

MECHANICAL FAKES

"Old wives and starres are his counsellors; his nightspell is his guard, and charms his physician. He wears Paracelsian characters for the toothache; and a little hallowed wax is his antidote for all evils."—Bishop Hall.

THE ELECTROPOISE—OXYDONOR—OXYGENOR— OXYPATHOR—OXYTONOR—OXYBON

It is sometimes hard to decide which is the greater—the impudence of the quack or the credulity of his victims. The comparative ease with which the medical faker is able, by the most preposterous claims, to separate the trusting from their money indicates the enormous potentialities in advertising. It might be supposed that an individual who set out to sell, as a panacea for all the ills of the flesh, a piece of brass pipe with one or two wires attached to it, would, commercially speaking, have a hard and rocky road before him. But such a supposition would be incorrect. Not only would the enterprising faker find customers for his gas-pipe, but there would be such a demand for this most inane of "therapeutic" devices, that two or three imitators would immediately enter the market.

SANCHE AND HIS "INVENTIONS"

The original exploiter of what may be called "gas-pipe therapy," was one Hercules Sanche, who modestly described himself as the "Discoverer of the Laws of Spontaneous Cure of Disease." Of course, Sanche did not "discover" this long-known truth at all, but he must be given credit for appreciating its commercial value. Starting with the premise that a certain proportion of sick people—and of those who think they are sick—will get well without treatment, or in spite of it, he apparently cast about to devise a means of reaping a pecuniary reward from the operation of this natural law. Sanche might, of course, have used some harmless, or even unmedicated, tablets and after describing at great length the marvelous properties inherent in them, have sold them with substantial profit to himself. This method of fleecing the public, however, besides being old and threadbare, was not altogether free from the possibility of legal complications. He might have offered to sell "absent treatment" and have discoursed learnedly on the benefits and virtues of this wonderful therapeutic force. But "absent treatment" does not appeal to the man who wants a tangible "something" in exchange for his dollars. Sanche finally hit on a device that

was negatively harmless—and positively worthless—and yet theatrical enough to make the purchaser feel that he was getting something for his money.


The Electropoise

Sanche's first and simplest gas-pipe cure device he called the Electropoise. Some of the claims made for the Electropoise were:

"The Electropoise supplies the needed amount of electric force to the system, and by its thermal action places the body in condition to absorb oxygen through the lungs and pores."

"It introduces this potent, curative agent, oxygen, into the remotest and most recondite parts."

"The gases from decaying food are positive in their electrical quality and cause disease. With the Electropoise we cause the negative elements so abundant in the atmosphere to be attracted into the body in sufficient quantity to consume the accumulation of combustible matter stored up by the imperfect action of the vital organs."



THE
Electropoise
TRADE MARK

**An OXYGEN
HOME REMEDY
WITHOUT MEDICINE.**

Often Cures
Cases
Pronounced
"Incurable."

"HOW?" Write us for booklet that tells all about the Electropoise. Mailed free.

531 FIFTH AVE., N. Y., April 25th, 1895.
"... My confidence in the merits of the Electropoise—simple, convenient, economical and effective as it is—has constantly grown with my increasing observation and experience."
W. H. DEPUY, A.M., D.D., LL.D.
(Editor Peoples' Cyclopaedia.)

Electropoise Co., 120 Broadway, New York.
1st Floor, 2d, South 7th, Brothers Electropoise Co., 200 West St., Charleston, S. C. De Sales & Wain, 24 Fourth Ave., Louisville, Ky.

Photographic reproduction (reduced) of a portion of a two-page advertisement that appeared in the *Cosmopolitan* magazine, October, 1895, of Sanche's original gas-pipe fake—the Electropoise. It sold for from \$10 up.

Apparently, there was no disease, known or unknown, that the Electropoise would not cure—according to its exploiter. All these cures, it appeared, were to be brought about by causing the system to absorb oxygen from air. This—the absorption of oxygen—is the theory which has been invented to explain the therapeutic action of the Electropoise and of all the later humbugs of which it was the prototype.

The Electropoise was a metal cylinder, called the "Polizer," three and one-half inches long and weighing about five ounces. The cylinder was sealed at both ends and to one end there was attached an uninsulated flexible cord. At the free end of this cord there was a small disc, which, by means of an

elastic band and buckle, could be fastened to the wrist or ankle. The Electropoise cylinder, when broken into, was found to be hollow and empty. It sold for from \$10 up.

The Oxydonor

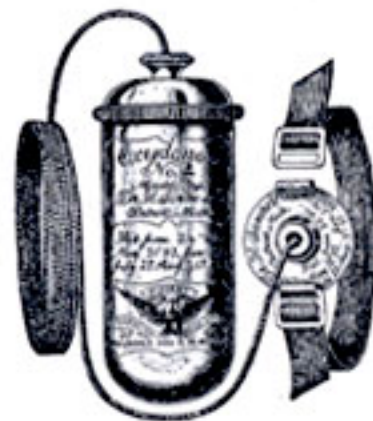
So popular did the electropoise become and so readily did the credulous respond, that Sanche extended his operations by putting on the market a modification of his first fake, which he christened the "Oxydonor Victory," or as it is more commonly known, "Oxydonor." The claims made for the Oxydonor were, if possible, even more false, extravagant and fraudulent than those made for the Electropoise. For instance:

"The new life-giver for self-treatment."

"Cures all fevers, including yellow fever, in a few hours."

"Cures all forms of disease."

According to Sanche, it, too, operated by the "oxygen-absorption" method. In earlier days, the Oxydonor was said to force oxygen into the system. This was such a prepos-



This depicts the piece of metal tubing "invented" by Hercules Sanche and named the "Oxydonor." The claim was made that "it causes the human organism to thirst for and absorb the oxygen of the air." It was advertised to "quickly and infallibly cure" a list of diseases ranging from "headache" to "hydrophobia" and from "twitchings" to "tetanus." This fake sold for from \$10 to \$35.

terously absurd claim that Sanche modified it later and claimed that the Oxydonor put the body in such a condition that more oxygen was absorbed. Thus, to use the deadly parallel:

EARLIER CLAIMS

"The oxydonor victory generates or absorbs oxygen from the water and forces it by the law of induction through the system."

LATER CLAIMS

"Oxydonor causes the body to absorb large quantities of oxygen—the vitalizer of the blood—through the myriad pores of the skin."

The Oxydonor differed slightly from the Electropoise: The cylinder was not quite so long; instead of being empty, it contained a stick of carbon; instead of selling for \$10.00, it sold for \$35.00. Aside from these minor points of difference, it resembled the Electropoise. Its cylinder, also, was hermeti-

cally sealed and had attached to one end a cord with a disc, buckle and strap similar to those of the older instrument.

To "operate" the Oxydonor, it was placed in cold water and the disc was attached to the wrists or the ankle of the person using it. When these conditions were met, the instrument was supposed either to force oxygen into the body, or to cause the body to absorb oxygen—according to whichever falsehood seemed the easier to believe.

THE FORCE OF DIADUCTION

One might imagine that the ease with which the gullible were separated from their money, by means of the Oxydonor, would have satisfied even the get-rich-quick propensities of Hercules Sanche, but this shrewd, old dispenser of modern magic thought he saw still greater possibilities in his nickel-plated piece of gas-pipe. No one, he argued, had ever realized before that by attaching a piece of nickel-plated brass tubing to the body by means of a flexible cord, the system could be made to absorb oxygen. If this could be done—a large "if"—then it seemed reasonable to suppose that a new force had been discovered. Such was Sanche's proposition. *Ergo*, having "discovered" a new "force," why not capitalize it? Sanche, therefore, christened his force "Diaduction."

While discussing the commercial use to which the exploiter of the Oxydonor put his new force, Diaduction, it may be interesting to see what unprejudiced and intelligent men thought of it. Mr. Justice Shiras, who later became a member of the Supreme Court of the United States, said of "diaduction":

"I am entirely certain that I do not understand the working of this so-called force, if any such exists, and I greatly doubt whether Dr. Sanche has any clear conception of the force or principle which he seeks to describe under the name of 'diaduction.'"

Still other judges have had something to say on the matter. Said one:

"From the record evidence we have tried to get some intelligent idea of 'diaduction.' We have failed utterly."

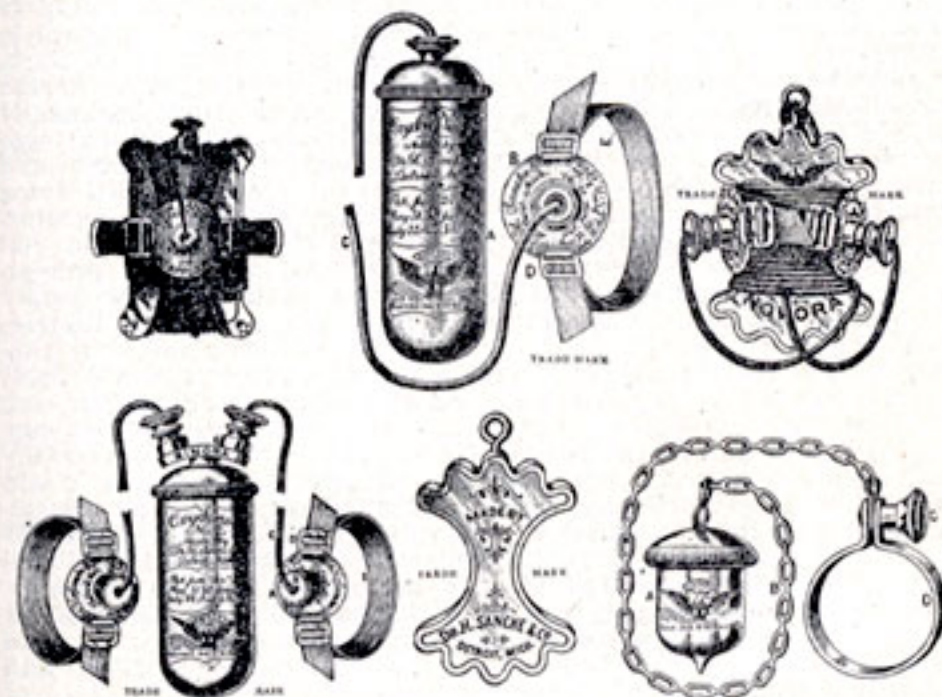
And again:

[The theory] "is a mere pretense, that is to say, a theory not entertained by the inventor in good faith, but put forward as an imaginary hypothesis merely for the purpose of obtaining a patent on a very simple contrivance, which was not patentable unless the claim was reinforced by some such pretended discovery."

It would be interesting to know, but it is impossible to learn from a study of the records, whether Sanche invented the force of diaduction for the purpose of dignifying his gas-pipe fake or "invented" his nickel-plated humbug so as to capitalize his imaginary force. At any rate, both fakes were worked to the limit.

THE FRATERNITY OF DUXANIMÆ

Nor were the "instrument" and the "force" the only things founded by Sanche. *Fraternitas Duxanimæ*—the Fraternity of Duxanimæ—was the name of an organization evolved from the fertile brain of this exponent of gas-pipe cure. Naturally, the object of *Fraternitas Duxanimæ* was the enriching of its founder, both by the sale of Oxydonor and otherwise. An elaborate booklet was issued which purported to set forth the objects of the Fraternity. To discuss the book at length would be tedious and probably the best method of acquainting the reader with its contents will be to quote one sentence—



Photographic reproduction (reduced) of some of the numerous mechanical fakes by which Sanche has separated the simple from their money. The instrument shown on the extreme left of the upper row was known as the "Animator" and was said to be "a powerful diaductive tonic." It sold for from \$5 to \$10. The device on the extreme right of the upper row is the "Novora" with its accompanying cords and discs rolled around it; the center illustration in the lower row is the Novora without cords or discs. The Novora was supposed to be used by any person that had to sleep with a patient who was using an Oxydonor. One of the Novora discs was to be attached to the ankle of the patient while the other disc was to be attached to the ankle of the patient's bed-mate. The instrument shown in the lower right hand corner was known as the "Vocorbis," and it also was to be used in connection with the Oxydonor. The "Binora," shown in the lower left-hand corner, was an attachment to be applied to the Oxydonor, by which two persons might derive the same (imaginary) benefit from one instrument. It sold for \$30.

the opening one. It is true this sentence contains 468 words and may seem a trifle tedious and not very lucid, but it so perfectly exemplifies the whole book that, at the risk of being tiresome, it is reprinted verbatim:

SANCHE'S FRATERNITY EXPLAINED IN ONE SENTENCE

"The Fraternity of Duxanimæ is a Cosmopolitan Organization of the beneficiaries of the new Method of curing disease and of bracing life to any reasonable requirement, on strictly natural principles, without medication, or electrical devices, or anything previously employed to treat human ills, and without anything except what I have invented and named, 'Diaductive Connections,' made with certain Diaductive connectors, connecting the human organism, or any other living thing, with suitable inanimate matter in suitable quantity and condition, to form a diamagnetic pair, acting as an artificial Organic Device; and thus converting the organism so connected together with the connector and the inanimate matter connected with, into a new (hybrid) artificial vegetative apparatus, operating spontaneously and irrepressibly, as soon as made, by the spontaneous impulse of natural forces, according to certain Natural Laws and Principles of which I am the Discoverer, functioning as such an apparatus as soon as the necessary pairing arrangement is properly made, and as long as this arrangement remains the same, vegetating on the same natural principles as certain plants, though two-thirds artificial, and composed partly of a living human or animal organism, according to the Diaductive qualities of the connector employed; and vegetating with any required force and intensity, wholly for the benefit of the only natural one-third living part in the pairing arrangement constituting this hybrid apparatus, that is, for the benefits of the living organism attached to one end of the 'Diaductive Connector;' which artificial vegetative process, when properly begotten, by the proper arrangement with the proper means, instantaneously arrests the chemical process of disease, and rekindles the physiological Combustion of Life; and thus rapidly reanimates the falling living organism, causes it to rid itself of noxious matter by its own functions, according to its own inherent laws, through the energetic, unerring operation of its own organic parts, as soon as adequately reanimated; which, as already fully demonstrated in many millions of tests all over the World without a complete failure, cures disease in any form, and revitalizes human beings, or animals, or plants, to any required degree, as quickly as if accomplished by magic, while the patient feels little, or nothing, and sleeps sweetly and naturally to wake in health, strong, vigorous, hungry, and more highly animated than usual, physically and mentally, to the amazement of medicators and orthodox reasoners; though absolutely natural, irresistible, and naturally infallible, and though long since effected at the rate of no less than fifteen thousand times daily, every day in the year, scattering all over the World, from a medical standpoint these Diaductive Cures are too astonishing, to permit medicators to trust their own senses and to believe their own eyes, but in the slowest way, who remain incredulous as long as possible, to finally surrender and admit these diaductive facts."

Thus in a sentence does Dr. Hercules Sanche, the "only absolute master of diseases on earth," introduce the reader to his *Fraternitas Duxanimæ*. As a fraternity, there was, of course, a vow to be taken—"The Vow of Duxanimæ (*Votum Fraternitatis Duxanimæ*)"—and the taking of this vow was "the prime and inflexible condition" to enrolment. While the "vow" is too long and elaborate to reproduce in full, the following quotations make clear its salient points.

THE VOW OF DUXANIMÆ

"To Almighty God, I solemnly promise the following:

"With all peaceful means at my command, I will oppose the sale and use of the Imitations of Diaductive Instruments, Devices and Means [Oxydonors] . . ."

"I will in like manner oppose all existing and proposed legislation everywhere I may be, that gives preference or any kind of advan-

tage to medical or other Practices over the Practice of Scientific or Popular Diaduction . . ."

"I will ever be mindful of the importance . . . of obtaining the enactment of new laws in every way favorable to the spread of both, Popular Diaduction, and Scientific Duxanimæ by Diaduction . . ."

"I will do everything in my power to extend to all accessible human beings the benefits of this Fraternity and of the School and Practice of Duxanimæ by Diaduction."

"I abjure all ceremonial performances, religious, political, social and fraternal . . ."

"I abjure medication and every kind of treatment founded on medical ideas or theories, for the prevention or cure of disease in any form, or of any ill, or ailment. . . ."

These few paragraphs, while but a small part of the complete vow which Sanche's dupes were supposed to take, give some indication of the scope of the fraternity. Out of the mass of verbose and inconsequential twaddle that made up the seventy-six-page book devoted to the Fraternity of Duxanimæ, one fact stands out with a fair degree of clearness—the exploitation of the Oxydonor.

DONATIONS TO THE CAUSE

Nor was Sanche satisfied with the iron-bound vow, which he was able to exact. Printed forms were sent out entitled: "Donations to the Cause of Duxanimæ by Diaduction. In Trust with Dr. Hercules Sanche, its Discoverer." The money asked for was to be used in part as follows:

" . . . the undersigned . . . donate to Dr. Hercules Sanche, of 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, U. S. A., . . . amounts that we write on the same line with, or on the line next to our signatures, for his own use in paying his personal and other expenses in travel and other incidental costs incurred by his promoting the general cause of duxanimæ by diaduction . . . to be used by him to the best advantage, according to his own best judgment and discretion, upon his honor which we trust implicitly herewith." [Italics ours.—Ed.]

In order, apparently, that the individuals making these donations might feel that their money was not altogether thrown away, they were told that the money donated might, at the option of the donors, be "convertible into loans" and would be refunded in the form of "credits for cash payment to the proportion of 50 per cent., or for the full amount when current expenses are well provided for." [Italics again ours.—Ed.] The donors, it seems, were not to receive their donations back in real money, but were merely to be credited, to the amount stated, "on dues for the diaductive treatment of any case of disease . . . or on the regular retail prices of any diaductive instruments [Oxydonors] or devices that, as the head of the firm, I manufacture, or of any books that as such I publish . . ."

A study of this very elaborate and ingenious method of separating the fool from his money indicates that here, in the form of Hercules Sanche, we have the original J. Rufus Wallingford.

Oxygenor

So much for Hercules Sanche, inventor of the Electropoise and Oxydonor, the original gas-pipe fakes. The commercial success attending the exploitation of these frauds was such as to arouse the cupidity of others and numerous imitations have appeared. The "Oxygenor King," while similar to the Oxydonor so far as its worthlessness and fraud in exploitation are concerned, is a slightly more elaborate fake. As may be seen by the illustration, it differs from the Oxydonor in

CONVERTIBLE DONATIONS TO THE FUND OF THE CAUSE OF DUXANIMAE BY DIADUCTION.

Each of us, the undersigned, in consideration of the benefits that during the last fifteen years we have received in ourselves, in our families and our friends, through "Duxanimae Diaducta," and from the use of Popular Diaduction with Oxydonor, donate to Dr. Hercules Sanche, of 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, U. S. A., the Discoverer of Duxanimae by Diaduction, and the Inventor and Maker of Oxydonor and of other Diaductive Instruments and Devices and the first President of the Fraternity of Duxanimae, amounts that we write on the same line with or on the line next to our signatures, for his own use in paying his personal and other expenses in travels and other incidental costs incurred by his promoting the General Cause of Duxanimae by Diaduction and also of the Fraternity of Duxanimae, in all parts of the World, to be used by him to the best advantage, according to his own best judgment and discretion, upon his honor which we trust implicitly herewith.

We hereby agree to send him the same that we have subscribed at any time that he may request the same, and in the manner requested by him in writing, on the conditions hereinafter mentioned.

We also hereby agree that in the event of our death before the year A.D. 1925, with our death our donations shall become non-convertible and final.

Subscriptions Received in the City of..... in the State or Province of..... in the Government of (Name of Country).....

..... on the..... day of..... in the year A.D. 19.....

Write the sums fully and also put them down in figures in the right hand column.

.....	\$.....
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.....	\$.....
.....	\$.....
.....	\$.....

THE ABOVE DONATIONS TO THE CAUSE AND THE FRATERNITY OF DUXANIMAE ARE CONVERTIBLE INTO LOANS WITHOUT INTEREST, AT THE OPTION OF THE DONORS IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER, NAMELY:

With those of the above named Donors who in future may prefer to convert their donations hereto subscribed into loans without interest, for the benefit of themselves, or of any other persons whom they may designate as beneficiaries, I, Hercules Sanche, Physician, resident of the city of New York, U. S. A., hereby obligate myself to make arrangements by which, on special written request from any Donor in the above list, the amount of his or her donation, as above written and as receipted for, on the presentation of the receipt for said donation, shall in part or in whole be refunded to the persons presenting said receipt and named in said written request as beneficiaries, by credits for each payment to the proportion of fifty per cent., or for the full amount when current expenses are well provided for, on any kind of charges at the

Photographic reproduction (much reduced) of the first page of the blank form to be filled in by those who wished to donate money to Sanche "for his own use in paying his personal and other expenses in travels," etc.

having two cords to attach to the patient, one from each end of the cylinder. These cords terminate respectively in a copper and zinc disc, the former to be buckled to the wrist, the latter to be attached to the ankle. There is also a third cord, which may be attached to any one of three points on the body of the cylinder by means of a screw cap. This third cord joins the other two cords at a short distance

from the cylinder and is called the "force-controlling cord." The cylinder of the oxygenor is 5½ inches long and weighs about 1½ pounds. A circular describing this fake says:

"The Perfected Oxygenor King is a scientifically constructed instrument capable of curing all curable diseases without drugs, employing only the oxygen of the air."

"It consists of a metal cylinder, especially charged with a delicately adjusted but permanent combination of rare and costly metals, chemical agents and conductive elements, and called a generator."

THE CONTENTS OF THE OXYGENOR

The chemists of the American Medical Association recently examined the contents of the Oxygenor cylinder and found that the "rare and costly metals" contained therein were iron, brass and lead, while the "chemical agents and conductive elements" were sulphur, sand and charcoal—the sulphur and sand, together, comprising 97 per cent. of the whole.

The Oxygenor is claimed by its exploiter to "possess complete mastery over all curable diseases." Of course, testimonials are forthcoming to show the value of this piece of brass tubing:

"We can furnish proof that its range of cures is from Headache to Paralysis, from Blood Poison to Change of Life, from Chickenpox to Varicose Veins, from Colic to Bright's Disease, from Malaria to Dyspepsia. In fact, practically the entire list of prevalent ailments is embraced in the record of cures."

In common with the Oxydonor, it is supposed to produce its marvelous effects by its power to "oxygenate" the human body.

"This instrument introduces in a special way the curative agent allotrophic oxygen, or ozone, directly into the circulation through the pores."

NO ELECTRICAL POWER

No claim is made that the Oxygenor will produce a current of electricity or that its alleged effects are in any way due to electricity. The evident reason for this omission is that were such a claim made, it could be proved absolutely false. It is not so easy, from a legal standpoint, to disprove the existence of a "force" that is unknown to everybody except those who "invented" it and who are making money out of its commercial exploitation. It is worth noting, however, that the patent specifications—for this silly fraud has actually been patented—for the original Oxygenor describe it as a "battery case for electro-medical apparatus." Say the specifications:

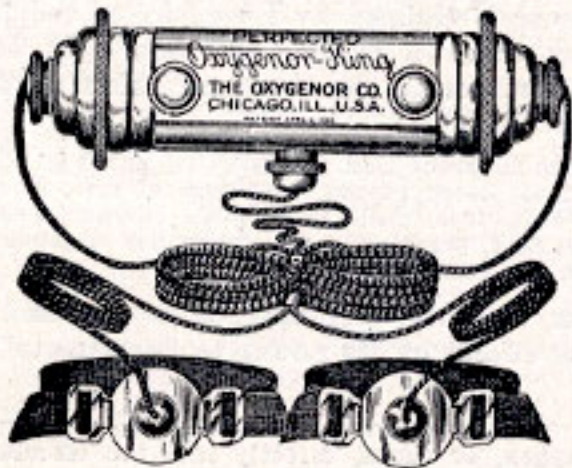
"Our invention relates to improvements in medical instruments such as are used for supplying electric currents to the human body . . ."

NOT DESERVING OF PROTECTION

The Oxygenor is such an evident imitation of Oxydonor that it is not surprising to learn that Sanche attempted to invoke the power of the courts to prevent its sale. The

United States courts, however, decided that Sanche's instrument was not of sufficient value to entitle it to protection in a court of equity. In commenting on this case, *THE JOURNAL* of the American Medical Association said editorially,¹ in part:

"The court stated that these and similar fakes cannot have the indorsements of the courts when the pretended inventor cannot make, or refuses to make, an explanation. The court admitted that reputable witnesses testified that when sick they used some of these devices, and that they were restored to health; but the court goes on to say that there is nothing to prove that this sequence of events is in the nature of cause and effect. He remarks: 'It would be just as reasonable for an Iowa farmer to say that his barn was not destroyed by the last thunderstorm because there was a lightning rod on Mount Pisgah, as for a man to say that his restoration to health was brought about by the use of an oxydonor or an oxygenor.'"



The "Oxygenor" is an elaboration of the "Oxydonor" fake. It, also, is supposed to "oxygenate" those who use it. Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) is asked for this piece of metal pipe filled with sand and sulphur.

The Oxygenator or Oxypathor

More recently, still another modification of the gas-pipe cure has been foisted on the public. It is called the Oxygenator, a name sufficiently like Oxygenor that one would imagine the courts could be invoked on the grounds of infringement of title. Possibly the Oxygenor people have thought it safer to keep away from the courts. Within the past few weeks the name of the Oxygenator has been changed to that of "Oxypathor." Whether this change has been made to avoid legal reprisal on the part of the Oxygenor concern or whether the undesirable publicity given to the fraudulent nature of the Oxygenator both by *THE JOURNAL* of the American Medical Association and by the State authorities in Vermont has put the name "Oxygenator" in ill repute, we do not know, but the change has been made.

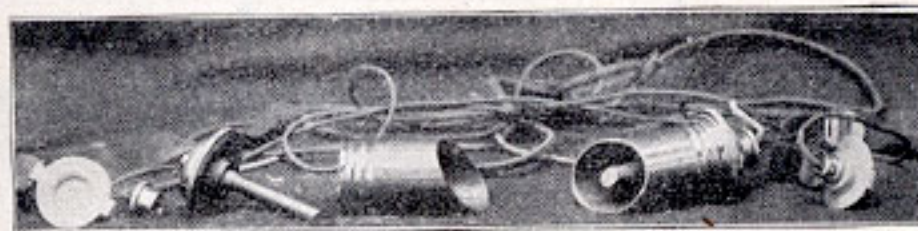
1. *THE JOURNAL* A. M. A., July 30, 1904, p. 336.

Apparently, there is a good deal of money behind the Oxygenator concern. An elaborate booklet is issued and selling depôts have been established in many cities. As "Diaduction" was imaginary force invented for the purpose of selling Oxydonors, so "Oxypathy," a word the company claims to have trademarked, is the shibboleth of the Oxygenator fakers.

The Oxygenator (or Oxypathor) in appearance resembles the Oxygenor more than it does the Oxydonor. It consists of a cylinder with two cords and discs; the latter to be attached respectively to the ankle and wrist of the user. It differs



The "Oxygenator" ("Oxypathor") is one of the latest imitations of Sanche's original fakes. It is just as worthless as the others and the claims made for it are even more viciously false. Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and thirty-five (\$35.00) are asked for it. It is now being advertised and sold as the "Oxypathor."



An Oxygenator (Oxypathor) dissected. The gas-pipe has been sawn open and the coke dust emptied out.

from the Oxygenor in having no third—"force-controlling"—cord. The Oxygenator (or Oxypathor) comes in different sizes; that referred to as "'00' Duplex Oxygenator" has a cylinder 7 inches long and 1½ inches in diameter and weighs about 3 pounds. It, of course, does its work by "oxygenating" the body.

"The OXYGENATOR renders the body strongly POSITIVE; it is then in a natural condition to ATTRACT the NEGATIVE OXYGEN."

"The OXYGENATOR, pumping in magnificent manner that great God-given purifying element—OXYGEN—in vast quantities THROUGH THE PORES OF THE SKIN, attacks with maddened vigor the accumulation within the lungs."

From these quotations, it seems that the user of the Oxygenator may take his choice of two explanations of how the instrument works: either it causes the body to attract the

Burlington Daily Free Press

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1910.

OXYGENATOR SALE PROHIBITED HERE

Vermont State Board of Health
Investigates Claims of Manu-
facturers of Instrument.

DEVICE PRONOUNCED A FAKE

Tests Show a Tube Filled with
a Black Powder Which Is a
Grade Mixture of Inert
Substances.

STATE OF VERMONT STATE BOARD OF HEALTH LABORATORY OF HYGIENE

WARNING NOTICE

Violation of Vermont Pure Food
Law

Laboratory No. 56,483

Mr. H. J. Preston, Mgr. Vermont
Oxygenator Co., Burlington, Vt.

You are hereby informed that the
following material "O O" Duplex
Oxygenator obtained of you Oct.
19th, '10, does not comply with the
Vermont Pure Food Laws. Re-
marks: misbranded; claims on label
are misleading and extravagant.

Your attention is called to Regu-
lations XIII and sections 5,467-5-
471, Chapter 226 Public Statutes. A
violation of the above renders you
liable to prosecution.

Very truly yours,

H. D. HOLTON, M. D.
Secretary

Brattleboro, Oct. 31, 1910.

An alleged swindle, according to an
official report just completed by

Photographic reproduction (reduced) of the first part of a long article appearing in the Burlington (Vermont) *Free Press*, describing the results of an investigation of the Oxygenator (Oxypathor) by the Vermont State Board of Health.

oxygen, or it pumps the oxygen into the body. As both statements are falsehoods, it makes little difference which one the gullible purchaser accepts.

WILL NOT CURE CANCER

A study of the booklet describing Oxypathy indicates that the Oxygenator (or Oxypathor) will cure every disease except cancer and tumor. It is explicitly stated that:

"The Oxygenator will not cure cancer and tumor nor will it restore a lung or other organ of the body that is gone."

Elsewhere in the book, the statement is made that the Oxygenator has cured many advanced cases of Bright's disease, so that, apparently, it does restore some organs, or parts of



These four pictures illustrate the lack of originality shown by the various exploiters of the gas-pipe cures. They are photographic reproductions (much reduced) of illustrations that appear in the advertising matter of the various concerns engaged in this form of fraud and are supposed to represent the methods of applying the various instruments. The upper left-hand picture is from the Oxydonor pamphlet; the upper right, from the Oxygenator; the lower left, from the Oxygenator (or Oxypathor), and the lower right, from the Oxytonor.

organs, of the body that are gone! It is probable that the reason the Oxygenator company so studiously disclaims any ability to cure cancer is that the United States Government has practically put the "cancer cure" fakers out of business.

In many ways this latest type of gas-pipe cure is the worst, inasmuch as claims are made for it that are not only absurd but dangerous. For instance:

"DIPHTHERIA: This overwhelming child's disease finds its supreme master in the *Oxygenator*. No earthly power except the *Oxygenator* can take the slowly choking child, and with speed, simplicity and safety, bring it back to health.

"Don't jeopardize the health and life of your children by allowing to be injected into their veins and blood the often fearfully contaminated and death-dealing serum of an animal, otherwise known as antitoxin."

It is difficult to restrain one's indignation at the thought that such viciously cruel lies as these are permitted to be scattered broadcast. Let the neurotic and neurasthenic adult, if he can convince himself that a nickel-plated piece of gas-pipe possesses curative properties, experiment with it on his own person if he wishes. But that a helpless child in the throes of a fearfully dangerous—and yet, rightly treated, curable—disease, should be allowed to suffer and die because ignorant parents have been persuaded to rely on these mechanical frauds, is no less than criminal. As for the miserable harpies who for a few filthy dollars will write such cold-blooded untruths as those quoted above, the safety of society demands that they be put where they can do no further harm.

THE CONTENTS OF THE OXYGENATOR

The *Oxygenator* (or *Oxypathor*) has been examined in the laboratories of the University of Vermont. The chemists of that institution were called on by the State Board of Health of Vermont to determine the composition of the material with which the *Oxygenator* cylinder was filled. The laboratory report stated, in part:

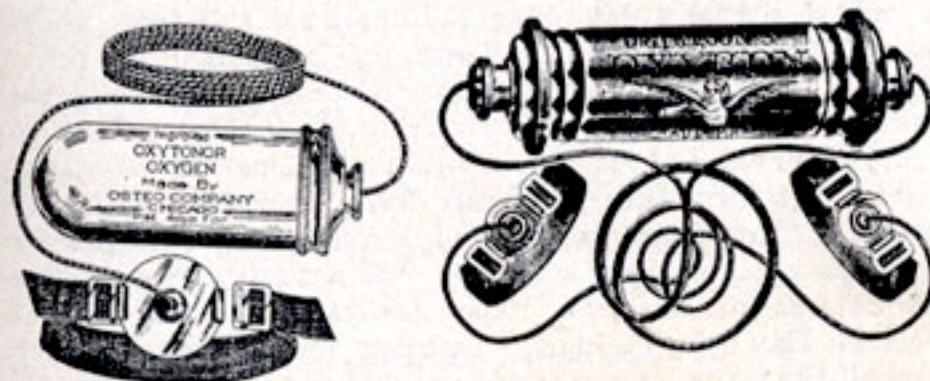
"The hollow interior . . . is filled with a black powder which analysis discloses to be a crude mixture of inert substances, apparently the waste or by-product of a manufacturing plant. . . . The powder is a rough mixture of iron filings, clayey material, and a dark-colored carbonaceous mass, . . . apparently nothing more than coke dust or carbon-black."

It is not surprising that on these findings, the State Board of Health of Vermont declared the *Oxygenator* to be "physically and therapeutically inert" and prohibited the sale of the fraud. [Since this was written an official proclamation has been issued by the Australian government forbidding the importation of the *Oxygenator* into that country.]

The Oxytonor

These three, the *Oxydonor*, the *Oxygenor* and the *Oxygenator*, are the most widely advertised products used in this form of fraud. There is one more fake of a similar nature that should be mentioned—the "*Oxytonor*." As the *Oxygenor* is

an imitation of the *Oxydonor*, and the *Oxygenator* an imitation of the *Oxygenor*: so the latest form of gas-pipe cure, the *Oxytonor*, seems to be a combined imitation of all three. The *Oxytonor* is sold by the Osteo Company of Chicago, a concern which also sells a device called the "*Osteopath*," and in exploiting which it has appropriated



The *Oxytonor* (on the left) and the *Oxybon* (on the right) are two of the latest exponents of gas-pipe therapy. They are both put on the market by Chicago concerns; the former by the Osteo Company and the latter by the Oxybon Company. Those who buy their gas-pipe labeled *Oxytonor*, pay \$20 for it; those who prefer it stamped *Oxybon* pay \$35.

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SUMMARY

To sum up: The "*Electropoise*," the "*Oxydonor*," the "*Oxygenor*," the "*Oxygenator*" (or "*Oxypathor*") and the "*Oxytonor*" are utterly worthless except as a means of enriching their exploiters. Their therapeutic value, aside from the element of suggestion that may be induced in those who are willing to pay from ten to thirty dollars for a piece of nickel-plated tubing, is absolutely *nil*. As already said, if adults wish to squander their money on such foolishness and are content to confine the "treatment" to their own persons, well and good. If they have nothing much the matter with them they may believe they have received benefit; if they are dangerously ill, Nature will probably exterminate them as unfit. But let no person try to "cure" the helpless child with such frauds; as soon as that is attempted, such an individual ceases to be a harmless idiot and becomes a dangerous one.

[Since the first edition of this book was issued another piece of gas-pipe has been put on the market—Dr. Filloon's *Oxybon*. Like the *Oxytonor*, the *Oxybon* Company is a Chicago concern. No originality is shown in exploiting this fraud, the advertising matter being similar to that put out by the other "gas-pipe therapy" concerns.

In addition to its "drugless" fraud, the *Oxypathor* Company is now (October, 1912) exploiting a line of peroxid preparations for "sick feet," "perspiration odors," etc.]