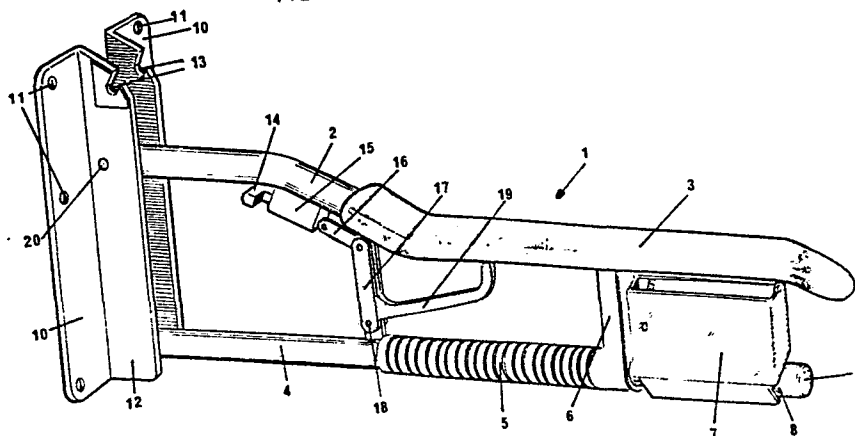
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54 Lavatory arm support.

57 A lavatory arm support adapted to be stationarily mounted on a support such as a wall adjacent a lavatory comprises a wall attachment (10, 12) and, pivotally mounted (at 20) thereon, an arm support structure comprising, in a lowered position, an upper arm portion (2, 3), a lower arm portion (4) and portions (6, 23) connecting said arm portions. The arm support (1) is provided with a latching structure comprising latching recesses (13) in the wall attachment (12)

and shiftable latches (14) movably mounted in a support element (15) at the upper arm portion (2), said latches (14) being controllable via a link structure (22, 16, 17) by means of sturdy operating handle (19), enabling even persons of reduced muscular strength to operate the arm support between the raised and lowered positions. The latching structure comprises a return spring (21) urging the latches (14) towards latching position.

FIG 1



LAVATORY ARM SUPPORT

The invention relates to a lavatory arm support and is specifically directed to an arm support for persons of reduced mobility or considerably reduced muscular strength needing a strong and reliable arm support which at the same time is simple to operate between a raised position in which the arm support is securely latched against lowering and a lowered position.

Nowadays certain lavatories are required to be equiped in a way fascilitating use by physically afflicted persons, which means that an arm support is to be provided laterally of the lavatory. As provided now such arm supports have certain drawbacks such as insecure attachment, uncomfortable support surface, excessive distance to toilet-paper holder, the latching structure, in particular, not being sufficiently strong to enable the arm support to form a steady hand grip for men during urination, said latch structure also in many cases being difficult to operate in particular for persons having reduced muscular strength.

It is the purpose of the present invention to eliminate the above-mentioned disadvantages in connection with lavatory arm supports, the invention providing an arm support having a very steady attachment, a comfortable support surface, a toilet-paper holder at a comfortable distance and in particular a latch structure of great strength which at the same time is extremely easily operated also by persons of reduced muscular strength.

The specific characteristic features of the invention appear from the attached claims.

A particularly advantageous embodiment of the invention will be described hereafter by reference to the attached drawings in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the arm support according to the invention, and

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the embodiment according to Fig. 1 with certain invisible portions illustrated by broken lines.

The lavatory arm support 1 comprises an upper steel tube 2 on which a support surface 3 is mounted. The support surface 3 is both wide and soft offering a very comfortable support surface for the arm. A lower steel tube 4 extends forwardly from the attachment 10 and a handle portion 5 with good gripping properties is provided below the support surface 3. A transverse portion 6 connects the lower and upper tubes with each other, the lower tube 4 comprising a forwardly extending portion 8 adapted to serve as a center support for a toilet-paper roll to be supported in toilet-paper holder 7. At its free end tube 4 is terminated by a terminal socket 9.

The attachment comprises two rear mounting plates 10 in which mounting screw holes 11 are provided. In addition, the attachment has two perpendicular mounting flanges 12, in which the tube construction constituting the arm support 1 is pivotally supported as at 20. In the lowered position the arm support abuts against the attachment wall at a downwardly directed portion 23 extending from the pivot 20 to the lower tube 4 (and suitably forming a part of this tube). The mounting flanges 12 of the attachment are provided with latching recesses 13.

The latching structure is attached to the upper tube 2 by means of a mounting device 15. Latches 14 are provided on a shiftable stud 22 slidably mounted in the mounting structure 15. Stud 22 at its opposite end is attached to a link structure 16, 17, the links of which are attached to each other and extend at an angle to each other. Link 17 is adapted to swing about a pivot 18 and is connected to a strong operating handle 19. The mounting device 15 also comprises a return spring 21 adapted to urge the latch towards latching position.

In the drawings the preferred embodiment is shown in the lower position. To raise the device to the substantially vertical position (in which the arm support is moved apart in order to increase the free space around the lavatory and to serve as a handle during a man's urination) the arm support is simply pivoted about pivot 20 causing the latches 14 to enter into the latching recesses 13 (after passage over the bevelled edge surface) to be retained there under the action of spring 21 (cp. Fig. 2). In this position the arm support will constitute a very stable handle. If subsequently the arm support 1 is to be lowered, the user simply grasps the very strong operating handle 19 which by a grasping movement is moved towards the gripping portion 5 to release latching device 14, 13 from the latched state enabling the arm support to be easily lowered.

The wide and soft support surface 3 forms a comfortable support surface for the user, the gripping handle 5 forms a steady handle in the raised position, and the latching structure operated by the large operating handle 19 is easily actuated also by persons of reduced muscular strength. By providing the toilet-paper holder 7 on the arm support proper the user has easy access to the toilet-paper and due to the steady construction the invention

- . provides a reliable arm support satisfying the above-mentioned purposes of the invention.

The expert on the field will realize that the invention can be modified and varied within the frame of the attached claims broadly defining the invention.

CLAIM

Arm support adapted to be stationarily mounted on a wall or the like adjacent a lavatory and comprising a wall attachment (10, 12) and, pivotally mounted (at 20) thereon, an arm support structure comprising in a lowered position an upper arm portion (2, 3), a lower arm portion (4) and portions (6, 23) connecting said arm portions, characterized by a latching structure comprising latching recesses (13) in the wall attachment (12) and shiftable latches (14) movably mounted at the upper arm portion (2) of the arm support (1), a return spring (21) urging the latches (14) towards latching position, said latches (14) being controllable via a link structure (22, 16, 17) by means of a sturdy operating handle (19) enabling even persons of reduced muscular strength to operate the arm support between the raised latched and the lowered free positions, said lower arm portion (4) being provided with a grip (5) which in the raised latched position of the arm support forms a handle having good gripping properties.

FIG 1

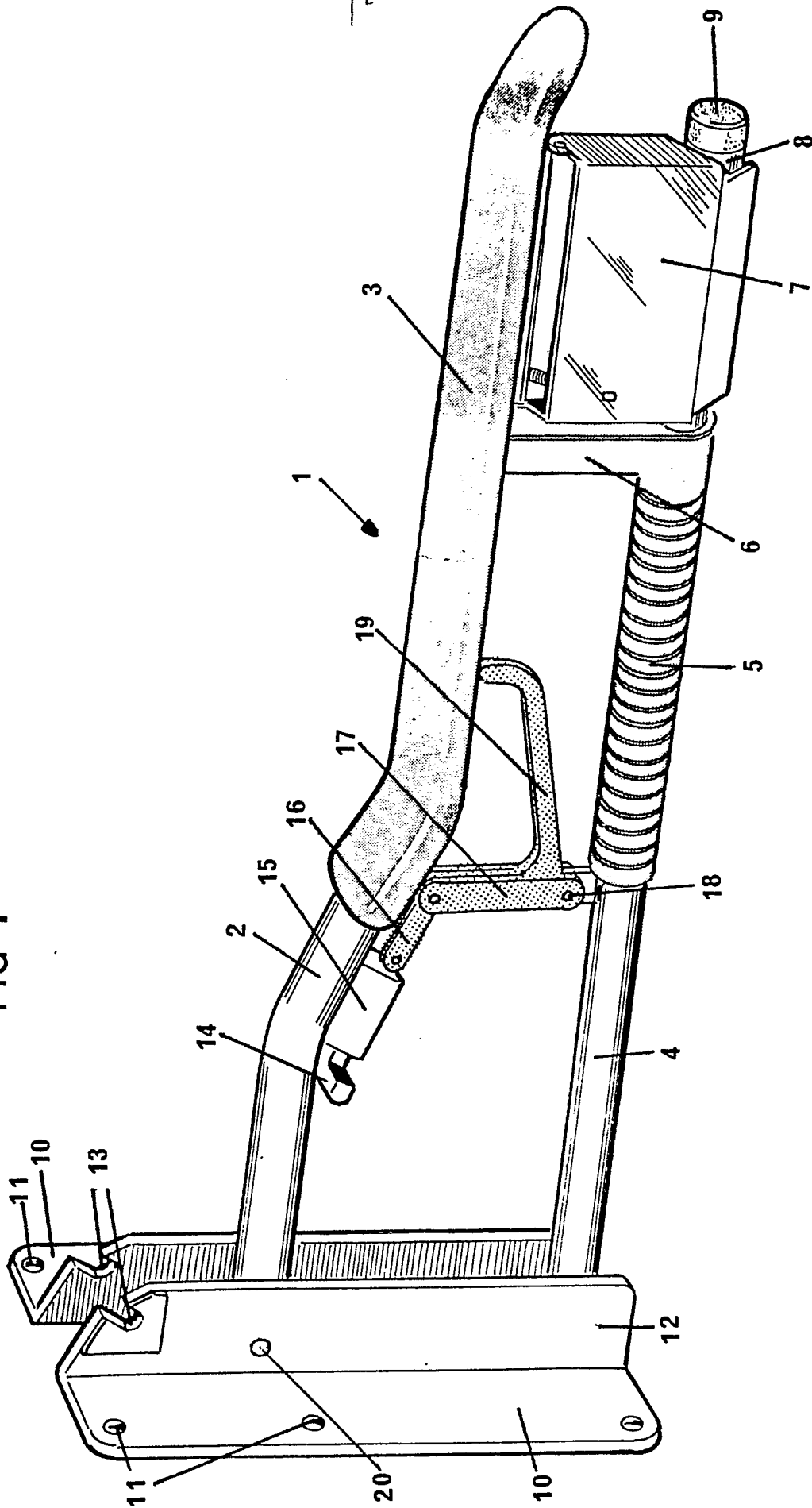
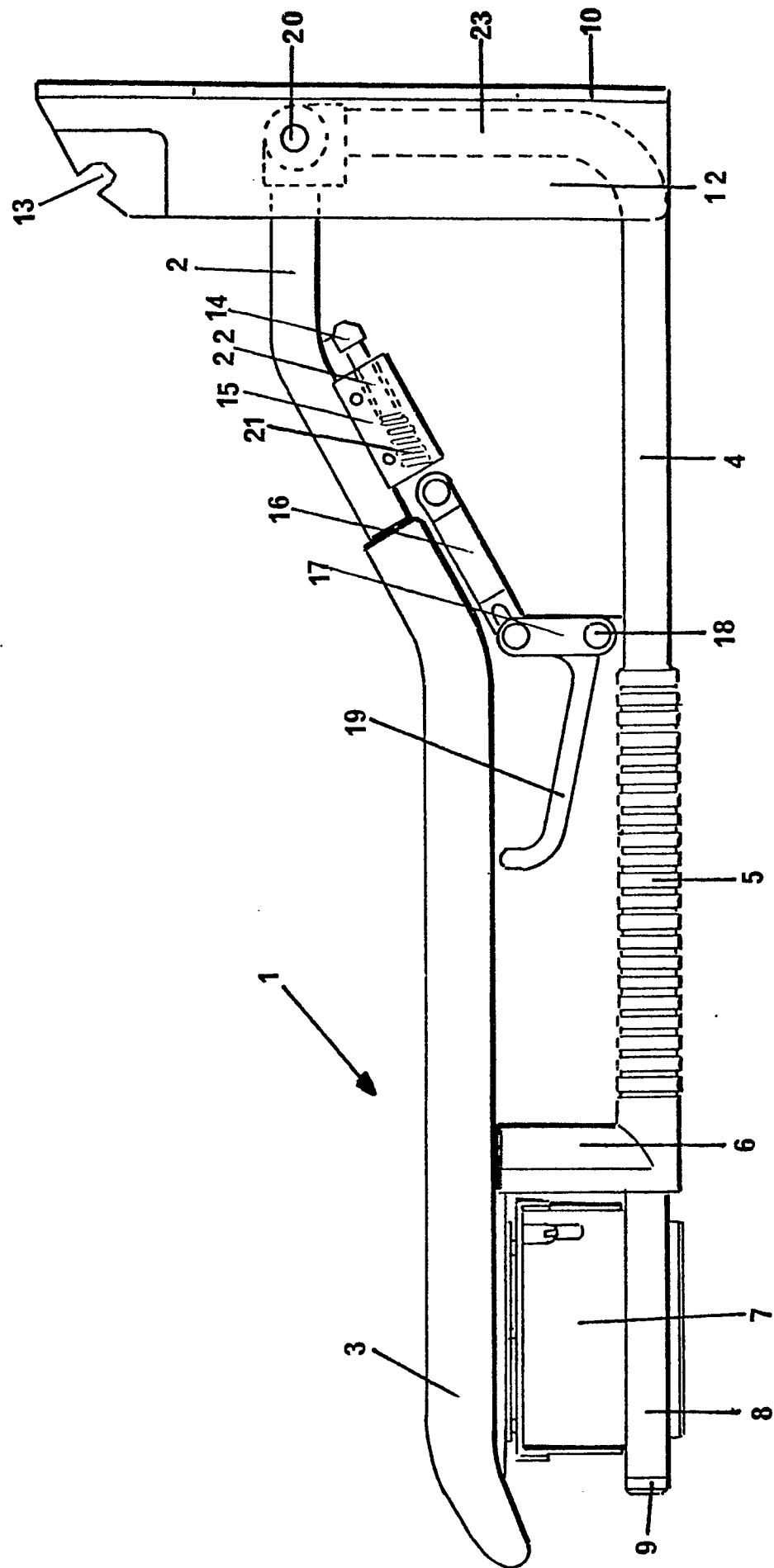


FIG 2





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 3)
A	FR-A-2 364 648 (ZK-EDELSTAHLVERARBEITUNG) * Page 1, lines 1-9; page 2, line 28 - page 3, line 11; figures 1-3 *	1	A 47 K 17/02
A	FR-A-1 557 627 (ITO) * Page 1, column 1, paragraph 1; page 1, column 2, paragraph 7 - page 2, column 1, line 10; figures 1,2,4 *	1	
A	BOUWWERELD, vol. 74, no. 5, 3rd March 1978, page 26, Doetinchem, NL. F.G. DE GRAAFF et al.: "Wettelijke regelingen voor woningaanpassing" * Page 26: only the picture *	1	
A	DEUTSCHE BAUZEITSCHRIFT, no. 2, 1976, page 193, Bertelsmann Fachzeitschriften GmbH, Gutersloh, DE. * Page 193, figure 23: "Klappgriff" *		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 3) A 47 K A 61 G
A	US-A-4 196 480 (GUENTHER)		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 31-08-1982	Examiner CAVALERI S.P.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			