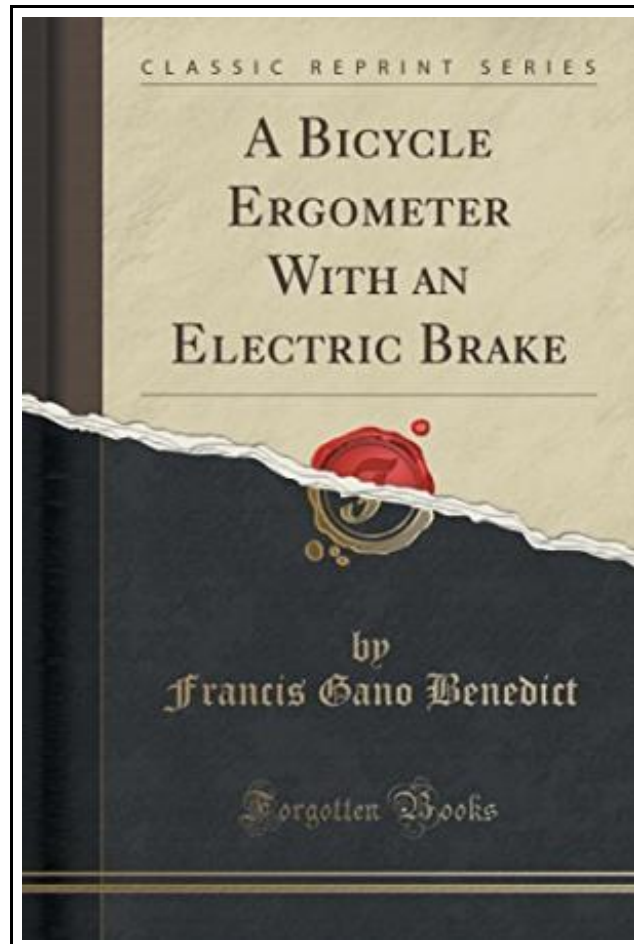


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from A Bicycle Ergometer With an Electric Brake A practical application of thermodynamic principles that has interested economists and physiologists has been the problem of determining the mechanical efficiency of the human body as a machine. Not only were the earlier writers handicapped by an inability to determine accurately the intake of energy by the body in food and drink - a handicap that has since been admirably overcome by the use of the accurate calorimetric bomb - but they were likewise handicapped by an inadequate measurement of the mechanical output of the individual experimented upon. A study of this subject, therefore, must divide itself into two parts: first, the determination of the intake of energy, and second, the measurement and computation of the amount of work done. The present paper is concerned with the second of these two divisions. Without going into an extended historical discussion relative to this subject, it may be said that the attempts to make computations of the intake and output of energy have been very numerous and for the most part extremely crude, those of the output of energy dealing usually with the work of either the arms or the legs. Among the various methods used for studying the amount of work done by the arm may be mentioned the lifting of weights, the filing of cast iron, pulling up weights by means of a rope, shoveling earth to a height of about 2 meters, pulling on an oar, pumping water, hammering, turning a crank or winch, and the more accurate method recently employed by Zuntz of using a brake ergometer, and Johansson of raising weights. In tests with the...

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