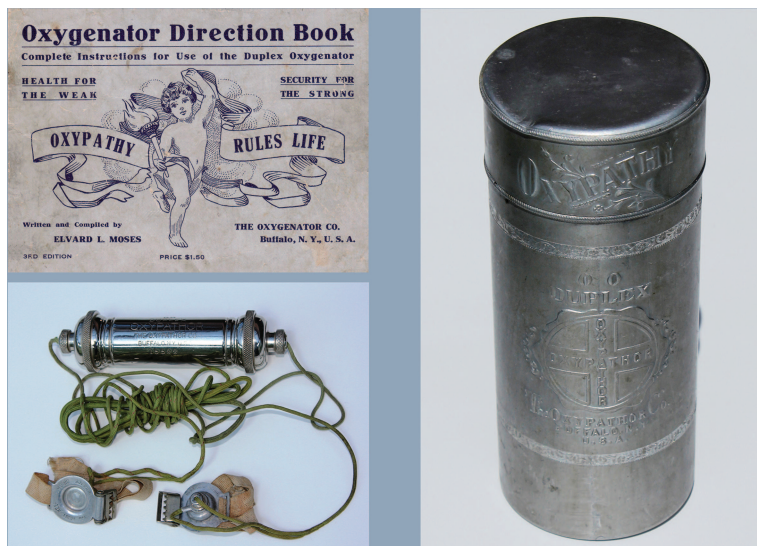


## ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

### The Duplex Oxygenator of Elvard Moses



After sensing the public's fascination with oxygen and with electricity, New Yorker Elvard L. Moses filed in 1909 for a patent on his "Contact-Disk" — two examples of which are depicted (*lower left*). The disks were connected to a nickel-plated pipe which enclosed inert material. Around the coiled Duplex Oxygenator was rolled a copy of the *Oxygenator Direction Book* (*upper left*) which promised cures for appendicitis, "female troubles," etc. The Oxygenator and the booklet were shipped in an ornate mailing tube (*right*). After Vermont chemists determined that the Duplex Oxygenator contained "nothing more than coke dust or carbon black," Moses was sentenced in 1914 to serve 18 months in federal prison for mail fraud. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image also appears in the *Anesthesiology Reflections* online collection available at [www.anesthesiology.org](http://www.anesthesiology.org).)

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