

AN ELEMENTARY ATLAS OF CARDIOGRAPHY

AN INTRODUCTION TO ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY AND
X-RAY EXAMINATION OF THE HEART

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CHAMBERLAIN, M.D., F.R.C.P., and E. L.
RUBIN, M.D., F.F.R. Pp. 108, with 99 illustrations.
Bristol: John Wright and Sons. 1948.
12s. 6d.

The authors of this book attempt no more than to set out a representative collection of the common types of electrocardiograph and X-ray appearances of the heart and great vessels.

The first portion is devoted to the E.C.G. and opens with a description of the modern instrument and leads commonly employed; this is followed by an account of the electrical physiology of cardiac contraction and the significance of the various waves on the tracing. Some good reproductions are then given to the standard abnormalities of rhythm, the five varieties of heart block, coronary artery disease, preponderance, and finally some miscellaneous

tracings of conditions difficult to classify. The recent conception of the identity of 'fibrillary waves' in auricular fibrillation with auricular contraction, and the assistance which C.R.1 lead has given in reaching this conclusion, is included. The authors have been wise to emphasize once more the fact that many examples of coronary thrombosis, typical from the clinical point of view, do not exhibit characteristic changes in the three standard leads. This was the main justification for the use of chest leads.

Cardiac radiology is similarly presented; an introductory account being followed by the normal antero-posterior and oblique appearances, and so on to the classical configuration of certain major disorders. The standard of reproduction, with very few exceptions, is high and the ground covered adequate without being burdensome.

This is a good book and will be appreciated by final year students. We congratulate the authors upon their lucidity of expression in dealing with a highly technical subject.

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