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■ ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

Great Lakers' Anesthesia Machines



Fortunately for American anesthesia, technology for nitrous oxide-oxygen machinery developed in the wake of evolving fossil fuel and steel industries in cities around the nation's Great Lakes. Such "laughing gas machines" were produced by namesake firms founded by Teter of Cleveland, McKesson of Toledo, Heidbrink of Minneapolis, and by at least four Chicago firms. In the wake of machinery pioneered by the Philadelphia firm founded by S. S. White, Cleveland dentist Charles K. Teter (1875-1959) established America's second major line of machines. Another dentist, Jay A. Heidbrink (1875-1957), would eventually merge his namesake machinery into the "Ohio" line of anesthetic apparatus, which sidestepped changing its name to "Minnesota" (for Heidbrink) or to "Wisconsin," the state to which the company relocated after leaving Cleveland, Ohio. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image appears in color in the *Anesthesiology Reflections* online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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