

heads, viz.: Electricity as a motive, illuminating and heat-producing power ; and, Electricity as a therapeutic agent : the first to include its application to lathes, engines, lamps, plugs and annealers ; the second to refer to its use as a cautery, a stimulant, and anæsthetic.

As a motive power, electricity possesses advantages over all other means. It is cleanly, almost noiseless, easily controlled, and not unduly expensive. The extent of these advantages depends upon the source of current. Where the current can be obtained from the street circuit, thereby giving the user nothing to do except to turn on or shut off the current according to requirement, the advantages reach their maximum. Where a street circuit is not available, as in many small towns, making it necessary to resort to batteries, the advantages are reduced to a minimum ; in fact, they become so unimportant that I would strongly advise any one whose knowledge of electricity is *nil* to let batteries severely alone, as, even under skilful management, they are occasionally unsatisfactory, while, under carelessness and ignorance, they become worse than useless.

Given a fair knowledge of the care of batteries, and a reliable battery, there is a certain amount of satisfaction, but I have often wondered whether the temptation to use such power arose from its real value or from the interest taken in experimenting, for it is a fascinating study, not to mention the air of learned mysticism that seems to hover about a place wherein there are electrical appliances. For the average practitioner, foot-power is as much superior to battery power as is power derived from a street circuit superior to foot-power. The electric dental engine that is run from a street circuit is the best of its kind, since it gives great speed, variety of position and complete control. Another appliance that has been but infrequently used by us is a ventilating fan, which is suspended near the chair, and which is a positive luxury in hot, sultry weather. The fan not only keeps the patient and operator cool, but prevents the ever-troublesome fly from making a temporary resting-place of their features. To run the polishing lathe by electricity is a luxury that all could appreciate but few attain. When one has labored all day at the chair, and, owing to some unavoidable circumstance, a plate has to be finished at night, the idea of polishing without labor is an invaluable satisfaction. The mouth lamp is another and, perhaps, the most useful appliance given us by electricity ; for the others, we had progenitors and have substitutes, but this stands alone as one of chained lightning's exclusive boons. It facilitates examinations and renders us independent of dark days, when delicate operations are most difficult, while for extracting at night it cannot be equalled. I have constructed an appliance, which is attached to my operating