

Professor

BERGONIÉ'S APPARATUS

MEDICAL ELECTRICITY THE PROGRESSIVE SIDE of MEDICAL PRACTICE

53.

## ERGOTHERAPY

ŤĤF OF ELECTRO-MEDICAL TREATMENTS

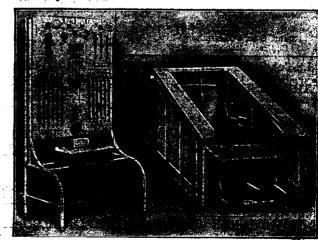
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The following is an extract from an article by Professor Bergonie, of Bordeaux, appearing in the "Archives of Rontgen Ray":-

"Brgotherapy, then, is quite apart from training or physical culture. It is entirely passive, and quite independent of the concurrence of the nervous system. We thus avoid fatigue and nervous exhaustion, which is often only aggravated by futile efforts of the will. As long ago as July, 1909, at the Academy of Sciences, I pointed out that there are numberless patients suffering from obesity, gout, rheumatism, and diseases of diminished metabolism, nervous, depressed, atonic, torpid, whose receipts of energy are at a premium, and who are totally incapable of the psycho-motor effort necessary to stimulate the output of energy by regular and persistent muscular exercise. For these cases passive ergotherapy, muscular exercise electrically provoked, is the true pavacca, in that it gives a surproduction of mechanical work and heat, without fatigue of the nerve centres of volition. In the other type of obesity and lithiasis, florid, vigorous, and energetic, the electric muscular exercise is also indicated as an adjunct to volunfary exercise and dieting. "Passive ergotherapy, then, consists in stimulating the whole musculature of the body by appropriate electric excitation, producting passive, painless, rhythmic contractions of the whole mass of muscles in the body, and thus augmenting the output of energy in the shape of physiological work and free heat."



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