

without any effort being made to have the meaning of the plate explained by medical men competent to offer such information. As long ago as May, 1900, a report of the American Surgical Association stated that "Skiagraphs alone without expert surgical interpretation are generally useless and frequently misleading."

Dr. J. B. Murphy recently reported a dislocation of the shoulder joint where the head of the humerus was behind the glenoid fossa, yet the X-ray showed normal position. In a United States court recently a medical man was held responsible in damages to a large amount, not because the deformity resulting from a fracture was due to lack of skill, but because there was deformity, and the medical man had not recommended the use of an X-ray, although there was no X-ray apparatus in the town.

There is also the question of ethics to be solved. How far a medical man engaged in the practice of radiography is within his rights in selling plates showing fractures which have been under the care of other medical men without these medical men being consulted.

The development of workmen's compensation acts in our own, and other countries, where employers are responsible for the payment of compensation for injuries, makes the whole subject of fractures of greater interest than at any time in our history, and if the time has not yet come for defining our responsibilities it must be close at hand, and I trust this Association will not be behind other organizations in laying before the profession and the public the best means available for the treatment of fractures.