

recovery, and occasionally a patient with individual susceptibility was transferred to a new line of employment.

SUMMARY

1. Exposure to rock salt and water in industry is a source of skin disease.
2. The source of infection in such cases is not the salt.
3. Furuncles caused from such exposure differ from the usual type in that they do not tend to become systemic.
4. Preventive and curative methods are generally successful.

AMBULANCE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF
PREMATURE INFANTS

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A most important epoch in the life of the premature infant is that period between birth and the institution of some proper method for the prevention of thermal shock. It is the experience of all institutions receiving such infants that many of them are lost through carelessness in protecting them during the first hours after birth.

The electrically heated bag here illustrated is constructed to meet conditions encountered in the home and during transportation of infants from distant points by train or automobile. It is designed as a part of the obstetric department equipment for general and special hospitals or other institutions likely to be called on for the temporary care of premature infants. The hand bag is of leather and steel construction, 24 inches long, 14 inches wide and 17 inches deep.



External and internal construction of the infant ambulance. A disk thermometer, *D*, indicates the temperature within the ambulance. Fresh air enters intake vent *G* and passes through the air conduit to the heating unit, *C*. After being warmed, it circulates up through the ambulance proper and finds egress through outlet vent *H*. Both air vents have adjustable shutters. Temperature control is provided by a thermostat, which is adjusted by turning adjusting key *F*. The latter may be removed to prevent tampering by unauthorized persons. A window at *A* in the top permits observation of the infant, and the ambulance interior may be illuminated by a small light (not illustrated) operated from the outside by a push button. A red pilot light, *B*, indicates when the heating equipment is functioning.

An even temperature is maintained by electric heat with thermostatic control. A composite heating unit permits the use of the 110 volt light current (direct or alternating current), the 32 volt current of the Pullman car, or the 6 volt current of the automobile battery. Insulated walls prevent sudden temperature change under any conditions. A proper supply of warm fresh air is assured.

Ventilation is secured by an adjustable shutter in the lower section of the outer wall which permits fresh air to pass beneath the heating unit. A similar shutter in the top of the bag completes the circulation of the air. A disk thermometer in the front of the bag is adjusted to indicate the interior temperature. Observation of the infant is made possible through a large window in the top of the bag. The interior can be illuminated by means of an electric light which is attached to the end of the bag.

Clothing and blankets used for dressing the infant during transportation are best made from heavy woolen materials.

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Council on Physical Therapy

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ROENTGEN-RAY DIAGNOSIS

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These pages present a sketchy outline of the aid which can be rendered by the roentgen rays in the recognition of disease. The space allotted being limited, only the most salient features of roentgen-ray diagnosis can be touched on. Many of the rarer but nevertheless important conditions, and even some of the more frequent ones had to be omitted. An attempt, however, has been made to present the subject with sufficient completeness to enable the physician who is not thoroughly familiar with the possibilities of roentgen-ray diagnosis to obtain a fair index of the diseases in which the roentgen rays can be of aid to him.

RELATIVE VALUE OF ROENTGENOGRAPHY AND
FLUOROSCOPY

This is not the place to discuss technic. The subject cannot be explained theoretically. Only practical instruction and demonstration can give one an idea of the methods to obtain desired results. It is appropriate, however, to discuss the relative value of fluoroscopy and roentgenography. As a general principle it may be stated that whenever organs in motion are to be studied, fluoroscopy is the method of choice. No roentgenograms, however large their number, can give the impression of the movements of the diaphragm, of the action of the heart, of the pulsation of the aorta, or of the peristaltic activity of the stomach and intestines. In the latter organs even fluoroscopy, unassisted by the observer's palpatory manipulations, is generally insufficient. On the other hand, no recital or sketch of the fluoroscopic observations can equal the roentgenogram as a permanent record, nor can it furnish the fine detail often indispensable for a diagnosis. The best results are obtained by a combination of fluoroscopy and roentgenography when chest and gastro-intestinal tract are to be examined. Roentgenographic examinations are best when parts at rest are under consideration, such as bones, urinary concretions, and the nasal accessory sinuses. Fluoroscopy alone may be used in the study of cardiovascular lesions, large mediastinal tumors, or fluid in the chest. It is unsafe, however, to rely absolutely on negative fluoroscopic observations. The fine lesions of early pulmonary tuberculosis, for instance, are invariably overlooked, because either the fluoroscopic screen cannot register them with the detail that the photographic emulsion does, or human eyes are not sufficiently sensitive to detect any but the coarser shadows. It would be well for the internist or the surgeon who, following the present-day trend, installs a fluoroscopic outfit in his office, to bear in mind this limitation. Such warnings are especially appropriate at present when our younger men who spend a short time in the continental European roentgen-ray institutes bring back the idea that fluoroscopy is all that is necessary. At several of these institutions the chiefs or their assistants admitted that they were compelled to resort to fluoroscopy because it is cheaper. In estimating the relative value of these two