A VERSATILE SPECULUM HOLDER

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THE accompanying photographs show an instrument consisting of seven mobile cylinders connected by seven ball joints. The base contains a rotating magnet (magnetic vice) which can be brought into action by pressing a button. It is rigid when magnetized on to a metal plate placed under the patient. Attached to the base is a winch which controls the tension of a resilient wire which passes through to the end cylinder. By tightening the winch the whole apparatus is fixed in any given position; when it is released the column is freely mobile. The winch can be bolted to the metal plate in place of the magnetic vice.

At its free end a speculum-holder is fixed; any retractor or instrument may be substituted.

During surgery the column is covered with sterile stockinette or a nylon sleeve; the speculum-holder and mount are sterilized in Hibitaine in spirit.

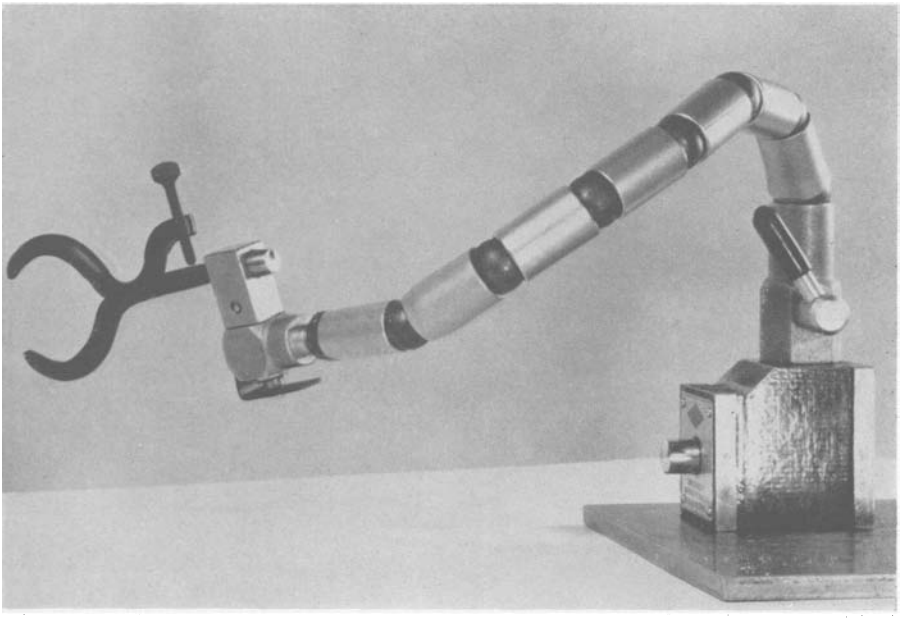


FIG. 1.

Speculum holder with base held to metal plate by magnetic vice.

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FIG. 2.
The magnet is rotated by pressing the button; the vice is released by pushing it out from the other side.

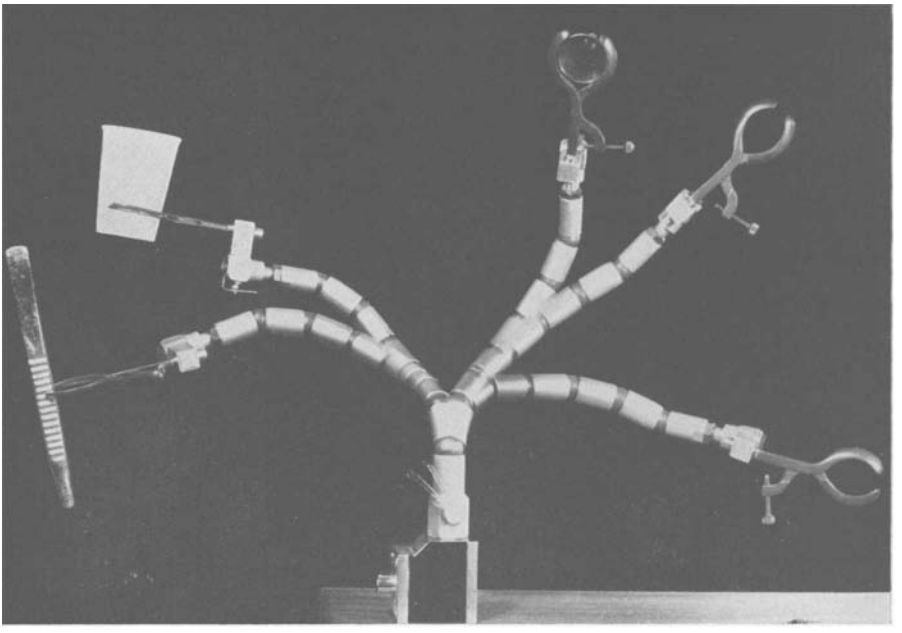


FIG. 3.
The apparatus may be fixed in any given position and adapted to any instrument.

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I am indebted to Mr. Gerald Ambler and Mr. G. Sheppard for bringing this device to my notice. It is manufactured by Schramifa of Rotterdam. In industry it is called Quick Check (type "fine"). The cost is about ten pounds (thirty dollars).

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