

wound healed without infection. It was three months after the accident before any weight was permitted to be borne on the foot, that the ligaments might have ample opportunity to regain sufficient strength to bear the weight of the body with impunity.

I saw the patient eight months after the accident, when he was walking perfectly and without pain or discomfort, the foot appearing quite normal again, without having shown any tendency to the breaking of the arch.

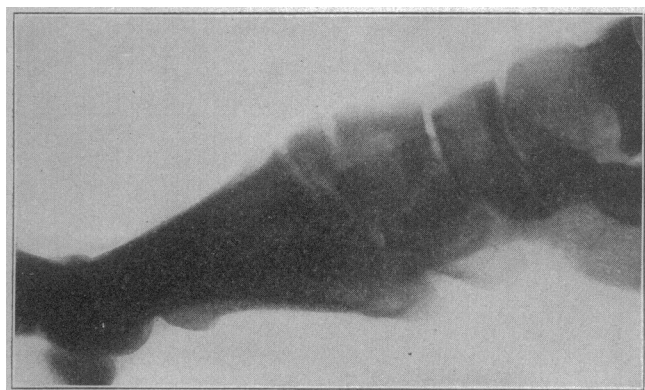


Fig. 2.—Evidence of a slight tendency toward the gliding of the middle cuneiform bone out of position, after reduction, which was overcome by compresses.

The foot is so wonderfully supported by ligaments and tendons that nothing but a powerful force can dislocate a bone situated as the middle cuneiform is. Such a force is usually so great that the foot is crushed rather than the bone dislocated.

During the healing process, there was a constant tendency for the middle cuneiform bone to be wedged out of its normal position, which was manifest by its increasing prominence on the dorsum of the foot; however, by the application of compresses, it was kept in position until the ligaments had sufficiently united to hold it in place.

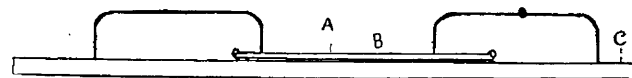
10 West Goodale Street.

A SIMPLE AND RELIABLE METHOD OF MAKING PARTIAL-TENSION PLATES

M. B. COHEN, M.D., WEST SALEM, OHIO

Although there are many methods for making anaerobic plate cultures that give good results, there are few described for partial-tension plates. Wherry and Oliver¹ have devised a technic which they thus describe:

In making partial-tension plates we have inverted the inoculated plate upon a glass plate on which is fastened (with a small piece of plasticine) a smaller open Petri dish containing a freshly inoculated culture of *B. subtilis*. The inverted dish should be high enough to avoid any contact with the smaller dish. The edges of the inverted dish are then sealed with plasticine as recommended by Lentz² for the growth of anaerobes. Plates made in this way and sealed to pieces of window glass of suitable size may be stacked in the incubator.



Apparatus for use in investigations of the adaptation of organisms to various oxygen tensions: A, glass tube; B, Petri dish; C, glass plate.

In the use of this method as a routine in an investigation of the adaptation of certain organisms to various oxygen tensions, a number of serious objections were noted. Especially when relatively soft mediums were used, the water of condensation collected on the glass plate, became inoculated with *B. subtilis*, and unless great care was taken the culture was invariably contaminated. When it was necessary to add a fresh culture of *B. subtilis* to maintain the proper tension,

the Petri dish containing the culture had to be lifted and exposed to further chance of contamination.

To avoid these difficulties the following method was devised: A small notch was ground (with a round file) in the edge of a standard Petri dish, which was sterilized and marked. The plate culture made in the usual way, in one of these dishes, was inverted on a glass plate so that the notch fitted over a small piece of glass tubing which had been fastened to the glass with dental sticky wax. The edges of the plate were then sealed with the same material. A similar plate was inoculated with *B. subtilis* and inverted over the other end of the glass tube on the same glass plate. It was also sealed with sticky wax.

This method may also be used for anaerobic cultures by placing the pyrogallic potassium hydroxid mixture in the second plate instead of the medium containing the *B. subtilis* growth.

If this technic is used, no contamination by *B. subtilis* is likely. The *B. subtilis* culture may be renewed as often as desired without disturbing the original culture.

FRACTURE OF THE NECK OF THE FEMUR IN A CHILD

CHARLES A. PARKER, M.D., CHICAGO

On account of the rarity of fracture of the neck of the femur in children, this case is reported.

Oct. 5, 1917, a well developed boy, aged 9 years, was admitted to my service in the Cook County Hospital with the complaint of "interference with gait following trauma of the left hip." Two months before, he had fallen from a roof a distance of 15 feet, striking on his left side. After three weeks in bed he was allowed to walk.

There was no pain after his period in bed, but he walked with an obvious limp. This was his condition when he came to the hospital.



Fracture of the neck of the femur in a child.

The examination disclosed about one-half inch of shortening and a relatively high trochanter with almost normal movement of the joint. The roentgen ray cleared up the diagnosis. A plaster-of-Paris spica was applied, and recumbency advised, as the character of the union was in doubt.

7 West Madison Street.

Publicity and Power.—Publicity is the punch in public health work.—Cumberland (Md.) *Health Bulletin*.

1. Wherry and Oliver: Jour. Infect. Dis., 1916, **19**, 288.
2. Lentz: Centralbl. f. Bakteriöl., Orig., 1910, **53**, 358.